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Donkey Child

لمعال ليغد

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الممال ليغم \ Donkey Child

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children's stories in Canada's many languages. Storybooks Canada in an effort to provide (africanstorybook.org) and is brought to you by This story originates from the African Storybook



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كانت الفتاة الصغيرة هي أول من رأى الشبح الغامض قادماً من بعيد.

It was a little girl who first saw the mysterious shape in the distance.

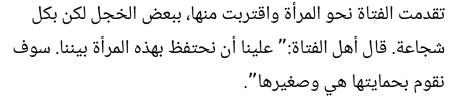


وباقتراب الشكل الغامض منها، تبينت الفتاة بأنه شبح امرأة حامل.

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As the shape moved closer, she saw that it was a heavily pregnant woman.





Shy but brave, the little girl moved nearer to the woman. "We must keep her with us," the little girl's people decided. "We'll keep her and her child safe."



كبر الحمار وأمه معاً ووجدا لنفسيهما سبلاً عديدة للتعايش في سلام جنباً إلى جنب. وشيئاً فشيئاً، بدأت عائلات أخرى تستقر حول الحمار وأمه.

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The donkey child and his mother have grown together and found many ways of living side by side. Slowly, all around them, other families have started to settle.

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وبعد مدة وجيزة حان موعد ولادة المغير. قالت نساء القرية: "هيا الدفعي … هات الفطاء … هلت الماء … الدفعيييييييي …".

The child was soon on its way. "Push!" "Bring blankets!" "Water!" "Puuuuussssshhh!!!"



ولدى رجوعه إلى البيت وجد أمه وحيدة ترثي ابها المفقود. حدق الاثنان في بعمهما لفترة طويلة ثم عانق كل منهما الأخر عناقا حارا.

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Donkey found his mother, alone and mourning her lost child. They stared at each other for a long time. And then hugged each other very hard.

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لكن، وعندما رأت النسوة المولود قفزن إلى الوراء من هول الصدمة "حمار!"

But when they saw the baby, everyone jumped back in shock. "A donkey?!"



عندها، عرف الحمار ما يجب عليه فعله.

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Donkey finally knew what to do.



بدأت النسوة يتجادلن حول المولود الجديد. البعض قلن بأنهن سوف يحتفظن بالمولود وأمه لأنهن وعدنها بذلك، بينما تخوف البعض الأخر من أنهما قد يكونا نذير شؤم على القرية.

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Everyone began to argue. "We said we would keep mother and child safe, and that's what we'll do," said some. "But they will bring us bad luck!" said others.



وجد الغيوم قد اختفت، وكذا صديقه الشيخ.

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... the clouds had disappeared along with his friend, the old man.



وهكذا وجدت المرأة نفسها وحيدة من جديد، تسأل نفسها في حيرة عما يمكن أن تفعله بهذا الطفل الأخرق وبنفسها.

And so the woman found herself alone again. She wondered what to do with this awkward child. She wondered what to do with herself.



وهناك بين السحب، خلد الاثنان إلى النوم. حلم الحمار بأن أمه مريضة وبأنها تناديه. وعندما استفاق من نومه،

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High up amongst the clouds they fell asleep. Donkey dreamed that his mother was sick and calling to him. And when he woke up...

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. فمأ نَ كما يمه و لهنبا بالمعاا اغوة بما إلى قبوا الأمر، فهنا المعار البنها وهي الأن

But finally she had to accept that he was her child and she was his mother.

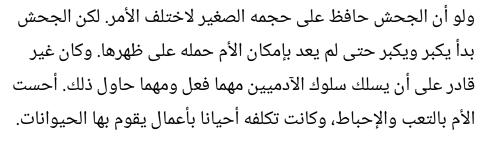


وفي عباح أحد الأيام، طلب الشيخ من الحمار أن يحمله إلى قمة الجبل.

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One morning, the old man asked Donkey to carry him to the top of a mountain.





Now, if the child had stayed that same, small size, everything might have been different. But the donkey child grew and grew until he could no longer fit on his mother's back. And no matter how hard he tried, he could not behave like a human being. His mother was often tired and frustrated. Sometimes she made him do work meant for animals.



انتقل الحمار للعيش مع الشيخ، فعلمه أساليب عديدة للعيش. استمع الاثنان إلى بعضهما وتعلما الكثير من بعضهما وتعاونا وضحكا كثيرا معا.

Donkey went to stay with the old man, who taught him many different ways to survive. Donkey listened and learned, and so did the old man. They helped each other, and they laughed together.



نما بداخل الحمل شعور بالغضب والارتباك. إذ هو لا يعرف ما يفعله ولا من يكون ولا كيف يكون. وفي يوم من الأيام، بلغ الغضب بالحمار منتهاه لدرجة انه ركل أمّه وأوقعها أرضا.

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Confusion and anger built up inside Donkey. He couldn't do this and he couldn't do that. He couldn't be like this and he couldn't be like that. He became so angry that, one day, he kicked his mother to the ground.

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وعندما استفاق من نومه، وجد شيخاً غريباً واقفاً عند رأسه محدقاً فيه. نظر الحمار في عيني الشيخ وبدأ يشعر ببصيص من الأمل.

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Donkey woke up to find a strange old man's eyes down at him. He looked into the old man's eyes and started to feel a twinkle of hope.

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شعر الحمار بعدها بالخجل الشديد لما بدر منه في حق أمه وانبرى هارباً بعيداً.

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Donkey was filled with shame. He started to run away as far and fast as he could.



ولما توقف عن الجري، كان الظلام قد أرخى سدوله على المكان فإذا بالحمار يضيع طريقه وإذا به يهمس للظلام: "هييه … هاو؟" ويردد رجع الصدى: "هييه … هاو؟". وجد الحمار نفسه وحيدا فتكوم على نفسه وخلد إلى نوم عميق مضطرب.

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By the time he stopped running, it was night, and Donkey was lost. "Hee haw?" he whispered to the darkness. "Hee Haw?" it echoed back. He was alone. Curling himself into a tight ball, he fell into a deep and troubled sleep.