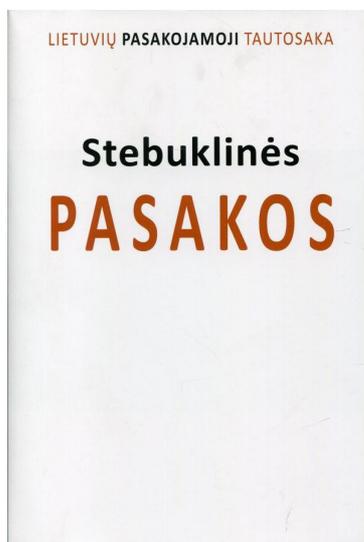


Lietuvių pasakojamoji tautosaka: Stebuklinės pasakos, t. 1, sudarė ir parengė Jūratė Šlekonytė, Vilnius: LLTI, 2016. - 724 p.

[Lithuanian Folk Narratives: Tales of Magic, Vol. 1, compiled and edited by Jūratė Šlekonytė, Vilnius: Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, 2016. - 724 p.]



Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore launches series of fundamental source edition of the “Lithuanian Folk Narratives”, which will introduce various genres of the traditional folk narratives. The biggest repository of folklore – the Lithuanian Folklore Archives of the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, currently houses over 2 million recorded texts. Over 100 000 of them are folk narratives. The card file catalogue compiled by Bronislava Kerbelytė comprises about 85 000 systematized texts of folk narratives, including 30 000 folktales (12 000 of which are tales of magic), 3 000 etiological and 25 000 mythological legends, 10 000 anecdotes, 4 000 local legends and numerous other narratives.

The series starts with folktales, as the most numerous and popular kind of verbal lore. This edition aims at presenting the most authentic rendering of folktales, in order to introduce their archaic features, ancient realities and imagery. Arrangement and description of tales in

this publication rests on their typology. In Lithuanian folk narrative tradition, about 175 types of the tales of magic can be discerned. The narratives comprising this volume belong to eleven types of the classification (300, 300A, 301A, 301B, 301D*, 302, 303, 304, 306, 307, 310). Altogether, this volume comprises 140 texts that best represent the generic character of the tales of magic.

The tale types are introduced by general annotations of their variants following the recent edition of the international tale type catalogue by Hans-Jörg Uther (ATU), or, if necessary, according to the earlier version of the classification by Antti Aarne and Stith Thompson (AT). The total number of the available Lithuanian variants belonging to each tale type is indicated, along with the map illustrating the geographical spread of these variants. Basic information regarding the type’s equivalents in other national traditions, the period of its recording, the most important publications and research studies dealing with this tale type is also presented.

Each text is supplied with all available information regarding the place and year of its recording, the informant, the collector, the archival signature, the most important publications, and linguistic or folkloristic commentaries. When selecting actual folktales to represent each type, such aspects as authenticity, artistic qualities and originality, coherence of narration, dialectological features and moments of improvisation were considered. Time and place of recording and geographical distribution of the tale type were taken into account as well.

The folktale texts as well as descriptions of tale types and commentaries are in Lithuanian. However, at the end of the volume there is summary in English, describing the editing principles applied in this volume, historical survey of collecting, publishing and systematizing of Lithuanian folktales, and the type annotations of the Lithuanian tales of magic published in this volume.

The current volume represents but a small part of the treasury of the Lithuanian tales of magic. The whole corpus of folktales should be published in further publications.