

# Elves From the North Pole – More Than a Fairy Tale?

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by [Hammerson Peters](#)

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Christmas elves have featured in Western folktales ever since American writer Louisa May Alcott penned her book 'Christmas Elves' in 1855.

Many Americans and Canadians might be surprised to learn that, despite their relatively recent addition to the Santa Claus story, little magical people from the North Pole have featured in Western folklore for more than 1,000 years.

And believe it or not, rather than hailing from northernmost Norway, Russia, or some other Old World abode, these creatures were said to live in Northern Canada.

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