



Tales of Superhuman Powers: 55 Traditional Stories from Around the World

By Csenge Virág Zalka

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Csenge Virág Zalka, a Hungarian storyteller, has collected 55 folktales from around the world about supernatural abilities like superhuman strength, invulnerability, flying, heightened senses, speed, invisibility, healing, agility, precognition, telepathy, fire manipulation, teleportation, water powers, and shifting. These tales represent powers that people have dreamed of, conjured up and strived for through the ages. Many of the powers are present in popular culture, making the superheroes who wield them the direct descendants of characters such as the princess who could see through walls or the invulnerable Isfandiyar. Zalka excluded stories about magic or about gods with divine powers, and focused on less well-known stories. She included information on similar heroes, the ability in the story, sources of the powers, the origin of the story, teachings in it, the recommended age group, sources, variants, and comments.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Focuses on less well-known stories...includes information on similar heroes." --ProtoView

About the Author

Csenge Virág Zalka is a Hungarian storyteller and author, in the United States as a Fulbright student interested in historical fiction, oral traditions and popular culture. She lives in Bowling Green, Ohio.

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