

## 1. The Fox and the Chick

One day a fat little chick wanted to go for a walk around the farm.

The little chick hopped along, looking at the things on the farm.

Soon the chick was far from the hen house. Then the chick met a fox.

"What a fine chick you are, and so much like your father," said the fox.

"I liked to chat with your father. It made me happy just to talk to your father and to hear your father sing. Now that he is not here, I am lost. Will you sing something for me as your father did? Please sing something. Then please come to lunch with me. Your father always came to lunch with me."

The little chick was very happy to hear the nice words, and it really liked to sing for the fox.

So with a shake of its wings, it hopped up and started singing.

But then the fox picked up the fat little chick by its wing!

The farm dog saw the fox catch the little chick.

"It looks like I have work to do," said the dog.

The dog chased after the fox.

"That dog is fast," the little chick said to the fox.

"Tell the dog I want to go with you. Then it will stop chasing us."

The fox started to tell the dog, "This chick wants to go with me."

But as the fox was talking, it let go off the little chick's wing.

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The little chick ran away from the fox. Hopping back to the hen house, the chick said, "A chick who wants to live long will not sing for a fox."

The dog chased the fox all the way to the fox's house.

Running away from the dog, the fox said, "After this, I will not stop to chat when I am having my lunch!"

## 2. Famous Story of Mark Twain

Mark Twain was a famous American writer. He wrote many stories, and many of them were funny stories. These stories are still read by many people all over the world.

Besides writing, he also liked hunting and fishing very much, so one year he went to Maine for a holiday and spent three very pleasant weeks in the woods there. When he had to go back home, he drove to the station with his baggage. There he asked a porter to put it into the train. Then he got into the smoking car and sat down in one of the comfortable seats there.

The car was empty when he got in, but a few minutes later, another man got in and sat down on the seat opposite his. Mark Twain looked at the man and thought that this man looked quite unpleasant. However, it would be impolite to say nothing in that situation, so he said good morning to the man, and they began to talk.

First they talked about the weather and then they talked about Maine. The stranger said, "We have some beautiful woods in Maine. It would be a pity to come to Maine without spending some time there. I suppose you have been in our woods, haven't you?"

"Yes, I have," answered Mark Twain. "I've just spent three weeks there and I had a very good time, too. And let me tell you something. Although fishing isn't allowed in Maine at this season, I've got two hundred pounds of beautiful fish with my baggage in this train. I like to eat fish, so I packed it in ice to take it home with me. May I ask who you are, sir?"

The stranger looked at Mark Twain for several seconds and then answered, "I'm a police officer. My job is to catch people who hunt and fish during the wrong seasons. And who are you?"

Mark Twain was surprised and frightened when he heard this. He thought quickly and then answered, "Well, I'll tell you, sir. I'm the man who tells the biggest lie in America."

### 3. Butterflies In the Rain

There were once three little butterfly brothers, one white, one red, and one yellow. They played in the sunshine, and danced among the flowers in the garden, and they never got tired because they were so happy.

One day there came a heavy rain, and it wet their wings. They flew back home, but when they got there they found the door locked and the key gone. So they had to stay outside in the rain, and they got wetter and wetter. They flew to the red and yellow striped tulip, and said,

"Friend Tulip, will you open your flower-cup and let us in till the storm is over?"

The tulip answered,

"The red and yellow butterflies may enter, because they are like me, but the white one may not come in."

But the red and yellow butterflies said,

"If our white brother may not find shelter in your flower-cup, why, then, we'll stay outside in the rain with him."

It rained harder and harder, and the poor little butterflies got wetter and wetter, so they flew to the white lily and said,

"Good Lily, will you open your bud a little so we may creep in, out of the rain?"

The lily answered:

"The white butterfly may come in, because he is like me, but the red and yellow ones must stay outside in the storm."

Then the little white butterfly said,

"If you won't receive my red and yellow brothers, why, then, I'll stay out in the rain with them. We would rather be wet than be parted."

So the three little butterflies flew away.

But the sun, who was behind a cloud, heard it all, and he knew how good little brothers the butterflies were, and how they had held together in spite of the rain. So he pushed his face through the clouds, chased away the rain, and shone brightly on the garden. He dried the wings of the three little butterflies and warmed their bodies. They ceased to feel sorrowful and danced among the flowers till evening. Then they flew back home and found the door wide open.

## 4. The Happy Man

Many, many years ago, there was a chief. He was very rich but not happy. He thought, "I have everything, but that doesn't make me happy. What must I do to be happy?" Once he shouted angrily to his servants, "Why can't I be happy? What must I do to be happy?"

One of his servants said, "Oh, my chief! What about music? Music makes a man happy. We shall play to you from morning till night, and music will make you happy." The chief's face became red with anger. "Oh, no!" he cried. "What a silly idea. Music is fine. But to listen to music from morning till night, day after day? Never!" So the servants went away and the chief sat angrily in his rich room.

Then one of the servants came back into the room and bowed, "Oh, my chief," he said, "I think I can tell you something that will make you very happy." "What is it?" asked the chief. "It is very easy to do," the servant said. "You must find a happy man, take off his shirt and put it on. Then his happiness will go into your body, and you will be as happy as he is!". "I like your idea," said the chief. He sent his soldiers all over the country to look for a happy man.

One day the soldiers found a man in a small village who said, "I am the happiest man in the world." He was poor. But he always smiled and sang. The soldiers brought him to the chief. "At last I shall be a happy man!" said the chief, and he took off his shirt at once. "Bring the man in!" The door of the chief's room opened. A small, dark man with a happy smile walked in. "Come here, my friend!" said the chief. "Please take off your shirt!" The happy man with smile came up to the chief. The chief looked at him, and what did he see? The happy man, the happiest man in the world, had no shirt!