Aunt Fox

The Shepherd and the Wolf



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Synopsis

A young shepherd, bored with his routine in the countryside, decides to play tricks on the villagers by pretending that a wolf is attacking his flock.



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AGE	CATEGORY	READING TIME
6-10 years	Fable	4 min

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In a small village, a young boy was tasked with looking after the community’s sheep atop a mountain. The silence of the place and the monotonous routine left him deeply bored. Longing for some excitement, he devised a bold plan.





With no danger in sight, the boy ran toward the village, shouting desperately, "Wolf! Help! A wolf is attacking the sheep!" The villagers dropped their tools and hurried up the hill to save the flock.





Upon reaching the top, the villagers found the sheep calm and the boy rolling on the ground, laughing uncontrollably. Realizing it was a ruse, the adults were indignant and sternly warned him not to joke about serious matters. The boy, however, paid no heed.



Days later, boredom began to plague the young shepherd once again. Forgetting the warnings, he cried out for help once more. The villagers hesitated, but fearing for the sheep, they climbed the mountain again. To everyone’s frustration, it was just another lie.



The villagers returned to their work, furious and disappointed by the boy’s irresponsibility. They spoke among themselves and agreed that they would never again fall for his deceptions, vowing to ignore any future cries for help coming from the hill.



Late the following afternoon, a dark shadow emerged from among the trees. It was a real wolf—hungry and ferocious. The beast lunged violently toward the sheep. Terrified as never before, the young shepherd finally felt the true weight of the danger.



In desperation, the boy screamed with all his might, "Please, help me! A real wolf!" In the village, the residents heard the cries but shook their heads in disdain, assuming it was just another one of the young man’s foolish pranks.



No one came to help. The wolf attacked the flock, and the boy could only weep as he watched the devastation. By nightfall, he had learned the bitter lesson of the fable: no one believes a liar, even when he finally decides to tell the truth.





THE END

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