**The Lion and The Mouse (Fairytale)**

Once upon a time, there lived a lion who ruled the forest.

One day, after eating his meal, the lion fell asleep under a tree.

A little mouse saw him and thought it would be fun to play on him.

He began running up and down the sleeping lion.

He ran up the tail and slid down the tail.

The lion woke up angrily with a loud roar.

He grabbed the mouse with his huge paw.

The mouse struggled but could not escape.

The lion opened his big jaws to swallow him.

The mouse was very scared.

Oh King, I am very scared. Please don't eat me.

Forgive me this time. Please let me go.

I shall never forget it and maybe one day I can help you.

The lion was so amused by the idea of the Mouse being able to help him that he lifted up his paw and let him go.

Thank you King. I will never forget your kindness.

You are lucky my friend that I just eaten.

Now go but don't mess with me again.

Or I will make a meal of you.

Few days later, the lion was roaming the jungle.

Hunters set a trap to catch the lion.

The hunters hid behind the tree waiting for the Lion to approach the trap.

As he did, the hunters pulled the ropes and caught him in the net.

The lion started to roar loudly and tried to escape but hunters fastened the net.

The went back to the village to bring a cart to transport the lion.

The lion was still roaring loudly.

All the animals including the mouse heard the roar.

The king is in trouble. I must return the favour.

He soon reached the lion.

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Don't worry, my king. I will set you free.

He climbed up the trap and used his sharp little teeth to bite through the ropes.

Finally he freed the lion from the trap.

The lion realized that even a little mouse can be a great help.

Thank you mouse. I will never trouble you again.

Live happily in my forest.

You saved the king's life.

Now you are the prince of this forest.

Thank you King. Bye. See you soon.

Where are you going?

Don't you want to play on me and slide down my tail?

The mouse started jumping on his back and sliding down his tail.

After a while, the hunters came back with a big cart to carry the lion.

The lion & mouse saw them and started running towards them.

The lion gave a big roar.

The hunters were terrified and ran away back to the village.

Lion and mouse became friends forever.

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**The Ugly Duckling (Fairytale)**

It was a bright summer afternoon.

Mother Duck found a lovely spot under a tree by the pond to lay her eggs.

She laid five eggs.

Suddenly she noticed that one of the eggs was different from the other eggs.

She got a little worried.

She waited for them to hatch.

One fine morning, at last, one after another, the eggs began to crack.

“Peep, peep,” they said.

All the eggs had come alive and the ducklings were poking their heads out into the big world.

All broke except one.

“Oh what sweet babies I have! What a lucky mother I am! But, what happened to the fifth one?” The Mother Duck was worried. This last egg is taking such a long time.

She sat on the egg and gave it all the warmth that it could give.

“This would be the most beautiful duckling of all since this is taking so much time to hatch.”

One fine morning, when the egg broke, there came out an ugly grey coloured duckling.

This duckling was different from its other siblings.

It was very big and rather ugly.

None of my other ducklings look like that.

This one is perhaps ugly.

The mother duck was surprised to see her and was very sad.

Mother hoped that one day she would become just like her siblings.

But days went by and the duckling remained ugly.

All her brothers and sisters made fun of the duckling and they would not play with him.

The duckling was very sad.

“You are ugly.”

“Look at that ugly little thing on the earth.”

“Yaa, go away, you’re so ugly.”

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“We will not play with you, you ugly monster.” They all laughed at him.

The ugly duckling was really sad.

The ugly duckling went to the pond and looked at his reflection in the pond.

“Nobody likes me, I am so ugly.”

The ugly duckling decided to leave the family and go somewhere deep in the woods.

The duckling wandered all alone in the deep forest.

Soon when winters came by. The duckling was sad and he shivered with cold but couldn’t find any food to eat or a warm place to be in.

He went to a family of ducks. They rejected him. “You are an ugly chap.” “Who is this ugly fellow?”

He went to stay in the hen’s house. There the hens pecked him with their beaks so he ran away.

He met a dog on the way. The dog saw him and went away. The ugly duckling thought to himself, “I’m so ugly that even the dog doesn’t want to eat me.”

The ugly duckling sadly started wandering in the woods again.

There he met a peasant who took him home to his wife and children but even there he was troubled by the cat that lived there so he left the peasant’s house.

Soon it was spring, everything was fresh and green once again.

Walking and walking, he saw a river. He was so happy to see the water again.

He went close to the river where he saw a beautiful swan swimming.

He fell in love with her. The duckling was ashamed of himself and bowed his head low.

When he bent his head, he saw his own reflection in the water and was astonished.

He wasn’t ugly anymore. He had turned into a handsome young swan.

Now he realized why he looked different from his siblings because he was a swan and they were ducks.

He married the beautiful swan that he had fallen in love with and happily lived ever after.

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