Ivasyk-Telesyk

Once upon a time there lived an old couple that had lived long lives but had no children. One day they said sadly: "who will take care of us and everything we worked on during our lives if we don’t have children?" So with that the woman told her husband:

- Go to the forest, cut down a tree so we can make a cradle. Then I will put a log in the cradle, and I will sway it; I'll have some fun!

The man didn’t want to do it at first, but his wife kept insisting. Finally, he agreed to go. He cut down the tree and made a cradle… The woman placed the log inside and started to slowly sway it while singing:

Lullaby - lullaby, Telesyk, I cooked you some kuleshik, I will take care of you.

She swayed and swayed until the night came and they went to sleep. The next morning when the couple awoke – they saw a boy instead of the log. Words could not express how happy they became! And they called their son Telesyk. Ivasyk-Telesyk is growing and growing for good, his parents are proud, as so they should be.

When the boy grew up, he said:

- Dad, make me a golden boat and a silver oar, I will catch fish and feed you!

So, Dad made a boat and an oar, and Ivasyk started fishing. And this is how it went: he is rowing the boat and fishing from time to time, and giving the fish to his parents. And his mom brings him food and says:

- Take care, son, respond only to my voice when I call you. If you hear a stranger's voice – ride the boat away from the shore.

So his mother cooked him breakfast, brought it to the shore, and called:

- Ivasyk-Telesyk! Come, come to the shore! I brought you breakfast.

Telesyk heard his mom’s voice and said:

- I’m coming! It must be my mom, she cooked me breakfast.

He reached the shore, ate his breakfast, and rowed away.

An evil Snake overheard the mother calling Telesyk, and tried to call Ivasyk-Telesyk with her harsh voice:

- Ivasyk-Telesyk! Come, come to the shore! I brought you some food!

Ivasyk heard and said:

- This is not my mom’s voice!

And rowed the boat away from the shore.

The Snake saw that she didn’t succeed and left back to the forest.

Later, Ivasyk’s mom cooked him dinner, brought the food to the shore, and called:

- Ivasyk-Telesyk! Come, come to the shore! I brought you some food.

Ivasyk heard his mom’s voice and rowed the boat to the shore. He finished dinner, gave some fish to his mom, and rowed away.

Meanwhile, the evil Snake appeared again and called Ivasyk with her harsh voice:

- Ivasyk-Telesyk! Come, come to the shore! I brought you some food!

Ivasyk heard that it was not his mother's voice, swung with the oar, and rowed away from the shore.

The evil Snake saw that nothing had happened again and decided to go to the blacksmith.

- Dear blacksmith, - she said, - make me such a thin voice as Telesyk's mother has!

The blacksmith made her a tool to alter her voice. And she went to the shore again and began to call Ivasyk with her new thin voice:

- Ivasyk-Telesyk! Come, come to the shore! I brought you some food!

Telesyk heard a thin voice and decided it was his mom.

- I’m coming! It must be my mom; she cooked some food for me!

As he reached the shore, the Snake grabbed the boy and carried him to her house.

- Olenka, open the door!

Olenka opened the door, and her mother entered the house.

- Olenka, heat the stove so that the stones fall apart and bake Telesyk for me. I'll go invite all the guests and we'll have fun!

And she flew away.

So Olenka did everything her mother said to do to Ivasyk:

- Sit on a shovel! I will put you inside. Ivasyk responds:

- Unfortunately, I don’t know how to sit on the shovel.

- Sit down! - says Olenka. Ivasyk put his hand on the shovel.

- Like this? He says.

- No: sit down with all your body! He laid his head on the shovel.

- Maybe like this?

- No, no! Sit down all over the shovel!

- How? Is it correct? - And put his foot on the shovel.

- No, - says Olenka, - not like this!

- So, show me how to sit then, - says Telesyk, - because I don't know how.

She then sat down on the shovel to show him how; Ivasyk leapt up, grabbed it with Olenka sat on top, and threw it into the oven. He covered the oven with a damper and locked the house. Then he climbed up a tall sycamore tree and hid at the top. Meanwhile, the Snake arrived with her guests.

- Olenka, open the door!

Silence.

- Olenka, open the door!

No one responds.

- Olenka is probably gone already, as always.

The Evil Snake opened the door herself and the guests went in, sitting at the dinner table.

The Snake opened the damper, took the meal out of the oven, and everyone started to eat – thinking it was Telesyk. The guests ate well and went outside to roll on the grass.

- I'll roll and I'll fall, having eaten Telesyk's meat!

And Telesyk, from up in the sycamore:

- You will roll and you will fall, having eaten Olenka's meat!

They listened ... What was that? And again:

- I'll roll and I'll fall, having eaten Telesyk's meat.

And again:

- You will roll and you will fall, having eaten Olenka's meat!

They continue:

- What was that?

And so the monsters started to look for what was going on. When finally, they found Ivasyk sitting in the sycamore tree.

They rushed to the sycamore and began to gnaw. They were gnawing the tree so hard that they broke all their teeth. That's why they rushed to the blacksmith:

- Blacksmith-blacksmith, make our teeth so strong that we could break down that sycamore with them!

The blacksmith did as they asked. And the monsters started to gnaw the tree again with their new strong metal teeth. The tree was about to fall when suddenly a flock of geese flew by. Telesyk asks them:

- Dear geese! Take me on your wings and bring me to my father and to my mother. There I can eat and be safe!

And the geese say:

- Let the next flock take you!

All the while the monsters kept gnawing...

Another flock of geese flew by and Telesyk asked again:

- Dear geese! Take me on your wings and bring me to my father, and to my mother. There I can eat and be safe!

And these said to him:

- Let the next flock take you!

Meanwhile, the sycamore began to crack from the monsters’ strong teeth. Another flock flew by. Telesyk asked them:

- Dear geese! Take me on your wings and bring me to my father, and to my mother. There I can eat and be safe!

- Let the very last take you! And they flew away.

There was poor Telesyk is sitting at the very top of the tree, and when it’s about to fall he sees the very last and the smallest goose, and asks it:

- Dear goose! Take me on your wings and bring me to my father, and to my mother. There I can eat and be safe!

- Sit down! - it said and grabbed Ivasyk-Telesyk and put him on its wings. The goose was so small and weak that under Ivasyk’s weight it flew very close to the ground. So the monsters gave chase after the goose – almost grabbing him –but in the end couldn’t reach. Ivasyk and the goose got safely to back to his home. The goose let Ivasyk go find his parents, and walks around the yard, grazing.

So Telesyk sat on the porch, and listened to what is being said in the house. His mother baked buns, and took them out of the oven, and said:

- It's a bun for you, grandpa, and it's a bun for me!

And Telesyk, from outside, said:

- And for one me?

Then she takes out the buns and again says:

- Here's a bun for you, grandpa, and here's one for me!

And Telesyk again:

- And for me?

They heard something. But what was it?

- Do you hear a sound, grandpa?

- Well I don’t think so, - said the man, you probably misheard something.

And again mother said:

- Here's a bun for you, grandpa, and here's one for me!

- And one for me? - says Telesyk.

- There is some noise going on from the outside! - says the woman and looks out the window – and right on the porch there’s Telesyk, sitting. His parents saw him, hugged him, and brought him into the house. They were so glad!

All the while the goose kept walking around the yard.

Ivasyk’s mom saw it and said:

- Here's a goose walking. I'll go catch it and cook later.

And Telesyk says:

- No, mom, do not kill it, but better feed it! If it weren't for this goose, I wouldn't be with you right now.

And they fed it, and gave it drink, and put millet under its wings. That's how the goose flew away.

Here is a fairy tale for you, and a string of bagels for me!