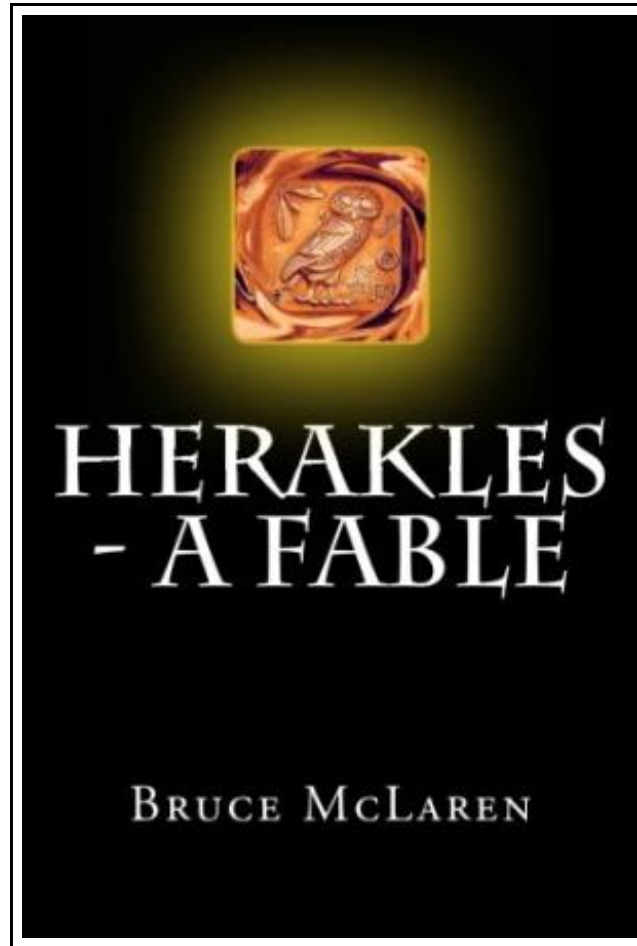


## Herakles - A Fable



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Peter Bruce McLaren, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Bruce McLaren (illustrator). 226 x 150 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Herakles - A Fable is a masterful modern rendering of the timeless epic from classical Greek mythology. In the Greek myth, Herakles was a son of Zeus and the epitome of masculinity. In a fit of madness, Herakles murders his own children. To atone for this heinous act Herakles is set twelve tasks by his arch-nemesis, Eurystheus. Upon completing his tasks Herakles is granted immortality. In this contemporary fable, an old man is spending his final days beneath an oak tree in the garden of a nursing home. Presumed to be incapacitated and mute, the old man in fact possesses the unique ability to communicate with all elements of nature, including the sun and the moon, the birds and the bees, and the squirrels that climb in the trees. One day, the sun informs the old man that he is the only great man on earth. A passing wasp overhears the conversation. Angered by this claim, the wasp demands proof of his alleged greatness of the old man. Proof must be provided in the form of a story, to be told by the old man on a subject of the wasp s choosing. If the wasp is dissatisfied then it will sting the frail old man, ensuring his certain demise. The story told by the old man is enigmatic, and infuriates, yet also intrigues the wasp, leaving it wanting to know more. A second story is demanded, then a third, until, just like Herakles, twelve tasks must be completed. The stories related by the old man tell the tale of F, a young boy living in a remote valley in the Australian...

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