

The Mysterious Giant of Barletta

In the town of Barletta, in front of the Church of San Sepolcro, stood a huge statue. No one knew where it had come from or when. The Mysterious Giant - for that is what the people called the statue - had always been there as long as anyone could remember.	12 23 34 45 49
Good weather and bad, the Mysterious Giant stood there. The people of Barletta loved having the statue in their town.	57 67 69
In the early morning, right before the sun came up, the sisters from the convent and other townspeople came to the church for Holy Mass. They always greeted the giant with a nod or a smile.	80 90 101 105
The people on the way to market always hailed the giant and asked that he give them good luck to sell all their goods or to get a good bargain.	116 129 135
All day long the children played around his legs, and the doves flew around his head. The young boys would sit on his big feet and tell jokes.	146 158 163
A little later the older boys would sit on the giant's feet to watch the older girls walk by. And at night, lovers would steal kisses in the giant's shadow.	174 186 193
Then the streets would be empty. Doves would settle on the giant's head and shoulders and arms and coo themselves to sleep. The townspeople would open their windows and call, "Good night, Big One."	202 212 220 227