The Golden Goose

Once upon a time, in a quiet village, there lived a boy named Hans. Everyone called him Simple Hans because he was kind, honest, and always willing to help others. One day, as Hans was walking through the forest, he met an old man who was hungry and cold. Without hesitation, Hans gave him the little food he had and his warm coat.

The old man smiled and said, 'Because you are so kind, I will give you a special gift.' He handed Hans a goose with feathers made of pure gold.

Hans thanked the man and set off toward town, carrying the golden goose. Along the way, he stopped at an inn to rest. The innkeeper's three daughters saw the goose and wanted to pluck a feather. But as soon as they touched it, they became stuck! When others tried to help, they also got stuck. Soon, Hans was walking through town with a long, funny line of people attached to the goose.

Hans continued on his way until he reached the castle. There lived a princess who had never laughed, not even once. Her father, the king, had promised that whoever could make her laugh would marry her.

When the princess looked out her window and saw Hans and his strange parade, she laughed louder than anyone had ever heard. She laughed until tears filled her eyes.

True to his word, the king allowed Hans to marry the princess. Hans and the princess soon fell in love and lived happily ever after.

This story teaches us that being kind and helping others without expecting anything in return can lead to happiness beyond our wildest dreams.