



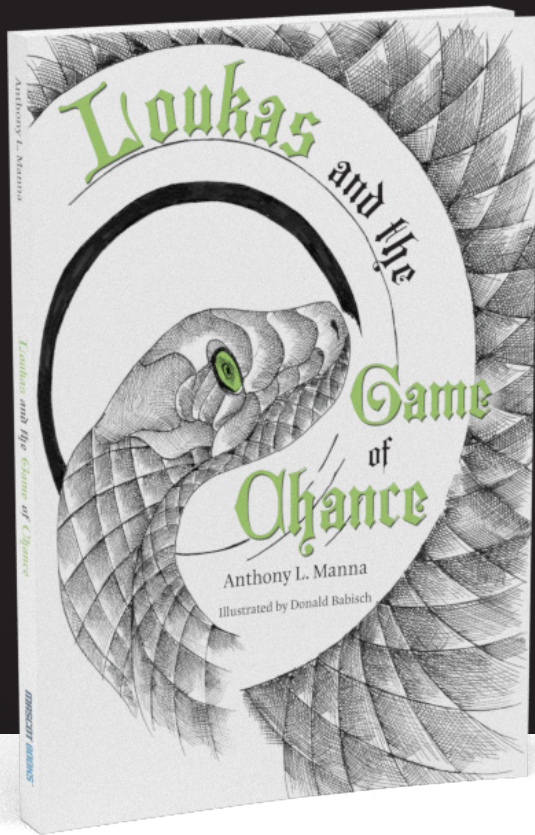
Loukas

and the

Game of Chance

Anthony L. Manna

Illustrated by Donald Babisch



October 1, 2019
\$16.95 US,
\$18.95 Can

Available everywhere books are sold.

ISBN: 978-1-68401-433-0

Distributed by: Mascot Books,
Ingram, Baker & Taylor, American West

anthonymannabooks.com

Reimagined Greek Fairy Tales From Award Winning Author

Welcome to *Loukas and the Game of Chance*

While Loukas is playing his flute at the seawall one day, he befriends a mysterious talking, dancing snake that rewards him with fortune and favor. Some years later, tempted by greed and pride, Loukas loses all his riches and his family. He must now set off on a treacherous journey through a frightening forest filled with suspense and strange creatures to find Destiny, her son Ilion, the Sun, and her daughter Luna, the Moon. These celestial guardians will surely allow him to reverse his misfortune, restore his honor, and win back all that he loves and treasures, won't they?

A reimagined Greek folktale, *Loukas and the Game of Chance* is illuminated with dramatic and evocative pen and ink drawings that provide an ideal backdrop for the dark intrigue that fills this haunting story of human struggle, courage, and resilience.

Book Awards



*Book Excellence Awards
2019 Finalist*



*Readers Favorite Five
Star Recipient*

“It’s so rich in color you would think it is one of the classics. Loukas and the Game of Chance is definitely a must-read. Children will have a fun but meaningful time with this story. The adults too because this story is definitely for everyone!”

— Trisha Dawn,
Readers Favorite

Anthony L. Manna

Retired professor of children’s and young adult literature, writing, literacy education, and drama

Anthony L. Manna’s first collaboration with Soula Mitakidou, *Mr. Semolina-Semolinus: A Greek Folktale*, illustrated by Giselle Potter, was an ALAALSC Notable Book, a Marion Vannett Ridgway Award winner, and a New York Public Library Best Book for Children. Another collaboration of theirs, *The Orphan: A Cinderella Story from Greece*, illustrated by Giselle Potter, was a Bank Street College of Education Best Book of 2012. They also collaborated on the anthology, *Folktales from Greece: A Treasury of Delights*. Anthony has worked with children and teens in drama and storytelling; has been an actor, director of children’s theater, vehicle repossessioner, and janitor; and has taught in schools and universities in Turkey, Greece, Albania, and the United States. He divides his time between Ohio and Arizona.



Academic Awards

- Distinguished Teacher Award – Kent State University
- Students' Choice Award, Student Education Association – Kent State University
- Creative Contribution Award for the Virginia Hamilton Conference on Multicultural Literature for Youth – Kent State University
- Arbuthnot Award – International Literacy Association for outstanding university teaching
- Center for Literature and Medicine (Hiram College/Northeast Ohio College of Medicine) Fellowship
- American Library Association's 2006 John Newbery Award Committee

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Instagram: @drtony42



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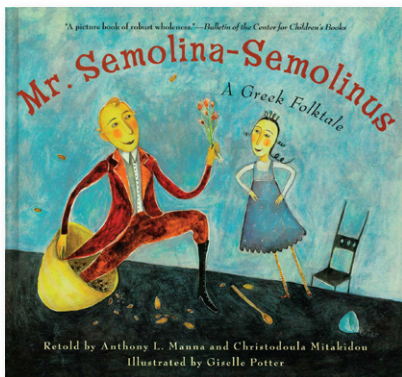


About the Illustrator

Donald Babsich is an artist and art educator focusing primarily on fiber art and mixed media. His work was recently exhibited at the Ashton Gallery in California and at the Crooked Tree Gallery in Michigan. An alumnus of New York University's graduate Art Education program, he is a former adjunct instructor in the Art Education Program at Youngstown University in Ohio. He has also taught art at all grade levels in public schools. His articles have appeared in several art education journals, and he wrote and illustrated *Who is That Peeking in My Windows* for beginning readers.



Further Reading



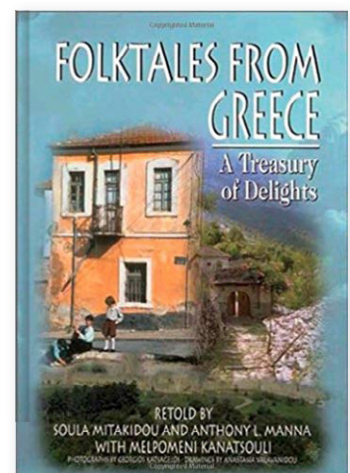
Mr. Semolina-Semolinus: A Greek Folktale

A long time ago, in Greece, there lived a beautiful princess named Areti. She had many suitors, but none she liked—so she decided to make one from semolina, almonds, and sugar. Out of the bowl climbed the most handsome man Areti had ever seen: Mr. Semolina-Semolinus, a man more beautiful than love itself, and

twice as rare. So when an evil queen far away steals Areti's beloved, what does she do? She orders three pairs of iron shoes, and sets off on a daring rescue attempt, for nothing will stand between this princess and her dreams.

Folktales from Greece: A Treasury of Delights (World Folklore Series) by Soula Mitakidou and Anthony L. Manna

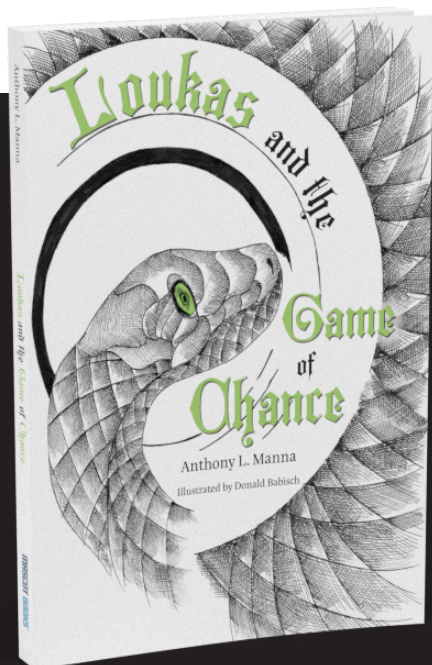
While Greek myths are well known and amply represented, very few Greek folktales have been published in English.



Now these acclaimed authors make 20 captivating folktales accessible to readers outside of Greece. Newly translated and retold, the stories range from the profound to the lighthearted, the haunting to the hilarious, and the spiritual to the secular. Numerous accompanying photographs and drawings illustrate aspects of Greek life and traditional folklore motifs. Perfect for storytimes and read-alouds, the tales will appeal to both young and old.

The Orphan: A Cinderella Story from Greece

This retelling of Cinderella in a Greek context is a fan-favorite for admirers of the original Cinderella story! After a young girl becomes an orphan, her wicked stepmother makes sure that her life is miserable. But with the help of Nature's blessings, the orphan receives gifts, like the brilliance from the Sun, beauty from the Moon, gracefulness from the Dawn, and even a tiny pair of blue shoes from the Sea. When a handsome prince visits their village, he only has eyes for the mysterious beauty.



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Anthony L. Manna is available for interviews, features, book events,
speaking engagements and appearances.

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For bulk purchase information, please contact orders@mascotbooks.com.