

# FISHERMAN & HIS WIFE

© 1950





Once upon a time, on the shore of the deep blue sea, a fisherman and his wife were living in a tiny cottage. The fisherman used to go to the seaside every day and fish with his fishing rod. He was quite content to live like this. But his wife was not as happy as he was.

‘Ooh! Look at that disgusting cottage. Moldy and damp everywhere. I am tired of cleaning every day!’ says the wife.



The fisherman was very much in love with his wife. But no matter what he did, he could not make her happy. If he brings her fish, she wants crab. If he picks apples, she craves pears.



One day, the fisherman went fishing as usual. He swung his fishing rod into the water and started to wait. After a few hours, the tip of his fishing rod finally trembled. Oh, a fish hit the hook. But. Ouch. This must be a stubborn big fish.

The fisherman pulled, pulled, pulled, and was surprised to finally see the flounder on the tip of his fishing rod. Because this fish was golden and shining brightly.







'you managed to catch me, didn't you, fisherman?' says the golden fish.

'Did you just talk to me, or am I going crazy?' says the fisherman.

'You heard right, fisherman. But listen.

I'm not like the other fishes. I'm actually a prince under a spell.' says the golden fish.

'I can't believe this.' says the fisherman.

'Free me, fisherman. Please don't kill me. Even make a wish and I'll make it come true. Because you saved me.' says the golden fish.

'No need. I've never seen a talking fish before. Of course I will free you. Come on, go back to the seas.' says the fisherman.



The fishermen returned home with great excitement.



‘Why did you come back early? Didn't you catch fish? Couldn't you at least bring some fruit?’ says the wife.

‘No, darling. I caught a fish today. But that fish was talking. He told me

he was actually a prince.’ says the fisherman.

‘What? And what happened then?’ says the wife.

‘Well, then he asked me to make a wish. But that moment, I was shocked and I immediately let him back into the water.’ says the fisherman.

‘So, you found a magic fish and left it back in the water without asking for anything. I cannot believe you. You saved his life. You could make a wish in return, like a house. Go catch that fish again and ask for a new home. To make me happy.’ says the wife.



The Fisherman could not refuse his wife's request and went back to the seaside.



‘Flounder. Flounder. Fish. Prince. I just wanna make a wish. Come on, make through this wish. Tick tock, tick tock.’ says the fisherman.

The fish just came out of the water.

‘What do you want, fisherman? Tell me.’ says the golden fish.

‘My wife is not happy at all. Tired of living in a cottage. She wants a nice house.’ says the fisherman.

‘So go home, fisherman. She has a new home now.’ says the golden fish.



The fisherman ran home and saw his wife standing in front of a perfect house. The inside of the house was full of brand-new furniture. And everywhere was immaculate.



**Ohh! Husband,**

‘Oh, husband. We will no longer live in a cottage, but in a wonderful house. And everything is new and clean.’ says the wife.

‘Yes, my wife. Now we can live happily ever after in this house, right?’ says the fisherman.

‘Hahaha! We can never know that, my darling.’ says the wife.



That night, the fisherman's wife could not sleep. As soon as the morning came, she made another request from her husband at the breakfast table.



**Even a palace!**

‘Husband, this house seems too small for us. I want a bigger house, even a palace.’ says the wife.

‘What?’ says the fisherman.

‘I want to be a queen. Don't you understand? Go and tell that to the fish prince.’ says the wife.



The fisherman went to the seaside with thoughts in his head.  
'Flounder. Flounder. Fish prince. I just wanna make a wish.  
Come on, make through this wish. Tick tock, tick tock. My  
wife is not happy at all.' says the fisherman.

'Why, fisherman?' says the golden fish

'She wants to have a palace.' says the fisherman.

'So go home, fisherman. Your wife now lives in a palace.'  
says the golden fish



**Your wife now lives in a palace.**



When the fisherman returned, he saw that there was now a huge palace where his house was. And his wife was sitting on a huge throne in the palace hall.



My darling, you really have become a queen' says the fisherman.

'Yes.' says the wife.

'So, are you happy now?' says the fisherman.

'No. I actually want to be the empress, not the queen.' says the wife.

'What?' says the fisherman.

'A fish can't make you an empress. Do you understand?' says the fisherman.

'Let the fish prince decide that. Come on, move. Go ask the fish to make me the empress.' says the wife.



The poor fisherman went to the seaside sadly to make his wife happy.

‘Flounder. Flounder. Fish prince. I just wanna make a wish. Come on, make through this wish. Tick, tock. Tick, tock.

My wife is still not happy.’ says the fisherman.



‘Well, is that so? So, what does she want this time?’ says the fish prince.

‘She. She wants to be an empress.’ says the fisherman.

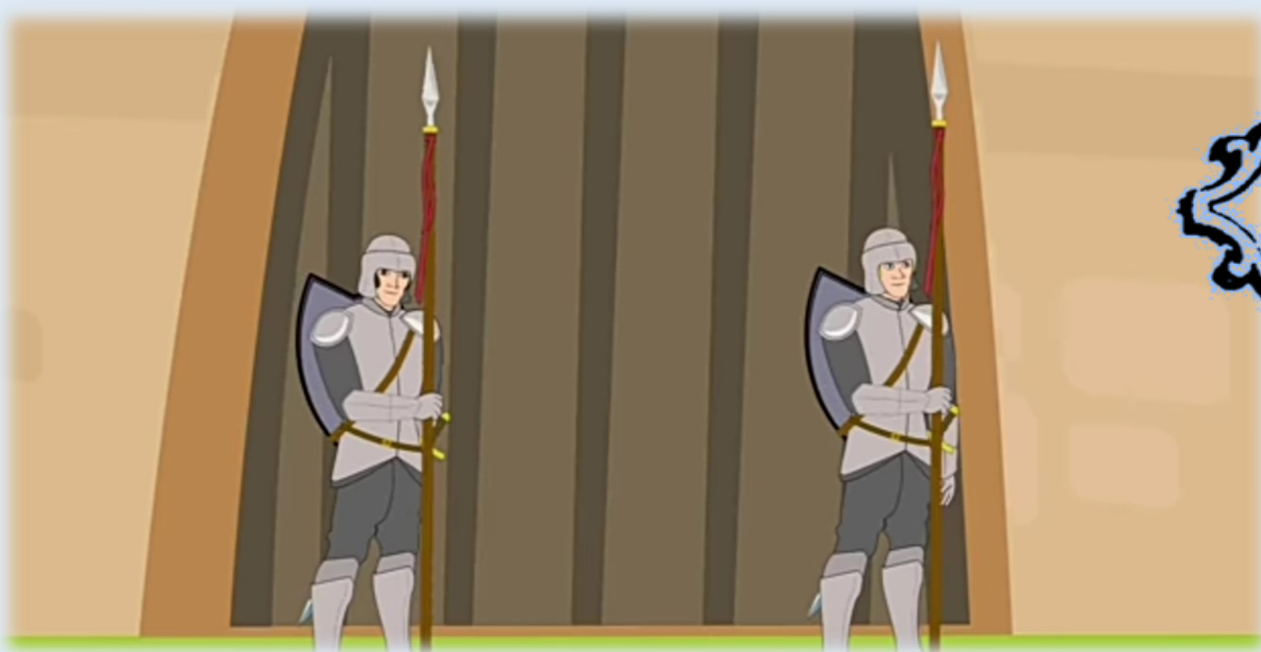
‘So go home, fisherman. Your wife is now an empress.’ says the fish prince.



When the fisherman came running back, he could not believe his eyes. The palace was now much larger than before.



Moreover, there were guards at the door.





His wife, on the other hand, was now sitting on a more glorious throne as an empress.



‘Oh, my darling. You really have become an empress.’ says the fisherman.

‘Yes.’ says the wife.

‘So, are you happy now?’ says the fisherman.

‘I don't know. We'll talk about it later. I'm so tired today. We better sleep now.’ says the wife.

The fisherman and his wife lay on the bed to sleep. The fisherman fell asleep, praying that his wife would not want anything more from him. However, his wife did not sleep again. She had been thinking all night about what more she could want from that magic fish.



A week has passed. The woman called her husband before her and made a request.

‘Husband, time keeps running out. I want to control time. I want to live above the clouds and rule the sun and the moon.’ says the wife.

‘What are you saying, wife? Why do you want such a thing? Why is this abundance, wealth and power not enough?’ says the fisherman.

‘If you want me to be happy, go to that fish prince now and tell him my wish.’ says the wife.

‘I can't do this, my darling. Please stop now.’ says the fisherman.

‘But don't you want me to be happy?’ says the wife.





The fisherman risked everything to make his wife happy and went to the seaside again.



‘Flounder. Flounder. Fish prince, I just want to make a wish. Come on, make through this wish. Tick tock. Tick tock. My wife is still not happy.’ says the fisherman.

‘I’m sorry about that, fisherman. What does she want this time?’ says the fish prince.

‘My wife wants to control time. She wants to rule the sun and the moon in a palace above the clouds.’ says the fisherman.

‘All right, fisherman, go home. Your wife now has what she wants.’ Says the fish prince



When the fisherman came running back, neither his wife nor the palace were there. When he looked up, he saw that the clouds were far away from him.

‘Oh, my wife. Where are you? You are far from me now.’ says the fisherman.



The fisherman hurried back to the seashore and called the fish prince.

‘Flounder. Flounder. Fish prince. I just want to make a wish. Come on, make through this wish. Tick tock. Tick tock. What happened to my wife?’ says the fisherman.

‘I just fulfilled her wish. She gave up everything to rule time above the clouds. So,

neither you can see her nor can she see you.’ says the fish prince.





‘Oh, fish prince, I saved your life. But I never asked you for a wish myself. I always wanted something for my wife. Please help me. Give me back my wife.’ says the fisherman.

‘You’re right. Fisherman, tell me, what is your wish?’ says the fish prince.

‘May my wife always be with me and very happy. This is my wish.’ says the fisherman.

‘Well, fisherman, go home. Your wife has everything to be happy. says the fish prince.



The fisherman ran home with great excitement. He was very surprised to see this new situation. His wife was waiting for him in front of the cottage. Just like in the old days.



‘Oh, my husband. I couldn't realize the worth of what I had. I was actually very happy with you in this small and cute cottage.’ says the wife.

‘Oh, my wife, I love you so much.’ says the fisherman.

From that day on, the fisherman's wife understood that even the smallest things can bring happiness. Thus, they lived happily ever after in a clean house with delicious food every day.





**THE**

**END**