

FAIRY TALES AND FOLKLORE
MY FAVORITE TOPICS
Patricia Tucker

Charles Perrault (1628-1703 in France) was a forerunner of the Grimms (1785-1863) and Andersen (1805-1875). His stories influenced the German tales of the Grimm Brothers. Some of Andersen's writings were based on stories he heard as a child. Perrault did not create his stories, but gave them life. In 1697, he published the "Tales of Mother Goose". The book contained eight stories including Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Little Red Riding Hood and Master Cat (Puss N Boots).



Many countries have issued philatelic material celebrating their folktales. They commemorated famous authors. Over 40 countries joined to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Hans Christian Andersen's birth in 2005. Although the United States has not issued a stamp for Andersen, there is a museum in California and a statue in Central Park New York. In 1955, the Danish American Women's Association issued a set of poster stamps to fund the statue.