



Swan Lake



In a small mountain village, a shepherd girl lived with her mother. The girl let the sheep graze every day in the green fields. 140



One cold winter, as she was walking near the icy river, she heard a cry from behind the trees. It was a swan, trapped in the middle of the frozen river. The swan was crying sadly, lying on the ice.



The girl wanted to help the swan, so she saved it and took it home. The kind-hearted mother and the girl spent the cold winter taking good care of the swan.



Next year, spring came. As usual, the shepherd girl went out to the fields to let the sheep graze. She was walking near the river with the sheep when she heard something flying around. It was the swan. 'Bye, Swan!' The girl waved at the swan as it flew away. The girl was sad after the swan left.



Summer came. The swan appeared in a dream to the girl, while she was taking a nap in the field. 'I live in a cave in the mountain over there. Please come to my home.' The girl woke up and told her mother about her dream. 'Go to the cave the swan told you about in your dream.' The girl hurried to find the cave.



Inside, she heard a voice. She followed the voice and saw a man waiting for her. 'Come on in. I'm the prince of the river. My fate was sad and the only way I can leave the cave is to become a swan.' 'You saved me, and even though you were poor, you shared what you had with me. I fell in love with your beautiful heart.' The man confessed his love to the girl.



After that, the girl spent a lot of time with the swan every day. She also fell in love with the swan. But people in the village started gossiping about the girl. 'My swan, please become human soon. People are talking about me.' 'Give me a little more time,' the swan answered sadly.



Then one day, the town held a big festival. The swan brought a beautiful dress for the girl to wear. The girl put the dress on and went to the festival with her mother. Everyone looked at her and remarked how beautiful she looked. Then a handsome young man came and asked the girl to marry him. 'Beautiful girl, please marry me.' But the girl, who was already in love with the



swan, couldn't accept.



After the festival, she hurried back to the cave to see the swan. The girl said, 'You may be a swan, but I'm happiest with you.' Then the swan said, 'It was me who proposed at the festival. I'm so happy to know how you really feel.'



The swan called out to his father, the king of the river who came and gave them his blessing. There was another big festival in town, this time for their wedding. The man never changed back into a swan again and they lived happily ever after.



Hello, I'm Narankhuu. I'm 39 years old and I have two children. My 8-year-old daughter loves to draw. I love to spend time drawing with my child the most because I can feel love and freedom. It was wonderful to be able to draw as much as I want through this picture book production workshop. I have been able to draw pictures of my own stories and I learned a lot.



I hope every child in this world will find happiness in the future. I would like to thank all the people with whom I worked on this book.



Scientists are still using their knowledge, wisdom and advanced technology to search for another 'Earth' in the universe where humans can live. There are too many planets in the universe to count. But surprisingly, only the Earth is uninhabitable for humans.

This fact gives us special impressions and enlightenment. I am even more impressed with



those women from other countries who came to Korea to work together to write. We live in one world. We are a 'global family' from many countries.

A family must trust each other, rely on each other, and care for each other. A family should offer a hug first, smile first, and give kindness first. A family must be together in pain, overcome suffering



together, and walk together. I admire all those who wrote great stories in these 'Multi-value, Multi-together' children's books. Because all of them, despite being tired from working, child-rearing, housekeeping, and caring for the elderly, were still able to finish their work. And it must have been even more difficult for them to write in Korean. But then, it is an astonishing power they



have, that writing one time can't compare to speaking hundred times.

The power to express one's thoughts more clearly. The power to communicate more politely with other people. The power to educate their children more fairly. They have this power.

I recommend that this project should be continued in the future, giving pride and hope to many

immigrant women and their families.

Kyung-sil Roh Writer





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Original Story

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