



leeping Beauty

A traditional tale
In simple English
The Stories First Foundation

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A traditional story
By Claire Walter



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Once upon a time there was a king and a queen. They were noble and good, and they reigned with charity and kindness.

Everyone consulted the king and the queen. People would present the couple with difficult problems. They gave wise solutions. The king was just. The queen was compassionate.

The king and queen lived happily together for many years. There was only one problem: the couple wanted a baby, but they could not have a child.



The queen desired a baby with all her heart, but she was not able to have a baby.

One day, the queen was at the lake. She imagined playing in the lake with a child. Suddenly, she felt so sad that there were tears in her eyes. "Oh! If only I had a baby," she cried.

A frog was watching the queen. The little animal took pity on her. "Your majesty," it said, "your heart is so good and noble. The baby you desire will arrive in nine months."



Nine months later, the frog's prediction came true. The queen gave birth to a baby girl. The king and queen were happy parents. Everyone was very happy for the royal couple.

There was a very big celebration. Everyone was invited. The musicians played joyful music. Everyone was dancing with joy.

But the happiest person was the king. His beautiful queen was happy, and he had his precious baby.



One person was not invited to the celebration, however. It was an old witch. The witch lived in a lonely part of the forest. She rarely left it. For a long time, no one had seen her. No one had thought to invite the old witch.

On the day of the celebration, the witch heard music and cries of joy. She was curious, so she walked out of the forest. “The music is coming from the palace,” she thought. “Everyone is celebrating. But why was I not invited?”

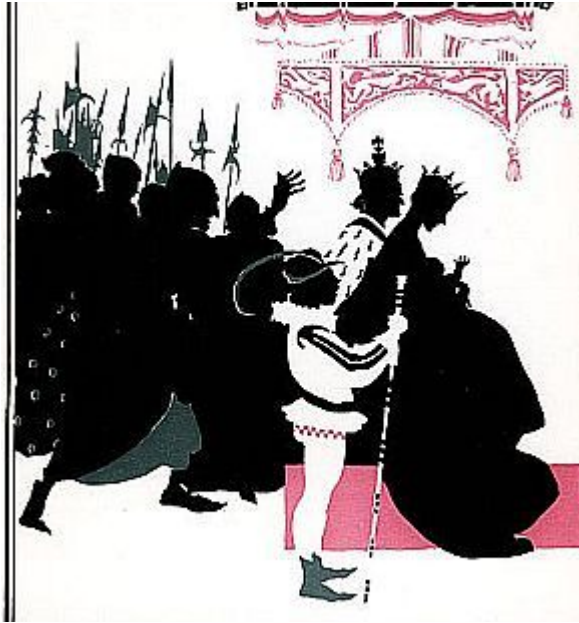


The witch went to the palace. She saw the great celebration through the windows. Everyone was celebrating; everyone but the old witch. “The king pretends to be very noble,” said the witch. “But he excludes a lonely old woman.”

She was furious, but then she calmed down. She had to think of a plan.

The palace was guarded by one hundred guards. The witch approached the guards and said “Sleep!” Immediately the guards fell asleep.

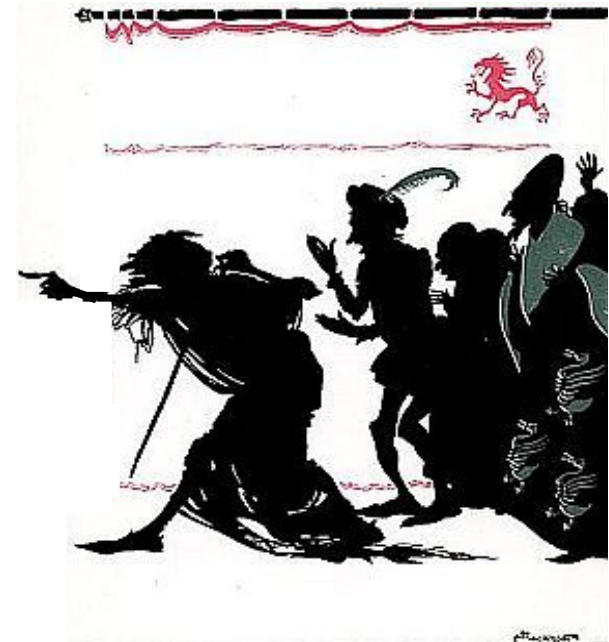
Quickly, the witch went into the palace. She saw the king and queen. When she saw the royal family, she was green with envy.



Inside the palace, everyone was assembled to see the baby. Her mother, the queen, kissed the little princess. It was a happy scene. Everything was calm.

At that moment, the witch walked towards the royal couple. She approached the baby. The king panicked and cried “Guards!” but the guards were asleep.

The witch continued and went right up to the little princess. The queen cried and said, “No, don’t come near my baby!”



Furiously, the king shouted, “Stop, you monster!”

“Ah, but I’m not a monster,” said the witch with a sad look. “In fact, if you had invited me, I would have been generous with the princess.”

Then, her tone changed. “But now, you will pay,” she said darkly. “In sixteen years, the princess will prick her finger on a spinning wheel. Then, she will sleep for all eternity.”



Immediately, the witch left the palace. She went back to the forest and to her loneliness.

A few days later, there was a huge fire. The servants had assembled all the spinning wheels in the palace. They had to burn them all to protect the princess.

There was no longer a spinning wheel in the palace. But the queen was not satisfied. She said, "What if the princess leaves the palace? There are a lot of spinning wheels in the villages."



The king was desperate. So he ordered the guards to go out to the villages and burn all the spinning wheels in the land.

All the spinning wheels were confiscated. They were placed in an enormous pile. Soon, all the spinning wheels were burned.

The king made a royal order: it was illegal to have a spinning wheel. Everyone respected the king's order. They knew it was for the protection of the dear princess.



The years passed. The baby grew. The little princess was named Aurora. She was creative and curious.

Aurora's parents adored the little girl. She was beautiful like her mother. She was adventurous like her father.

Sixteen years passed. The princess was graceful, intelligent, and noble. She studied dance, music, and art.



But her parents, the king and the queen, refused to let the princess leave the castle. She stayed inside. She was very curious so she wanted to explore the world outside. But her parents did not allow her to leave their domain. She had to stay inside the palace gates.

One day, she asked why. The king said to her: "My dear, there might be spinning wheels outside. Spinning wheels are dangerous! You have to stay here at the palace. There are no spinning wheels here. You are safe here."



The princess was lonely. She passed the time exploring the palace. One day, she was looking around when she saw a mysterious door. She hadn't seen it before. She was very curious. So, she opened the door and went in.

Princess Aurora was very surprised at what she saw. Inside, there was an old woman. She had a large circular object. Curious, Aurora approached the old lady.



“Hello, dear woman,” said Aurora. “What is this?”

“Oh this? It's a spinning wheel,” she replied. She had a mysterious smile.

“A spinning wheel?” repeated Aurora. Then, the curious princess went up to the strange object. She touched the spinning wheel.

Suddenly, she pricked her finger. Surprised, the princess looked down and saw red blood. Then she fell down. She was fast asleep.



The royal couple was devastated. The princess was asleep and she would not wake up. The king called a famous wizard to the palace. He was an intelligent and talented man.

The wizard arrived and he inspected the princess. The queen cried and the king explained what had happened.

“The princess is asleep. She is the victim of a terrible enchantment. A witch put a spell on a spinning wheel. When the princess touched it, she fell asleep. I fear she will stay asleep for eternity.”

The wizard said, "It's very difficult to wake the princess ... but not impossible.”

Filled with hope, the king and queen said, “You can wake the princess?”



The wizard said, "I cannot wake her. Only one person can - the princess's true love. In one hundred years, a prince will come. He is Aurora's true love. When the prince arrives, he will wake her up. Only love can wake the princess from her sleep.”

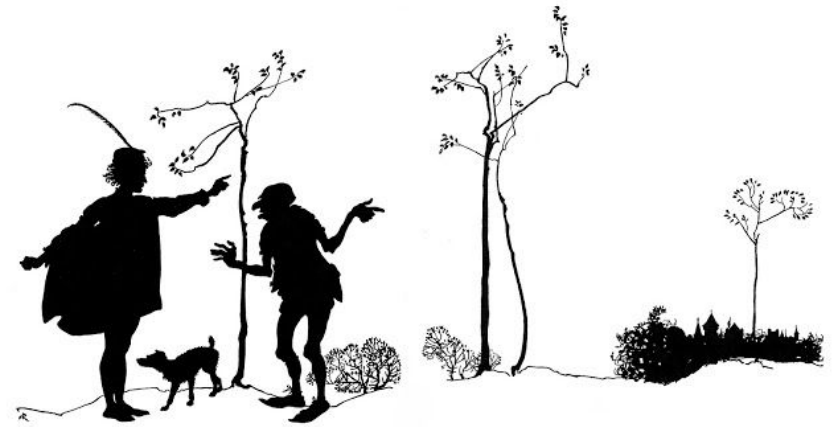
So the wizard went to an enchanted forest. He looked for a magic rose bush. The rose bush would protect the castle for one hundred years.



When the rose bush arrived, the king, the queen, and all the people in the palace fell into a deep sleep. Even the animals fell asleep. The rose bush grew and soon covered the entire palace.

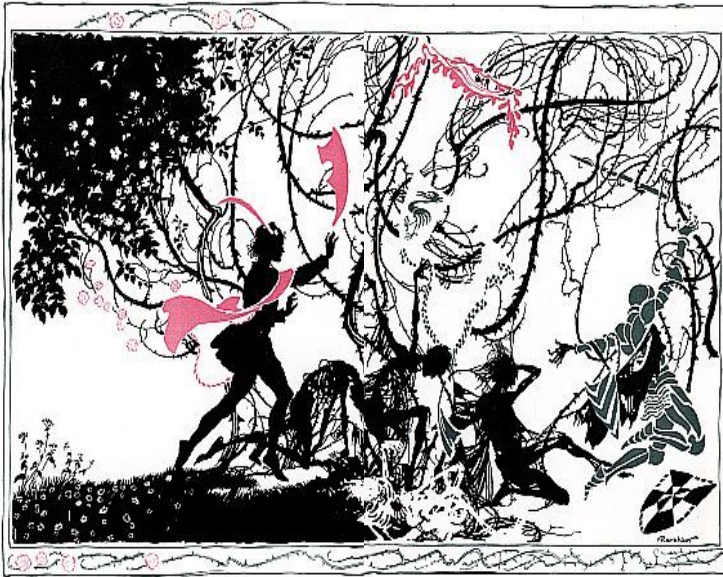
The rose bush protected the palace like a strong wall. It was impossible to get inside. Anyone who tried to enter died on its thorns.

Time passed. Eventually, Princess Aurora and the sleeping castle were just a legend.



Eventually, one hundred years went by. One day, a prince arrived near Aurora's palace. He saw a strange forest in the distance. He was very curious. "What is this?" he wondered. His servants told him the legend of a sleeping princess. But no one had ever seen her. "Everyone who enters this forest dies," they warned.

But the prince was very brave. "If this princess exists, she is in danger." He was determined to help her. So he went off towards the dark forest.



The forest was thick with long branches and thorns. The prince could see terrifying skeletons inside. The journey would be long and difficult.

But the moment the prince arrived in front of the dark branches, they separated. They opened a path for him. The prince traveled through the forest without problem. Finally, he came to a mysterious palace. There was a strange silence as he arrived.



The prince entered the palace and passed the guards, but they were all fast asleep. “What terrible spell was cast on them?” he wondered. Nervously, the prince continued looking around the palace’s rooms and corridors.

The prince passed sleeping people and animals as he explored the palace. Eventually, the prince saw the sleeping king and the queen. He tried to wake them up, but they wouldn’t. No one would leave their sleep.

The prince was confused. He said aloud, “There must be some magic charm, something to wake the castle.”



Finally, the prince entered the princess's room. He looked at her. He thought she was very charming, but she looked so sad and silent.

He approached her and shook her and said, "Princess, wake up!" But the princess did not wake up.

The prince was touched by her beauty and grace. Once more, he said to her, "Princess, you are in danger. Wake up!"

When she didn't, the prince felt very sad. Admiringly, he kissed her on the head.



The moment the prince kissed her, Aurora's eyes opened. Immediately, she looked up and saw the handsome prince. She saw her true love.

The princess was overjoyed and said, "Thank you! You woke me up!"

The prince helped the princess to get up. Quickly, they went to find the king and the queen. When they arrived, the king and queen's eyes suddenly opened and they woke up, too. Aurora cried for joy. Her parents kissed her.



Everyone else in the palace woke up immediately. The guards and servants all exclaimed with joy, “It’s over! The enchantment is over!”

After one hundred years, the wizard's prediction came true. The king and queen remembered his words “Only love can wake the princess.” The king saw that the princess loved the prince. He and his wife were happy for Aurora and her prince.

From that day on, they all lived happily ever after.