

The Mountain Goat

A long, long time ago, back in the good old days, there was a **very caring woman**, her daughter who was a **very little girl**, her husband who was a **bearded man**, her cabin and her vegetable **garden**. She loved her family dearly and tended to her **garden** with all the care in the world.

So, the **garden** gave her plump and round pumpkins, sweet carrots, tender lettuce, and delicious peas. And every day, the **very caring woman**, her **very little girl** and the **bearded man** enjoyed the most delicious meals. ♦Vegetable Dance

One morning, she sent the **very little girl** to the **garden** to get some fresh vegetables for dinner. When the **very little girl** reached the **garden** she found a large **goat** eating all the vegetables. She tried to scare off the **goat** by yelling and waving her hands. The **goat** glared at her and then said, "I'm the Mountain Goat and I love to eat little girls for dessert!"

The **very little girl** was scared and she did not want to become the **goat's** dessert so she ran to the cabin to tell the **very caring woman**.

"I will solve this." said the **very caring woman**. She grabbed her broom and ran to the **garden**, shaking it vigorously.

But the **goat** glared at her and then said fiercely, "I'm the Mountain Goat and I love to eat little girls and their mothers for dessert!"

Seeing that she couldn't scare him away, she ran to the cabin to tell the **bearded man**.

"I will solve this." said the **bearded man**. He grabbed a log from the thick pile of firewood and ran to the **garden**, shaking it vigorously at the **goat**. But the **goat** glared at him and then said fiercely, "I'm the Mountain Goat and I love to eat little girls, their mothers and their fathers' for dessert!"

At that very moment, a **brave soldier** happened to be walking down the road, and seeing what was happening, he offered his help, and said, "I will solve this." He unsheathed his sword and waved it in the air. With a commanding voice he ordered the **goat** to leave. But the **goat** glared at him and then said fiercely, "I'm the Mountain Goat and I love to eat little girls, their mothers, their fathers' and brave soldiers with swords for dessert!"

At this point the **very little girl** was crying, the **very caring woman** was yelling, the **bearded man** was angry, and the **brave soldier** was stomping with frustration. And at that very moment a **little tiny ant** was walking down the road.

The **little tiny ant** stopped in his tracks and said, "I will solve this. I would be delighted to get that **goat** out of your **garden**."

The **very little girl** looked at the **little tiny ant** with wonder. The **very caring woman** looked at the **little tiny ant** with hope. The **bearded man** looked at the **little tiny ant** with surprise. And the **brave soldier** looked at the **little tiny ant** with rage.

"How dare you to think that you can do what we haven't been able to do?" yelled the **brave soldier**.

The **little tiny ant** responded, "I thought to do it as a favor, but now since you've been so rude, you'll have to pay."

"What is your price?" asked the **very caring woman**.

"Some wheat grain would be enough," said the **little tiny ant**.

"We will give you two sacks full," said the **very caring woman**.

"Oh! I wouldn't be able to carry so much!" said the **little tiny ant**, "it wouldn't fit in my basket."

"We will give you one sack, then," said the **very caring woman**.

"Oh! I wouldn't be able to carry so much!" said the **little tiny ant**, "it still wouldn't fit in my basket."

"half of a sack, then?" asked the **very caring woman**.

"It is still too much!" said the **little tiny ant**, "two grains will be enough. One for me and one for my grandmother."

Once the matter was settled, the **little tiny ant** ran towards the **goat**, who was so busy eating the **garden** vegetables, **(Melody Midgets)** he hadn't paid any attention to the conversation. The **little tiny ant** climbed onto the **goat's** leg and bit him so, so, so hard that the **goat** started to jump and run in circles and finally ran away and back into the mountains. And while he ran towards the mountains he yelled back at them, "All of you would have probably tasted terrible!"

While the **bearded man**, the **very caring woman** and the **very little girl** expressed their gratitude, the **brave soldier** humbly lowered his gaze.

As promised, the **very caring woman** gave the **little tiny ant** two grains of wheat. But it was still too much for the tiny basket. The **little tiny ant** put one grain in the basket and the **brave soldier** helped the **little tiny ant** carry the other grain to the **little tiny ant** hill.

♦Wheat Dance