



Success Stories  
**Drabble Diaries**

# Drabble Folk and Fairy Tales

By Carol Ferro

Edited by Sharon Richards

Exactly 100 stories of exactly 100 words

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## Moon Rabbit

Quetzalcoatl, an Aztec god, once lived on Earth as a man.

He sat under a tree, hungry and tired from a long journey.

He thought he would die, if he didn't eat soon.

A rabbit saw him, and kindly offered herself as food to save Quetzalcoatl's life.

The God saw how noble and generous the rabbit was, and lifted her up to the moon.

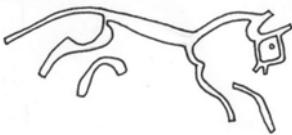
When he brought her back down to earth, he whispered to her:

*"Though you are just a rabbit, your image rests in the moon's white light for all to see, forever."*

Her face still shines there.

## The White Horse

Once, a wizard walked the hills of England.  
He noticed the foaming waves landing on the beach  
looked like horses galloping to shore.  
He made a horse from the waves, but it would not  
gallop because it belonged to the sea.  
He made another from the white clouds. This horse  
had wings, and flew away before the wizard could ride  
it.  
The wizard pondered, then made a third horse, from  
the white chalk of the Uffington hills.  
The horse served the wizard for a hundred years,  
before returning to the hillside.  
There the horse rests, waiting for the wizard's return.



## The Emperor's New Clothes

The emperor was vain.

He paid two tailors to make him the best outfit ever.

The tailors were tricksters.

They told the Emperor only clever people saw their fabric.

The tailors pretended to cut and sew, then dressed the Emperor in his imaginary outfit.

The emperor saw nothing.

He worried about looking stupid, so he admired their work.

The Emperor paraded in his new “clothes” until a child asked:

*“Why is the Emperor in his underwear?”*

The people realised they didn't need to pretend they saw the clothes either.

They laughed at the foolish Emperor.

The tailors were long gone.



## The Stonemason's Wishes

A stonemason chipped away at a rock, watching the king ride past.

He thought:

"I wish I was a powerful king."

To his surprise, the stonemason's wish came true!

Each time he saw something with more power, he wished to turn into it.

He became:

-The sun to light the king...

-A cloud to cover the sun...

-The wind to blow the cloud...

-A mountain to block the wind.

As a mountain, he felt someone chipping at his back – a stonemason.

How foolish he'd been!

He made one final wish:

To be a stonemason, with the power to shape mountains!

## The Hare and the Fox

Hare and Fox were enemies.

One morning, Hare woke Fox by tickling him with his long tail.

Fox caught Hare's tail in his jaws.

To escape, Hare cut off his tail and ran away.

Fox tied Hare's tail to the end of his own, and gave chase.

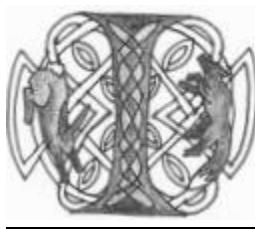
As they ran, their bodies changed.

Hare, always listening behind for Fox, grew long ears that turned backwards.

Fox, snapping at Hare's heels, grew a long muzzle.

They ran until Hare's feet grew long and flat.

All hares and foxes still remember the great chase that made them the way they look now.



## The Emperor's Nightingale

An emperor had everything he wanted, yet wanted more.

A nightingale sang at his window - such a wonderful song.

He caged the bird, but it refused to sing or eat.

It grew thin and escaped.

The emperor bought a mechanical nightingale, but its song was wrong.

He missed his friend nightingale, and wanted to hear it sing again.

The emperor became very ill.

As he lay dying he longed to hear the nightingale.

He whispered,

*"I'm sorry, I won't cage you."*

The nightingale sang for him, making him well.

The emperor built a garden, where the nightingale lived... and sang!

## David and Goliath

Goliath was a giant.

He challenged the king's army to send their strongest soldier to fight him.

***"If I win, your whole army will become my slaves!"***

The soldiers were afraid to fight, but a shepherd boy called David heard Goliath's challenge.

***"Let me fight him."***

The king offered David his armour, but it was far too big, so he wore his shepherd clothes instead.

David took five stones from the stream, and used a sling to hurl one at Goliath.

The stone hit Goliath's head.

He fell down – Dead!

David, the champion, went to the king's palace a hero!

## The Steadfast Tin Soldier

A tin soldier stood on his one leg on the mantelpiece,  
watching a paper ballerina.

He thought she also had one leg, though it was only  
tucked up under her tutu.

They talked, and soon the soldier fell in love with the  
ballerina.

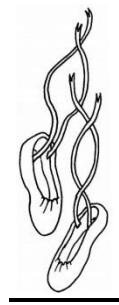
The ballerina lived on the carpet and the soldier on the  
mantelpiece.

One day a breeze blew the ballerina into the fire.

The soldier jumped from the mantelpiece to save her,  
but both burned.

The next day, in the ashes lay a metal heart and a  
ballet slipper.

The soldier and the ballerina were together at last.



## Tiddalik the Greedy Frog

Tiddalik was a thirsty frog.

He drank the rivers dry.

He drank the lakes dry.

He drank the seas dry.

The other animals had no water to drink;

Tiddalik had drunk it all.

They made a plan to get it back.

Nabunum the eel twisted his bendy body into funny shapes.

Tiddalik found this funny.

This made him laugh so much that water poured from his mouth.

It filled the seas, the lakes and the rivers.

The animals thanked Nabunum, but were cross with Tiddalik.

Tiddalik hid from the others, under the Australian sand.

He was never so greedy again.



## The Seeds of Stories

An enchanted book held all the stories that would ever be told.

The book opened by magic, and a tree sprouted from it.

The tree, made from words, reached up to the clouds.

Its seeds blew on the wind, and landed all over the world.

Most seeds grew into ordinary books, which people read to their children.

Some landed in people's mouths, and these people became storytellers.

Some stories fell through time, waiting for the right teller.

Stories grow, and stories die, each has its moment.

*One day, when all the stories have been told, the book will finally close.*



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## About the Author

Carol Ferro is an educator, performer and experienced children's storyteller. Known as the "Short Story Lady", she tells stories and runs workshops for young and old alike, at cafés, schools, libraries, and literary events. She especially loves finding old stories, bringing them to new audiences with a "Short Story Lady" twist.

To buy the full book of Carol's enchanting 'Drabble Folk and Fairy Tales' go to: <http://Drabblediaries.com/buy-drabble-books/>

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