

STORY
OF THE DAY



SHORT STORIES

Aesop's Fables	**Animal Tales**
Bedtime Stories	**Arabian Nights**
Bible Stories	**Horror Stories**
Fables	**Fairy Tales**
Funny Stories	**Moral Stories**

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The Tale of the Brave Cat

Chloe was a little girl. She had no friends but loved animals, especially cats. On her tenth birthday, her father took her to an animal shelter where there were many cats. “You can chose a cat to take home, Chloe,” said her father. Chloe was overjoyed! She hugged her father and said, “Oh! This is my best gift ever.” Chloe liked all the cats at the shelter, but fell in love with a particular cat who had big, bright eyes. “I’ll take her,” Chloe said and named her Star. In a few days time, Star became very naughty. When Chloe was around she was good, but the moment she left for school, Star got down to her tricks. She tore the curtains, clawed the seats, lapped up all the milk in the kitchen and often stole fish. Chloe’s parents were very angry. One day, they told Chloe that they would return Star to the shelter, if she did not learn to behave.

Chloe was very worried, she did not know how to tame Star. Then one day, Star gave birth to kittens. They mewed and waved their tiny paws. From that day, everything changed. Star was no longer a naughty cat. She took good care of her kittens. However, Chloe’s parents were worried now that there were so many cats in the house. Every night when the kittens meowed, her father became very angry. One night. Star cried so loudly that everybody woke up. Chloe worried now that there were so many cats in the house. Every night when the kittens meowed, her father became very angry. One night, Star cried so loudly that everybody woke up. Chloe and her parents came rushing and saw Star running about frantically. Seeing Chloe, Star looked towards the kitchen and Chloe understood that her cat was trying to tell her something. Suddenly, they noticed a huge fire in the kitchen. “Hurry, let’s go out!” screamed Chloe’s father. “But what about the kittens?” asked Chloe. Chloe quickly grabbed Star and one kitten. There was no time to pick up the others and rushed out. But Star wriggled out and leapt back inside the house. Soon the

fire brigade arrived. They warned everybody to stay at a safe distance from the house. “Please save my cat. She is inside!” pleaded Chloe. Suddenly, Star emerged with one kitten in her mouth. The firemen tried to stop her but she ran inside the house again. One by one she brought out six kittens, but her last baby was still inside. Star jumped inside as the flames engulfed the house. Chloe and her parents looked on anxiously. The firemen brought out their huge pipes and began spraying water. After almost an hour, the flames died. Everything was quiet, but still there was no sign of Star. Chloe cried inconsolably. She had lost her best friend. Suddenly her father exclaimed, “Look, Star!” Chloe looked up. One of the firemen emerged from the house with Star and her last kitten. Star’s ears and fur were singed and she was limping. “She is a brave cat,” said the fireman. “Indeed, she is,” agreed Chloe’s father. “Her screams alerted us all.” “And she is a star all right!” quipped Chloe as she rushed to embrace her cat. The scared kittens snuggled around their mother, as all the neighbours gathered around to have a look at the brave cat.



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The Mouse and the Douglas-fir Cone

A plump mouse used to live in a forest. Near the mouse's hole, lived a fox who was always on a lookout to eat the mouse. In fear of being eaten up, the mouse seldom used to leave the hole. One day, the mouse was very hungry and gathered courage to venture out of his hole. "I'll die without food!" he moaned. But as soon as he came out, the fox started following him.

The mouse ran as fast as he could, but the fox was faster. The mouse knew his end was near unless he found a hiding place. Suddenly, he spotted a Douglas-fir cone, with prickly spikes all around it, lying on the ground. Though he was able to escape through it, one of his legs got stuck in the prickly spikes. To this very day, the mouse's feet can be seen sticking out of the cone id so the legend lives.



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There's Something in the Lake!

One evening, a donkey, a deer and a beaver were swimming together in a small lake. It had been a while since they had been swimming. Now it was getting dark. Suddenly the deer shouted, "Something bit me, I think there is something in the water, let's get out." The donkey also felt and a slight pull on his tail and shouted, "Oh! 'I think there is a monster in this lake, let's get out!" The beaver too felt a nip on his tail. He added, "Friends, this lake is haunted!" And they all got out of the water. When all three had left, a naughty bear swam out of the lake from the far corner. He chuckled aloud to himself, "Ha! Ha! Ha! It was fun scaring them." After that evening, whenever the bear saw these three together, he always smiled to himself.



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The Three Little pigs, the Tomatoes and the Apples

In a valley lived three pigs and a wolf. The wolf was always schema to eat the pigs. He tried to catch them many times but they always managed to escape. One day, he knocked at the pigs' door, "Hello, friends! I have come to tell you about the delicious tomatoes in Jack's farm. Come out! I will take you there," he said. The pigs replied, "Thank you, friend! Come back at five o'clock in the evening. We will go with you." As soon as the wolf left, the pigs went to the farm and brought a huge basket of ripe red tomatoes. The wolf was annoyed. But he tried his luck again. "Come, let's go to the farm to pick apples!" the wolf invited the pigs. We will meet you at six o' clock," said the pigs. This time, the wolf arrived at the farm at five o' clock. But the pigs were already up in the tree. When they saw the wolf, they threw the apples at him and the wolf had to run away.



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The Gardener and the Donkey

John had a big farm. Every week he went to the market to get more seeds and manure for his garden. John would always take his donkey along to carry the load. But every time he overloaded his donkey.

Once he went to the market and got huge sacks of manure. On the way back home, he loaded his donkey as usual. The climb to the town was steep. Along the way, John saw some wood and thought, "This would be useful in my garden." He placed some logs on the donkey saying; "This is hardly any weight."

After sometime, he came across some sugarcane fields. "Let me have one or two," he thought aloud and loaded the donkey again. After climbing for a while, John felt hot and unbuttoned his coat. As he was about to place it on the donkey, the donkey collapsed and

couldn’t get up. John realised his mistake and was never ever unkind to his donkey again.

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Mac the Mouse

Tom the cat always chased Mac the mouse. One day when Mac sneaked into the kitchen, Tom set chase again. Mac ran for his life and hid inside the library. While Tom watched the entrance of the library, Mac found a pile of interesting books. He read them and gained knowledge on how to outsmart a cat. However, after a while he was hungry. Peeking around, he noticed Tom—fast asleep. Mac tiptoed across and was about to enter the kitchen, when he heard a loud, "Meow!" He jumped out of the kitchen and ran inside his hole. As Tom guarded the hole all day, Mac thought, "I might not have learnt how to outwit a cat as yet, but I have learnt enough to save myself."



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The Talking Mule

There once lived a farmer who owned a mule. He made the mule work hard the whole week but on Sunday he allowed it to rest. One Sunday, the farmer had to attend a funeral and so he told his son to saddle the mule. When the son approached the mule, the mule said, "Why are you making me work on a Sunday?" The farmer's son ran away in fright and told his father about the talking mule. The farmer too was frightened out of his wits on hearing the mule talk. The farmer's wife and the dog were also terrified. "I don't believe this! It's the strangest thing that has ever happened," exclaimed the farmer's wife. The cat which was sitting nearby listening to them, purred, "What is so strange? Haven't you heard that a talking mule has entered the country?" Hearing the cat talk too, the farmer's wife fainted!



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A Bad Dream

Roderick was a small cat that lived in Mr. Geddes's house. Every day, he would go to the kitchen to raid his stock of fish, milk and cheese.

One day, he had so much food that his tummy was uncomfortably full. That night he slept on his side. He tossed and turned all night and dreamt of Tiger, Mr. Geddes's dog, chasing him all over the place. Roderick woke up with a pounding heart. Next day, he was still greedy for more and went to the kitchen and ate a lot again. That night too he had bad dreams. The following day when he went to the kitchen, he found Tiger guarding the food. So he could not have his milk and fish. "Ok!- he thought, "I will have black berries and hazelnuts today." That night he didn't have any bad dreams. He decided that he would never eat too much again.



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Rabbit the Hunter

One day, Hunter Rabbit went hunting. Suddenly, he saw a track of big footprints and thought they belonged to a giant. He found nothing to hunt in the forest and thought that the giant must have hunted everything. Hunter Rabbit returned home empty-handed and ate berries for dinner. The next day, Hunter Rabbit left early but found nothing. He was tired of eating berries. "I must do something," he declared. This time, he decided to lay a net. But the next day Hunter Rabbit found that a hole had been made in the net. Now, Hunter Rabbit's grandmother was a magician. "I'll make you a magic net that cannot be cut," she said. Next morning, when Hunter Rabbit went to see his net, he saw a blinding light coming from it. Alas! He had captured the Sun! The Sun said, "Let me out, or else, the world will remain dark forever!" Hunter Rabbit quickly freed the Sun. The Sun kicked Hunter Rabbit on his shoulders in anger and the heat turned them brown. That's why rabbits have brown shoulders and still eat berries.



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The bag of salt

The lion, the hyena, the tiger, the zebra, the ostrich and the snake met at the waterhole. Just then, the lion spotted a bag on the ground. He sniffed at it and cried, "It's salt!" They were very excited. The zebra said, "Let's eat it." So, the ostrich pecked a hole in it and the salt trickled out. All the animals took turns in tasting it. Very soon, they began to fight over who should keep the salt. A clever jackal was passing by. He told them, "Close your eyes and count to hundred. Whoever finds it first, can keep it," he said. When the animals opened their eyes they found both the jackal and the bag gone!



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The Ox Who Envied the Pig

Big Red and Little Red were two brother oxen who worked on a farm. The farmer's wife ordered that a pig should be fattened for their daughter's wedding. Little Red envied the pig when he saw the good food the pig got to eat. He complained to Big Red, "We get only grass and straw whereas the pig eats much better food." "The pig is being given good food only to be killed," consoled Big Red. But the young ox was still sad. A few days later, the pig was killed and cooked for the wedding feast. Big Red said to his brother. "Now you see what has happened to the pig? The food he ate was just to fatten him for this day." Little Red then realised that it was better to eat simple food and live longer than eat delicious food for only a few days.



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The Bunny Family

Once upon a time there lived a Papa and Mama Bunny. They had four children-Angora, Harlequin, Lilac and little Rex. Papa Bunny loved working in his vegetable garden and grew all kinds of vegetables. One day, Papa Bunny went home for lunch. Angora hugged him. “Papa, did you bring a cabbage for me?” Papa smiled and nodded and gave her a cabbage with a kiss. Then Harlequin demanded.” Can I have some lettuce?” Papa nodded and gave Harlequin lettuce. Next, Lilac demanded eggplant and Papa gave her eggplant. And little Rex got his radish too. Then Papa Bunny gave Mama Bunny a basket of vegetables. The bunny family happily chomped vegetables. Papa and Mama Bunny looked on contentedly at the little bunnies. Mama said,” Thank God, we have a vegetable garden!”



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The Frog Girl

Once, there lived a poor childless couple. They longed for a child. After many years, the woman gave birth to a baby. But to their astonishment, instead of a normal human child, it was a girl frog! The couple raised their frog child with as much love as they would have given a normal child. She grew up to be an excellent singer. One day, a prince was passing by. Enchanted by her voice he exclaimed, "What a lovely voice! I wish to marry the owner of this melodious voice." Little did he know that the singer was actually a frog! The frog girl agreed to marry the prince on one condition. "I will enter the palace and bridal chamber in an enclosed carriage," she said. The prince agreed and they were married. At night, the frog hopped on to the bed but the prince pushed it away in disgust. The poor frog girl was heartbroken and went back home. Days passed. One day the prince once again passed by her house and heard her singing. He again wanted to marry the singer. This time the frog girl agreed to marry him without any condition. She sat in a little carriage that was pulled by a rooster. On the way, the prince met three fairies who gifted him with a fine horse carriage and

many servants. The third fairy turned the frog girl into a beautiful maiden. After that, the maiden and the prince lived happily ever after.

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A Swaying Good Time

Bobo the monkey climbed a coconut tree. Soon the breeze began to blow a little stronger and the tree swayed from side to side. The coconuts started falling to the ground. Bobo held onto a coconut so that he would not fall. But there was sudden gush of wind and he fell down with a loud thud. More coconuts fell and hit Bobo on the head. Bobo thought it might be fun to hold the trunk and sway along with it. So that's what he did. "Whee!" he said and had a swaying good time! Then he fell for the second time. This time Bobo found a cave and rested there till the storm was over.



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The Fox and the Bramble

Peter Fox was a grumpy and selfish fox. One day, he saw some kids gamboling alone in a field across a hedge. “They will make such a delicious meal.” he thought, his mouth watering. He was climbing up the hedge, when suddenly, he slipped and was about to fall. He quickly clutched a thorny bramble to save himself. “Ouch! Ooooh! Help,” exclaimed the fox in pain. The bramble had pricked the fox all over and hurt him badly. He rubbed his sore body unhappily. The fox became angry and said to the bramble, “I held on to you for help but you pricked me! I wish I had fallen on the hedge instead. The hedge wouldn’t have hurt me this badly!” The bramble replied,” You are so selfish! I saved you from falling. Instead of thanking me, all you can think of are the M., pricks you got! To the selfish, the whole world seems selfish!”



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The Cunning Rat

Jim was a cunning rat. One day, When he was just about to come out of his hole, he saw a cat waiting outside, ready to attack him. "If I go out now she will surely eat me up," thought Jim. He went back inside his hole and joined the other rats inside. There, he asked another rat, "Friend, why don't you come out with me to the cornfields? It would be nice to have your company." The second rat was simple and did not suspect anything. He agreed to accompany him. 'Yes. I would love to go with you. I've heard the field is full of goodies," he said. Then Jim said, "You are my guest. You must go first." So off they went, merrily hopping along. As soon as the other rat jumped out of the hole, the cat grabbed it and made a meal of it. Cunning Jim quickly raced past the cat without being noticed.



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The Greedy Dragon

Once, in a big castle, there lived four little mice. Bore was the eldest while Yoba was the youngest. Daily traders brought loaves of bread, nuts, and cheese to the castle. "I am the oldest so I will get the biggest piece!" declared Boret. Jilma and Hargon came next. "I never get anything!" wailed Yoba. One day, no trader came. 'A big dragon is blocking their path," panted Squiggly the squirrel. Boret said, "What shall we do? We have to find a way out." Yoba replied, "I have an idea, but if it is successful then you must promise me that you will always divide the food equally… All of them agreed. The mice collected many jars of jam and took them to the dragon's cave. The dragon ate them all and had a terrible stomach ache. He clutched his stomach and groaned, "Oh, I am dying." The mice were hiding nearby. Yoba shouted from the hideout, If you go A the mountains, you will never have it stomach ache again.- The dragon believed them and we away. The traders began coming again and the mice were very happy.



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The Birdbath

A little girl called Megan had a birdbath in her backyard. Every day she would fill it with fresh water and many birds would come flocking to wash their wings and tails. One day Megan's friend, Gina came over. "Let's go and play," she said, "you can fill the birdbath later." Megan hesitated but Gina was in such a hurry that she agreed. Since there was no water, the birds were disappointed and flew away. When Megan came back, her father showed her a lone blue bird that had been waiting all day. "That bird is also your friend. Megan. You have to think about her too." he said. Megan filled the birdbath and the blue bird splashed happily in it. To Megan's delight, all the birds were back the next day.



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The Fox and the Lapp

Once upon a time there was a cunning fox. One day, he lay in his cave feeling bored.

Suddenly he heard an approaching sledge. "Let me try out a trick," he thought. He then lay on the road, pretending to be dead.

Soon a Laplander passed by and saw the fox. "Oh! I will take this dead fox to the market." decided the Laplander and put the fox on his sledge. After some time, the Laplander found the fox lying on the road again. "How is this possible? I had put this by in my sledge. It must be bewitched. I will put it in the other sledge," thought the Laplander and placed the fox in the sledge full of dead fish. The sly by picked up a bagful of fish and slipped into the jungle. After some time the Laplander realised something was wrong, but he was too late. The fox had already taken his fish!



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Donald the Cat

A group of mice used to plunder M. Ste confectionery every night. There would be broken dishes, scattered trays and crumbs of food on the floor. The only one to ad him of the menacing mice. he thought, would be his cat. Donald.

Donald was a silly cat. He crept up quietly and pounced on them. All the mice ran for the life, except for one who got stuck in as bowl of pudding. When he saw Donald approaching he took some cherries from the pudding and aimed than at the cat's eyes. As the cherries hit his eyes, Donald mewed for help and out popped all the mice. They sprayed chocolate sauce on Donald, threw breadcrumbs at him and chewed his tail. When Mr. Stewart arrived and saw Donald's condition, he cried, "Oh, you good for nothing fellow, you're a disgrace!" and shooed him away.



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The Goat and the Ass

A man once owned two animals. a goat and The goat envied the a. because the ass could eat a lot of food.

One day. the goat said to the ass, "I pity you! One moment you have to work in the mill and the next moment you have to carry heavy burden on your back. Why don't you fall down in the ditch and pretend to be ill? That way you can rest for some time.-

The silly ass did just that. But he was badly hurt after falling in the ditch. His master called a doctor who advised that a goat's lungs should be rubbed on the ass's wounds. The farmer killed the goat to heal the ass. Thus by wrongly advising the ass. the goat brought about his own death. You should never be jealous of other people.



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The Monkey and the Crocodile

Once upon a time there was a clever monkey who lived by the river Ganga. A crocodile and his wife lived in the same river. One day, the crocodile's wife fell very ill. She wanted to eat something special. She asked her husband to get her a monkey's heart. The crocodile did not know what to do. Then he thought of his neighbour, the monkey. He said, "Friend Monkey, why do you waste your time eating the fruits of this tree? There are juicy fruits on the other side of the river." When the monkey said that the river was too big for him to cross, the crocodile offered to take him on his back. After a while, the crocodile sank in the water along with the monkey. He told the monkey that his wife was sick and wanted his heart. The monkey realised that he had been foolish to trust the crocodile. He quickly thought of a clever plan to escape. He said, "Alas friend! Our hearts are not inside us. We have to keep them hanging on trees. I wish you had told me earlier. Let's go back and bring my heart." The crocodile believed the monkey and brought him back to the tree. The monkey at once climbed up the tree and escaped. He said to the crocodile, "You have a big body but no brains!" The crocodile

had nothing to do but repent for his foolishness on being tricked by the monkey.

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The Wise Old Bird

There lived a flock of wild geese in a very tall tree. The tree was in a dense forest in the foothills of the Himalayas. The tall tree had many leafy branches that spread out like strong arms. Among the geese was an old wise bird who noticed that there was a small creeper growing at the foot of the tree. He showed the creeper to the others and said, "We must destroy it. One day it will grow big and then the hunters can easily climb up and kill us." But the other birds did not pay heed to his advice. They said it would be a pity to cut a small creeper. "But when it grows up, it will become strong and hard to cut," the old wise bird said. "We'll see," said the others and promptly forgot all about it.

As time passed, the creeper grew taller and stronger and winded its way up the 0 tree just as the old goose had once said. One day when the geese had gone out in search of food, a hunter climbed up the tree with the help of the creeper and laid his net there. In the evening when the geese returned, they found themselves trapped in

the net, much to their shock. They tried hard to get out but failed. They cried for help but there was no one to hear their cries. The night passed in fear and worry. The old wise bird said, "I had warned you all to cut off the creeper but you did not listen. This is the result of your own folly. Tomorrow morning the hunter will come and kill us all." The birds realised that they had been foolish in not listening to the wise bird and said they were sorry. They had learnt a big lesson. Then the wise bird said, "I'll tell you of a plan to escape. Listen carefully. Tomorrow morning when the hunter comes to take his net, be very still and pretend you are dead. He will not want dead birds so he will throw us to the ground. Before he climbs down, we must all quickly fly away. That is the only way we can escape now."

The geese waited eagerly for the morning to arrive. The hunter came early next morning with his son. He was glad to see that he had caught so many geese. But when he climbed up the creeper, he saw that they were all dead. So, he threw the geese to the ground one by one while his son watched. Whoosh! All the geese flapped up in the air and flew away. The hunter and his son were left staring after the geese, shocked and puzzled by the sight.

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The Eagle and the Fox

Once an eagle and a fox were very close friends. “Let’s live close to each other.” they decided. Sc, the eagle built its nest on a tree while the fox lived in the bushes close by One day, the fox went hunting. The eagle did not have anything to feed her eaglets. “I will get one fox cub,” she thought and fed it to her young ones. When the fox retuned, she was heartbroken. “You cheated me,” she said in anger and sadness.

Soon God punished the eagle. One day the eagle picked up a piece of goat flesh that the villagers had killed as a sacrifice, for her eaglets. She did not know that she was carrying a burning cinder along. The cinder set the nest on fire. The poor little eaglets got hurt. While the eagle cried, the fox said, “God has punished you for breaking a friend’s trust.”



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Bright Eyes the Glider Possum

Bright Eyes was a possum, who lived with his parents. He used to live in his mother's pouch. As the days passed, he grew a furry coat, pink ears and nose and a fluffy tail. One fine day, Bright Eyes' mother climbed up a big tree on whose branches was hanging a big beehive. Bright Eyes popped his head out of the pouch and saw the big beehive. "What is that?" he asked his mother. His mother explained to him how he could collect the honey. After this, his father came and showed him how to glide. He asked Bright Eyes to expand his flying skin. This skin would help him keep afloat. He then held out his tail straight and leapt forward. Bright Eyes was very excited for now he could fly like a free bird. "Marvelous!" exclaimed his father who was watching his son joyfully. Bright Eyes went round and round then down and down and finally took a sharp curve and soared higher."I can fly!" exclaimed Bright Eyes.



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The Little Grey Donkey

The fair had come to the village after a long time. Everyone in the village was excited about it. The elders wanted to see the big games and the children ran to enjoy the different rides. But nobody came to the donkey man for rides. Raghu the donkey man was sad. "Alas! I will not be able to make a single penny. What will I gift my wife?" wondered Raghu. He waited for the children to come to him for rides.

The little grey donkey was watching all this. He loved his master very much. "How can I help my master?" he wondered. Then an idea struck him and he started to bray loudly. All the children were surprised to hear the noise and came running to the donkey. "What is he saying?" asked one child. Raghu joyfully said, "He is saying, come, ride me and see what fun it is!" Soon Raghu had many children queuing up to ride the donkey. He was very happy and so were the children.



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The Root of the Matter

One day, a hungry porcupine came to a dog to ask for food. The dog took the porcupine to a sugarcane field and asked him to eat to his heart's content. The hungry porcupine chewed away all the plants. The next morning, the owner noticed the dog near his garden and asked him if he had chewed the plants, "Sir, the porcupine is the culprit," confirmed the dog. When the porcupine was questioned he replied, "Sir, you should judge the matter when both of us are present. Will you wait till I get the dog here?" The man agreed. The porcupine waited for winter to set in. Then on a cold winter morning, accompanied by the dog, he went to the man's house to solve the case. When the man asked who the culprit was, the porcupine pointed at the dog. The poor dog could say nothing for his teeth kept chattering in the cold. The owner thinking this to be an admission of his guilt beat up the dog.



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Tony the Lonely Goat

Tony was a very lonely goat. He was often seen roaming the mountains in search of a friend. One day, when he went to the river and saw a small goat in the water, he bleated joyfully, "Would you be my friend?" The fishes in the river laughed aloud, "You stupid goat, that's your reflection you're talking to!" Tony was surprised. While walking back home, tears welled up in his eyes and he thought, "I am so unlucky, I don't have any friend nor any siblings." As soon as he reached home, his father hugged him tight. "Welcome, Tony, see what we have here for you!" Tony hurriedly went to the backyard and saw a little white goat lying beside his mother. "That's your sister!" exclaimed his mother. Tony bleated happily, "I will never be lonely again!"



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Turn Out the Light

Three bears, Rick, Rusty and Coal were very scared of the dark. So every night they lit the street lamps and went to sleep. One day, a bear named Arthur came to stay in the neighbourhood. "Who dare keep the lights on at night?" he growled. One by one he switched off all the street lamps and threatened to beat up Rick, Rusty and Coal if they dared switch on the lights. "We have to think of a plan to outsmart Arthur," declared Rusty. They all thought hard and at last, Coal hit on a plan. That night they surrounded Arthur's house with bulbs. Rick hid in the bushes and asked his friends to light all of them. Hearing a noise, Arthur woke up and opened his door. The bright light nearly blinded him and he tripped down the stairs. The three bears laughed and clapped their hands. "Don't you dare switch off the lights ever again or else…" they threatened Arthur. Groaning in pain, Arthur went back to his house. That night all the bears slept peacefully.



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The Cock's Ruse

On a summer afternoon when the Sun shone bright, all animals complained about the heat. The Sun felt very hurt. He stopped coming out, making the Earth cold and dark. The animals immediately sent their messenger, the cock to enquire. When asked the reason for not showing up, the Sun replied, "I shine throughout the day to give you light and all you do is complain about how hot I am. I refuse to shine again." "Which means I have to return home in the dark, while the wild cat prepares to pounce on me, " lamented the cock. The cock flew away and after some time the Sun heard a loud call. Immediately, the Sun rose up and the entire Earth shone bright. However, the Sun could not find the cock anywhere. Since then, whenever the cock calls out, the Sun promptly shines bright.



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Half Educated

Once there lived a wolf and a jackal. One day, the wolf bragged to the jackal, "You are not even half as educated as me." The jackal quietly agreed, but suddenly a tiger roared, "Nobody is as educated as I am." The wolf froze seeing the tiger while the jackal quickly thought of a plan to escape. "Sure you are, Sir and, therefor, we were coming to you for help," replied the jackal. "We want you to decide who among the two of us should eat the chickens." "First show me the chickens," growled the tiger, who was thinking of savouring not only the chickens, also the healthy jackal and the wolf. The jackal to him to a small cave and said, "Sir, you have to enter the cave to see the chickens." As soon as the greedy tiger went inside, the clever jackal covered the entrance with a huge boulder. might be more educated, but you are definitely not smarter than me!" called out the jackal. "I was wrong," acknowledged the wolf, "you are certainly cleverer than me.



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Kangaroos Get a Pouch

Once upon a time, in the tall grasslands of Australia, a Mother Kangaroo used to live with her son, Joey. One fine day, Mama Kangaroo was worried that Joey had been missing for a while. She hopped to the tall bushes to search and bumped into an old wombat. "Oh! Who is this who cannot leave an old blind wombat alone?" thundered the wombat. Mama apologised and told him that she was in a hurry. Wombat pleaded, "Please help me, I am hungry." Mama told the wombat to hold her tail and she would take him to green pastures. Mama Kangaroo hopped with the old wombat behind and stopped where she saw the green grass so that the wombat could chew. The old wombat then asked, "Please can you take me to a river? I am thirsty." Mama, though worried about her son, again helped. As she went ne the river, she saw little Joey sleeping near the riverside. She hopped to lift her baby and kissed him. The wombat turned into an angel and said to Mama Kangaroo, "Mama, You are the kindest of all animals. I had asked others too but nobody stopped." The angel asked the Mother Kangaroo to tie a bark of a tree around her tummy. As she did so, it turned into a

pouch! Mama was overjoyed and lifted her Joey into the pouch. From that day onwards, all kangaroos have pouches.

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The Clever Reply

One day the lion, the king of the jungle, called an important meeting at his den. The lion was very dirty and so was his den. Unable to bear the smell, the zebra covered his nose. "How dare you cover your nose? Does my den stink?" roared the lion. The zebra had no adequate reply and the lion threw him out of the den. The king then asked the elephant the same question. "No, it smells of roses," replied the frightened elephant. The lion wasn't happy with this reply either and knocked the elephant's trunk. He then asked the fox. "Sir, I have a cold so I cannot smell anything," replied the intelligent fox. The lion was happy with this clever reply and made the fox his minister.



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The Red – Feathered Hen

Red Queen the hen had red feathers. One day, Toby the fox saw Red Queen and said, "I'm going to eat this hen for dinner." He said to his wife, "Keep the water boiling for a delicious chicken broth for dinner." Off went Toby to catch Red Queen. He hid behind a tree and waited for her to cross that way. "Too-doodle -doo… Sqawck!" sang Red Queen walking merrily. Toby grabbed her neck and shoved her into a sack. The hen's friend, the goose, saw what had happened. "I must help Red Queen," she thought.

The goose lay on the road, pretending to be injured. Seeing the injured bird, greedy Toby left the sack to catch the goose. To his surprise, the goose got up and ran farther and farther away. Toby chased after her. Red Queen took this opportunity to climb out of the sack and escape. She put a stone inside. Unable to catch the goose, Toby returned. "At least I have a hen for dinner," he thought. He picked up the sack and hurried home. He turned the

sack over the pot of boiling water. “Splash!” The stone spilled hot water on the greedy fox and burned his paws!

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The Day Dreaming Jackal

Bhilu was a hunter who belonged to a hill tribe. Every day he went out to hunt for animals using his bow and arrow. He was proud of being an adept archer. One day as he spotted a wild boar in the forest he thought to himself, "This large wild boar is sure to die at my hands. My skill at hunting will put it to an end."

Then, Bhilu strung his bow and shot a sharp arrow directly to the boar's back. The arrow tore at the boar's back and caused a deep wound. In writhing pain and anger the wild boar rushed at Bhilu and pierced his stomach with its sharp and pointed fangs. At once the proud hunter and the wild boar lay dead due to their injuries.

Soon Chamataka, a jackal, came strolling by. At the sight of the dead hunter and the lifeless boar he was filled with glee, "Oh, my fortune ! Today I have found food that will last me for days. Fate was unkind to the hunter and the boar but it has shone for me."

“The flesh around the arrow’s tip must be soft and delicious to chew. I shall eat the boar’s flesh from there slowly so as to enjoy this treasure.”

So thinking Chamataka proceeded to taste his succulent treat. Just as he bit into the boar’s flesh, the pointed arrow pierced the top of his mouth and came out between his eyes. Soon Chamataka too lay dead as the hunter and the boar.

MORAL

🔥Think twice before you act!

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The Cunning Jackal

Chatur, a Jackal, lived in a jungle. He hunted for food every day with his friends. One day he thought to himself, "Every day I work hard to catch animals for food. Then every evening I have to share it with other members of the pack. If I go across the river to the village then I can get juicy fruits and fat hens for my own. I can eat them in the village and come back to the jungle. This way I won't need to share my food."

The next morning Chatur woke up early and went across the river. He entered the sleepy village as the cock crowed. As he wandered near a poultry farm he saw a fat hen. At once his mouth watered at the thought of biting into the hen's juicy flesh. So engrossed was he in his thoughts that he did not see the street dogs that had gathered at the end of the lane. The street dogs had seen the stranger's presence and rushed at Chatur barking and growling at him.

Chatur turned around to see fierce street dogs barking at him. He ran to save his life. He ran into a house with an open door. As it was a dyer's house, he fell into a tub of blue dye. He at once got out of the house and went back to the jungle.

When he reached the jungle all the animals looked at Chatur terrified and surprised. Chatur then saw his reflection in a nearby pond. Realising that he was dyed blue he thought of a plan. He called out, "Jungle dwellers, I am the Indigo King, sent by Lord to rule over you and care for your well being. I have been appointed King and caretaker of the jungle . Bow to me and serve me well and I shall protect you from all harm."

The animals not knew why he was strange looking and coloured. Now Chatur had tigers, lions, elephants, deer, hares and leopards at his beck and call. He' however banished his brethren, the other jackals, to the far side of the jungle.

Chatur enjoyed his role as a king and animals stronger than him served him, hunting for his food and obeying him.

One night Chatur heard the call of the his brother jackals. They were howling at the full moon. Chatur tried to ignore the call but

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then he could not resist anymore. Soon he too gave a howl, The tiger who stood guard at Chatur's cave heard the call and realised that the Indigo King was no one else but the jackal of their jungle.

He gathered all the other animals together and said. Hear, my friends, hear the cunning jackal's howl. He is a common cheat and no king at all. Thrash him and banish him from the jungle as he banished his own brethren.."

All the animals then beat up Chatur who ran to save his life. He soon realised that he was being paid for treating his friends badly.

MORAL

🔥Cherish your friends or you shall perish.

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The clever Rabbit and the Elephant

A herd of elephants lived in a forest. They fed on the leaves of the wild trees and drank the cool water from the stream that flowed through the forest. One year, drought hit the area where the forest was located. Many animals fled the forest to other places which had no lack of water or food. The leader of the elephants was worried. He was called Iravat and he took good care of his herd. He sent his brothers to look for water. After a long search, they located a lake at the far end of the forest. They decided to quench their thirst and take their baths there very morning.

Now, everyday the herd would go to the lake to bathe and drink the sweet water of the lake. On the way, they would pass a colony of rabbits. They would not pay attention to rabbits on the ground. So, everyday some rabbits would be injured or crushed to death. As their number grew less, the leader of the rabbits called a meeting.

“Dear brothers and sisters,” he addressed his fellow companions, “We are all aware of how we are being killed by the unthinking elephants everyday. We must think of a way to save ourselves.”

Mikkoo was a young and intelligent rabbit. He said, “Sir, don’t worry. go as your messenger and ask the elephants to change the path they take to the lake.”

So with the leader’s permission Mikkoo went as a messenger. He spotted the elephant herd approaching and stood on the top of a large, high rock to save himself.

When the Iravat, the elephant leader came near, he said, “Respected sir, I am Mikkoo, a messenger from the Moon himself. The almighty Moon has sent mc to you with a private message, so please step aside.”

When Iravat came near, Mikkoo said, ‘The lake where you go to bathe and quench your thirst belongs to the Moon. He is very upset as you crush many rabbits on the way. As we are his close friends and guides, our sad plight has saddened and angered the Moon. He wishes to speak to you privately. If you would be kind enough I will escort you to the lake of the Moon for a meeting.”

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iravat readily agreed for the meeting. When Iravat and Mikkoo reached the lake, the Moon was reflected in its still water.

“let me offer my greetings to the moon,” said Iravat and just as he dipped his trunk in the lake thewater stirred and so did the Moon’s reflection.

“Oh! See how the mighty Moon shakes in anger,” said Mikkoo.

But why is it so?” asked Iravat.

“You have angered him even more by touching the holy water of the lake at night,” replied Shweta.

At this Iravat said in a mournful voice, “Please ask the Moon to forgive us. We shall never come again to this lake nor we will ever harm the rabbits, loved so much by the Moon.”

Thus Iravat left with a promise never to visit the lake of the Moon and the rabbits lived safely and happily ever after.

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MORAL

🔥A lie that saves many lives is worth a thousand truths.

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The Camel, The Jackal and the Crow

Long ago in the dense forest of botswana, there lived a lion named wils. His loyal servants were a leopard, a jackal and a crow.

One day, the crow spotted a strange creature coming their way. He came flying back to his friends and said, "There is someone unusual coming this way. We should be careful."

"I am the king of the jungle," said the lion. Why should I be afraid? Let's go and meet him."

When they saw the animal they were all surprised. They had never seen such a creature with long legs and a big hump on its back. "Who is it and what is it doing in my jungle?" asked the Lion.

“I am Todi, the camel,” he said. “I was a part of a trade caravan. I lost my way. Please help me!”

Out of pity, the lion asked him to stay along with them. The other three were not happy, but they had to respect the Lion’s wishes.

Days passed by. One day the lion had a great fight with an elephant. The lion was badly injured and was too weak to hunt.

His servants were too lazy to hunt and provide food for the lion. The jackal took the crow aside and said, “Friend, why don’t we kill the camel and survive.”

“No doubt it’s a great idea, but how? Our lord has assured him protection,” said the crow.

Together they made a secret plan to kill the camel. With tears in their eyes, they went to the lion. “There is no food in the forest my lord,” said the sly crow, “But I request you to have me for your meal.”

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“No, your body is too small to satisfy the hunger of my lord,” said the jackal, showing his loyalty. “Let me sacrifice myself. That is the least I can do for my lord.”

The leopard intervened and said “Oh lord, I am bigger in size than my friends. So let me give away my life to save your life.”

All this while the camel was listening silently; he thought “Let me oiler myself as well.” Expecting the support of his friends the camel said, “My friends, you have been serving our lord for years. It will be difficult for the lord to kill one of you. Will you all let me offer myself?”

The camel then came forward and requested the lion to have him for that day’s meal. At once, the jackal and the leopard pounced on the camel and tore him to pieces.

MORAL

🔥It is wise choose your friends carefully.

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The Fox with a Snapped Tail

Once, Kallu the fox, was wandering in the forest when his tail got stuck in a snare. He pulled at it so hard that the tail snapped and a part of it remained in the trap. Kallu was very sad and envied the other foxes who had bushy tails.

He said to the other foxes, "You know friends, these tails are useless extensions to our bodies. They feel very odd and they look so bad! I suggest you cut them off! Look how freely I walk about!"

The other foxes saw through his jealousy and told Kallu, "If you are so free and feel good without your full tail, then why are you looking so unhappy without one?" Kallu quickly left the place in shame.



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The Trickster Monkey

There lived a very naughty monkey named Mogri who loved to play pranks on other animals. He would drop rotten fruits on other animals and laugh at their discomfort. Samba the lion didn't find Mogri's tricks funny. It was insulting for the king of the jungle to have rotten fruits flung at him. He warned Mogri, "Wait! I'll teach you a lesson soon." But Mogri was too quick and managed to escape each time.

One day, Mogri dropped an overripe mango on Samba's nose. But unfortunately, the branch on which he was sitting broke and he fell right on the lion's back. Samba roared in anger and twisted from side to side to shake Mogri off. But the monkey clung tightly onto the lion's back. Samba charged through the forest, yet Mogri, though terrified, remained on his back.

Finally tired, Samba bent down to drink water from a pond. Mogri took this opportunity to make good his escape. Ever since, Mogri was too terrified to play a trick on Samba.

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