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The Wishes

Somewhere or other, but I don't know where there lived a poor man with a pretty wife. They loved each other very much. Their biggest concern was that they were poor; neither of them had much possessions. The only time they quarreled, they were picking on each other and blaming the other for their poverty. Besides that they loved each other.

One afternoon the wife came home earlier than the husband, she started a fire for cooking, although there wasn't much to put into the pot. “I will make a soup for him; it'll be done before he comes home” she thought. She was about to put another piece of wood onto the fire to make the water boil faster, when her husband came home, and sat down next to his wife. They warmed their hands next to the fire, as it was getting cooler. The next village just started the grape harvest.

As they were sitting, the husband asked his wife: “Have you heard any news today?” “I haven't heard anything” answered the wife. “If you heard anything, might as well tell me”.

Well, started the husband, as I was walking home from the corn field of the landlord, I noticed a dark spot in the middle of the road. It was getting dark, so I couldn't tell what it was from the distance, so I went closer. You'd never guess what it was!! It was tiny, golden coach. A nice lady was sitting in it, and it had four squirrels to pull it.

“You are joking, for sure!” yelled the wife.

I'm not joking at all, said the husband. Everything I told you is true. You know how muddy our road gets in the fall. As it happened, the squirrels got stuck, and so did the golden coach. The woman didn't want to get her golden coat all muddy, so she didn't get out. When I first saw them, I wanted to run away, because I thought she might be an evil spirit. But she yelled out for help, and promised me that if I help her she will richly reward me. I thought we could use any reward to live a little better. So, with my

help the squirrels got unstuck and they were ready to roll on. The woman asked me if I was married, and I said yes, I was. The she asked if I was rich, and I told her that she could hardly find a poorer man in the village. Well, I can help with that, she said. Go home and tell your wife that I will fulfill her three wishes. The coach then speeded away, like dragons were pulling it; I think she might have been a magic fairy.

Well, she nicely outsmarted you, for sure, said the wife.

Let's just see, my dearest. Why don't you wish for something, said the husband.

The wife hurriedly said: "I wish we had a large sausage that we could fry over the nice hot coals."

As soon as she finished saying those words a large pot came down from the chimney, and in that pot was a sausage as thick as a fence post.

"Looks about right" they both yelled with excitement.

The husband then said. So, let's use the other two wishes smartly. We'll live so much better! We can get a couple of cows, horses, and a pig, he said. As he was saying this he pulled his pipe from his hat, and filled the pipe with tobacco from his tobacco pouch. He wanted to light the pipe, but as he was scooping out a glowing ember from the fire, he accidentally tipped the pot over spilling the sausage on the ground.

For God's sake, watch the sausage, yelled his wife. How can you do this? I wish that sausage grew to your nose! She yelled as she was picking up pieces of sausage from the ashes.

As soon as she finished saying that the sausage was hanging off his husband's nose. It was reaching his toes.

Oh, God, Almighty Creator, help us! yelled out his wife.

See what a foolish thing you did? said the husband. Now our second wish is gone. What are we going to do with this?

We'll take it off, said the wife.

It won't be so easy; it has grown together with my nose.

We will cut it off somehow; I don't see any other way, said the wife.

I'm not going to let you cut into me, not for all the world's treasures. But you know what, we still have one wish left. Wish the sausage back to the pot. That will solve everything.

What about the cows, the horses and the pig, asked the wife.

Those don't matter; I can't walk around with this on my nose.

They quarreled for a while, but at the end the husband convinced his wife to make wish that the sausage would go back to the pot. Once that was done, all three wishes were gone, and they were just as poor as before.

They made a good dinner out of the sausage. They also discussed that their quarrelsome nature was the reason why they don't have cows, horses and a pig, and they agreed that they will argue in the future. And like that, there were no more quarrels between them. As time moved on they worked harder and became more frugal, and they managed to buy cows, horses and a pig.