

THE LION AND THE FROG (Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm)

Once upon a time there was a king and a queen and they had a son and a daughter loving each other very much. The prince was going hunting very often and stayed in the forest for a long time, but one time he didn't come back home. His sister was crying so badly that she couldn't take it anymore and decided to go out in the forest to look for her brother.

After an extremely long journey through the forest she was very tired and looked around and noticed that a lion was next to her. He was very polite to her and she climbed on top of his back and they carried on their journey. After a while they came to a beautiful garden. Everything was awesome and the sun was shining bright, in the middle was a gorgeous palace. The lion spoke to the princess for the first time: "In this palace you should live but you will be my servant and you will do whatever I say. Otherwise you will never see your brother again."

From then on the princess would serve the lion and fulfilled all his wishes. Once when she was walking in the beautiful garden of the palace she noticed a pond. In the middle there was a little island and on top of it a tent. Underneath the tent she noticed a little frog. The frog turned around and spoke to her: "Why are you so sad?" "Oh", she said, and told him her torment. The frog replied very friendly: "If you need anything you just speak to me and I will help you anytime and anywhere."

One day the lion told her: "Tonight I would like to eat a mosquito pie. You have to prepare it, but it must be tasty." The princess thought, where should I get all these things? It is nearly impossible. She then ran outside and told the frog her sorrow. The frog replied,

don't worry I will bring you a mosquito pie. He then sat down and opened his mouth wide, once to the left and once to the right and caught as many mosquitoes as possible. After that the frog jumped up and down and collected wood shavings and made a fire. As the fire was burning, he made dough for the pie and put it over the fire. He replied to the girl, you only get the pie if you promise me that you will chop off the lions head as soon as he asleep. "No way", she said, "I never will do that as the lion was always good to me." The frog answered: "if you don't do that, you will never see your brother again and you don't harm the lion either." She took all her courage, took the pie and gave it to the lion. "The pie looks very good" commented the lion, sniffed on it and ate it all. As the lion was sleeping the girl pulled out a sword, closed her eyes and took off his head with one blow.

As she opened her eyes again, the lion had disappeared and next to her stood her brother. He kissed her and spoke: "You unburdened me from the spell because I was the lion until a girl's hand will chop off my head out of love." After that they went together in the garden and wanted to thank the frog for his advice. As they arrived, they saw the frog frantically jumping around looking for wood shavings to make a new fire. As it was burning bright he himself jumped inside. Out of the fire came a beautiful girl, as well she had been under a curse as well.

All three returned to the castle and the prince and the beautiful girl got married. It was an awesome celebration with lots of food and drinks and nobody went home hungry.

And if they are not dead they are still eating and drinking.

