

Bilingual
TEXT

with commentary



Scottish Tales Skotské pohádky

Now his wife was a very good cook, and she made the hare into a pot of delicious soup; but she was also very greedy, and while the soup was boiling she tasted it, and tasted it, till at last she discovered that it was almost gone.

Jeho žena byla znamenitá kuchařka a uvařila ze zajíce hrnec vynikající polévky. Byla ale také velice nenasytná, a když se polévka vařila, ochutnávala a ochutnávala, až nakonec zjistila, že skotský lesní hara je téměř pryč.

mírně pokročilí

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Přeložila Lenka Smetanová

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Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, Oxford University Press, 1990.
Karel Hais, Břetislav Hodek: Velký anglicko-český slovník, Academia Praha, 1991.

THE MILK-WHITE DOO

There was once a man who got his living by working in the fields. He had one little son, called Curly-locks, and one little daughter, called Golden-tresses; but his wife was dead, and, as¹ he had to be out all day, these children were often left alone. So, as he was afraid that some evil² might befall³ them when there was no one to look after them, he, in an ill⁴ day, married again.

I say “in an ill day”, for his second wife was a most deceitful woman, who really hated children, although she pretended, before her marriage, to love them. And she was so unkind to them, and made the house so uncomfortable with her bad temper⁵, that her poor husband often sighed to himself, and wished that he had let well alone, and remained a widower.

But it was no use crying over spilt milk; the deed⁶ was done, and he had just to try to make the best of it. So things went on for several years, until the children were beginning to run about out of doors and play by themselves.

Then one day the Goodman chanced to catch a hare, and he brought it home and gave it to his wife to cook for the dinner.

Now⁷ his wife was a very good cook, and she made the hare into a pot of delicious soup; but she was also very greedy, and while the soup was boiling she tasted it, and tasted it, till at last she discovered that it was almost gone⁸. Then she was in a fine state of mind, for⁹ she knew that her husband would

1. **as**, conj.: because, since (usually placed at the beginning of the sentence). *As she wasn't at home, I left a message.* (PROTOŽE)

2. **evil**, n.: wickedness, wrongdoing. *You should return good for evil.* (ZLO, ŠPATNOST). Also: disaster. *War, flood and famine are terrible evils.* (NEŠTĚSTÍ)

3. **befall** (befell, befallen), v.: happen (used only in the 3rd person). *A great misfortune befell him.* (POSTIHNOUT, PŘIHODIT SE, POTKAT, STÁT SE, UDÁT SE)

4. **ill**, adj.: not good, not favourable. *It was a very ill moment for a revolution.* (ŠPATNÝ, NEVHODNÝ, ZLÝ)

5. **temper**, n.: state of mind (as regards anger or calmness); ten-

SNĚHOBÍLÝ HOLOUBEK

Byl jednou jeden muž, který si vydělával na živobytí prací na poli. Měl synka jménem Kudrnáček a dcerku jménem Zlatovláska. Jeho žena už ale nežila, a protože musel být celý den venku, byly jeho děti často doma samy. A tak, protože se bál, aby se jim nepříhodilo něco zlého, když na ně zrovna nikdo nedává pozor, rozhodl se jednoho nešťastného dne, že se znovu ožení.

Říkám „jednoho nešťastného dne“, protože jeho druhá žena byla ta nejprohnanější ženská, jakou si dovedete představit – před svatbou předstírala, že miluje děti, ale ve skutečnosti je nenáviděla. A byla na ně tak zlá a kvůli její špatné náladě bylo v celém domě tak nepříjemně, že si ten ubohý muž často stýskal a přál si, aby se byl býval znovu neženil a zůstal vdovcem.

Už bylo ale pozdě plakat nad rozlitym mlékem. Už se stalo a on se musel snažit, aby to alespoň trochu šlo. Tak žili několik let, dokud děti nezačaly běhat kolem domu a hrát si samy.

Jednoho dne se tomu dobrému muži podařilo chytit zajíce. Přinesl ho domů a dal ho své ženě, aby ho udělala k obědu.

Jeho žena byla znamenitá kuchařka a uvařila ze zajíce hrnec vynikající polévky. Byla ale také velice nenasytná, a když se polévka vařila, ochutnávala a ochutnávala, až zjistila, že skoro všechno snědla. A měla z toho tuze špat-

dency to become angry easily. *He was in a very bad temper that day.* (NÁLADA, ROZPOLOŽENÍ; VÝBUŠNÁ POVAHA)

6. deed, n.: act, thing done. *Deeds are better than words when you need help.* (SKUTEK, ČIN)

7. now, adv.: used by the speaker without reference to time, to continue a narrative, request, etc. *Now the next thing we did was to have a cup of coffee.* (TAK, TAK TEDY, HELEĎ)

8. be gone, v.: disappear, vanish, cease to exist. *Has your headache gone yet?* (ZMIZET, ZTRATIT SE; UBÝVAT)

9. for, conj.: because (dated or formal; not used at the beginning of sentence). *He didn't come for it might be dangerous.* (NEBOT)

soon be coming home for his dinner, and that she would have nothing to set before him.

So what do you think the wicked¹ woman did? She went out to the door, where her little stepson, Curly-locks, was playing in the sun, and told him to come in and get his face washed². And while she was washing his face, she struck him on the head with a hammer and stunned³ him, and popped⁴ him into the pot to make soup for his father's dinner.

By and by the Goodman came in from his work, and the soup was dished up; and he, and his wife, and his little daughter, Golden-tresses, sat down to sup⁵ it.

"Where's Curly-locks?" asked the Goodman. "It's a pity he is not here while the soup is hot."

"How should I ken⁶ where he is?" answered his wife crossly. "I have other work to do than to run about after a mischievous laddie⁷ all the morning."

The Goodman went on supping his soup in silence for some minutes; then he lifted up a little foot in his spoon.

"This is Curly-locks' foot," he cried in horror. "There's been ill work here."

"Hoots, havers," answered his wife, laughing, pretending to be very much amused. "What should Curly-locks' foot be doing in the soup? 'Tis the hare's forefoot, which is very like that of a bairn⁹."

But presently the Goodman took something else up in his spoon.

"This is Curly-locks' hand," he said shrilly. "I ken it by the crook in its little finger."

1. wicked, adj.: morally bad, sinful or evil. *It was wicked of you to kill the beetle.* (ZLÝ, ŠPATNÝ, OŠKLIVÝ). Also: intended to harm or capable of harming. *There were some wicked weeds in the garden.* (ŠKODLIVÝ, NEBEZPEČNÝ)

2. get his face **washed**, v.: **get** sth **done** = have sth done. *I will have to get this book bound.* (DÁT SI NĚCO UDĚLAT)

3. stun, v.: make a person or an animal unconscious by a blow, esp to the head. *She sat stunned for a while, until she recovered.* (OMRÁČIT). Also: shock with sth unexpected. *They were really stunned by the news.* (OHROMIT, KONSTERNOVAT)

nou náladu, protože věděla, že její muž přijde co nevidět domů na oběd a ona nebude mít, co by před něj postavila.

Co si tedy myslíte, že ta špatná žena udělala? Vyšla ven přede dveře, kde si hrál na sluníčku její nevlastní synek Kudrnáček, a řekla mu, aby šel dovnitř, že mu umyje obličej. A když mu myla obličej, praštila ho do hlavičky kladívkem, omráčila ho a vrazila ho do hrnce, aby z něj udělala polévku pro otce k obědu.

Za chvíli přišel muž z práce. Polévka byla na stole a on, jeho žena a dcerka Zlatovláska si sedli ke stolu.

„Kde je Kudrnáček?“ zeptal se hospodář. „To je škoda, že tu není, dokud je polévka horká.“

„Jak mám vědět, kde je?“ odpověděla mu žena mrzutě. „Mám na práci jiné věci než běhat celé dopoledne za nezbedným malým klukem.“

Hospodář chvilku jedl tiše polévku. Potom na lžici uviděl malou nožičku.

„To je Kudrnáčková nožička!“ vykřikl s hrůzou. „Tady se přihodilo něco špatného!“

„Láry fáry,“ odvětila jeho žena, smála se a předstírala, že ji to ohromně pobavilo. „Co by dělala Kudrnáčková noha v polévce? To je přece zaječí přední noha, a ta bývá velice podobná noze klučičí.“

Ale hospodář za chvíličky vytáhl z polévky něco jiného.

„To je Kudrnáčková ručička!“ zakřičel. „Poznám ji podle toho záhybu na malíčku!“

4. pop sth into, v.: put or take sth somewhere quickly or suddenly. *She popped the tart into the oven.* (VSTRČIT, VRAZIT, VSUNOUT)

5. sup, v.: (archaic) eat supper. *They supped off cold meat.* (VEČERET)

6. ken (kenned or kent, kenned), v.: (Scottish) know. (ZNÁT, POZNAT)

7. laddie, n.: (informal, esp Scottish) boy, young man. Also **laddy** (MLADÍK, HOCH, CHLAPEC)

8. 'Tis: (archaic or rhetorical) it is (TO JE)

9. bairn, n.: (Scottish) child. (DÍTĚ)

“The man’s demented,” retorted his wife, “not to ken the hind foot of a hare when he sees it!”

So the poor father did not say any more, but went away back to his work, sorely perplexed in his mind; while his little daughter, Golden-tresses¹, who had a shrewd suspicion of what had happened, gathered all the bones from the empty plates, and, carrying them away in her apron, buried them beneath² a flat stone, close by a white rose tree that grew by the cottage door.

And, lo and behold³! those poor bones, which she buried with such care –

*“Grew and grew,
To a milk-white Doo,
That took its wings,
And away it flew.”*

And at last it lighted on a tuft⁴ of grass by a burnside, where two women were washing clothes. It sat there cooing⁵ to itself for some time; then it sang this song softly to them:

*“Pew, pew,
My mimmie⁶ me slew,
My daddy me chew,
My sister gathered my banes⁷,
And put them between two milk-white stanes⁸.
And I grew and grew
To a milk-white Doo,
And I took to my wings and away I flew.”*

1. **tresses**, n.: long hair, esp of a woman. *She was combing her long tresses.* (VLASY, KADERÉ)

2. **beneath**, prep.: in or to a lower position than sb/sth; under. *The boat sank beneath the waves.* (POD)

3. **behold** (beheld, beheld), v.: (archaic or rhetorical) see. *Behold the king!* (SPATŘIT, HLEDĚT). **Lo and behold!**: (idiom) used to indicate surprise. (EJHLE!)

4. **tuft**, n.: bunch of hair, feathers, grass, etc, growing or held together at the base. *She found a tuft of hair that wasn’t hers.* (CHOMÁČ, CHUCHVALEC, TRS)

„Ten chlap se snad zbláznil,“ odsekla mu žena, „nepoznám zadní zaječící nohu, když ji vidí na vlastní oči.“

A tak už ubohý otec nic neříkal a šel zpátky do práce velice zmatený. Jeho dceruška Zlatovláska, která byla chytrá a tušila, co se stalo, ale zatím posbírala z prázdných talířů všechny kosti, odnesla je v zástěrcce ven a pohřbila je pod plochý kámen nedaleko keře růží, který rostl u dveří chalupy.

A ejhle! Ty ubohé kosti, které tak pečlivě pohřbila

*„rostly a rostly,
až z nich vyrostl sněhobílý holoubek,
který zamával křídly
a odletěl pryč.“*

A nakonec usedl na trs trávy blízko místa, kde praly dvě ženy prádlo. Seděl tam a chvíli si jen tak vrkal. Potom jim jemně zazpíval tuhle písničku:

*„Tralali, tralala,
macecha mě zabila,
tatínkovi upekla,
sestra kosti sebrala,
mezi dva sněhobílé kameny vložila.
A já jsem rostl a rostl,
až se ze mě stal sněhobílý holoubek,
a zamával jsem křídly a odletěl pryč.“*

5. coo, v.: (of a dove or pigeon) make its characteristic soft cry. (VRKAT). Also: make a soft murmuring sound. *He heard a baby cooing in the garden.* (VRNĚT)

6. mimmie, n.: mommy, mummy (used mainly by young children); mother. (MAMINKA)

7. banes, n.: (here: used to indicate Scottish pronunciation) bones. (KOSTI)

8. stanes, n.: (here: used to indicate Scottish pronunciation) stones. (KAMENY)

The women stopped washing and looked at one another in astonishment¹. It was not every day that they came across² a bird that could sing a song like that, and they felt that there was something not canny³ about it.

“Sing that song again, my bonnie⁴ bird,” said one of them at last, “and we’ll give you all these clothes!”

So the bird sang its song over again, and the washerwomen gave it all the clothes, and it tucked them under its right wing, and flew on.

Presently it came to a house where all the windows were open, and it perched⁵ on one of the window-sills, and inside it saw a man counting out a great heap of silver.

And, sitting on the window-sill, it sang its song to him:

*“Pew, pew,
My mimmie me slew,
My daddy me chew,
My sister gathered my banes,
And put them between two milk-white stanes.
And I grew and grew
To a milk-white Doo,
And I took to my wings and away I flew.”*

The man stopped counting his silver, and listened. He felt, like the washerwomen, that there was something not canny about this Doo. When it had finished its song, he said:

“Sing that song again, my bonnie bird, and I’ll give you a’⁶ this siller⁷ in a bag.”

1. astonishment, n.: great surprise. *To my astonishment he didn't do anything!* (ÚDIV, ŮŽAS)

2. come (came, come) **across**, v.: meet or find sb/sth by chance. *I came across an old school friend this morning.* (NARAZIT na někoho/něco, NÁHODOU POTKAT)

3. canny, adj.: (Scottish) natural. (PŘIROZENÝ, POZEMSKÝ). Also: shrewd and careful. *He was really canny about business matters.* (OPATRŇÝ, ŠETRNÝ, OBEZŘELÝ)

4. bonnie, adj.: (esp Scottish) also **bonny**: attractive or beautiful;

Ženy přestaly prát a s úžasem se na sebe podívaly. Nestávalo se jim každý den, aby narazily na ptáčka, který by uměl zazpívat takovou písničku, a cítily, že v tom bude něco podivného.

„Zazpívej nám tu písničku ještě jednou, milý ptáčku,“ řekla nakonec jedna z nich, „a my ti dáme všechny tyhle šaty.“

A tak ptáček přezpíval svou písničku ještě jednou, pradeny mu za to daly všechno prádlo a ptáček si ho schoval pod pravé křídlo a letěl dál.

Zanedlouho přiletěl k domu, který měl všechna okna otevřená, posadil se na římsu a uvnitř uviděl muže, který přepočítával velkou hromadu stříbrných mincí.

A jak seděl na okenní římse, zazpíval mu svou písničku:

*„Tralali, tralala,
macecha mě zabila,
tatínkovi upekla,
sestra kosti sebrala,
mezi dva sněhobílé kameny vložila.
A já jsem rostl a rostl,
až se ze mě stal sněhobílý holoubek,
a zamával jsem křídly a odletěl pryč.“*

Muž přestal počítat své stříbro a poslouchal. Stejně jako pradenám se mu zdálo, že s tím holoubkem není něco v pořádku. Když dozpíval, muž mu řekl:

„Zazpívej mi tu písničku ještě jednou, milý ptáčku, a já ti dám všechno stříbro, co je v tomhle pytli.“

healthy-looking. *Her sister was a bonny girl.* (ROZMILÝ, MILÝ, ŠVARNÝ, PĚKNÝ; ZDRAVÝ)

5. perch, v.: (of a bird) come to rest or stay (on a branch, etc). *The birds perched on the television aerial.* (SEDĚT, SLETĚT A POSADIT SE)

6. a', indef. det.: abbr. form of **all** (here: to indicate Scottish pronunciation). (VŠECHEN, CELÝ)

7. siller, n.: (here: used to indicate Scottish pronunciation) silver. (STŘÍBRO)

So the Doo sang its song over again, and got the bag of silver, which it tucked¹ under its left wing. Then it flew on.

It had not flown very far, however, before it came to a mill where two millers were grinding corn². And it settled down on a sack of meal³ and sang its song to them.

*“Pew, pew,
My mimmie me slew,
My daddy me chew,
My sister gathered my banes,
And put them between two milk-white stanes.
And I grew and grew
To a milk-white Doo,
And I took to my wings and away I flew.”*

The millers stopped their work, and looked at one another, scratching their heads in amazement.

“Sing that song over again, my bonnie bird!” exclaimed both of them together when the Doo had finished, “and we will give you this millstone.”

So the Doo repeated its song, and got the millstone, which it asked one of the millers to lift on to its back; then it flew out of the mill, and up the valley, leaving the two men staring after it dumb⁴ with astonishment.

As you may think, the milk-white Doo had a heavy load⁵ to carry, but it went bravely on till it came within⁶ sight of its father’s cottage, and lighted down at last on the thatched roof.

Then it laid⁷ its burdens⁸ on the thatch, and, flying down

1. tuck, v.: draw sth together into a small space. *The bird tucked his head under its wing.* (SCHOVAT, ZASTRČIT). Also: push or fold or turn the ends or edges (of cloth, paper, etc) so that they are hidden or held in place. *Tuck your trousers into your boots.* (ZASTRČIT, ZANDAT, VSUNOUT)

2. corn, n.: (seed of) various grain plants, chiefly wheat, oats, rye and maize. *We went through a field of corn.* (OBILÍ, ZRNÍ). In American English: maize. (KUKUŘICE)

3. meal, n.: coarsely ground grain. *She baked delicious oatmeal cakes.* (hrubě mletá MOUKA)

4. dumb, adj.: unable to speak. *She’s been dumb from birth.*

A tak holoubek přezpíval svou píseň ještě jednou a dostal pytel stříbra, který si schoval pod levé křídlo. Potom letěl dál.

Neletěl ale daleko, a už byl u mlýna, kde dva mlynáři mleli obilí. Usadil se na pytli mouky a zazpíval jim svou písničku.

*„Tralali, tralala,
macecha mě zabila,
tatínkovi upekla,
sestra kosti sebrala,
mezi dva sněhobílé kameny vložila.
A já jsem rostl a rostl,
až se ze mě stal sněhobílý holoubek,
a zamával jsem křídly a odletěl pryč.“*

Mlynáři přestali pracovat, podívali se na sebe a překvapeně se podrbili za uchem.

„Zazpívej tu písničku ještě jednou, milý ptáčku!“ zvolali oba najednou, když holoubek dozpíval, „a my ti dáme tenhle mlýnský kámen.“

A tak holoubek spustil ještě jednou a dostal mlýnský kámen. Požádal jednoho mlynáře, aby mu ho naložil na záda, a potom vyletěl ze mlýna a zamířil do údolí, zatímco ti dva muži za ním civěli celí tumpachoví.

Určitě si pomyslíte, že ten náklad byl pro sněhobílého holoubka hrozně těžký, ale nesl ho statečně, až doletěl na dohled k otcově chaloupce a nakonec se snesl na doškovou střechu.

(NĚMÝ). Also: stupid. (HLOUPÝ, PROSTODUCHÝ)

5. load, n.: thing that is being carried or is to be carried, esp if heavy. *He had a heavy load on his shoulders.* (NÁKLAD, BŘÍMĚ)

6. within, prep.: not further than (the specified distance), inside the range or limits of sth. *There is a bell within the patient's reach.* (V, V RÁMCI, V MEZÍCH něčeho)

7. lay (laid, laid), v.: place sth in a certain position on a surface. *I laid the book on the table.* (POLOŽIT)

8. burden, n.: thing or person that is carried, heavy load. *They carried a burden of firewood.* (BŘEMENO, BŘÍMĚ, TÍHA)

to the courtyard, picked up a number of little chuckie stones. With them in its beak it flew back to the roof, and began to throw them down the chimney.

By this time¹ it was evening, and the Goodman and his wife, and his little daughter, Golden-tresses, were sitting round the table eating their supper. And you may be sure that they were all very much startled² when the stones came rattling down the chimney, bringing such a³ cloud of soot with them that they were almost smothered. They all jumped up from their chairs, and ran outside to see what the matter was.

And Golden-tresses, being the littlest, ran the fastest, and when she came out at the door the milk-white Doo flung⁴ the bundle of clothes down at her feet.

And the father came out next, and the milk-white Doo flung the bag of silver down at his feet.

But the wicked stepmother, being somewhat⁵ stout⁶, came out last, and the milk-white Doo threw the millstone right down on her head and killed her.

Then it spread its wings and flew away, and has never been seen again; but it had made the Goodman and his daughter rich for life, and it had rid⁷ them of the cruel stepmother, so that they lived in peace and plenty⁸ for the remainder of their days.

1. by this time: by now. (TEĎ UŽ). Also: not later than, before. *By this time next week we shall be in London.* (TOUTO DOBOU)

2. startle, v.: give a sudden shock or a surprise to a person or an animal. *He had a startled look on his face.* (nepříjemně PŘEKVAPIT, PODĚSIT, VYLEKAT)

3. such, det.: (referring forward) of the specified kind. *The knot was fastened in such a way that it was impossible to undo.* (TAKOVÝ)

4. fling (flung flung), v.: throw sth violently, angrily or hurriedly. *They started to fling stones at his window.* (prudce HODIT, MRŠTIT, PRAŠTIT čím)

Potom ten náklad položil na došky, slétl na dvůr a do zobáčku posbíral spoustu malých kamínků. S nimi vylétl zpátky na střechu a začal je házet dolů komínem.

To už byl večer a hospodář se ženou a dceruškou Zlatovláskou seděli u stolu a večeřeli. A můžete na to vzít jed, že se všichni pěkně polekali, když se z komína začaly sypat kamínky a s nimi se vyvalil takový oblak sazí, že se málem zadusili. Všichni vyskočili ze židlí a utíkali se ven podívat, co se to děje.

A Zlatovláska, protože byla nejmenší, běžela nejrychleji, a když byla u dveří, sněhobílý holoubek jí k nohám shodil ranec šatů.

Jako další vyběhl ven otec a sněhobílý holoubek mu k nohám shodil pytel stříbra.

Ale zlá macecha byla trochu podsaditá, a tak vyběhla poslední a sněhobílý holoubek jí shodil mlýnský kámen přímo na hlavu a zabil ji.

Potom roztáhl křídla a odletěl a už ho nikdy nikdo neviděl. Ale hospodáři a jeho dcerce zajistil dost bohatství na celý život a zbavil je kruté macechy, takže mohli žít v klidu a hojnosti až do konce svých dní.

5. somewhat, adv.: to some degree, rather. *He answered somewhat nervously.* (PONĚKUD, TROCHU)

6. stout, adj.: of a person: rather fat, solidly built. *He's going rather stout.* (TLUSTÝ, ZAVALITÝ, PODSADITÝ, SILNÝ)

7. rid (rid, rid) sb/sth of sb/sth, v.: make sb/sth free from sb/sth unpleasant or unwanted. *I really don't know what could rid the house of mice.* (ZBAVIT se čeho, VYSVOBODIT od čeho). More often: **get rid** of sb/sth: become free of sb/sth. (ZBAVIT se čeho)

8. plenty, n.: number or amount that is sufficient for sb or more than sb needs, abundance. *We had food and drink in plenty.* (SPOUSTA, HOJNOST, VELKÉ MNOŽSTVÍ, NADBYTEK)

THE WELL O' THE WORLD'S END

There was once an old widow woman, who lived in a little cottage with her only¹ daughter, who was such a bonnie lassie² that everyone liked to look at her.

One day the old woman took a notion³ into her head to bake a girdleful⁴ of cakes. So she took down her bakingboard, and went to the meal-chest⁵ and fetched a basinful⁶ of meal; but when she went to seek a jug of water to mix the meal with, she found that there was none in the house.

So she called to her daughter, who was in the garden; and when the girl came she held out the empty jug to her, saying, "Run, like a good lassie, to the Well o' ⁷ the World's End and bring me a jug of water, for I have long found that water from the Well o' the World's End makes the best cakes."

So the lassie took the jug and set out on her errand⁸.

Now, as its name shows, it is a long road to that well, and many a weary⁹ mile had the poor maid to go ere¹⁰ she reached it.

But she arrived there at last; and what was her disappointment to find it dry.

She was so tired and so vexed that she sat down beside it and began to cry; for she did not know where to get any more water, and she felt that she could not go back to her mother with an empty jug.

While she was crying, a nice yellow paddock, with very bright eyes, came jump-jump-jumping over the stones of the

1. **only**, adj.: with no other of the same group, style, etc, existing or present; sole. *We were the only people there.* (JEDINÝ)

2. **lassie**, n.: also **lass**; girl, young woman (esp in Scotland). *When she was just a lassie of ten, her mother died.* (DĚVČE, MLADÁ ŽENA)

3. **notion**, n.: idea or belief; concept. *He has no notion of what that means.* (NÁPAD, PŘEDSTAVA)

4. **girdle**, n.: Scottish form of **griddle**: circular iron plate heated for cooking flat cakes. (PLOTĚNKA na pečení)

5. **chest**, n.: large strong box for storing things in. *Someone has stolen the jewel-chest!* (TRUHLA, SKŘÍNKA)

STUDNA NA KONCI SVĚTA

Byla jednou jedna stará vdova, která žila v malé chaloupce se svou jedinou dcerou, a to vám bylo tak pěkné děvče, že byla radost se na ni podívat.

Jednoho dne si ta stařenka vzala do hlavy, že upeče plnou plotnu lívanečků. A tak si na stůl připravila vál a potom šla do spíže a přinesla mísu mouky. Když ale chtěla přinést džbánky vody, aby ji smíchala s tou moukou, zjistila, že doma žádnou nemá.

Zavolala tedy svou dceru, která byla právě na zahradě. A když děvče přišlo, podala mu prázdný džbánek a řekla: „Buď tak hodná a dojdi mi ke studně na konci světa pro džbánek vody. Už dávno jsem totiž zjistila, že voda ze studny na konci světa je na lívance nejlepší.“

A tak si děvče vzalo džbánek a vydalo se pro vodu.

A jak už napovídá její jméno, je k téhle studně pěkně daleká cesta, a tak muselo ubohé děvče ujít hodně mil, než k ní dorazilo.

Nakonec ke studně přece jen došlo. Jaké bylo ale dívčino zklamání, když zjistila, že je studna vyschlá!

Byla tak unavená a tak rozladěná, že se posadila ke studně a začala plakat, protože neměla tušení, odkud by mohla vodu přinést, a věděla, že s prázdným džbánkem se nemůže domů k matce vrátit.

A jak tam tak plakala, vyskočil ze studny pěkný žlutý

6. basin, n.: round open bowl for holding liquids or for preparing food in. *You have to mix milk with flower in a basin.* (MÍSA, MISKA)

7. o' = of; used in compounds. *I'd like a cup-o'-tea.*

8. errand, n.: short journey to take a message or deliver goods, etc; object or purpose of such a journey. *I've come on a special errand.* (POCHŮZKA, OBSÍLKA)

9. weary, adj.: causing tiredness or boredom. *It was a weary journey.* (ÚNAVNÝ)

10. ere, conj.: (archaic or rhetorical) before. *Wait for me, I will come ere long.* (dříve NEŽ)

well, and squatted down at her feet, looking up into her face.

“And why are ye¹ crying, my bonnie maid?”² he asked. “Is there anything I can do to help you?”

“I am crying because the well is empty,” she answered, “and I cannot get any water to carry home to my mother.”

“Listen,” said the paddock softly³. “I can get you water in plenty, if you’ll promise to be my wife.”

Now the lassie had but one thought in her head, and that was to get the water for her mother’s oatcakes, and she never for a moment thought that the paddock was serious, so she promised gladly enough to be his wife, if he would just get her a jug of water.

No sooner had the words passed her lips than the beastie⁴ jumped down the mouth of the well, and in another moment it was full to the brim with water.

The lassie filled her jug and carried it home, without troubling any more about the matter. But late that night, just as⁵ her mother and she were going to bed, something came with a faint “thud, thud” against the cottage door, and then they heard a tiny little wee⁶ voice singing:

*“Oh, open the door, my hinnie⁷, my heart,
Oh, open the door, my ain⁸ true love;
Remember the promise that you and I made
Down i’⁹ the meadow, where we two met.”*

“Wheesh!” said the old woman, raising her head. “What noise is that at the door?”

1. **ye**, pron.: (informal) you. *What d’ye think?* (TY). Also: (archaic, rhetorical) you (as plural of **thou**). *Oh ye of little faith!* (VY)

2. **maid**, n.: (archaic) young unmarried woman; girl. *The maid fell in love with the young man.* (DÍVKA, PANNA). Also: woman servant. *We have a maid to do the housework.* (SLUŽEBNÁ, SLUŽKA)

3. **softly**, adv.: in a quiet and subdued way. *“I love you,” she whispered softly.* (TIŠE, JEMNĚ, TLUMENĚ)

4. **beastie**, n.: = **beast**: (dated or formal) animal, esp a large four-footed one. *The lion is called the king of beasts.* (ZVÍŘE)

žabák se zářivýma očkama. Usadil se dívce u nohou a podíval se jí do tváře.

„Pročpak pláčeš, milá děvenko?“ zeptal se. „Mohl bych ti snad nějak pomoci?“

„Pláču, protože studna je prázdná,“ odpověděla dívka, „a já teď nemohu mamince přinést domů vodu.“

„Poslouchej mne,“ řekl žabák potichu. „Mohu ti obstarat spoustu vody, když mi slíbíš, že se staneš mojí ženou.“

Dívka v té chvíli nemyslela na nic jiného, než jak mamince přinést vodu na lívanečky, a ani ve snu ji nenapadlo, že by to žabák mohl myslet vážně, a tak mu ochotně slíbila, že se stane jeho ženou, jenom když jí přinese džbánec vody.

Ještě jí ani celý slib nevyšel ze rtů, a zvířátko už skočilo do studny a za další chvíli se studna naplnila vodou až po okraj.

Děvče naplnilo džbánec a odneslo si ho domů; na celou příhodu si už ani nevzpomnělo. Ale pozdě večer, právě když se s matkou chystaly ke spánku, ozvalo se u dveří chaloupky nesmělé „buch, buch“ a potom uslyšely, jak nějaký slaboulinký hlásek zpívá:

*„Ach, otevři mi dveře, mé zlatíčko, mé srdíčko,
ach otevři mi dveře, má milovaná holčičko;
vzpomeň si, vzpomeň, co jsme si slíbili
tam daleko v lukách, kde jsme se potkali.“*

„Psst,“ řekla stařenka a zvedla hlavu. „Copak to je u dveří za hluk?“

5. as, conj.: during the time when; while. *I watched her as she combed her hair.* (KDYŽ)

6. wee, adj.: very small, tiny. *I'll have a wee drop of cream in my coffee.* (MALÍČKÝ, NEPATRNÝ)

7. hinnie, n.: (here: used to indicate Scottish pronunciation) honey: used to address or refer to a person one loves or likes. *You look great, honey!* (MILÁČEK, DRAHOŠEK, ZLATÍČKO)

8. ain, adj.: (Scottish) own. (VLASTNÍ, OSOBNÍ)

9. i', prep.: (here: used to indicate Scottish pronunciation) in (V, VE, NA)

“Oh,” said her daughter, who was feeling rather frightened, “it’s only a yellow paddock.”

“Poor bit beastie,” said the kind-hearted old mother. “Open the door and let him in. It’s cold work sitting on the doorstep.”

So the lassie, very unwillingly, opened the door, and the paddock came jump-jump-jumping across the kitchen, and sat down at the fireside.

And while he sat there he began to sing this song:

*“Oh, gie¹ me my supper, my hinnie, my heart,
Oh, gie me my supper, my ain true love;
Remember the promise that you and I made
Down i’ the meadow, where we two met.”*

“Gie the poor beast his supper,” said the old woman. “He’s an uncommon paddock that can sing like that.”

“Tut²,” replied her daughter crossly, for she was growing³ more and more frightened as she saw the creature’s bright black eyes fixed on her face. “I’m not going to be so silly as to feed a wet, sticky paddock.”

“Don’t be ill-natured⁴ and cruel,” said her mother. “Who knows how far the little beastie has travelled? And I warrant⁵ that it would like a saucerful⁶ of milk.”

Now, the lassie could have told her that the paddock had travelled from the Well o’ the World’s End; but she held her tongue, and went into the pantry⁷, and brought back a saucerful of milk, which she set down before the strange little visitor.

1. to gie, v.: (here: used to indicate Scottish pronunciation) give (DÁT)

2. tut, interj.: way of showing the sound made by touching the top of one’s mouth with the tongue to express disapproval, annoyance, etc. *Tut-tut, the boy is late again!* (vyjadřuje netrpělivost, rozhořčení, nedůvěru; C C; NESMYSL)

3. she was **growing** frightened: to grow (grew, grown): become gradually. *It began to grow dark.* (ve spojení s přídavným jménem vyjadřuje ponenáhlou změnu)

„Ale,“ odvětila dcera, která byla docela vylekaná, „to je jen nějaký žlutý žabák.“

„Ubohé stvoření,“ pomyslela si ta dobrosrdečná žena. „Běž otevřít a pusť ho dovnitř. Venku je zima a není nic příjemného sedět tam na schodech.“

A tak šlo děvče velmi neochotně otevřít dveře. Žabák přeskákal přes kuchyň a usadil se u krbu.

A jak tam tak seděl, začal zpívat takovouhle písničku:

*„Ach, podej mi večeri, mé zlatíčko, mé srdíčko,
ach, podej mi večeri, má milovaná holčičko;
vzpomeň si, vzpomeň, co jsme si slíbili
tam daleko v lukách, kde jsme se potkali.“*

„Dej tomu ubohému stvoření večeri,“ řekla stařenka. „Nebude to žádný obyčejný žabák, když umí takhle zpívat.“

„To určitě,“ odvětila dívka podrážděně, neboť byla stále vyděšenější, když viděla, jak na ni to stvoření upírá svá zářivá očka. „Nebudu přece tak hloupá, abych krmila mokrého, slizkého žabáka.“

„Nebud' tak zlomyslná a krutá,“ napomenula ji matka. „Kdoví z jaké dálky k nám to ubohé stvoření přišlo! A vsadila bych se, že by nepohrdlo talířkem mléka.“

Dcera jí samozřejmě mohla říci, že žabák přišel až od studny na konci světa; ale držela jazyk za zuby, šla do komory, přinesla talířek mléka a postavila ho před podivného malého návštěvníka.

4. ill-natured, adj.: bad-tempered, unkind. *It was a very ill-natured comment.* (ZLÝ, ZLOMYSLNÝ; MRZUTÝ)

5. I warrant: (dated) I assure or promise you. *The trouble isn't over yet, I warrant you.* (ZA TO RUČÍM, ZARUČENĚ, VSAĎTE SE)

6. saucer, n.: small shallow curved dish on which a cup stands. *Where's my cup and saucer?* (TALÍŘEK, MISKA, PODŠÁLEK)

7. pantry, n.: small room in a house where food is kept; larder. *The sugar is in the pantry.* (SPÍŽ, SPIŽÍRNA). Also: (in a hotel, ship, large house) room where glass, silver, table linen, etc are kept. (KOMORA sloužící k úschově příborů a stolního prádla)

*“Now chap off my head, my hinnie, my heart,
Now chap off my head, my ain true love,
Remember the promise that you and I made
Down i’ the meadow, where we two met.”*

“Hout, havers, pay no heed¹, the creature’s daft²,” exclaimed the old woman, running forward to stop her daughter, who was raising the axe to chop off the paddock’s head. But she was too late; down came the axe, off went the head; and, lo and behold! on the spot where the little creature had sat, stood the handsomest young Prince that had ever been seen.

He wore such a noble air³, and was so richly dressed, that the astonished girl and her mother would have fallen on their knees before⁴ him had he not prevented them⁵ by a movement of his hand.

“It is I that should kneel to you, Sweetheart,” he said, turning to the blushing girl, “for you have delivered⁶ me from a fearful spell, which was cast over me in my infancy by a wicked fairy, who at the same time slew⁷ my father. For long years I have lived in that well, the Well o’ the World’s End, waiting for a maiden to appear, who should take pity on me, even in my loathsome⁸ disguise, and promise to be my wife – a maiden who would also have the kindness to let me into her house, and the courage, at my bidding⁹, to cut off my head.

“Now I can return and claim¹⁰ my father’s kingdom, and you, most gracious maiden, will go with me, and be my bride, if you will have me.”

And this was how the lassie who went to fetch water from the Well o’ the World’s End became a princess.

1. **heed**, n.: (formal) careful attention. **pay heed to**: (idiom) take careful notice of sb/sth. (DÁVAT POZOR, DBÁT čeho)

2. **daft**, adj.: (informal) foolish, silly. *Don’t be so daft!* (HLOUPÝ, PITOMÝ, BLBÝ). **go daft over sb** (ZBLÁZNIT SE do někoho)

3. **air**, n.: impression given; appearance or manner. *The place has an air of mystery.* (VZEZŘENÍ, VNĚJŠÍ ZDÁNÍ; CHOVÁNÍ)

4. **before**, prep.: (with reference to position) in front of sb/sth. *We knelt before the throne.* (PŘED). More often used as preposition relating to time. *It was the day before my birthday.*

5. **had he not prevented them**: = If he hadn’t prevented them.

*„A teď mi setni hlavu, mé zlatíčko, mé srdíčko,
teď mi setni hlavu, má milovaná holčičko;
vzpomeň si, vzpomeň, co jsme si slíbili
tam daleko v lukách, kde jsme se potkali.“*

„Láry, fáry! Nevšímej si toho, to stvoření je hloupé,“ vykřikla stařenka a rozeběhla se, aby zastavila svou dceru, která už zvedala sekeru, aby žabákovi usekla hlavu. Už bylo ale pozdě – sekera dopadla, hlava odskočila, a ejhle! Na místě, kde předtím sedělo to stvoření, stál teď ten nejpohlednější princ, jakého jste kdy viděli.

Vypadal tak vznešeně a byl tak bohatě oděný, že ohromená dívka i její matka by před ním byly padly na kolena, kdyby jim v tom pokynutím ruky nezabránil.

„To já bych před tebou měl pokleknout, má drahá,“ obrátil se na uzardělou dívku, „protože jsi ze mne sejmula hroznou kletbu, již na mne v dětství uvalila zlá víla, která tehdy také zabila mého otce. Dlouhá léta jsem žil ve studně, v té studně na konci světa, a čekal jsem, až se objeví dívka, která se nade mnou slituje i v té ohavné podobě a slíbí mi, že se stane mou ženou. Ta dívka také musela být tak laskavá, aby mě pustila do svého domu, a tak odvážná, aby mi usekla hlavu, až jí řeknu.“

Nyní se mohu vrátit domů a ujmout se otcova království. A ty, laskavé děvče, půjdeš se mnou a staneš se mou nevěstou, budeš-li mne chtít.“

A tak se tedy děvče, které šlo jednou pro vodu do studny na konci světa, stalo princeznou.

6. to deliver sb from sth, v.: to rescue sb, save sb, free sb. *May God deliver us from evil.* (OSVOBODIT, ZACHRÁNIT, ZBAVIT koho od čeho)

7. slay (slew, slain), v.: kill (esp an enemy) in a violent way. *Many soldiers were slain in the battle.* (ZABÍT, ZAVRAŽDIT)

8. loathsome, adj.: causing one to feel disgusted or shocked, repulsive. *What a loathsome creature he is!* (ODPORNÝ, OHAVNÝ)

9. bidding, n.: (formal) command, order. *At his father's bidding he wrote to the lawyer.* (PŘÍKAZ, ROZKAZ, NÁŘÍZENÍ)

10. claim, v.: demand or request sth because it is or one believes it is one's right or one's property. *After the Duke's death, his eldest son claimed the title.* (ČINIT si nebo UPLATŇOVAT NÁROK)

THE SEAL CATCHER AND THE MERMAN

Once upon a time there was a man who lived not very far from John-o'-Groat's House, which, as everyone knows, is in the far north of Scotland. He lived in a little cottage by the sea-shore, and made his living by catching seals and selling their fur, which in those days was very valuable.

He earned a good deal¹ of money in this way², for these creatures used to come out of the sea in large numbers, and lie on the rocks near his house basking³ in the sunshine, so that it was not difficult to creep up behind them and kill them.

Some of those seals were larger than others, and the country people used to⁴ call them "Roane"⁵, and whisper that they were not seals at all, but mermen and merwomen, who came from a country of their own, far down under the ocean, who assumed⁶ this strange disguise in order that they might pass through the water, and come up to breathe the air of this earth of ours.

But the seal catcher only laughed at them, and said that those seals were most worth⁷ killing, for their skins were so big that he got an extra price for them.

Now it chanced⁸ one day, when he was pursuing his calling⁹, that he stabbed a seal with his hunting-knife, and whether the stroke had not been sure enough or not, I cannot say, but with a loud cry of pain the creature slipped off the rock into the sea, and disappeared under the water, carrying the knife along with it.

1. a good deal of: (idiom) also: **a great deal of sth:** much, a lot. *He spent a good deal of money.* (HODNĚ)

2. way, n.: particular aspect of sth; respect. *Can I help you in any way?* (ZPŮSOB). **in this way** (TAKTO, TÍMTO ZPŮSOBEM)

3. bask in sth, v.: sit or lie enjoying warmth. *They were basking by the fire.* (VYHRÍVAT SE, SLUNIT SE)

4. used to: expresses a frequent or continuous action in the past; in questions and negatives usually with *did*. *Life here is much easier than it used to be.*

5. roane, n.: = **roan:** animal, esp a horse or cow, with a coat of mixed colour, esp brown with white or grey hairs in it. *He has*