



ERIC A. KIMMEL

Eric A. Kimmel was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1946. A former college professor, he taught classes in children's literature and elementary language arts methods at Portland State University in Oregon until 1993, when he became a full-time writer. Dr. Kimmel attributes his success as an author to his experience as a storyteller, saying, "If a story tells well, it will read well."

Eric travels widely with his wife, Doris, to tell stories, speak about his writing, and explore local wildlife. They have visited Norway, Italy, Singapore, and Borneo, and have seen polar bears in the Arctic, orangutans in the jungle, and whales in Alaska. When not writing, Eric can usually be found watching birds by the Pacific Ocean, baking bread, knitting sweaters for his friends, riding horses, or playing his banjo.

"I grew up with stories, which is why I love them so much. My earliest memories are of my grandmother telling me about the foolish people of Chelm, clever Hershel of Ostropol, or any of several wildly imaginative tales from her native Ukraine, where the hero had to kill a dragon with seven, nine, or twelve heads. Just walking down my block, I could hear five different languages. All of my friends had grandparents living with them who would gladly tell us a story—all we had to do was ask and listen.

"My Uncle Abe gave me a wonderful present when I was seven years old: my own copy of Grimm's Fairy Tales. I read the book until it fell apart! I tried to put the pages back together, but I didn't always get them in the right order. Some of the stories got mixed up, which led me to new, even more interesting combinations. That's when I realized that stories aren't set in stone. They can be switched, changed, expanded, taken apart, and put back together again in a thousand different ways.

"Years of experience as a storyteller have taught me that stories never stay the same. They're alive; they grow and change. You can never tell the same story twice because you're different, the audience is different, and often you discover a new way of telling the story that makes it different. Whenever I set out to write or tell a tale, I never really know how it's going to turn out. That's what makes it so exciting. There's always a new story waiting to be discovered."

For more on Eric A. Kimmel, visit his website: www.ericakimmel.com.



HOLIDAY HOUSE
425 Madison Avenue • New York, NY 10017
www.holidayhouse.com

Also by ERIC A. KIMMEL

from Holiday House

THE ADVENTURES OF HERSHEL OF OSTROPOL
decorations by Trina Schart Hyman
ISBN-13: Pbk – 978-0-8234-1404-8

ANANSI AND THE MAGIC STICK
illustrated by Janet Stevens
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1443-7, Pbk – 978-0-8234-1763-6

ANANSI AND THE MOSS-COVERED ROCK
illustrated by Janet Stevens
ISBN-13: HC – 9780-8234-0689-0, Pbk – 978-0-8234-0798-9

ANANSI AND THE TALKING MELON
illustrated by Janet Stevens
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1104-4, Pbk – 978-0-8234-1167-2

ANANSI GOES FISHING
illustrated by Janet Stevens
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-0918-1, Pbk – 978-0-8234-1022-4

ANANSI'S PARTY TIME
illustrated by Janet Stevens
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1922-7

BEARHEAD: A Russian Folktale
illustrated by Charles Mikolaycak
ISBN-13: Pbk – 978-0-8234-1302-7

THE BIRDS' GIFT: A Ukrainian Easter Story
illustrated by Katya Krenina
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1384-3

BROTHER WOLF, SISTER SPARROW:
Stories about Saints and Animals
illustrated by John Winch
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1724-7

THE CASTLE OF THE CATS
illustrated by Katya Krenina
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1565-6

THE CHANUKKAH GUEST
illustrated by Giora Carmi
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-0788-0, Pbk – 978-0-8234-0978-5

COUNT SILVERNOSE: A Story from Italy
illustrated by Omar Rayyan
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1216-7

EASY WORK!: An Old Tale illustrated by Andrew Glass
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1349-2, Pbk – 978-0-8234-1662-2

THE ERIE CANAL PIRATES illustrated by Andrew Glass
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1657-8

FOUR DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS illustrated by Glen Rounds
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-0817-7

THE FROG PRINCESS: A Tlingit Legend from Alaska
illustrated by Rosanne Litzinger
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1618-9

THE GINGERBREAD MAN illustrated by Megan Lloyd
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-0824-5, Pbk – 978-0-8234-1137-0

GRIZZ! illustrated by Andrew Glass
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1469-7
HERSHEL AND THE HANUKKAH GOBLINS
illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-0769-9, Pbk – 978-0-8234-1131-3
A Caldecott Honor Book

I-KNOW-NOT-WHAT, I-KNOW-NOT-WHERE: A Russian Tale
illustrated by Robert Sauber
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1020-0

IRON JOHN adapted by Eric A. Kimmel
illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1073-6, Pbk – 978-0-8234-1248-8

THE JAR OF FOOLS: Eight Hanukkah Stories from Chelm
illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1463-5

THE LADY IN THE BLUE CLOAK:
Legends from the Texas Missions
illustrated by Susan Guevara
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8243-1738-4

THE OLD WOMAN AND HER PIG
illustrated by Giora Carmi
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-0970-9

ONIONS AND GARLIC: An Old Tale
illustrated by Katya Arnold
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1222-8

RIMONAH OF THE FLASHING SWORD: A North African Tale
illustrated by Omar Rayyan
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1093-4

SEVEN AT ONE BLOW: A Tale from the Brothers Grimm
adapted by Eric A. Kimmel, illustrated by Megan Lloyd
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1383-6

SQUASH IT! illustrated by Robert Rayevsky
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1299-0

THE THREE PRINCES: A Tale from the Middle East
illustrated by Leonard Everett Fisher
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1115-3, Pbk – 978-0-8234-1553-3
An ALA Notable Book

THREE SACKS OF TRUTH: A Story from France
illustrated by Robert Rayevsky
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-0921-1

THREE SAMURAI CATS: A Story from Japan
illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1742-1, Pbk – 978-0-8234-1877-0

THE TWO MOUNTAINS: An Aztec Legend
illustrated by Leonard Everett Fisher
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1504-5

THE WITCH'S FACE: A Mexican Tale
illustrated by Fabricio Vanden Broeck
ISBN-13: HC – 978-0-8234-1038-5