

精选外国寓言童话集

The City Mouse and the Country Mouse

Once there were two mice. They were friends. One mouse lived in the country; the other mouse lived in the city. After many years the Country mouse saw the City mouse; he said, "Do come and see me at my house in the country." So the City mouse went. The City mouse said, "This food is not good, and your house is not good. Why do you live in a hole in the field? You should come and live in the city. You would live in a nice house made of stone. You would have nice food to eat. You must come and see me at my house in the city."

The Country mouse went to the house of the City mouse. It was a very good house. Nice food was set ready for them to eat. But just as they began to eat they heard a great noise. The City mouse cried, " Run! Run! The cat is coming!" They ran away quickly and hid.

After some time they came out. When they came out, the Country mouse said, "I do not like living in the city. I like living in my hole in the field. For it is nicer to be poor and happy, than to be rich and afraid."

Little Red Coat

There was a little girl. She lived with her mother in a hut near the forest.

One day the mother got some red cloth; she took her needle and she made a red coat for the little girl.

She put the coat on the little girl, and said, "I shall call you Little Red Coat." So the little girl was called "Little Red Coat" by her mother.

One day Little Red Coat said, "I want to show my red coat to Grandmother."

Grandmother lived in a hut. The way to the hut was through the forest.

The girl's mother said, "You shall show Grandmother your red coat, and you shall take some eggs to her. You shall put on your little red coat and go through the forest to her house."

Then the girl's mother put some eggs in a cloth, and gave them to the little girl, and said, "Take these eggs to Grandmother. You will go through the forest. Grandmother's house is far from here. Do not wait on your way through the forest. If you wait, the night will come. At night there is a wolf in the forest; he eats little girls and boys."

Little Red Coat said, "I will not wait on my way through the forest."

Then Little Red Coat went out. She went on her way through the forest. As she went, she saw many flowers by the way. She said, "I will take some flowers to Grandmother." Then she went this way and that way getting flowers for her Grandmother. She waited getting the flowers. Night was coming and she was far from her Grandmother's house. When she saw that night was coming, she ran.

As she ran she saw a wolf, with big red eyes, standing near a tree.

The wolf said, "Why do you run, Little Red Coat?"

"Night is coming," said Little Red Coat, "that is why I run."

The wolf said, "Where are you running, Little Red Coat?"

She said, "I am running to Grandmother."

"What are you taking to your Grandmother?" said the wolf.

"I am taking some eggs," said Little Red Coat.

"I will show you the way," said the wolf.

"No, no, no!" said Little Red Coat. "Do not show me the way; I know the way."

Then the wolf ran away through the trees.

The wolf came to Grandmother's house, and said, "Are you in, Grandmother?"

"Who is that?" said Grandmother.

"I am Little Red Coat," said the wolf, "and I have got some eggs for you."

"Come in, Little Red Coat," said Grandmother.

Then the wolf went in, and ate up poor Grandmother. Then he took Grandmother's clothes and put them on, and he got into Grandmother's bed.

Little Red Coat came to the hut. She said, "Are you in, Grandmother?"

The wolf said, "ho is that?"

She said, "It is Little Red Coat. I have got some eggs and some flowers for you."

"Come in, Little. Red Coat," said the wolf.

Little Red Coat went in.

The wolf said, "Come near and show me what is in that cloth."

"Eggs, Grandmother," said Little Red Coat.

The wolf said, "What is that in your hand?"

"Flowers," said Little Red Coat.

"come near, and show me your flowers, Little Red Coat," said the wolf.

Then Little Red Coat went near to the bed and sat down.

Then she said, "What big ears you have got, Grandmother."

"I have got big ears to hear you with," said the wolf.

"What big eyes you have got, Grand- mother," said Little Red Coat.

"I have got big eyes to see you with," said the wolf.

"What a big mouth you have got, Grand- mother," said Little Red Coat.

"I have got a big mouth to eat you with!" said the wolf. And he jumped out of the bed and ran to catch Little Red Coat. She ran to the door, and out into the forest. The wolf ran. Little Red Coat ran.

Then she heard a shot. There was a man waiting near a tree. He had shot the wolf. The wolf was dead. Little Red Coat saw that the man was her father. Her father heard that the wolf was in the forest, and he came to help Little Red Coat.

The Cat and the Bell

There were many mice in a house. The man of the house got a cat. The cat killed many of the mice.

Then the oldest mouse said, " All mice must come to my hole tonight, and we will think what we can do about this cat."

All the mice came. Many mice spoke, but none knew what to do. At last a young mouse stood up and said, "We must put a bell on the cat. Then, when the cat comes near, we shall hear the bell and run away and hide. So the cat will not catch any more mice."

Then the old mouse asked, " Who will put the bell on the cat?" No mouse answered.

He waited; but still no one answered.

At last he said, "It is not hard to say things; but it is harder to do them."

Blue Beard

I

Once there was a very rich man. He lived in a beautiful house, and had a beautiful garden. The rich man had a blue beard: so he was called "Blue Beard."

Near the rich man's house there lived a poor woman. She had three sons, and two beautiful girls. The name of one of the girls was Ann; the name of the other was Fatima. Blue Beard wanted to marry one of the girls; but the girls did not want to marry Blue Beard.

Ann and Fatima did not want to marry the rich man because his beard was blue. Blue Beard had married many wives, but his wives had gone away. No one knew where his other wives had gone. The girls did not want to marry Blue Beard and become his wife, because no one knew where his other wives had gone. So their mother said to Blue Beard, "My girls do not want to marry you."

Then Blue Beard said, "Come and live in my house for some days." So they went and lived in Blue Beard's house. It was a very beautiful house, and Blue Beard was good to them in many ways.

Fatima said, "His beard is blue, but he is not a bad man. He is very good in some ways. So I will marry him."

So Fatima married Blue Beard and went to live in the beautiful house.

Some days went by. Then Blue Beard said, "I shall go on a journey." Then he gave Fatima the keys of all the rooms in the house. He said, "This is the key of that little room; do not open the door of it. ...Say that you will not open the door of the little room!"

Fatima said, "I will not open the door of that little room."

Then Blue Beard went away.

When Blue Beard was away, all Fatima's friends came to see her. She showed them the rooms, and what a beautiful house it was; but she did not open the door of the little room.

The friends went away. Then Fatima said, "Shall I open the door of that little room now? Why did he say, 'Do not open it'? I want to see what is in the little room."

II

Fatima took the key; she went to the door of the little room, and opened it. In the room she saw all Blue Beard's other wives. They were dead!

The key fell from her hand. When she took it up there was a red mark on it.

She shut the door. Then she took the key to her room. She said, "Blue Beard will see the mark on the key; he will know that I have

opened the door of the little room, and he will kill me, as he killed all the other wives." She rubbed the key with a cloth, but the mark did not go away. She washed the key in hot water, but the mark was not washed away. She rubbed the key on a stone, but she could not rub the mark away.

Blue Beard came back. He called Fatima, and said, "Give me my keys." Fatima gave him the other keys; but she did not give him the key of the little room. He said, "Where is the key of the little room?" She said, "I will bring it." She went and brought it; and he saw the red mark. He said, "You have opened the door of the little room. Now you shall die."

She fell at his feet: "Give me some hours to live," she said.

He said, "I will give you one hour."

Fatima had three brothers. Her brothers had said, "We shall come and see you today;" but they had not come. She said, "If my brothers come in this hour they will save me."

Her sister Ann was in the house. She called to her, "Sister Ann, Sister Ann, go to the window and see if my brothers are coming."

Sister Ann went to the window; she said, "I see no one coming."

Fatima waited a little; then she cried, "Sister Ann, Sister Ann, do you see anyone coming?"

Sister Ann said, "I do not see anyone; no one is coming."

Blue Beard called, "Fatima!"

Fatima said, "Sister Ann, Sister Ann, is anyone coming?"

"I see a little dust," said Sister Ann, "very far away."

Blue Beard called, "Fatima, come down."

"Sister Ann, Sister Ann," said Fatima, "is there anyone in the dust?"

"I see men in the dust," said Sister Ann.

Blue Beard called, "An hour has gone by. Come down, Fatima, and I shall kill you."

"Sister Ann, Sister Ann, are three men in the dust?"

Blue Beard called, "An hour has gone by. If you do not come down, I shall come up."

"I see three men," said Sister Ann.

"They are my brothers!" said Fatima.

Fatima said, "Sister Ann, Sister Ann, call to them to come and save me."

Blue Beard called. "I am coming up," he said.

"Sister Ann, call to them, Sister Ann!"

Blue Beard came to the door.

The door opened: Blue Beard caught Fatima's arm.

The three brothers came in, and killed Blue Beard.

So Fatima was saved.

The Old Cat

An old woman had a cat. The cat was very old she could not run quickly, and she could not bite, because she was so old. One day the old cat saw a mouse; she jumped and caught the mouse. But she could not bite it; so the mouse got out of her mouth and ran away, because the cat could not bite it.

Then the old woman became very angry because the cat had not killed the mouse. She began to hit the cat. The cat said, "Do not hit your old servant. I have worked for you for many years, and I would work for you still, but I am too old. Do not be unkind to the old, but remember what good work the old did when they were young."

The Sleeping Princess

I

Once there was a King and a Queen. For many years they had wanted a child, and no child had come to them.

Then the Queen had a child. It was a girl. The King was very glad.

You know what a fairy is. Many fairies lived near the King's house. When the Queen's child came, the King went to all the fairies and said, "The Queen has a child. Do come to the house and see our new little girl." All the fairies said, "We are very glad: we will come today."

One of the fairies had gone away on a journey: she had been very far away. She had not come back when the Queen's child came. When she came back, one of the fairies said to her, "The Queen has a child, and the King came to us and said, "Come and see our new little girl. ""

But this fairy was a bad fairy; the bad fairy said, "The King went to all of you: why did he not come to me? I shall go and see the King's child; but I shall give her some bad thing."

All the good fairies went to the King's house, and saw the little girl; and they all gave her some good thing. One said, "I give her this good thing: she shall have riches." One fairy said, "I give her this good thing; she shall become a brave woman." One said, "I give her this good thing: she shall become a good woman." All gave some good thing.

Then there came the bad fairy. She said, "The King went to all the fairies but he did not come to me, so I shall give the child some bad thing. She will have riches; she will become brave; she will become good. But, when she is a woman, she will prick her hand with a needle, and die." The poor Queen did not know what to do. The King said to the good fairies, "

The poor girl shall not die. Can you not help me? Say that she shall not die!" The good fairies said, " We cannot help you. What the bad fairy has said will come. Your child will prick her hand with a needle; but she shall not die. She shall sleep for many years. Then a king's son shall come and kiss her. And she will awake. He shall wake her with a kiss." Then the fairies went away.

The King sent for all his men and all the Queen's women, and said, "Go and bring me all the needles that are in the house."

They brought all the needles that they could find, and the King took them, and threw them into a river far away.

Then he said, "See that no needle comes into this house. See

that no man and no woman brings a needle near my child. I shall kill them if they do."

II

The little child grew up in the King's house. She became a Princess. The Princess wanted to see all that she could. She wanted to know what the men were doing in the garden. She wanted to know the names of all the flowers and of all the trees. She said to the men in the King's garden, "What is the name of this flower? What is the name of this tree?" In the house she wanted to see all that there was to see.

She wanted to know how many rooms there were in the King's house, and who lived in all the rooms. So she went into one room, and then into another room, and then into another. She went into big rooms and little rooms, and very little rooms. Then she said, "I have been to all the rooms in the house." But there was one room where she had not gone.

As she went on, she came to a new room. It was a little room very far away from all the other rooms. The door of the room was shut. The Princess wanted to go in- and see what was in this room. She called, "Open the door!" But no one came. She called once. She called twice; then the door was opened. The Princess went into the room: and there she saw a very old woman.

The old woman was sitting near a table. On the table there was some cloth. The old woman had some cloth in one hand, and in the other hand she had a needle.

The Princess said, "What are you doing?"

"I am making something," said the old woman.

"What are you making?" said the Princess.

"I am making some clothes," said the old woman.

"What is that in your hand?" said the Princess.

"That is the cloth," said the old woman.

"No!" said the Princess. "What is that in your other hand?"

"That?" said the old woman. "That is a needle."

The Princess said, "Give me the 'needle'; I want to see it. I have not seen a needle. I do not know what a needle is."

The old woman said, "Have you not seen a needle? How can that be? You have seen many needles! Needles are seen in all houses."

The old woman gave the needle to the Princess.

"Give me the cloth," said the Princess: "I want to make clothes." Then the old woman gave the Princess the cloth.

The Princess pricked the cloth with the needle —but she pricked her hand. And she fell asleep!

Then all the men and the women in the house fell asleep. The King fell asleep at his table, and the Queen sitting near him fell

asleep.

The man in the garden fell asleep with his axe in his hand. The man standing at the door of the house fell asleep where he stood. All were asleep.

A fairy came to the Princess. She took her and put her on a bed. Then the fairy said to the trees and to the flowers in the garden, "Grow!" The flowers grew up, and the trees grew big. There was a wall of trees and flowers. So no one could go into the house.

In the house the Princess slept; and the King slept, and all his men; and the Queen, and her women, slept.

III

Many wanted to go into the house of the Sleeping Princess; but they could not go through the trees. So no one came.

Years went by, and the Princess slept. Many years went by, and men did not know what the house was and who was in it. The trees grew up; you could not see the house through the trees. Men went by the trees and did not know that there was a house there.

One day a King rode into the forest. His son was with him. The King and his men went far in front, and the King's son could not find them. He rode on, and he came to a wall of trees and flowers. He said, "My father has gone through those trees: I will go through them and find him."

As he came to the wall of trees, it opened, and he went through. Then he saw a garden; but all the flowers had grown here and there as they wanted.

He came to a house. The door was open, a man was standing by the door asleep. The King's son said, "What a lazy man, he sleeps standing!" He went into the house. Men sat at the table, with food in their hands, asleep.

A little boy had been reading a story: he had fallen asleep with his head on his arms. A woman had been putting on her shoes; she was asleep with one shoe on and one shoe in her hand. An old man sat with pen and paper, asleep; and the dust of years was on his paper. Near him a woman was asleep with her little child asleep in her arms.

The King's son went from one room to another. He saw the old King asleep at his table, and near him the Queen asleep with her head in her hands. Then he came to a room where there was sunlight and flowers. The window was open and roses had grown in through the window into the room. Golden light came through the window and fell upon a bed. The Princess was on the bed. Her eyes were shut. She was asleep.

The King's son kissed her. She awoke. Then all the house awoke. The man awoke at the door. The men awoke and ate the food in their

hands. The woman awoke and put on her shoe. The boy awoke and read his story. The King awoke at his table. The Queen rubbed her eyes, and said, "What were you saying, my King. I fell asleep."

The Princess was married by the King's son, and they became King and Queen.

The Man and the Apples

A man was going to the house of some rich person. As he went along the road, he saw a box of good apples at the side of the road. He said, "I do not want to eat those apples; for the rich man will give me much food; he will give me very nice food to eat." Then he took the apples and threw them away into the dust.

He went on and came to a river. The river had become very big; so he could not go over it. He waited for some time; then he said, "I cannot go to the rich man's house today, for I cannot get over the river."

He began to go home. He had eaten no food that day. He began to want food. He came to the apples, and he was glad to take them out of the dust and eat them.

Do not throw good things away; you may be glad to have them at some other time.

“ Mr. Fox is Dead ”

Mr. Rabbit was a very bad little beast; he was always doing things that made other persons angry and they wanted to catch him. But it was very hard to catch Mr. Rabbit.

One day Mr. Wolf said to Mr. Fox, "We will catch Mr. Rabbit and eat him tonight. You go to your home and get into bed. I shall say that you are dead. Then Mr. Rabbit will come near you to look at you, and you will jump up and catch him."

Mr. Fox ran home and got into bed. Mr. Wolf went to Mr. Rabbit's house. He stood at the door and called, "Mr. Rabbit, Mr. Rabbit."

"What is it?" said Mr. Rabbit.

"Have you heard about poor Mr. Fox? It is so sad!"

No," said Mr. Rabbit, "I have not heard anything about Mr. Fox."

"He is dead!" said Mr. Wolf.

Mr. Wolf went away. Mr. Rabbit went to Mr.

Fox's house to see what he could see. He looked in through the window, and there he saw Mr. Fox on the bed with his eyes shut, looking like a dead fox. Mr. Rabbit thought, "I must see if he is dead or not. For if he is not dead, he will catch me when I go near to him."

Mr. Rabbit went into Mr. Fox's house; he looked at Mr. Fox and said, "Mr. Wolf says that Mr. Fox is dead but he does not look like a dead fox. You can always know if a fox is dead, for dead foxes always open their mouths.

Mr. Fox heard this, and he thought, "I will show him that I am dead." So he opened his mouth.

When Mr. Rabbit saw Mr. Fox open his mouth he knew that Mr. Fox was not dead. Mr. Rabbit jumped up and ran out of the house as quickly as he could.

Snow-white

I

Once there was a Queen. She was sitting at the window. There was snow outside in the garden—snow on the hill and in the lane, snow on the huts and on the trees: all things were white with snow.

She had some cloth in her hand and a needle. The cloth in her hand was as white as the snow.

The Queen was making a coat for a little child. She said, "I want my child to be white as this cloth, white as the snow. And I shall call her Snow-white."

Some days after that the Queen had a child. The child was white as snow. The Queen called her Snow-white.

But the Queen was very ill, and after some days she died. Snow-white lived, and was a very happy and beautiful child.

One year after that, the King married another Queen. The new Queen was very beautiful; but she was not a good woman.

A wizard had given this Queen a glass. The glass could speak. It was on the wall in the Queen's room. Every day the Queen looked in the glass to see how beautiful she was. As she looked in the glass, she asked:

"Tell me, glass upon the wall,

Who is most beautiful of all?"

And the glass spoke and said:

"The Queen is most beautiful of all."

Years went by. Snow-white grew up and became a little girl. Every day the Queen looked in the glass and said,

"Tell me, glass upon the wall,

Who is most beautiful of all?"

And every day the glass spoke and said,

"The Queen is most beautiful of all."

Years went by, and Snow-white grew up and became a woman. Every year she became more and more beautiful.

Then one day, when Snow-white was a woman, the Queen looked in the glass and said,

"Tell me, glass upon the wall,

Who is most beautiful of all?"

And the glass said,

"Snow-white is most beautiful of all."

When the Queen heard this, she was very angry. She said, "Snow-white is not more beautiful than I am. There is no one who is more beautiful than I am."

Then the Queen sat on her bed and cried.

After one hour the Queen went out of her room. She called one of the servants, and said, " Take Snow-white into the forest and kill her."

The servant took Snow-white to the forest, but he did not kill her, because she was so beautiful and so good.

The man took Snow-white into the forest, but he did not kill her. He said, "I shall not kill you; but do not go to the King's house, because the Queen is angry and she will see you. If the Queen sees you, she will make some other man kill you. Wait here in the forest; some friends will help you."

Then he went away.

Poor Snow-white sat at the foot of a tree and cried. Then she saw that night was coming. She said, " I will not cry. I will find some house where I can sleep tonight. I cannot wait here: the bears will eat me."

She went far into the forest. Then she saw a little hut. She opened the door of the hut, and went in.

II

In the hut she saw seven little beds. There was a table and on the table there were seven little loaves and seven little glasses. She ate one of the loaves. Then she said, "I want some water to drink." So she drank some water out of one of the glasses. Then she fell asleep on one of the seven little beds.

The hut was the home of seven Little Men.

When it was night, the seven Little Men came to the hut. Each Little Man had a big beard, and a little blue coat. Each Little Man came into the hut, and took his little lamp. Then each Little Man sat down, and ate his little loaf, and drank his little glass of water.

But one Little Man said,

"Someone has eaten my little loaf."

And another Little Man said,

"Someone has drunk my little glass of water."

Then the seven Little Men went to bed, but one Little Man said,

"Someone is sleeping on my little bed."

All the seven Little Men came to look at Snow-white as she slept on the Little Man's bed. They said,

"She is very beautiful."

"She is very beautiful."

"She is very beautiful."

"She is very beautiful."

"She is very beautiful."

"She is very beautiful."

"She is very beautiful."

Snow-white awoke, and saw the seven Little Men with their big beards standing near her bed. She was afraid .

The Little Men said, "Do not be afraid. We are your friends. Tell us how you came here."

Snow-white said, "I will tell you." Then she told them her story.

They said, "Do not be afraid. Live here with us. But see that the door is shut when we are not in the house with you. Do not go out. If you go out, the bad Queen will find you. Then she will know that you are not dead, and will tell someone to kill you."

So Snow-white lived in 'the hut with the seven Little Men.

After some days Snow-white went into the garden. One of the Queen's servants was going through the forest, and he saw her. He went and told the Queen, "Snow-white is in a hut in the forest." The Queen was very angry when she heard that snow-white was not dead.

The Queen took an apple. She made a hole in the red side of the apple, and put some powder into the hole. Then she put on old clothes and went to the hut. She called, "Is any one there?"

Snow-white opened the door, and came out to her. The Queen said, "I have some pretty apples. Eat one of my pretty apples." Snow-white took the apple and said, "Is it good?" The Queen said, "See, I will eat this white side of the apple; you eat the red side. Then you will know that it is good."

Snow-white ate the red side of the apple. When the powder was in her mouth she fell down dead.

The Queen went back to her house. She went into her room. She looked into the glass and said,

"Tell me, glass upon the wall,
Who is most beautiful of all?"

The glass siad,

"The Queen is most beautiful of all."

Then the Queen knew that Snow-white was dead.

The Little Men came back to the hut. When they saw that Snow-white was dead, the poor Little Men cried. Then they put Snow-white in a box made of glass. They took the glass box to a hill and put it there, and said, "Everyone who goes by will see how beautiful she was."

Then each Little Man put one white flower on the box, and they went away.

Just as they were going away, a Prince came by. He saw the glass box and said, "What is that?" Then he saw Snow-white in the box. He said, ." She was very beautiful: but do not put her there. There is a hall in the garden of my father's house. It is all made of