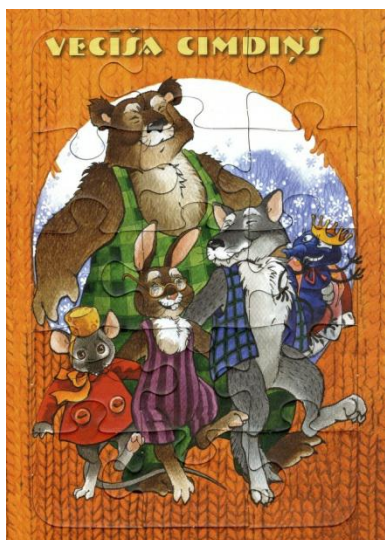


Old man's mitten

Latvian traditional story



Once upon a time, there lived an old man. On a cold winter day, he went to the forest to cut firewood. He wanted to light his pipe and was looking for it, tobacco and lighter in his pocket. While doing so, he lost one of his mittens.

A Fly that was running away from the frost, noticed the mitten and ran inside it.

She was warm and happy and started to dance.

A Mouse, that was looking for the cosy shelter where to hide from the frost, ran to the mitten and asked: „ Who is dancing in the mitten?”

„ Me – the Queen of the Flies. But who are you?”

„ I am a Squeeking Little Mouse. Allow me to warm myself.”

„ Crawl in and get warm”, welcomed the Fly.

The Mouse crawled in the mitten. Both the Squeeking Little Mouse and the Queen of the Flies started to dance.

A Rabbit, that was looking for the cosy shelter where to hide from the frost, noticed the mitten, ran to it and asked:

„Who are dancing in the mitten?”

*„ Me – the Queen of the Flies and the Squeeking Little Mouse.
But who are you?“*

*„ I am a White-tailed Rabbit. Allow me to warm myself.“
„Ok, crawl in and get warm“, they welcomed.*

The White-tailed Rabbit crawled in the mitten and all three began to dance.

A Wolf, that was looking for the cosy shelter where to hide from the frost, ran to the mitten and asked:

„Who are dancing in the mitten?“

„ Me – the Queen of the Flies, the Squeeking Little Mouse and the White-tailed Rabbit. But who are you?“

„ I am a Short-eared Wolf. Allow me to warm myself.“

„Ok, crawl in and get warm“, the animals welcomed.

The Short-eared Wolf crawled in the mitten and all four began to dance.

A Bear was running from the frost, ran to the mitten and asked:

„ Who are dancing in the mitten?“

„ Me – the Queen of the Flies, the Squeeking Little Mouse, the White-tailed Rabbit and the Short-eared Wolf. But who are you?“

„ I am a Lumbering Bear. Allow me to warm myself.“

„ Ok, crawl in and get warm“, they all welcomed.

The Bear crawled in the mitten and all five started to dance.

Suddenly a Rooster came to the mitten and sang loudly his morning song „ Kikeriquuuuuuu!“

All the friends got so frightened that they jumped out of the mitten and ran to escape so vigorously that the mitten bursted. There is no news afterwards about the Fly living in the king's castle, the Mouse feeding in the potato cellar, the Rabbit hiding in the oats, the Wolf resting in the bushes, and the Bear lumbering in the forest. But one thing is certain: up to this day, the old man is walking with only one mitten on.



Fairy Tale Coin. The Old Man's Mitten. (2017. Bank of Latvia. Collector coin. Silver.)