

Virtual

LONE STAR Storytelling Festival



Discussion Guide

“Onions and Garlic”

Facts on Fiction: “Onions and Garlic” is a Jewish folktale. Folktales are stories that are passed on from person to person by word of mouth. Some folktales are used to teach lessons, entertain, or explain something that people didn’t understand.

What do you think is the purpose of the folktale “Onions and Garlic?”
Does it have more than one purpose?

Getzel is called a fool by his father and brothers. “Fool” characters are common in folktales. Have you heard or read any other stories with a foolish character?

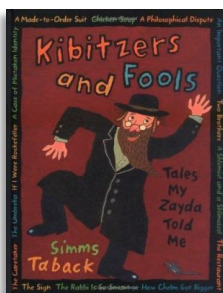
What happened when Getzel washed up on the beach?

How did Getzel’s father and brothers react when he arrived back home?

What happened at the end of the story? Did the ending surprise you?



Try reading some other Jewish folktales, fairy tales, and legends:



[The Wooden Sword by Ann Redisch Stampler](#)

[Kibitzers and Fools: Tales My Zayda Told Me by Simms Taback](#)

[Golem by David Wisniewski](#)

[Joseph Had a Little Overcoat by Simms Taback](#)

[Big Sam: A Rosh Hashanah Tall Tale by Eric Kimmel](#)

[Learn and tell a folktale from a different culture!](#)