

Uroš Petrović

# Riddle Tales

Book one



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■ Laguna ■

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**Zagonetne priče**

Knjiga prva

Uroš Petrović

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You have in your hands a book of riddle tales.

They have been created to offer you many moments of reflection and delightful difficulty as well as satisfaction after having successfully solved them.

Note: You won't be able to solve many of these all by yourself. They were thought up to be solved with the aid of your parents and even some of your older friends. They're especially suitable for putting before your entire class at school. Remember, many heads are better than one!

**Suggestions for solving:** You can use the rule whereby the riddler answers only by YES or NO. Another rule if there are several players: Each solver has the right to ask questions until he gets an affirmative answer. Also, you can limit the number of questions asked.

The authors advises and to a certain extent thought up these tales with the intention that you never under any condition read the solution before you've tried really hard to solve the riddle.

The solutions require a little general knowledge of Nature and its laws inasmuch as these stories are for the most part logical brain-teasers.

Although these riddle tales are set in the mysterious world of a trapper settlement, all of them can be solved without the use of magic, powerful shamans' potions or knowledge of old trapper legends.

One thing is for sure: by going through these tales you'll learn and always remember a great number of useful things.

In the long run, that's why these tales were written...



## LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

The level of difficulty of these tales is indicated by the number of ginkgo leaves.

One ginkgo leaf: easy

Two ginkgo leaves: fairly easy

Three ginkgo leaves: a little harder

Four ginkgo leaves: hard

Five ginkgo leaves: really hard

Six ginkgo leaves: frighteningly hard

More than six ginkgo leaves: mission impossible

It's not by chance that the ginkgo leaf was chosen as an indicator of difficulty. This tree, which has existed for over 150,000,000 years, is a symbol of wisdom. Tea made from its unusual leaves enhances concentration and clarity of the mind. It's no wonder that the ginkgo (*Ginkgo Biloba*) is a much respected tree in the trapper settlement where these tales unwind...

*The author*





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Riddle Tale Number 1



# THE RACE ON GOF'S FIELD



**Level of difficulty:** 3 ginkgo leaves





Boko and Oran were exceptionally fast boys. Quarrels about which one of them was faster would go on for days. So it happened that one day they invited their friend Atilya to come along with them and went to race on Gof's field.

"You stand in one corner of the field and I'll stand in the other. Let Atilya stand where she is right now. We'll race over to her!" proposed blond-haired Boko.

"All right, except that I'll be a bit bored waiting for you when I reach her," replied Oran defiantly.

"You wish! We'll start when Atilya gives the sign!" said Boko calmly.

"I don't think this race is fair," their friend criticized.

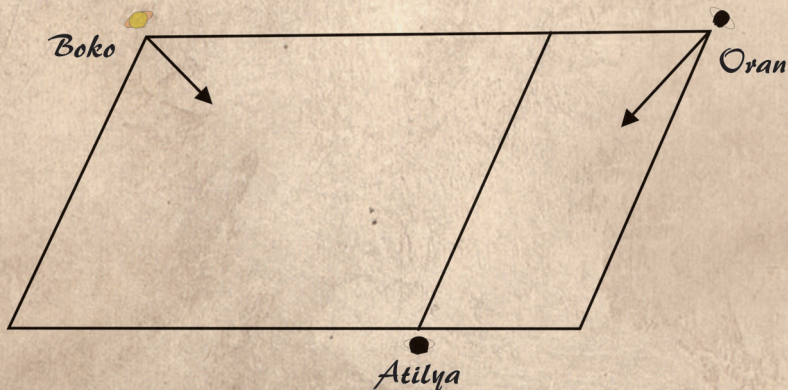
"Boko's the one who set the conditions!" said Oran.

Atilya shrugged, and then began to count off.

They both ran equally fast.

The first one to reach Atilya was ...Boko!

How?



Riddle Tale Number 2



# THE PANTHER AND THE HEAVENLY ARROW



**Level of difficulty:** 3 ginkgo leaves





Long ago when the events in this riddle tale unfolded, a white comet cut across the heavens every four years on the same day. It was a breathtaking, heavenly display to which miraculous powers were attributed. People called it the Heavenly Arrow and it adorned the sky both day and night.

A panther named Kin was born on the same day as the first shaman, Kor.

Exactly four years after their birth, the Heavenly Arrow illuminated the sky above them.

The same comet was seen the day after Kin's death, as if it wanted to illuminate the place where the renowned panther had died. He had lived exactly twenty years.

How many days in his life was the panther able to see the Heavenly Arrow?

