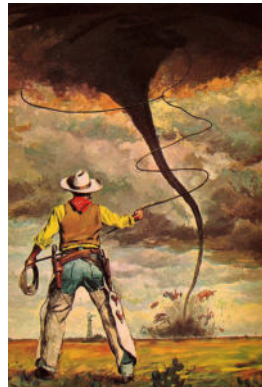


Read this article as a group first:

[“What is a Tall Tale? Common Elements Explained” by Jennifer Gunner](#)

## Story Options:

- [“Brer Rabbit”](#)
- [“Paul Bunyan”](#)
- [“Pecos Bill”](#)
- [“Tall Tales About Animals”](#)



**FUR BEARING TROUT**  
**Very Rare**

CAUGHT WHILE TROLLING IN LAKE SUPERIOR OFF  
GROS CAP, NEAR SAULT STE. MARIE, DISTRICT OF ALGOMA

It is believed that the great depth and the extreme penetrating coldness  
of the water in which these fish live, has caused them to grow their dense  
coat of (usually) white fur.

Mounted by ROSS C. JOBE, Taxidermist of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

An illustration of a scene from the story 'Brer Rabbit'. In the foreground, Brer Rabbit, a brown rabbit wearing a red jacket and brown pants, is lying on his back in the grass, looking up with a surprised expression. Behind him is a large, leafy green bush. In the background, two anthropomorphic foxes are walking along a path. The larger fox, Brer Fox, is wearing a white shirt, a brown vest, and blue pants. The smaller fox is wearing a purple vest and blue pants. They are both looking towards Brer Rabbit. The scene is set in a forest with a large tree trunk on the right and a bright yellow sky in the background.

# *Brer Rabbit*

Georgia Folktale retold  
by S.E Schlosser

Ruby Dao, Gabriela San Diego, Nina  
Isabelle Aguilar, Melissa Nesheiwat



## Characters:

Protagonist: Brer Rabbit, uses tricks to avoid his doom



Character #2: Brer fox, wanted to kill the rabbit, likes to hunt



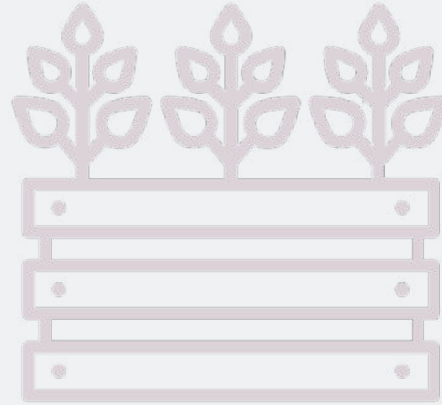
Character #3: Brer bear, fall for brer rabbits trick, has a big family to feed

Setting:

**Location(s):** Morning, Fox's Pea Garden

**Approximate year date:** (?)

**Time of year:** Unclear.



**Any more information:** The crops that Brer Fox planted and was harvested would show that it's autumn, but since they grew so fast, it's a bit unclear. It's early in the morning.

# Summary

Brer Rabbit wants to take Fox's peas, but his trap prevents him from doing so. While meeting Brer Bear, Brer Rabbit takes advantage over him to find a way out of Fox's trap.



**Rising Action:** Brer Fox sets a trap for Brer Rabbit

**Exposition:** Brer Fox plants a garden of peas. Brer Rabbit takes advantage of his garden and steals Fox's crops

**Conflict:** Brer Fox finds his peas being stolen by supposedly Brer Rabbit. He sets a trap for Brer Rabbit to prevent him from taking his crops.

**Climax:** Brer Rabbit gets caught in Fox's trap, and is now struck in the tree

**Falling Action:** While caught in the trap, Brer Rabbit encounters Brer Bear on his way and uses him to get out of the trap. He tells Brer Bear to take his place on the tree trap to "keep watch" over Fox's peas.

**Denouement:** Brer Rabbit alerts Brer Fox that the culprit is Brer Bear and places the blame on him. He then continues eating Fox's peas without getting found out or caught by the trap.

## Mood of the Story:



The overall mood of the story is mischievous as it plays with Brer Rabbit's personality.

Example from the text:

Brer Rabbit tried again. "And how are you feeling this fine day?" The Tar Baby, she said nothing. Brer Fox grinned an evil grin and lay low in the bushes.

Example from the text:

"I was bred and born in the briar patch, Brer Fox," he called. "Born and bred in the briar patch."

And Brer Rabbit skipped away as merry as a cricket

Example from the text

Brer Rabbit knew that Brer Bear would be plenty mad at him when he found out he had been tricked, and so he ran down the road and hid in the mud beside the pond, so that only his eyeballs stuck out, making him look like a big old bullfrog.

## Author's Tone:



The author likes to portray the character's emotions as—the story progresses.

Examples from the text

Brer Rabbit frowned. This strange creature was not very polite. It was beginning to make him mad.

Examples from the text

Brer Fox ground his teeth in rage and went home.

Examples from the text

By and by, a very grumpy Brer Bear came lumbering down the road.

## Find a theme:



A lesson learned by a character:

The mischief and freefulness of Brer Rabbit is represented by how he learns to overcome his peers with smarts over strength. Although his actions are not morally correct, he outsmarts those who are stronger than him.

How did they grow and change: Brer Rabbit finds himself in a tight situation, but manages to get himself out of it by taking advantage of those stronger than him.

Why did the characters act the way they acted?

Brer Rabbit wants to deceive Brer Fox and Brer Bear to get ahold on Fox's peas while having it his way. Brer Fox acts cautious because he is more wary about Brer Rabbit deceiving him. Brer Bear is more carefree in the story and isn't as aware of Brer Rabbit's antics.

What's different at the end of the story:

Brer Rabbit deceives both Brer Bear to trick Brer Fox, while Brer Fox still believing the true culprit is Brer Bear.

What stays with you or the message you can take away from the story: From the Fox or Bear's point of view, the lesson could be to be more wary of a character's intentions, while from Rabbit's point of view; use more smarts when you can't

# Elements of a Tall Tale



The tall tale “Brer Rabbit” uses a pleasant, folksy tone to tell the story of a mischievous rabbit who outsmarts and plays tricks on his peers. You can tell this because the mood that in the setting of the story appears to be lighthearted, especially during the first phrases:

“One fine morning, Brer Fox decided to plant him a patch of goober peas. He set to with a will and before you know it, he had raked and hoed out a beautiful patch of ground and he put in a fine planting of peas. It didn't take too long before those goober vines grew tall and long and the peas ripened up good and smart.”