

# Myths, Legends, and Fairy-Stories



Guide: Mr. Goodrich

When: Thursdays 3:15pm-4:00pm beginning August 30th

*Our first meeting is open, meaning no commitment is necessary. Registration forms will be available then.*

(\$40.00 per student per duration of club after first meeting)

Delve into the complex world of folklore (myths, legends, and fairy-stories). In this group, we will discuss the idea of folklore in general – its power, origin, and characteristics – and explore many stories from around the world, from the trickster-spider who gained all of the world’s stories (Africa) to the woman who was tasked with collecting a live tiger’s whisker (Korea) to the real story of Beauty and the Beast (France) to Thor regaining his lost hammer by disguising himself as a bride (Norse). Some stories will be read; others will be dramatically narrated. Some will be discussed in-depth; others will be left untouched for you to muse upon.

This will surely be the most legendary hour of each week. It is for high school students only due to its complexity and content. It is a myth that fairy tales are principally for children.

- “The association of children and fairy-stories is an accident of our domestic history. Fairy-stories have in the modern lettered world been relegated to the “nursery,” as shabby or old-fashioned furniture is relegated to the play-room, primarily because the adults do not want it, and do not mind if it is misused.” — J.R.R. Tolkien
- “If you happen to read fairy tales, you will observe that one idea runs from one end of them to the other – the idea that peace and happiness can only exist on some condition. This idea, which is the core of ethics, is the core of the nursery-tales.” — G.K. Chesterton
- “When I examine myself and my methods of thought, I come to the conclusion that the gift of fantasy has meant more to me than any talent for abstract, positive thinking.” — Albert Einstein
- “In a utilitarian age, of all other times, it is a matter of grave importance that fairy tales should be respected.” — Charles Dickens