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# Summary of Hansel and Gretel <sup>1</sup>

Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm

Hansel and Gretel are brother and sister who lived in a small, humble house with their father and stepmom. Their house was at the edge of the forest, far away from all others. Since they were very poor the stepmom suggested to her husband that they should leave their kids somewhere deep inside the woods so they would survive.

After they were left in the forest Hansel and Gretel found their way back because Hansel threw stones while they were walking so they just followed them back. The stepmom was persistent and suggested they left the kids in the forest again. This time they couldn't find their way back.

They were in the forest, hungry and scared. They decided to find a shelter and they came across a house made of cake and bread. They were so hungry that they just started chewing the house. Then a gentle voice called out from inside: Nibble, nibble, little mouse, Who is nibbling at my house? The children answered: The wind, the wind, The heavenly child. They continued to eat, without being distracted.

An older woman came out of the house and called them to come inside. She made them delicious meals and put them to bed. The kids didn't suspect she was a evil witch that wanted to eat Hansel.

The next morning she locked them up in a barn and made Gretel cook meals for Hansel so he would get fatter so she could eat him in the end. The witch checked his weight everyday but Hansel found a way to fool her.

Instead of his finger he would have the witch a little bone to touch so that she would think he gained no weight. When four weeks had passed and Hansel was still thin, the witch got tired. She decided to eat him, no matter what his weight was.

She ordered Gretel to get inside the oven and check if the temperature is alright. The girl knew what her intentions were so she pushed her inside the oven and the

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<sup>1</sup>copied and modified from Book Reports, URL: <https://www.bookreports.info/hansel-and-gretel-summary/>

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godless witch burned up miserably. Gretel freed Hansel and before they went home they gathered all of the gold and took it with them.

They decided to go home to their father. He was thrilled about their arrival and they lived happily ever after. The stepmom died while the kids were held captive.