Once upon a time there lived one khan, who had twelve wives, but neither of his wives had children.

Once the khan had to travel far away, so he summoned his wives and asked them, "What gift shall you present me, when I am back?"

The eldest wife answered, "I will command to build golden palace and everything will be ready before you are back."

And the youngest wife said, "Before you're beck I will have two kids — a boy and a girl. A boy I will name Golden Lock."

After that khan left them. He was on his journey for three years and came back home.

Until that time his eldest wife had built the palace, and his youngest wife had had two kids — a boy with golden hair and a girl. But the eldest wife envied the younger fiercely, so she called the old witch, stole the kids with her help and told her servants to throw the kids into the well and replace them with two puppies. When the khan was back she told him that his wife had given birth to two puppies. Poor mother cried, but she had nothing to do and accepted her part. Khan believed all the lies eldest wife told him, and kicked his youngest wife away.

But as the kids were falling into the well, they were saved by angel, who changed himself into bird, caught the children and took them to the city. There he passed children over to one old kind woman, who lived at the outskirts.

The woman didn't have either son or daughter. She cared for both kids for three or four years until she died. When boy grew up a little, he started hunting goats and kulans with his bow. Kids ate their meant and made themselves clothes of their skins. Then they have found a cave under one mountain and made themselves a house there.

One day it happened, that khan's eldest wife, who had brought those kids so many grief and evil, got to know that they were still alive. She then sent for the same old witch and told her to kill the boy with golden hair.

The old witch went to search for the kids, but when she came to their cave, the boy was not at home. He went hunting that day, and only his sister was staying. The old witch told her, "Tell you brother, that there is Sulky Khan leaving in your land. He has a mare that brings him a colt every day. All those colts are argamak-tulpars .

After that she left.

The plan of old witch was that boy would go searching for that mare and die on his way, because everyone, who tried to get the mare, got lost and died.

In the evening, when the boy returned from hunting, his sister told him old witch's words. When the brother heard it, he went to search for that mare.

When he was on his way, he came to great river. Every man, who tried to cross it, drowned. Golden Lock got a boat and began floating to the other side. When he was on the middle of the river, the daughter of one peri rouse the tide and grabbed the boat, but Golden Lock caught her

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hands and took her golden ring and golden bracelets off. Then she released the boat, and thus Golden Lock crossed the river successfully. After that he carried on his way and got to the palace of Sulky Khan.

Right at that time the mare started foaling. Then Golden Lock told Sulky Khan, "My lord, will you allow me to take this colt?"

"I do," Sulky Khan said, "you may take it."

No one could take colts from that mare, since as soon as they were foaled, the daughter of peri came, having changed herself into cloud, and carried them away. The boy hid and started waiting. As soon as the colt was foaled, the daughter of peri appeared and wanted to take the colt away. Then Golden Lock stabbed at her with his sword. The daughter of peri got scarred and flew away, leaving only her shoes and little colt.

Golden Lock came to khan and showed him the shoes and the colt. Khan blessed the boy. Golden Lock returned home safely, gave the shoes, the ring and the bracelet to his sister, left the colt and went hunting.

After some time, the same old witch came to visit his sister again. She saw the girl's ring and the colt and said, "You see, I meant only well to you. Your brother has brought you this ring. Now sent him to another place — let him bring a golden chest from there."

After those words old witch left.

After the brother returned, the sister told him that there is a golden chest somewhere and that he has to bring it to their home. So Golden Lock mounted his tulpar colt and set out to his journey.

On his way he met an old woman, who was fixing crack in the ground. He approached that woman and asked, "Lady, what are you doing?"

And the old woman then answered, "I am fixing that crack in the ground. If you ask me why, I'll tell you, that the strongmen like you come to that place, jump into that crack because of some stupid chest and die there."

Then the boy said, "I need this chest too."

And when he reached the crack and jumped down. When he was already under the ground, the peri appeared before him and cried out, "Small stone, if you are at home, respond!"

As soon as she finished saying those words, Golden Lock was turned into the stone and stayed lying on the same place. His winged horse waited for one day, than for another, and when he realized his master was lost, he came back home to that girl and started crying. From that girl understood, what had happened. So she mounted tulpar as well and it brought her to the same old woman, who was still fixing the crack. The woman told a girl, "Don't you dare to descent into that crack. Your brother had gone there and there he died, and if you do the same, you will die as well."

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The girl than answered, "I am not afraid to die, but before I do, I want to see my brother for one last time, no matter if he is still alive or not."

Than the old woman gave her an advice, "Go there, but wail all the time, 'Oh, I am so miserable on the ground, and you are so miserable under the ground.'"

The girl began descending into the crack and wailed along all her way. Then she met peri, who asked her, what her misery was. The girl told her everything. Peri felt pity for that girl and brought her brother back to life.

When they returned to the ground, they reached dark dense forest. Golden Lock left his sister and his horse on the margin and strode into its depths. Walking into the forest, he reached white small yurt. He entered the yurt and took a sit. At that moment two daughters of peri came and sat on the top of the yurt. One of them said, "Once I was really frightened. If you want to know why, here is my story. It was on the river. As I was trying to turn over the boat, the dzhigit, who was floating in it, took away my ring. If I saw him again I would become his wife."

The other one, who was younger, then said, "I once got really scared as well. I you ask me why, I will tell you. I used to take colts from one khan every day. Once I came to his palace, but there one dzhigit was waiting for me. As I wanted to take the colt away, he didn't let me. If I happen to find that boy again, I would become his wife."

As soon as she ended her story, both peris heard, "Here I am, the same dzhigit, whose wives you wished to become." It was Golden Lock who got up from where he sat at cried those words to them.

After that, both girls became his wives. He moved their yurt to the margin of the forest, where his horse and his sister were left. Some time after they returned to the cave, where brother and sister lived before. There they stayed for some four or five years more.

The days went by. Golden Lock went haunting every day as he did before. Once, as he was hunting, he met one man, and since then they used to go hunting together. One day, during their hunting, the large animal emerged before them and walked to where they stand at a leisurely pace. Golden Lock and his friend had an intention to shoot him, but suddenly it begun talking in human tongue, addressing Golden Lock's friend, "This is the son of yours!". Then it turned to Golden Lock. "And this is your father," it said, "Evil old which had separated you."

After saying that, the animal disappeared. When father and son get to know each other, they embraced and started crying. Then father invited the son to his palace. He commanded to execute his eldest wife and old witch. After that, he sent his servants to find his youngest wife, who had to become a beggar. When she was brought to him khan, declared she is his wife again. As for the Golden Lock, he was proclaimed a new khan. His sister and two wives were taken to the palace as well.

When all the family was summoned together, they made a great banquet and a horserace. They all lived happily ever after, and all their wishes had come true.

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Task 1 . Fill in the gaps

1.Khan's eldest wife had built the _____, and his youngest wife had had two kids — a boy with golden hair and a girl.

2. When the khan was back she told him that his wife had given birth to two _____.

3.Eldest wife sent for the same old ____ and told her to kill the boy with ____ hair.

4. The girl began descending into the _____ and wailed along all her way.

5. Golden Lock went haunting ____ ___ as he did before.

Task 2 . Match

1.Boat

2.A golden palace

3.A golden ring and golden bracelets

4.To kill the golden haired boy

A. With planned to …

B. Succesfull crossed the river using…

C. Things that boy brought back to show it to khan

D. Eldest wife promised to give it to khan

Task 3 . Answer the questions

1. What did the wives promise their husband?

2. What happened to the younger wife when Khan arrived?

3. How did the children live for many years?

4.What happened to the boy when he went after the foal?

5.How did father and son find out about each other?

Task 4. True or False

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1.Khan had ten wives, but neither of his wives had children.

2. The youngest wife said, “Before you’re beck I will have two kids — a boy and a girl. A boy I will name Golden Lock.”

3. The old witch went to search for the kids, when she came to their cave, the boy was at home.

4.Golden Lock left his sister and his horse on the margin and strode into its depths.

5. One day, during their hunting, the small animal emerged before them and walked to where they stand at a leisurely pace.

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