

What is the difference between folk tales and myths?

A myth is a traditional story explaining a historical or a religious event to the audience, while a folktale is a fictional story usually to entertain the audience, and sometimes even to teach them a life lesson.

MYTH	FOLKTALE
A traditional story explaining a historical or a religious phenomenon to the audience	A fictional story usually to entertain the audience, and sometimes even to teach them a life lesson
Passed on by spiritual leaders and priests, etc.	Passed on by common people
Characters such as deities, demi-gods, and supernatural creatures	Common people, animals and sometimes even magical creatures
Teach a lesson with a religious significance or a spiritual significance	Essentially give entertainment, but sometimes also teach a certain life lesson
Ex: Stories of Adam and Eve, Thor, Hercules, Icarus, Odin, Achilles	Ex: Aladdin, Hansel and Gretel, The Three Little Pigs, The Pied Piper

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