

# "Script": The Not-too-tiny Creature

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

11:15 AM

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| Narrator             |
| Xiki the shepherd    |
| Mr Ram               |
| Ms Goat              |
| Patxi the dog        |
| Mr Horse             |
| Mr Fox               |
| Ms Black & White Cow |
| Beetle               |

**Narrator:** This story is told by the shepherds who live in the valley of the Basque Country of Spain. They say it really happened, a long, long time ago when life in the green hills was peaceful and serene. They also say that because of this tale, life in the hills changed forever.

## Music #1 (Dance for animals & shepherd)

**Narrator:** Mr. Ram and Ms. Goat were enjoying their morning walk through the paths that ran through the valley. Every morning, Xiki, the shepherd, would open the gates of the sheepfold and Mr Ram and Mrs Goat, with long and brisk leaps, would climb to the top of the closest hill, followed by Xiki and Patxi, the shepherd dog and the rest of the sheep herd.

**Narrator:** Every morning, at the top of the neighbor hill, a herd of wild horses gathered.

**Music #2 Swanee River (MM)** The long manes of the horses seemed to greet them as they floated in the wind, and the horses whinnied with cheer.

**Ms Goat:** Good morning Mr Horse! What a chilly morning, isn't it?

**Mr Horse:** It is a bit cool. Yes, a little cool. But it will warm up.

**Narrator:** Ms Goat and Mr Horse got along quite well. They both had strong legs that allowed them to climb very high into the hills and mountains. And sometimes, the herd would gather with the flock and together they would enjoy the green pastures in the hills.  
Patxi the dog ran to one of the more distant hills.

**Patxi:** *(to Mr Fox, who always trying to see if he could run off with one of the sheep)* Good morning Mr. Fox! What a chilly morning, isn't it?

**Fox:** "It is a bit cool. Yes, a little cool. But it will warm up" replied the fox.

**Narrator:** On the very top of yet another hill, there was a herd of cows of grazed happily. These were very large cows, with black and white spots and sharp horns. Patxi always remained close to Xiki, hiding behind his legs when they approached the very large and impressive cows.

**Patxi:** Good morning Ms Black & White Cow! What a chilly morning, isn't it? (*nervously*)

**Ms Black & White Cow:** "It is a bit cool. Yes, a little cool. But it will warm up" replied the cow.

**Narrator:** It was the same each day. But one morning in April something unexpected happened. It had rained the previous morning the way it usually did in the mountains of Basque Country. So, the earth was soft and moist.

**Music #3, Rain, Rain**

**Narrator:** Ms Black & White Cow was grazing as usual when she stepped on a beetle. He dragged half of his tiny body out from under the hoof of the cow. Although he was covered in mud all the way up to his ears, he felt a little sore, and he was still pinned under the hoof, he could still yell.

**Beetle:** Hey, Ms. Black & White Cow! Get off of me!

**Narrator:** The cow looked around to see who was yelling. And finally, looked down, raised her hoof, and saw the beetle.

**Beetle:** Watch where you put your hooves--

**Cow:** (*drops her hoof again*)

**Beetle:** Listen, Ms. Black & White Cow (*wiggling from under the hoof*) from this moment forward, we are at WAR.

**Narrator:** The large black and white cow thought it was funny that a tiny beetle was declaring war. Did the tiny creature not realize that she weighed about 500 pounds and could destroy him just by sneezing!? The cow began to laugh and didn't notice that the beetle had escaped from under its hoof and flew away. Her laughter was so loud that everyone gathered at the top of the hill to see what was going on. Up came Mr. Horse, Mr. Fox, Mr. Ram, Ms Goat, and even Patxi the shepherd dog.

**Horse:** What is the matter, Ms. Black & White Cow?

**Cow:** Well, I've just received a Declaration of War!

**Patxi:** And who would pick a fight with you?

**Cow:** You wouldn't believe it, a simple beetle. I'd never heard something so ridiculous!

**Narrator:** Mr Horse was a retired battle horse and knew a lot about war.

**Horse:** A Declaration of War is a very serious matter! It must not be ignored. Where's the beetle? We must send a spy to find out what the beetle and his friends are planning. You, Mr. Fox, you know how to hide and quietly observe. Go and find out what his plans are.

**Narrator:** Everyone accepted with enthusiasm Mr. Horse's suggestion, so Mr. Fox accepted his task, perked his ears and began his journey.

In the meantime, the furious beetle had asked for reinforcements.

**Music #4 (Kinder Music)**

He gathered clouds of mosquitos, colonies of flies with laced wings, bees with round, striped bodies, columns and columns of ants and entire battalions of ferocious lice. Bands of crickets and cicada paved the way with drums and trumpets. Troupes of tiny creatures with giant hearts had gathered on the

other side of the mountain. They were ready for battle and determined to show the larger animals that they would not stand to be mocked.

The bees, who were keeping watch, saw the fox approaching and sounded the alarm. Thousands and thousands of crickets started chirping all at once. It seemed as if giant machines were approaching the top of the hill. Mr. Fox froze. His legs began to tremble. He saw a dark cloud approaching from the right and before he could move the entire army had reached him. The faster he ran, the quicker they followed.

**Fox:** (*Hurt, bruised and full of panic he yelled at the others as loud as he could*) Run, run, run and save yourselves!

**Narrator:** They all ran down the hill as far as they could go. And some are still running.

#### **Music #5 (Celebration: We are Dancing)**

*We are dancing in the valley,  
While the cow is far away,  
Who knows what will happen to us  
If she finds us at our play. (repeat a few times w/ circle dance)*

**Bugs:** Nothing! Because they all ran away!

**Narrator:** An old Basque Shepherd, a great grandson of Xiki, told me this story and he explained that there are Basque rams and other animals in places as far as the mountains of Idaho... and all because of a stubborn cow, and the determination of a tiny beetle.