



American Folklore (The Chicago History of American Civilization)

By Richard M. Dorson

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Here, grounded firmly in American history, is a skilled folklorist's survey of the entire field of America's folklore—from colonization to mass culture.

Tracing the forms and content of American folklore, Mr. Dorson reveals the richness, pathos, and humor of genuine folklore, which he distinguishes from the "fakelore" of popularizers and chauvinists. At the same time, however, he shows what the creation of spurious folklore (the Paul Bunyan legends, for instance) discloses about our national character. Based upon authentic field collections and research, the examples cited include folkways, jests, boasts, tall tales, ballads, folk and legendary heroes.

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About the Author

Richard M. Dorson was Distinguished Professor of History and Folklore and director of the Folklore Institute at Indiana University. His many books include *Buying the Wind: Regional Folklore in the United States*; *The British Folklorists: A History*; *Folklore and Folklife*; and *Folktales Told around the World*, all published by the University of Chicago Press.

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