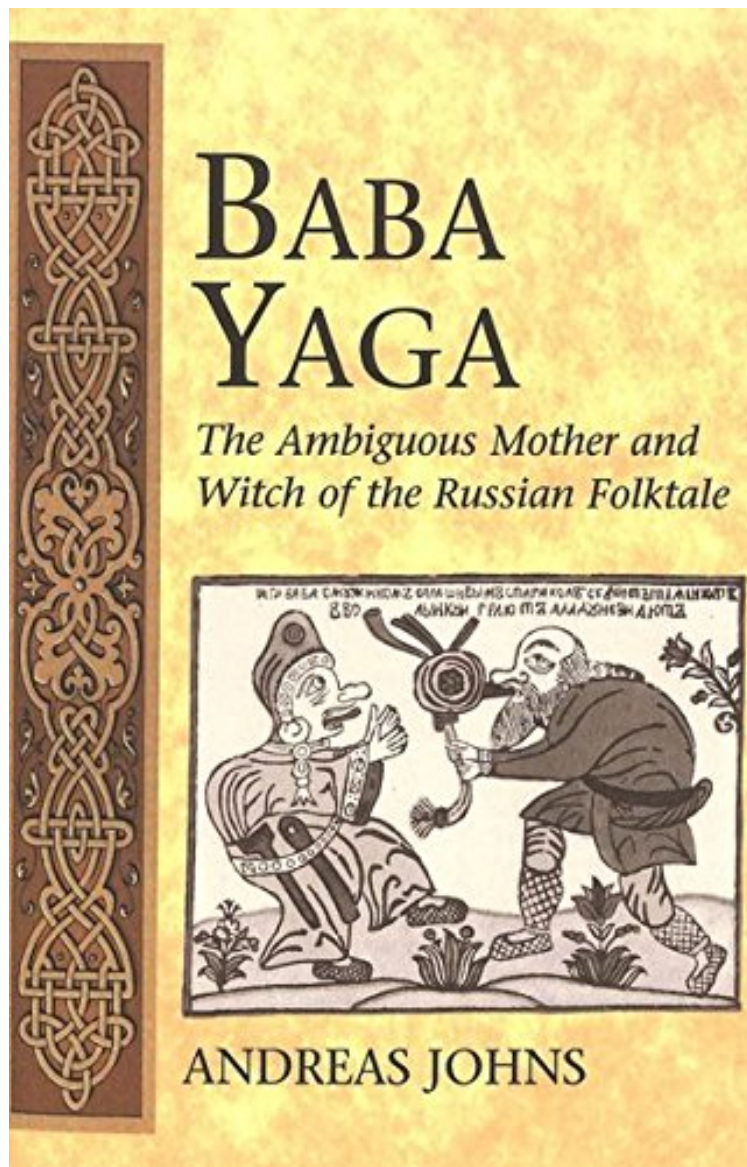


[Mobile pdf] Baba Yaga: The Ambiguous Mother and Witch of the Russian Folktale (International Folkloristics)

Baba Yaga: The Ambiguous Mother and Witch of the Russian Folktale (International Folkloristics)

Andreas Johns

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Andreas Johns : Baba Yaga: The Ambiguous Mother and Witch of the Russian Folktale (International Folkloristics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Baba Yaga: The Ambiguous Mother and Witch of the Russian Folktale (International Folkloristics):

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. An encyclopedic study of Russia's best folklore character
By Kathy Burford
Baba Yaga is probably the most famous character in Russian folklore and to my mind the most intriguing. In this incredibly detailed study Johns notes her striking ambiguity: she can be a donor/helper or a villain or both. Sometimes there are three of her, playing different roles.
Pro: Johns includes an enormous amount of information (including the original Russian for descriptions and phrases such as the words to make her chicken-legged hut stop turning around) and annotates everything.
Con: Johns sometimes lists a variety of interpretations without really evaluating them.
Not for those who want illustrated tales and a light treatment, but a vital reference for serious students of Russian folklore and Baba Yaga in particular (hence the five-star ranking).
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. and while it is really good, my one major complaint is that it continually ...
By Beau-Caprice Vetch
I was really excited about this book, and while it is really good, my one major complaint is that it continually references and compares folktales by AT classification and doesn't really tell the stories themselves. If you are looking for primary sources or actual Baba Yaga stories, this probably isn't the book for you. If you're already familiar with the stories and want to look at them comparatively in an academic capacity, then you will probably like this book.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. informative - great for study of the Baba Yags
By Bobbie Kinkead
Intense, informative - great for study of the Baba Yags. Not as easy read for research!

Baba Yaga is a well-known witch from the folklore tradition of Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus. A fascinating and colorful character, she resembles witches of other traditions but is in many ways unique. Living in the forest in a hut that stands and moves on chicken legs, she travels in a mortar with a pestle and sweeps away her tracks with a broom. In some tales she tries to harm the protagonist, while in others she is helpful. This book investigates the image and ambiguity of Baba Yaga in detail and considers the meanings she has for East Slavic culture. Providing a broad survey of folktales and other sources, it is the most thorough study of Baba Yaga yet published and will be of interest to students of anthropology, comparative literature, folklore, and Slavic and East European studies.

About the Author
The Author: Andreas Johns received his Ph.D. in Slavic languages and literatures from the University of California, Berkeley. He has taught at both the University of California Berkeley and Santa Cruz campuses as well as at the University of Washington, Seattle.