

**THE RUSSIAN  
GARLAND, BEING  
RUSSIAN FOLK TALES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649181674

The Russian garland, being Russian folk tales by Robert Steele

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**ROBERT STEELE**

**THE RUSSIAN  
GARLAND, BEING  
RUSSIAN FOLK TALES**





THE HORSE GREW RESTIVE, REARED HIGHER THAN THE WAVING FOREST.

UNIV. OF  
CALIFORNIA

# THE RUSSIAN GARLAND

BEING RUSSIAN FOLK TALES: TRANSLATED FROM A COLLECTION OF CHAP-BOOKS MADE IN MOSCOW: EDITED BY ROBERT STEELE AND PICTURED BY J. R. DE ROSCISZEWSKI.



A. M. PHILPOT, LIMITED,  
69 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON,  
W. C. 1.

70 1000  
ANNONIA

GR190  
SB

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
Foreword	vi
Story of Lyubim Tsarevich and the Winged Wolf	1
Story of the most wonderful and noble Self- Playing Harp	16
The Seven Brothers Simeon	29
Story of Ivan, the Peasant's Son	39
Story of the Golden Mountain	50
Iliya of Murom and the Robber Nightingale	61
The Renowned Hero, Bova Korolevich and the Princess Drushneva	68
The Mild Man and his Cantankerous Wife	117
Story of the Duck with Golden Eggs	125
Story of Bulat the Brave Companion	131
Story of Prince Malandrach and the Princess Salikalla	142
Story of a Shoemaker and his Servant Prituitshkin	153
Emelyan, the Fool	166
The Judgment of Shemyaka	183
Story of Prince Peter with the Golden Keys, and the Princess Magilene	187
Sila Tsarevich and Ivashka with the White Smock	194
Story of the Knight Yaroslav Lasarevich and the Princess Anastasia	202

v

543246



## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	PAGE
The Horse grew restive, reared higher than the highest forest	<i>Frontispiece</i>
Instantly upstarted Lyubim Tsarevich, put on his armour and leapt upon his steed	4
At length they fell in with a cripple in the road	64
“Alas! my gracious mother, why have you put me in prison?”	74
The Judge thought that the bundle was full of roubles	184
And so saying, he stretched out his hand to take the sword	226

## FOREWORD

THE special interest of this volume of Russian Folk Tales is that it is a translation from a collection of peasant Chap-books of all sorts made in Moscow about 1830, long before the Censorship had in great measure stopped the growth of popular literature. It is not necessary to dilate upon the peculiarities of Chap-books and their methods: in the conditions of their existence many of the finest qualities of the primitive stories are eliminated, but on the other hand certain essentials are enforced. The story must be direct, the interest sustained, and the language however fine, simple and easily understood.

It is to be hoped that some of these merits have been preserved in this translation: for this book is intended to appeal to a class of severe and incorruptible critics — the children of to-day. To older critics the matter is also interesting. Who on earth would ever expect to find in a Russian Chap-book printed in Slavonic type on a coarse broad-side sheet the Provençal legend of "Pierre et Maguelonne" or the Old English tale of "Bevis of Hampton." And the mystery deepens when

## FOREWORD

one is told that Bevis of Hampton is ages old in Russia, however the names have been re-furbished by the printer to—not the English, but—the Italian form. Some of the tales are evidently of German origin — adopted and made Russian, like that of the “Seven Simeons” or “Emelyan, the Fool”; others are as evidently Eastern. A few date from the Russian Epics, like that of “Iliya of Murom” and “Ivan the Peasant’s Son”; others are of later date, like that of “The Judgment of Shemyaka,” who was a historic character who lived about 1446.

It is hardly necessary to dilate on the peculiar expressions here to be found; how that a child grows “not day by day, but hour by hour,” how that when the Tsar wants to drink “beer is not brewed nor brandy distilled,” seeing he is served at once, how the hero passes through “thrice nine lands to the thirtieth country,” how brothers are always in threes, and how the youngest always succeeds where his elders fail. Students of folklore will know all about them, and the rest of us must take them on trust. Do you *know* why you must never go under a ladder?

R. S.