

Name _____

Tall Tales

Joe Magarac and the Magic Steel Mill

Deep in the hills of Pennsylvania, there lived a giant named Joe Magarac. Joe wasn't just any giant—he was made of pure steel! His body shimmered like polished iron, and when he walked, the ground rumbled as if a train was passing by. Joe loved one thing more than anything else: steel. He lived in a steel mill and worked day and night, forging beams, rails, and bridges.



The workers at the mill adored Joe. He was as strong as ten men and never got tired. When the furnaces roared too hot, Joe simply waved his hand to cool them down. When heavy steel beams needed lifting, he picked them up like they were twigs.

One day, disaster struck. A terrible storm knocked out the mill's power, and the furnaces began to cool. Without the intense heat, the steel would harden too soon, ruining the entire batch. The workers were panicked. "What will we do? The steel must stay hot!"

Joe sprang into action. He grabbed a giant iron ladle and scooped up the molten steel. Then, with a mighty breath, he blew flames hotter than any furnace the workers had ever seen. The steel melted perfectly, and the workers cheered. Joe didn't stop until every piece of steel was saved.

When the storm ended and the power returned, the workers thanked Joe. But Joe just smiled his iron grin. "Steel is what I live for," he said, "and as long as I'm around, no storm will stop this mill."

And so, Joe Magarac became a hero not just for his strength, but for his heart of steel.