

1

Once upon a time there was a king who had three sons; two of them were smart and skilled, but the third son spoke little and was often self-conscious in his actions. Because his head was often in the clouds, he was called Silly.

When the king grew old and weak, and felt that he would soon die, he wanted to know which of his three sons would inherit his kingdom to.

He said to them:

-My dear sons, go on a journey, and whoever among you brings me the most beautiful carpet will be the king after my death."

2

To avoid any quarrels among them, he called them outside the palace, blew three feathers into the air, and said:

-Wherever the feathers fly, that is where you each shall go!"

One feather flew to the right, another to the left, and the two elder brothers set off in those directions.

The third feather, which belonged to Silly, fell to the ground right in front of him. Silly sat down and felt sad.

Suddenly, he noticed a little door next to the feather on the ground.

3

He opened the door and found a staircase under it. He started going down the stairs.

At the end of the stairs, he arrived at another door and knocked on it.

From inside he heard this:

-Green little girl, tiny, Hop like a finch, Open the door and see Who is outside!

4

The door opened, and Silly saw a big, fat, warty toad, surrounded by a crowd of smaller toads.

The plump toad asked what he wanted.

,-"I want the most beautiful carpet,"
replied Silly. The toad then called one of the others and said to it:

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-"Green little girl, tiny, Jump away from here,
Bring that big box near!"

6

When the young toad brought the box the fat toad opened it and gave Silly a carpet, but it was so beautiful that no one above ground could make one like it.

The prince thanked them and returned home with it.

The other two brothers thought their younger brother was so foolish, they believed he wouldn't find any carpet at all.

“Why bother searching?” they said, so they simply took a shawl off the back of a passing woman and brought it home.

5

At that moment, Silly returned with the beautiful carpet, and when the king saw it, he exclaimed: “It would be only fair if my youngest son, Silly, were to be the king!”

However, his two older brothers wouldn't let their father be, saying that it would be impossible for someone with such limited intelligence to be king.

They asked their father to give them one more task, and whoever completed it would become the king.

7

“Then let the one who brings me the most beautiful ring inherit the kingdom” their father said.

He led the three brothers out to the courtyard once again and blew the three feathers into the air.

The two older brothers went off in different directions, while Silly's feather fell to the ground again, next to the door on the ground.

He went back down to the fat, warty toad and told him that this time he needed to bring back the most beautiful ring.

8

The toad immediately brought out his big box and gave Silly a ring that shimmered with gemstones i was so stunningly beautiful that no one on earth could have made anything so exquisite.

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The two older brothers laughed at the task and their younger brother again and didn't bother to find a beautiful ring.

They simply pulled out the nails from an old cart and took them to their father.



But when Silly pulled out the golden ring from his pocket, their father spoke again,
-It would be fair if my youngest son, Silly, were to be the king!

The two older brothers did not give up, so their father gave them a third task, declaring that whoever could fulfill it would be the ruler.

He said, -The one who brings home the most beautiful wife shall be the king!-

Once again he blew the three feathers into the air, and they fell just as they had before:

the two elder brothers set off in different directions, but the youngest went straight ahead, towards the little door, and spoke to the fat, speckled frog:

“-And now I have to bring home the most beautiful wife!”

“-Wow!” replied the toad.

“-It's not easy to find the most beautiful wife, but you'll get one anyway.”

With that, the toad gave Silly a carrot that was pulled by six mice. Silly was quite disappointed by this:

“-What am I supposed to do with this?” he asked.

“-Put one of my little toads in it,” replied the fat toad.

Silly then picked up a toad and planted it in the carrot, but the little toad hardly sat in it...

..and she transformed into a beautiful girl right away.

The carrot became a carriage, and the six mice turned into six magnificent horses.

Silly kissed the girl and took off with her on the horses, bringing her straight to his father, the king.

Soon, his brothers arrived. They didn't care much about finding a beautiful girl, so they just took the first woman they met on their way.

13

As soon as he saw them, the king said,

“-After my death, my youngest son, Silly, shall be the king. He deserves my kingdom!”

But the two elder brothers wouldn't leave their father alone:

“-We cannot let Silly be the ruler,” they demanded that whoever's wife could jump over the hoop hanging in the middle of the throne room would be the king.

They thought, -Our wives are strong and can easily jump over it, but Silly's wife is so fragile and delicate that she will break her neck trying.

The old king agreed to this. Then the wives of the two elder brothers ran and jumped over the hoop, but they were so clumsy that they broke their hands and feet.

14

And so it was the turn of Silly's beautiful young wife.

drag the card to the line

And behold, she jumped over the hoop with ease, like a little deer.



**So Silly was crowned king and ruled wisely
for a long, long time.**

The End