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this is an authoritative presentation and discussion of the most basic thematic elements universally found in folklore and literature the reference provides a detailed analysis of the most common archetypes or motifs found in the folklore of selected communities around the world each entry is written by a noted authority in the field and includes accompanying reference citations entries are keyed to the motif index of folk literature by stith thompson and grouped according to that index s scheme the reference also includes an introductory essay on the concepts of archetypes and motifs and the scholarship associated with them this is the only book in english on motifs and themes that is completely folklore oriented deals with motif numbers and is tied to the thompson motif index it includes in depth examination of such motifs as bewitching chance and fate choice of roads death or departure of the gods the double ghosts and other revenants the hero

cycle journey to the otherworld magic invulnerability soothsayer transformation tricksters

welcome to a landscape of ancient evil with stories by masters of horror arthur machen algernon blackwood h p lovecraft m r james ramsey campbell storm constantine christopher fowler alison littlewood kim newman reggie oliver michael marshall smith karl edward wagner and more the darkness that endures beneath the earth the disquiet that lingers in the woodland surrounding a forgotten path those ancient traditions and practices that still cling to standing stone circles earthworks and abandoned buildings elaborate rituals that invoke elder gods or nature deities the restless spirits and legendary creatures that remain connected to a place or object or exist in deep wells and lonely pools of water waiting to ensnare the unwary traveler these concepts have been the archetypes of horror fiction for decades but in recent years they have been given a name folk horror this type of storytelling has existed for more than a century authors arthur machen algernon blackwood h p lovecraft and m r james all published fiction that had its roots in the notion of the supernatural being linked to objects or places left behind all four writers are represented in this volume with powerful and hopefully unfamiliar examples of their work along with newer exponents of the craft such as ramsey campbell storm constantine christopher fowler alison littlewood kim newman reggie oliver and many others illustrated with the atmospheric photography of michael marshall smith the stories in the mammoth book of folk horror tap into an aspect of folkloric tradition that has long been dormant but never quite forgotten while the depiction of these forces as being in some way natural in no way detracts from the sense of nameless dread and escalating horror that they inspire

this is a golden treasury of over one hundred english folktales captured in the form they were first collected in past centuries read these classic tales as they would have been told when storytelling was a living art when the audience believed in boggarts and hobgoblins local witches and will o the wisps ghosts and giants cunning foxes and royal frogs find jack the giantkiller tom tit tot and other quintessentially english favourites alongside interesting borrowings such as an english version of the grimms little snow white as well as bedtime frighteners including captain murderer as told to charles dickens by his childhood nurse neil philip has provided a full introduction and source notes on each story that illustrate each tale's journey from mouth to page and what has happened to them on the way these tales rank among the finest english short stories of all time in their richness of metaphor and plot and their great verbal dash and daring

mulk raj anand is one of the best known novelists in english in india translated into many languages in india as well as abroad he has been universally acclaimed as a progressive writer the present anthology of recent critical essays probes into his internationally reputed novels like untouchable coolie gauri as well as his various collections of short stories the critical perspective is fresh and innovative embracing the latest critical theories and schools the essays come up with novel insights into themes and characters form and design in the texts explored the structural and rhetorical devices employed in the texts have also been analysed threadbare a detailed interview with anand facilitates a peep into the writer's workshop revealing hitherto unexplored facets of anand's artistic persona a welcome addition to

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connect with the spirits of your land through 100 spells and recipes whether you live in a bustling city or a rural cottage this book has a multitude of ways to embrace the power of your surroundings celtic wisewoman danu forest guides you on a journey of self discovery and connection to the natural world sharing the wisdom of past and present cunning folk practitioners like her whose power comes from the land and its spirits danu shows how to easily weave magic into your everyday life acting as both a historical record and modern grimoire this book features detailed information on household spirits herb craft trance work and wildlife magic it also provides over a hundred spells charms and recipes for healing love protection and much more candle scrying tea leaf reading ritual house cleansing dream charm bag healing witch s ladder banishing powder comfort and blessing spray ancestral honoring oil prosperity simmer pot valerian love sachet

this study analyzes the relationship between race and genre in four of toni morrison s novels the bluest eye tar baby jazz and beloved heinert argues how morrison s novels revise conventional generic forms such as bildungsroman folktales slave narratives and the formal realism of the novel itself this study goes beyond formalist analyses to show how these revisions expose the relationship between race conventional generic forms and the dominant culture morrison s revisions critique the conventional roles of african americans as subjects of and in the genre of the novel and re write roles which instead privilege their subjectivity this study provides readers with new ways of understanding morrison s novels whereas critics often fault morrison for breaking with traditional forms and resisting resolution in her novels this analysis show how morrison s revisions shift the narrative truth of the novel from its representation in conventional forms to its interpretation by the readers who are responsible for constructing their own resolution or version of narrative truth these revisions expose how the dominant culture has privileged specific forms of narration in turn these forms privilege the values of the dominant culture morrison s novels attempt to undermine this privilege and rewrite the canon of american literature

howard w odum 1884 1954 the pioneering social scientist and founder of the university of north carolina s department of sociology played a leading and well documented role in the modernization of the south this is the first book length study of odum s contributions to southern folklore which had important but largely unappreciated consequences for his legacy of social justice lynn moss sanders shows how odum as a collector of african american blues and work songs anticipated some important precepts of modern folklore notably odum perceived the benefits of a collaborative and nonhierarchical approach to folk studies influenced by a racially tolerant former student and by one of his black folk informants odum changed his previous paternal segregationist attitudes about race comparing odum s two song collections the negro and his songs 1925 and negro workaday songs 1926 sanders links the growing influence of odum s coauthor and former student guy johnson to a decrease in instances of racial condescension between the first and second book the three folk novels in odum s black ulysses

trilogy completed in 1931 also reveal a progressive refinement of odum's racial views the change sanders believes came with odum's growing ability to see john wesley left wing gordon the black working class model for the trilogy's hero as a friend rather than simply as a representative of the negro from his authorship of social and mental traits of the negro 1910 now a relic of scientific racism to his final publication agenda for integration odum exemplifies how the study of folklore changed the folklorist a change felt by a whole generation of southern liberals whose work odum encouraged and shaped

this work is a critical evaluation of the concepts of convention and innovation as applied in the study of changing literary values hierarchies and canons two approaches are analyzed 1 the linking of convention and the subject's awareness of convention and 2 systems theory the merits of both approaches are discussed and an attempt is made to combine them and to regard systems of literary communication primarily as systems of conventions specific cases of changing conventions and innovation are illustrated with examples from the field of versification rimbaud reception studies puskin goethe george eliot the dichotomy of forgetting remembering nietzsche proust avant garde the american dream and popular genres assimilated in postmodernism

one of the most comprehensive and widely praised introductions to folklore ever written toelken's discussion of the history and meaning of folklore is delivered in straightforward language easily understood definitions and a wealth of insightful and entertaining examples toelken emphasizes dynamism and variety in the vast array of folk expressions he examines from the biology of folklore to occupational and ethnic lore food ways holidays personal experience narratives ballads myths proverbs jokes crafts and others chapters are followed by bibliographical essays and over 100 photographs illustrate the text this new edition is accessible to all levels of folklore study and an essential text for classroom instruction

this comprehensive compilation of entries documents the origins transmissions and transformations of asian american folklore and folklife equally instructive and intriguing the encyclopedia of asian american folklore and folklife provides an illuminating overview of asian american folklore as a way of life surveying the histories peoples and cultures of numerous asian american ethnic and cultural groups the work covers everything from ancient asian folklore folktales and folk practices that have been transmitted and transformed in america to new expressions of asian american folklore and folktales unique to the asian american historical and contemporary experiences the encyclopedia's three comprehensive volumes cover an extraordinarily wide range of asian american cultural and ethnic groups as well as mixed race and mixed heritage asian americans each group section is introduced by a historical overview essay followed by short entries on topics such as ghosts and spirits clothes and jewelry arts and crafts home decorations family and community religious practices rituals holidays music foodways literature traditional healing and medicine and much much more topics and theories are examined from crosscultural and interdisciplinary perspectives to add to the value of the work

what happens inside latin american prisons how does the social organisation of prisoners relate to the political structures beyond the walls is it possible to resist corrupt penal regimes in prison writing of latin america joey whitfield turns to those best placed to answer these questions people who have been imprisoned themselves drawing on a century of material produced by latin american prisoners from mexico cuba costa rica colombia peru bolivia and brazil whitfield weaves readings of novels memoirs and testimonial texts with social and political analysis rather than distinguishing between dictatorial and democratic periods of government he shows that from the point of view of the prisoner all states are authoritarian in nature in the face of oppression however prisoners both political and criminal have found ways not only to resist but also to create alternative communities both real and imagined sometimes in collaboration with each other

folklore has been described as the unwritten literature of a culture its songs stories sayings games rituals beliefs and ways of life encyclopedia of american folklore helps readers explore topics terms themes figures and issues related to this popular subject this comprehensive reference guide addresses the needs of multiple audiences including high school college and public libraries archive and museum collections storytellers and independent researchers its content and organization correspond to the ways educators integrate folklore within literacy and wider learning objectives for language arts and cultural studies at the secondary level this well rounded resource connects united states folk forms with their cultural origin historical context and social function appendixes include a bibliography a category index and a discussion of starting points for researching american folklore references and bibliographic material throughout the text highlight recently published and commonly available materials for further study coverage includes folk heroes and legendary figures including paul bunyan and yankee doodle fables fairy tales and myths often featured in american folklore including little red riding hood and the princess and the pea american authors who have added to or modified folklore traditions including washington irving historical events that gave rise to folklore including the civil rights movement and the revolutionary war terms in folklore studies such as fieldwork and the folklife movement holidays and observances such as christmas and kwanzaa topics related to folklore in everyday life such as sports folklore and courtship dating folklore folklore related to cultural groups such as appalachian folklore and african american folklore and more

to many observers folklore and book culture may appear to be opposites folklore after all involves orally circulated stories and traditions while book culture is concerned with the transmission of written texts however as kevin j hayes points out there are many instances where the two intersect and exploring those intersections is the purpose of this fascinating and provocative study hayes shows that the acquisition of knowledge and the ownership of books have not displaced folklore but instead have given rise to new beliefs and superstitions some books have generated new proverbs others have fostered their own legends occasionally the book has served as an important motif in folklore and in one folk genre the flyleaf rhyme the book itself has become the place where folklore occurs thus indicating a lively interaction between folk print and manuscript culture the author begins by examining the tradition of the volksbuch cheaply printed books often concerned with the occult whose powers are said to transcend the written text hayes looks in depth at one particular volksbuch the sixth and seventh books

of moses and proceeds in subsequent chapters to discuss a variety of folktales and legends placing them within the context of book culture and the history of education he closes with an examination of flyleaf rhymes the little verses that book owners have inscribed in their books and considers what they reveal about the identity of the inscribers as well as about attitudes toward book lending book borrowing and the circulation of knowledge solidly researched and venturing into areas long neglected by scholars folklore and book culture is a work that will engage not only folklorists but historians and literary scholars as well

this collection explores folklore and folkloristics within the diverse and contested national discourses of britain and ireland examining their role in shaping the islands constituent nations from the eighteenth century to our contemporary moment of uncertainty and change this book is concerned with understanding folklore particularly through its intersections with the narratives of nation entwined within art literature disciplinary practice and lived experience by following these ideas throughout history into the twenty first century the authors show how notions of the folk have inspired and informed varied points from the brothers grimm to brexit they also examine how folklore has been adapting to the real and imagined changes of recent political events acquiring newfound global and local rhetorical power this collection asks why when and how folklore has been deployed enacted and considered in the context of national ideologies and ideas of nationhood in britain and ireland editors cheeseman and hart have crafted a thoughtful and timely collection ideal for students and scholars of folklore history literature anthropology sociology and media studies

the history of chinese folktales is the first comprehensive study of chinese folktale history spanning from the pre qin period to the 20th century it references over 300 ancient texts and reviews more than 300 representative stories the book highlights three main research areas first motifs and types this involves identifying and categorizing various story motifs and types as well as analyzing subtypes to create a genealogy of folktales a process that reflects cultural exchanges among peoples second cultural significance employing historical materialism and cultural anthropology the book explores the cultural implications of folktales linking them to historical and cultural contexts to reveal their essence third historical geographical comparison this involves a detailed examination of the life history of stories considering historical and geographical contexts to understand their essence and cultural flow

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