

Snow white

1

Once upon a time, in a land far, far away, there was a king and a queen. They loved each other dearly, but they had no child, despite their fervent desire for one. Every day, the queen would sit by the window and gaze into the garden, dreaming of the joy a charming little girl would bring as she frolicked among the trees. One winter afternoon, while knitting a scarf, she looked out into the garden, **marvelling** at the snow's radiant whiteness and the trees' shiny black branches. Lost in **thought**, she accidentally pricked her finger with the needle, and her blood dripped onto her dress – three crimson drops. "How beautiful these three colors are! If only my daughter could be as white, as black, and as fiery red!" she thought to herself. Miraculously, in just a few months, the queen's dream came true. Her daughter was born with skin as white as snow, hair as black as ebony, and tiny lips as red as blood. They named her Snow White. However, the queen's joy was short-lived. On a cold November day, she fell ill and took to her bed. Before long, she closed her eyes forever.

2

Afterwards, the king raised Snow White on his own. He mourned for a while, but soon felt the need for a new woman in the house who could be a mother to his daughter. So, he remarried, but the new wife paid no attention to Snow White. Admittedly, she was beautiful, but terribly vain! All day long, she applied lipstick to her lips, and her maids combed her hair every hour. The queen never took her eyes off **of her own** reflection in the mirror. She had a marvelous magic mirror and spent the entire day conversing with it: "Mirror, mirror on the wall, Who's the fairest of them all?" The mirror replied each time: "You are the fairest. Until now. But who knows how much longer?" - "How long, how long? Forever!" laughed the queen, twirling her hair with delight as she admired her own face.

3

The queen was constantly preoccupied with herself. However, one beautiful day, after adjusting her hairstyle for the hundredth time and applying rouge to her lips, she satisfactorily put down her mirror, only to see Snow White walking across the room. The queen was left gaping in astonishment. The girl, whom she hadn't noticed before, had grown into a beautiful young lady over the years! The queen was suddenly overwhelmed with jealousy and suspicion. "Could it be that this wretch, with her frail legs, dented chest, and sooty hair, is more beautiful than me? No, that cannot be!" She grabbed her mirror again and asked, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, Who's

the fairest of them all?" The mirror replied, "You were the fairest! Until now. But who knows, maybe until Tuesday?"

"What do you mean?" the queen asked, astonished. The mirror answered, "Snow White is almost grown, and I have not seen a woman more beautiful than her!" Upon hearing the response, the queen almost smashed her mirror on the ground. Then, she ranted and raved to herself, pacing the castle halls in a frenzy, desperately trying to figure out how she could remain the fairest in the world. In the end, she devised a diabolical plan.

4

On Tuesday morning, the queen summoned the royal huntsman and commanded, "Take Snow White into the forest and get rid of her! Bring me her heart as proof!" The huntsman was a good man, utterly devastated by the queen's order. However, orders were orders, and he had to carry them out. So, he took Snow White and led her into the forest. For quite a while, they walked in silence until they reached the dense, dark heart of the woods. They went so far that the sound of the gunshot barely echoed back to the distant castle. At that moment, the huntsman raised his gun, aiming it at Snow White with trembling hands. However, as he saw her in the crosshairs, he lowered his weapon and said, "I cannot do it. Run for your life, and never look back!" With that, the girl started running as swiftly as her legs could carry her. The huntsman, in turn, targeted a young stag and fired. After he brought it down, he cut out its heart, placed it in a metal box, and took it back as evidence.

5

In the distance, in one of the castle rooms, the queen, upon hearing the faint gunshot, smirked mockingly. She anxiously awaited the huntsman's return, only truly calming

down when she saw the evidence in the box. Once again, she was **undeniably** the fairest in the land.

6

Meanwhile, Snow White kept running and running through the forest as **far** as her legs could carry her. When she became thoroughly exhausted, she leaned against a tree, panting. Gathering the last bit of her strength, she continued wandering through the dense woods. She had no idea where she was going, just following her instincts, until it was completely dark. Wild animals surrounded her in the pitch-black night. She was scared, but none of them harmed her. Suddenly, she spotted a charming little cottage deep in the woods. Lights flickered invitingly in the windows, so she ventured closer.

7

She peeked through the window, then knocked loudly and greeted, "Kind folks, I'm lost in the woods, tired and hungry. Would you kindly take me in for the night?" No answer came, so Snow White timidly entered. "Hello, is anyone here?" No one was in the small house. Along a long table, there were seven tiny chairs, seven plates filled with delicacies, and seven little glasses of wine awaiting the residents. Snow White sat down at the table on one of the small chairs and waited politely. She waited and waited. The table was filled with the aroma of many delicious dishes. Unable to wait any longer, Snow White tasted the **food**, took a sip from one of the tiny glasses, and, being very tired from the whole day of walking, **laid** down in one of the small beds.

8

She immediately fell into a deep sleep. Before long, the inhabitants of the cottage arrived: the seven diligent dwarfs. During the day, they mined gold and silver in the mountains, and when they returned home **tiredly**, they sniffed around and were surprised to see that someone had been in the little house. They exclaimed one after another:

- Someone ate from my soup!
- Someone tasted my roast!
- Someone bit into my bread!
- Someone stole from my cake!
- Someone drank from my glass!
- Someone sat in my chair!
- Someone is sleeping in my bed! - shouted the last dwarf, almost screaming, and the others gathered around curiously.
- What a beautiful girl! - they whispered simultaneously, and they watched over her all night to ensure she wouldn't wake up.

In the morning, Snow White told them how she ended up in their house. The **dwarves** took her in, but warned her a hundred times: - Be careful, never open the door for anyone! Especially beware of the evil queen! Snow White promised to be very cautious, so the **dwarves** went to work reassured.

9

The queen, after receiving the evidence from the huntsman, took her magic mirror in hand and asked, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, Who's the fairest of them all?" The mirror remained silent for a while, reluctant to answer. Impatiently, the queen stamped her foot, adjusted her hairstyle, and asked again, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, Who's the fairest of them all?" The mirror sighed and responded, "You were the fairest! Until now. But who knows, maybe until when?" - "What do you mean?" snapped the queen angrily. The mirror continued, "Snow White is almost grown, And I've not seen a woman fairer known! In the dwarfs' house, she now resides, Her beauty matches or even guides."

The queen erupted into a terrible rage. "So everyone in this cursed court is a traitor?! No one can be trusted here?! I'll have that wretched huntsman executed, and I'll take matters into my own hands!" she exclaimed. She summoned her sorceresses and began plotting revenge. Secluding herself in her chamber of beauty, she emerged two days later disguised as an old peddler woman. Adorned with various silks, ribbons, ruffles, and cords, but mostly belts and sashes, she covered her beautiful face with a scarf. Before leaving, she stole a quick glance at her reflection, satisfied that even in the guise of a peddler, she remained stunning.

10

She didn't stop until she reached the dwarfs' house and knocked on the door. Snow White timidly looked out the window. "What brings you here, dear granny?" asked the girl, not recognizing her stepmother. "I'm selling lace, ribbons, cords, and ruffles, please, have a look, have a look!" replied the stepmother. "Oh, I can't let anyone in! My hosts strictly forbade it!" answered Snow White. "I don't even want to come in, my dear!" the old woman replied in a flattering tone. "Come out, and see the beautiful things I brought. There's silk ribbon and leather belt, twisted cord and trim, and everything, absolutely everything, to delight the eyes and mouth! Come out, lovely girl, you won't regret it! Just look at my wonderful goods, and I'll be gone in no time!" Snow White was very taken with a beautiful red velvet ribbon; she couldn't resist it. "Perhaps the dear **dwarves** won't be angry if I go out for **just a** moment to this innocent old lady," she thought and rushed out.

Once she had chosen the gorgeous red velvet **ribbon**, the old woman wasted no time tying it tightly around Snow White's waist. But she tied it so tight, pulling and squeezing, that the girl eventually couldn't breathe and fainted on the doorstep. When

the **dwarves** returned home, they saw the unconscious Snow White. They quickly brought her into the house, loosened the tight belt around her waist, and slowly life returned to her.

11

When the queen returned to the palace, her first action was to take out the mirror. She was sure that this time she had finally dealt with Snow White. But she didn't even have to speak; the mirror spoke for itself: "You were the fairest! Until now. But who knows, maybe until when? Snow White is almost grown, And I've not seen a woman fairer known! In the dwarfs' house, she now resides, Her beauty matches or even guides!" The queen turned turkey-red with rage upon hearing the mirror's response. With the help of her sorceress cronies, she devised another devilish plan. This time, she dressed up as an old peddler woman with baskets full of hairpins, brushes, and hair clasps. Mimicking a limp, she hobbled back to the dwarfs' window, knocked, and in a sweet voice, said:

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Please, have a look, have a look! Behold, the most marvelous hair comb in the world! The ivory hairpin can secure even the most beautiful bun! And here, the silkiest hairbrush that can make the shiniest ebony hair even more lustrous! Please, have a look! Snow White moved aside the curtain and spoke out through the closed window, "Your merchandise is beautiful, dear granny, but unfortunately, I cannot come out!" There's no need to come out; just open the window a crack. Snow White thought it couldn't be too harmful. - Come, just lean out, dear girl, and I'll create a beautiful hairstyle for you in an instant! Snow White leaned out and turned her left cheek towards the old woman. That was all the crone needed; she quickly dipped the hairpin in poison and inserted it into the girl's hair so that she immediately fainted. Fortunately, the **dwarves** arrived home earlier that day. They noticed the hairpin, quickly pulled it out, and thanks to that, Snow White soon regained consciousness.

13

In the palace, the queen once again lifted her mirror with satisfaction. Now she was certain that she could only be the fairest in the whole world! She leaned back in her chair with boredom, poured herself a fine drink, took a sip, and asked, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, Who's the fairest of them all?" But the mirror didn't respond. The queen impatiently shook it. "What's the matter, you wretched thing?!" and asked again, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, Who's the fairest of them all?" The mirror remained silent for a while, then sighed and responded, "You were the fairest! Until now. But who knows, maybe until when? Snow White is almost grown, And I've not seen a woman

fairer known! In the dwarfs' house, she now resides, Her beauty matches or even guides!" Upon hearing these words, the queen slammed her mirror on the ground, shattering it into a hundred pieces.

14

Two days later, she dressed as a fruit vendor and visited Snow White. Upon reaching the house, she gently knocked. Snow White opened the door slightly, asking, "What brings you here, good woman?" "I'm selling delicious apples." "I can't let you in; my hosts forbade it!" "I won't come in. Just come, have a look at the beautiful, shiny apples I'm selling! Just take a bite!" "Oh, dear granny, I can't taste it!" Snow White said, swallowing hard. "Oh, don't be afraid, my dear!" the old woman said in a hoarse voice, secretly dipping one half of the apple in poison. "Look here, sweet girl, I'll take a bite myself; go ahead, taste it calmly!" With that, she bit into the pure half of the apple and offered the poisoned half to the girl. Snow White thanked her, but when she took a huge bite, she immediately fell into a slumber.

15

The evil stepmother watched Snow White lying on the ground for a while, then, once she was convinced that she wasn't moving, she headed home. "I'm done with you, you intruder! Now, I truly am the fairest of them all!" she exclaimed, breaking into such devilish laughter that the birds flew off the trees in fright. When she got home, her first action was to take out her mirror and ask, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, Who's the fairest of them all?" But the mirror didn't respond. It remained defiantly silent.

16

In the evening, the dwarves returned home and found Snow White on the ground. However, no matter how hard they tried to wake her, she remained unconscious. They kept vigil by her side for three days and three nights. Finally, they placed her in a glass coffin and watched over her in the meadow in front of the house. One beautiful day, a tall wanderer arrived at the dwarfs' house. He only wanted to ask for a little water, but when he saw Snow White, he immediately fell in love. He began pleading with the dwarves, "Please, give her to me! I am a prince, and you can ask for anything in return! I will take care of her as long as I live!" The dwarves pondered for a while and eventually decided to give Snow White to the prince because they felt his words were sincere. They bid farewell to the girl and carefully lifted her from the coffin.

17

The prince gently took her into his arms and started walking across the meadow. However, he accidentally stumbled on a stone. The sudden jolt caused Snow White's

body to convulse, and the poisoned apple bit fell from her mouth. In that moment, she came back to life! "Who are you?" she asked. "I am your prince, my lady, your servant and protector, but only if you wish it! Would you marry me?" "Happily!" replied Snow White with a smile, and from **that moment** on, she couldn't take her eyes off **of** the handsome prince.

18

The wicked queen was also invited to the world-famous wedding. For days, she had been preparing, bathing in milk and butter, and dazzling in a splendid new dress. She piled her hair higher than ever before, **and** painted her lips even redder. But before setting off, she spoke to the mirror: "Mirror, mirror on the wall, tell me now, tell me all, Am I still the fairest of them all?" The mirror replied, "You were the fairest! Until this very morning. But the bride is a hundred times fairer and kinder than anyone!" "It's impossible! You deceitful traitor!" shouted the queen, and, convinced of her beauty, triumphantly entered the ballroom with the mirror in hand.

19

In the hall, the guests were eagerly awaiting the start of the ceremony. In the center, on the throne, sat the young couple holding hands. When the queen recognized Snow White, she threw her mirror **on** the ground in a fit of madness. The shards scattered everywhere, cutting and permanently disfiguring her face. In her terror and shame, she ran away from the scene. Snow White and the prince celebrated their wedding. The **dwarves** were witnesses, and the royal couple grew so fond of them that they stayed in the palace and lived happily ever after, if they haven't passed away since then.

The End