

Aleodor the Emperor

Once upon a time there was an emperor. He was old and has never had children. He wanted children like all the others. Then, when he was old he made a boy and named him Aleodor. When he baptized him he called everybody to show his happiness.

The boy was clever and ingenious. On his death bed he took the child on his knee and told him:

-My dear boy, God calls me. I'm on the verge of giving my last breath. I can say that you're going to be a great man. I know that you're going to be a great ruler. I have to tell you only one thing: Do you see that mountain over there, you are not allowed to hunt there. Half Man Half Rabbit owns that mountain. Whoever steps on his land, does not get away unpunished.

After his death Aleodor was elected emperor. He used to often hunt but he never stepped on Half Man Half Rabbit's land. But one day, by mistake he stepped on his land and he appeared instantly. Aleodor was not afraid of him, he was upset because he had promised his father on his death bed not to step on Half Man Half Rabbit's mountain.

Half Man Half Rabbit said:

- Those who step on my land have to grant me all my wishes.
- Firstly, Aleodor answered, I want to say that I stepped on your land by mistake.
- You want to ask for forgiveness, you are just like all the others.
- God forbid! I only said the pure truth and if you want to fight, we will fight.
- I don't want to fight. If you want to get away, you will have to bring me Verdes emperor's girl

Aleodor said that he can't do such a journey because he has to take care of his kingdom. But Half Man Half Rabbit didn't care. Aleodor knew he was guilty. He knew that he had made a mistake when he stepped on his land. He knew he couldn't get away. In the end he promised he will bring

He hit him with his wing and turned him into a raven and hid him among a flight of ravens.

The girl started to look. She looked everywhere but she couldn't find him. In the end she found him among a flight of ravens and said:

- Come down boy, what are you doing up there?

Verdes emperor was amazed. He was impressed by Aleodor's wisdom. Aleodor had to hide three times so the emperor said:

- Let's see where he's going to hide this time.

The third day, early in the morning, Aleodor thought at the fly. After he said what he wanted, the fly said:

- Leave me take care of things

The fly turned him into a louse and hid him in the girl's hair.

She started to look everywhere . She took her binocular and looked for him all day long. She sensed him but she couldn't see where he was. When the night came, tired, she screamed:

- Show yourself, I know you're around. You won, I'm yours.

They left Verdes's palaces. On their way they made a stop to eat something and Aleodor fell asleep. He put his head in her lap and while he was sleeping she kissed him. Aleodor woke up and slapped her. She said:

- Aleodor , why did you do that?

- I slapped you because I did not take you for me but for the one who sent me.

- Well, why didn't you say so when we were at home? I know what to do.

They got to Half Man Half Rabbit.

- Here I am, said Aleodor, I have brought the girl as I promised.

When the girl saw that hideous thing she was thrilled with horror.

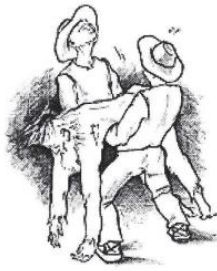
Half Man Half Rabbit started to canoodle the girl. But the girl said

- Go away, Satan, I will send you to the inferno.

The hideous thing was not impressed by the girl's words and continued to canoodle her. He wanted her to be his wife. But the girl didn't want him to approach her. Half Man Half Rabbit waited and waited and in the end he went crack by spite. Then, Aleodor took his land and Verdes emperor's girl for better and for worse and returned to his kingdom.

So the bridge was mended and my story ended.

The story of a lazy man



Once upon a time, in a village, there was a very lazy man; he was so lazy that not even the food in his mouth he didn't chew. That's the reason why the people in his village decided to hang him. They didn't want that his behavior to become an example of laziness for the others. So, a couple of people decided to go to the lazy man's house, to take him in a cart and go with him to the gallows. He has no reaction; he is carried just like a piece of wood and put in a cart pulled

by two oxen.

These were the times.

On the way, they meet a carriage. In that carriage, it was a lady. Seeing the cart and the oxen carrying a man who seemed to be ill she asked the two villagers:



-My brave men! It seems that the man in your cart is very ill. You must be taking him to a doctor, somewhere, to cure him.

-That's not true, Madam, said one of the two villagers. You have to forgive me, but you are totally wrong because this is a very lazy man. We believe that there is not another man like this one in the whole world. We take him to the gallows. All we want is to clean our village of such people.

-Oh! But, said the lady, thrilling, too bad; poor him; he will die like a lonely dog! You'd better take him to my property; right there to the house on the hill. I have there a barn full of crumbled bread for black days; God forbid us! He can eat crumbled bread and live in my house. I know that this decision will not ruin me. We should help each other in this world.

-You, lazy man, look what this lady has just said. She will take you home and you will receive crumbled bread, said one of the two villagers. This is your lucky day. Get out from the cart and thank to this lady who has just saved you from death and given you shelter and food. We have thought to give you rope, but this lady, with her kindness, gives you days to live your life. This is a real miracle. It's true then the old saying that some people pay the piper while the others call the tune. Now you should give an answer to this lady.

-But is the crumbled bread fresh? said the lazy man without moving from the place.

-What has he said? asked the lady.

-He said, a villager answered, that he wants to know if the crumbled bread is fresh.

-Oh, Heavens! This is the first time I hear such a horrible, stupid question. Can't he dip it by himself?

-Hey, you lazy man, what do you think about this? Can you do it or not?

-No, I can't. Let's go. I can't do it by myself.

Then, one of the two men said:

-You see, my lady, you are very good, but you waste the barley on geese. Now, you probably understand that we have a good reason to take away with his life. Don't you think that if he had been a good man, with a strong desire to be helped by the others and to help himself, the whole village would have helped him to survive? But we don't have whom to help. If laziness is a big queen, we can do nothing to avert him from it.

Then the lady said:

-Now you have to do what your mind and soul ask you too. God be with you!

The villagers take the lazy man to the gallows and take away his life.

This is how the village got rid of lazy people and now they are sure that, if one day a lazy man may come up in their village, they will know how to treat him.

So the bridge was mended and my story ended.

