

From the author of **Orville Hicks:**
Mountain Stories and Mountain Roots

Parkway Publishers, Inc. Presents:

Jack Tales

And Mountain Yarns

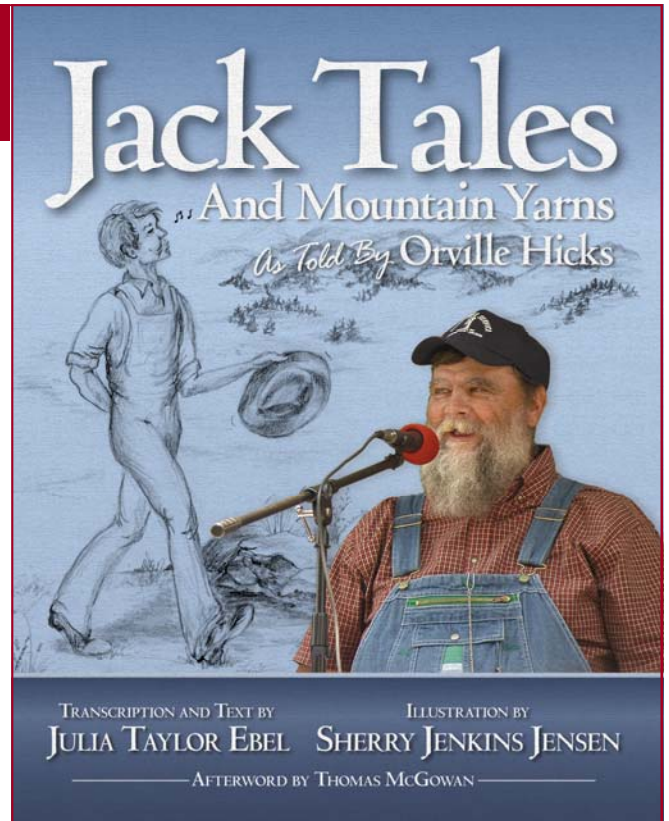
As told by Orville Hicks

Transcribed and edited by

Julia Taylor Ebel

Illustrated by

Sherry Jenkins Jensen



When ancestors of Orville Hicks settled in the Appalachian Mountains, they brought stories that began in Europe but have since been told through more than 200 years and six generations. Folklore collectors have recognized this rich oral tradition since the 1920s. From these roots, storyteller Orville Hicks learned his craft.

Orville grew up in a hollow near Beech Mountain, North Carolina, where he learned tales from his mother. Her father had told tales learned from his father, Council Harmon, a central figure in the Beech Mountain Jack Tale's history. Orville also heard tales from his second cousin Ray Hicks, who received a National Heritage Award for his storytelling before his death in 2003.

For the past two decades, Orville Hicks has enthralled audiences with his storytelling performances. In 2007 Orville was honored with a North Carolina Heritage Award. As his reputation as a storyteller grew, audiences have clamored for a book of Orville's tales. *Jack Tales and Mountain Yarns* includes more than 20 transcribed stories that capture his voice.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Julia Taylor Ebel is the author of several books, all of which has won NC Society of Historian's Awards. Over 50 of her nature poems have been published in children's magazines, including *Cricket* and *Pockets*. Ebel teaches children's literature and language classes at Guilford Technical Community College. She lives in Jamestown, North Carolina.



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As told by Orville Hicks

By Julia Ebel

Illustrated by Sherry Jenkins Jensen

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