What is a Folktale?

* **Folktales are stories passed on from one person to another by word of mouth. These tales were not written down, but existed only in the memory of mankind. It is only now, as the tradition of oral story-telling is giving way to books and television, that such tales are being collected and written down.**
* **Folktales have universal themes, and help folks make sense of their existence or cope with the world in which they live.**
* **Folk tales often explain something that happens in nature or convey a certain truth about life.**