

## <Template for Individual Folklore Collection Item>

<contributor name>  
<date collected>  
<place collected>

**Genre:** <Supernatural religious legend, non-religious supernatural legend, human condition legend, etiological legend, contemporary legend, personal narrative, folktale, joke, belief, speech, riddle, song, custom, game, or material culture. >

**Title of item:** <make up a title that highlights any distinctive content in the item.>

### **Contributor Data:**

Name: <the person who shared folklore with you or a pseudonym if appropriate.>

Gender:

Birthplace:

Home region: <especially as relevant to the item collected.>

Contributor's age at time of collection: <If you guess, say so. Don't ask if it might be rude.>

Contributor's relationship to collector: <mother, boss, roommate, etc.>

Occupations and/or avocations: <jobs and/or hobbies as relevant to the item.>

Ethnicity and/or country of ancestor's origins:

Religion:

Other: <If appropriate, include here a brief engaging sketch of the contributor's personality, associations, and family relations (for example: parents, spouse, number of siblings, birth order, children, divorce, family blending, etc.). Share any other information relevant to understanding the relationship between the collector, the contributor, and the folklore item.>

**Social Data:** < This is the "who, what, when, where, and why" of the item's performance and collection. Describe the physical setting (your apartment with party decorations, the stockyard after the auction, etc.) How were people dressed? Was the occasion formal, causal, relaxed, tense? Describe the social occasion (birthday party, family dinner, awards ceremony, campfire storytelling, etc.) What relevant folk groups did the people present belong to? (Extended family for family dinner? The team for soccer practice?) If relevant, provide names and relationships of people present.>

<What was the mood, atmosphere of the occasion? Describe the tone and style of the contributor's performance (animated? deadpan? serious?) and any audience response (laughter, applause, suspicious murmuring, singing along, reciprocal sharing of lore, etc.) If the oral item has associated gestures, dance moves, or instrumentation, etc. describe these here (or submit a video). What was going on before, during, and after the item was shared? Mention any attitudes the contributor might express about the meaning, significance, believability, and/or appropriateness of the item.>

<What are your own reactions and thoughts about the event and item you collected? How did people react to your presence? If other items were collected from this same event, mention their titles here. If some of your social data is drawn from memory or a composite of several instances of typical settings, say so. For multiple items collected at a single event, much of the social data can be cut-and-pasted for use with other items.>

**Cultural Data:** <Explain anything about the item that an outsider would need to know to understand the text. This includes technical terms, jargon, or any other insider lingo as well as references to shared knowledge not explained in the text.>

<Assume an intelligent, generally-educated audience, but don't assume they know anything about your own or the contributor's cultural, regional, religious, or other folkgroup background. Explain any values, beliefs, attitudes, local knowledge, and/or aesthetic criteria relevant to more fully appreciating the item.>

**Collection and Transcription Methods:** <Did you record and transcribe or take written notes? Did you edit out “ums” and “ahs,” or omit interjections made by people other than the contributor? Did you ask for repetition or clarification? How long after the item was shared did you jot notes? Is this word-for-word or paraphrase? All of these approaches may be ok depending on circumstances, just be sure to say which ones you used.>

**Text:**

<Put your transcription, photograph, or description of a custom here. Put songs and poems in verse structure. If your item was performed in a language other than English, transcribe it in both in the original language and provide an English translation. If needed, present multiple speakers as do plays and movie scripts—the speaker’s name in all caps followed by a colon and new paragraph with no indent but a space between paragraphs for the next speaker. [HAMLET: Alas poor Yorick!] If your item is something like a game or custom, a contributor’s description is preferable to your own. If there is not enough room on one page for your item, simply continue on a second page. If your item is not actually here, (perhaps because it is a video submission), provide a clear way to find it, like a link to a website.>

Submitted by: <Put the collector’s name here (this is you), age, gender>  
<semester and course number>  
<course professor’s name>  
Submitted on: <date submitted>