Aunt Fox

The Pied Piper of Hamelin



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Synopsis

A plague of rats devours Hamelin. A magical flautist promises to save the town, but the villagers' greed leads to a terrible price.



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AGE	CATEGORY	READING TIME
4-9 years	Fable	4 min

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A plague infested Hamelin. Rats swarmed into homes, devoured food, and spread chaos throughout the town. In total desperation, the residents demanded that the mayor find an urgent solution to this dire problem.



A mysterious young man appeared in town, dressed in colorful clothing. He claimed to possess a unique talent: with his magic flute, he could lure all the rodents out of Hamelin—in exchange for a generous reward.





The mayor immediately agreed to the deal. The flautist brought his instrument to his lips and began to play a mesmerizing melody. Drawn by these magical notes, thousands of rats emerged from their hiding places, following him, completely entranced.



Walking with a steady stride, the musician led the horde of rodents toward a forest from which there was no return. The rats vanished deep into the woods and stayed there. Hamelin was, at last, free from the devastating infestation.



With the danger resolved, the flautist returned to collect his promised payment. However, the mayor and the town councilors, consumed by greed, argued that the task had been too easy; they refused to pay the agreed-upon sum, offering only a pittance instead.



Betrayed and furious, the musician departed in silence. The following day, he returned and began to play a new melody—soft and enchanting. This time, it was the town’s children who emerged from their homes, completely spellbound.



Smiling and dancing, the little ones followed the sound toward a great mountain from which return was nearly impossible. Hamelin learned the bitter price of breaking a sacred promise in the hardest way possible. Only after a great struggle by the townspeople did the children finally return home days later.



THE END

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