

9 Favorite Digital Sources for Myth & Fairy Tales

from Catherine Svehla, Ph.D.



The inspiration, surprise, and entertainment found in mythology and the old stories are inexhaustible. This is one reason that I love to work with our mythic inheritance.

These are my favorite free on-line sources for myths, fairy, and folk tales, and quality art and information about them. Feel free to contact me if you're looking for something in particular or have questions about myth. *I'm glad to help you if I can.*

Internet Archive <https://archive.org/>

A free library of millions of books (movies and music too.) You borrow them by the hour and read online. There's so much here! I listed a few links to specific myth classics below to get you started.

- Link to *Mythos* by Stephen Fry, a really good retelling of Greek myths
https://archive.org/details/mythos_a
- Link to the audiobook of *Homer's Odyssey*, translated by Robert Fagles (a translation that I like)
https://archive.org/details/tumblr_l0cvjw8R2O1qawg4qo1_400
- Link to the Hindu epic *The Mahabarata* translated by William Buck
https://archive.org/details/tumblr_l0cvjw8R2O1qawg4qo1_400

Project Gutenberg <https://www.gutenberg.org/>

Over 70,000 free e-books available in different downloadable formats. This is a wonderful resource for all kinds of books in the public domain. Here are direct links to few good story collections.

- Link to *Irish Fairy Tales* by James Stephens (with lovely illustrations by Arthur Rackham)
<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/2892>
- Link to Edmund Dulac's *Fairy-Book: Fairy Tales of the Allied Nations* (with his gorgeous illustrations)
<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/25513>
- Link to *Grimms' Fairy Tales* by Jacob Grimm and Wilhelm Grimm
<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/2591>
- Link to *The Children of Odin: The Book of Northern Myths* by Padraic Colum
<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/24737>
- Link to *Stories from The Arabian Nights* by Laurence Housman, illustrations by Edmund Dulac
<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/51432>

Internet Sacred Text Archive <https://www.sacred-texts.com/>

Online books about mythology, folklore, religion, esoterica. The categories menu makes this site easy to use when you're not sure what you're looking for. You'll find Greeks and Roman works (Hesiod, Plato, Ovid, Virgil, etc.) under "Classics."

Perseus Digital Library at Tufts University <https://catalog.perseus.org/>

Another great resource for classical materials. They also have photos of their collection of ancient art and artifacts.

Theoi <https://www.theoi.com/>

Easy to search reference to Greek mythology with nice images of ancient art.

The Joseph Campbell Foundation <https://jcf.org/>

The resource for information about Campbell and his work, including e-books and audio lectures for sale.

Folklore and Mythology Electronic Texts compiled by D.L. Ashliman at the University of Pittsburgh <https://sites.pitt.edu/~dash/folktexts.html>

This is an incredible resource for fairy and folk tales with an index that you can get happily lost in for hours. I mean, who can resist clicking the link to [Bald Stories: Folktales about hairless Men?](#)

Terri Windling's Myth & Moor blog <https://www.terriwindling.com/blog/myth-moor-updates/>

Well-researched, well written with wonderful art images. I love this blog. It's a great place to browse.

Here's the link to Windling's list of mythic resources: <https://www.terriwindling.com/mythic-resources/>

These are print books that you have to track down and perhaps purchase. She includes a number of scholar-storyteller/story lovers whose work I admire. Kate Bernheimer, Maria Tatar, Marina Warner, Jack Zipes, Lewis Hyde, Clarissa Pinkola Estes, for example.

Sur La Lune <https://www.surlalunefairytales.com/oldsite/introduction/index.html>

Information about fairy tales, versions of fairy tales, fairy tale merchandise. Thank you to Heidi Anne Heiner who created and maintains this website.