

Sunrise Fairy Tales

THE Snow White And Rose Red





Snow White and Rose Red were two sisters. They lived in a small cottage with their mother. Even though they were poor, the three of them were happy and content. The two sisters were very delighted at doing all the cooking and cleaning in the house. Snow White kept a well tended garden, while Rose Red looked after their sheep. The girls loved each other so much that they promised one another that they would never part.

One day Snow White and Rose Red went into the forest to gather berries. But soon they lost their way. After a while Rose Red said, "Oh, Snow White, I'm tired. Can we rest a while?" So they lay down on the grass and dozed off. When they awoke, they saw a beautiful girl sitting next to them. She smiled at them and said, "You girls must be careful. There's an evil dwarf living in this forest. Your house is that way. Now, go home." Girls went back and narrated the incident to their mother.

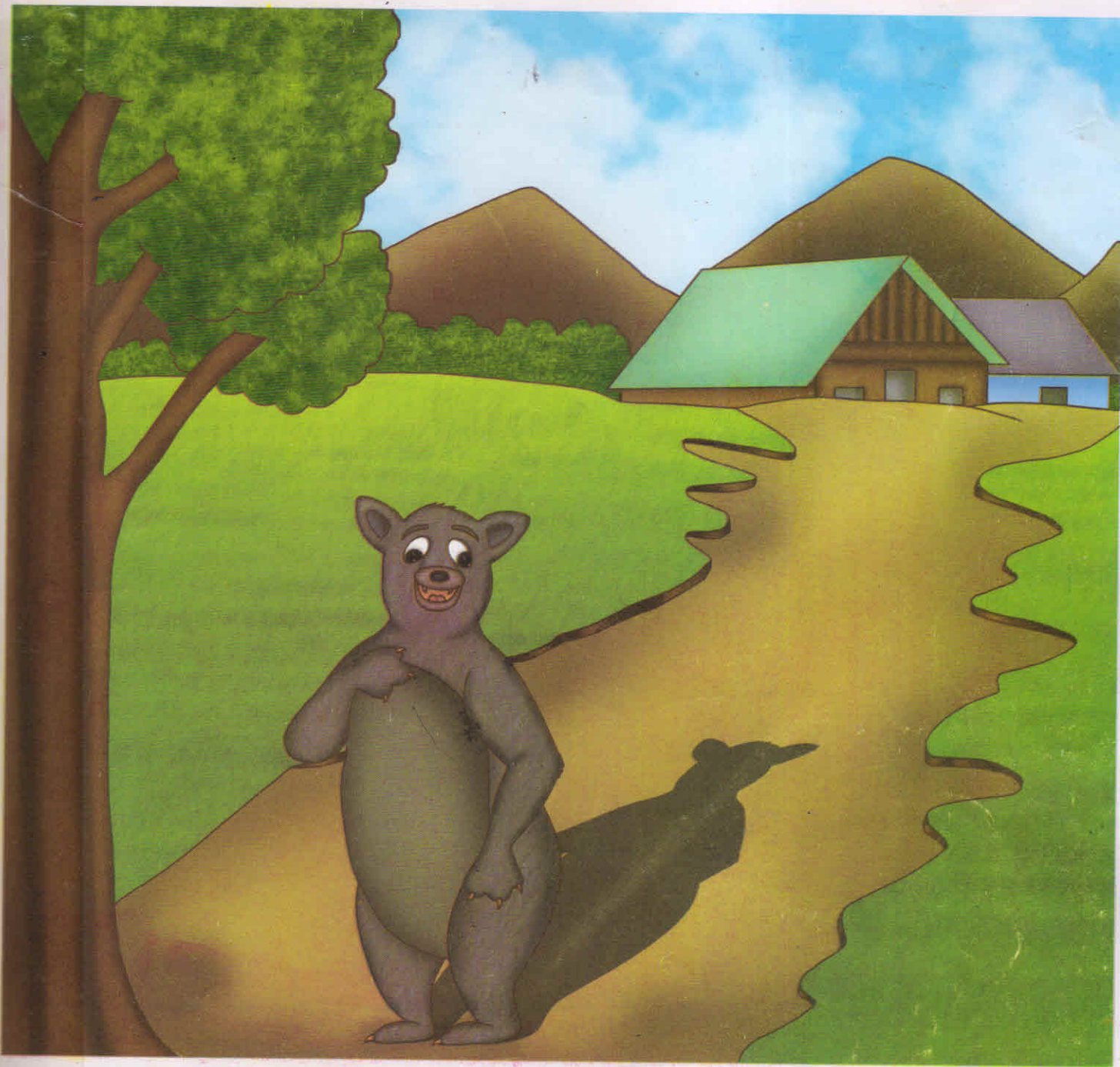




“That must have been the Good Fairy who helped you reach home safely !” said their mother, hugging them dearly. Then a few weeks later, winter set in. One evening just outside their home, Snow White and Rose Red encountered a huge bear. “Don’t be afraid, girls. I only want some shelter for the night,” said the bear, smiling.

Snow White and Rose Red led the big bear into their home and introduced him to their mother. "Mother, please allow Mr. Bear to stay with us tonight. He needs a place to rest," said the girls. "Oh, you are welcome, Mr. Bear ! Please lie down by our little fireplace; you'll be snug and warm," said mother. So the bear lay down and fell fast asleep.





The next morning, the bear woke up. He stretched himself, smiling happily. "Oh, I had such a good night's rest ! Thank you !" He said. "I have to leave now... But I'll be back !" And right enough, the bear became a regular visitor. Snow White, Rose Red and their mother became very attached to him and his gentle ways.

Then one day, when the cold weather ended, the bear said to the girls, "Snow White, Rose Red, I have to leave for good. I will not be coming again to your house. Thank you very much for all your kindness." On hearing this, the girls were very sad. "Oh, we are really going to miss you!", they said, as tears streamed down their faces.





A month later, both the sisters went out to pluck berries. They loved the delicious jam their mother made with the berries. Inside the woods, there suddenly came upon a dwarf. He was crying out in pain as his beard was struck in the hollow of a tree. "Oh, free me!" he cried. So, Snow White and Rose Red helped the dwarf. The moment he was free, he shouted, "Go away now, or else I will hurt both of you!" The girls ran away, frightened.

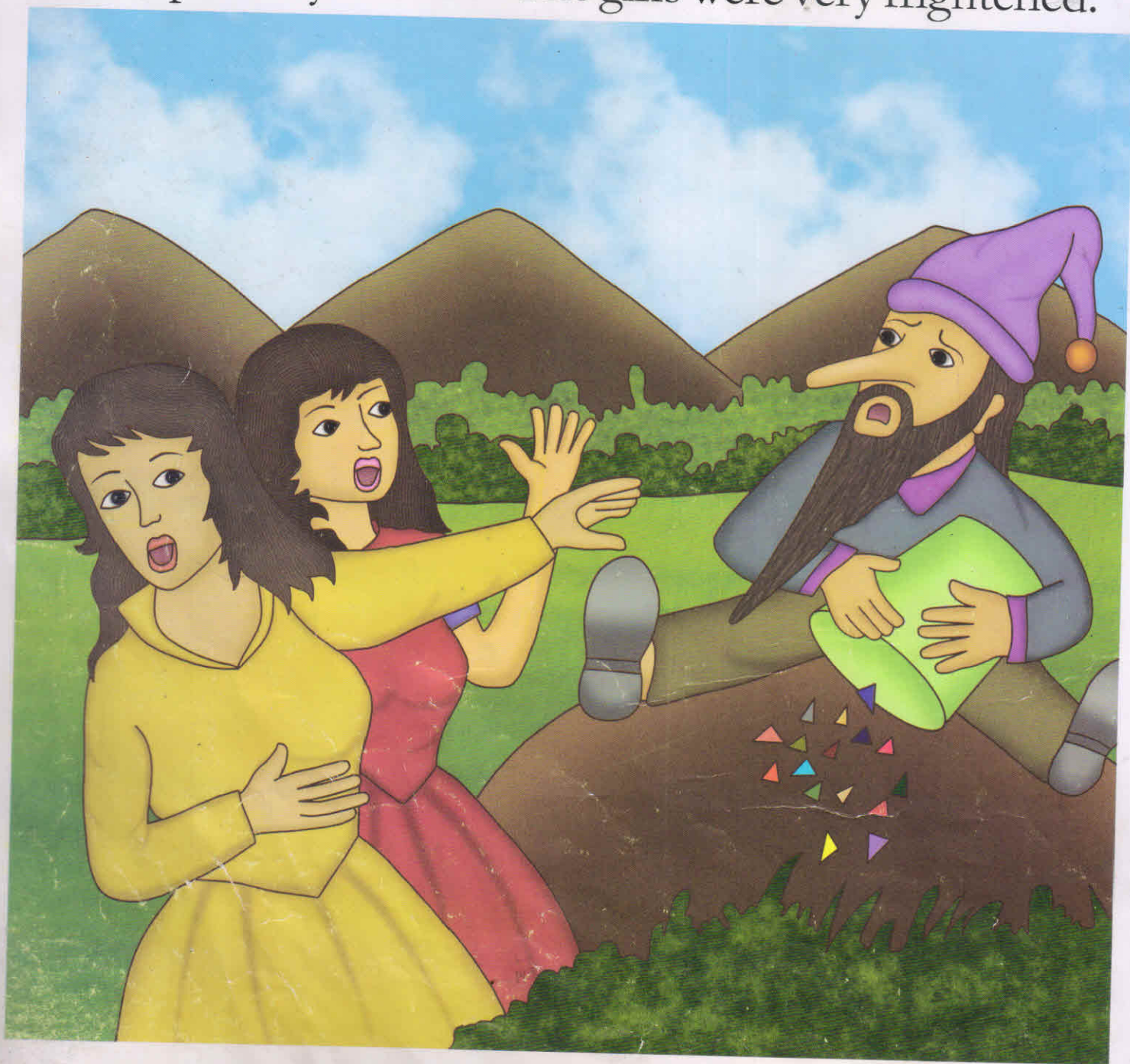
The next day, they spotted the dwarf again. This time a huge eagle was carrying him in its claws. "Save me !" the dwarf cried. The brave girls shouted with all their might. Frightened, the eagle dropped the dwarf. "Get lost from my sight !" the dwarf said to the girls ungratefully. The girls ran back home in fear.

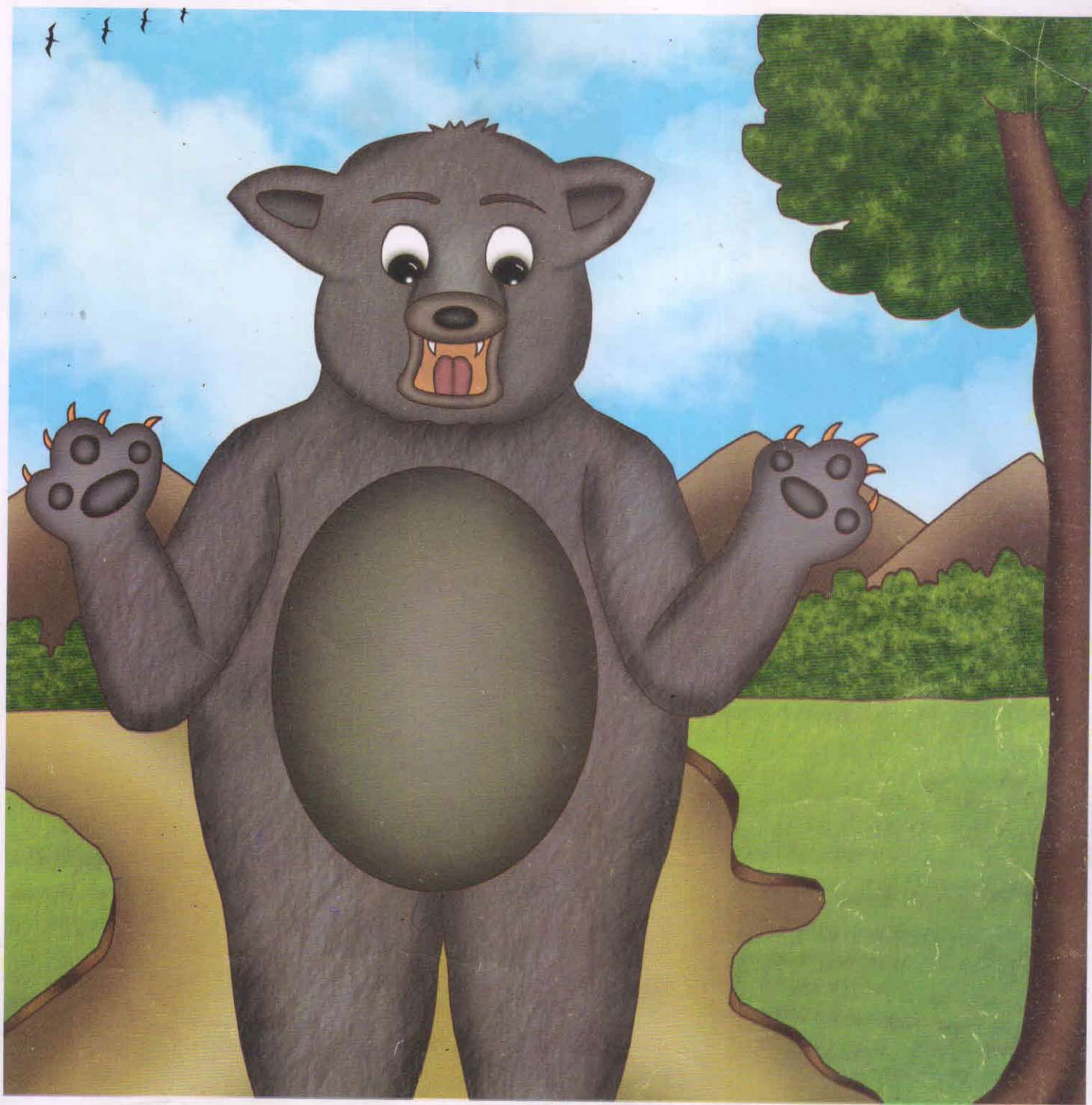




Two days later, they saw the same dwarf in the forest, struggling to break free from a huge fish. His beard was in the fish's mouth and it was trying to pull him into the pond. The girls acted quickly. They grabbed his shoulders and pulled. The fish was not strong enough. The dwarf was free ! But he was angry as usual, "Don't expect any thanks for saving me ! Now, go away!" he shouted. The girls fled.

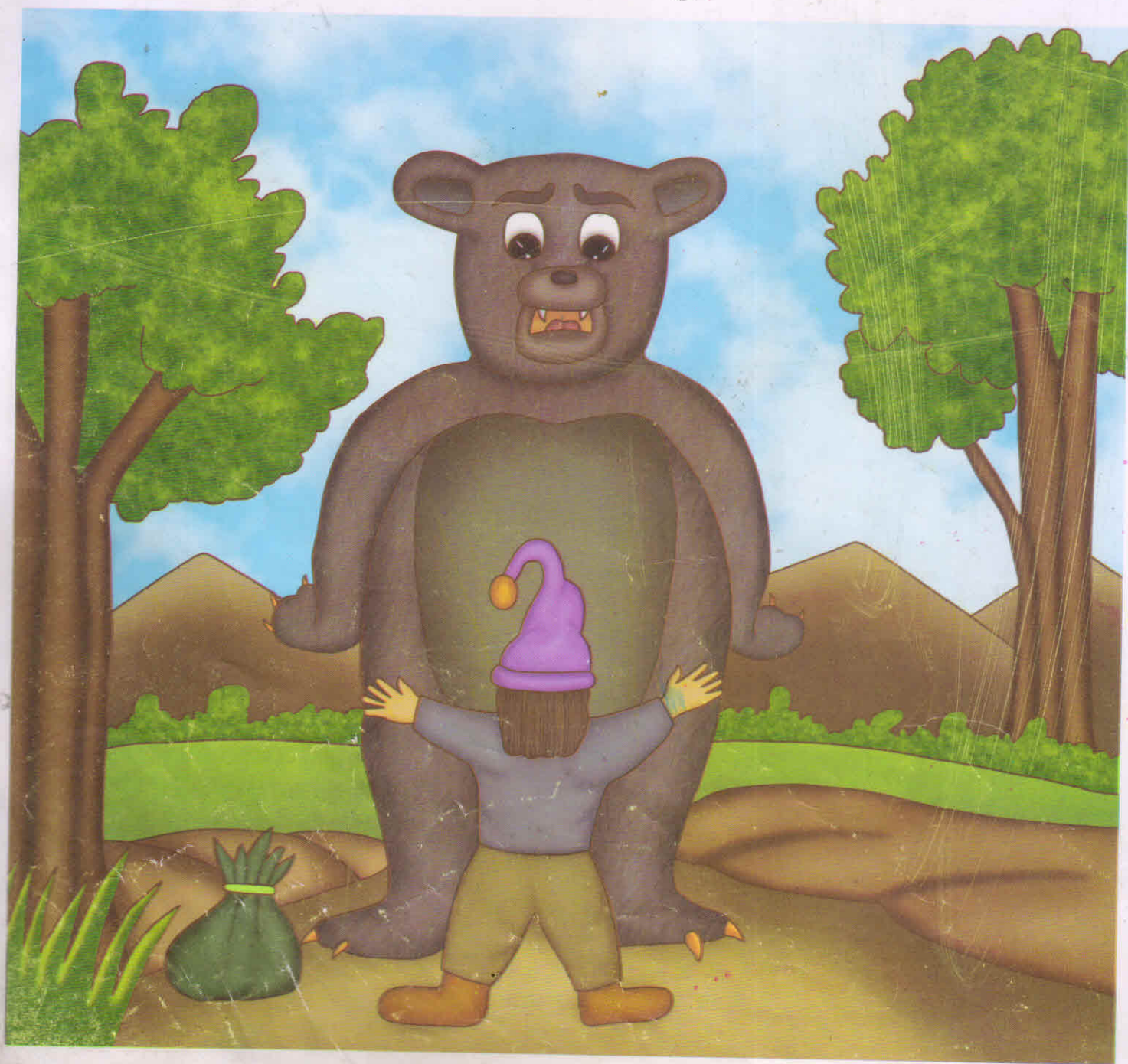
The following day, the girls went out to gather berries again. They hoped they wouldn't bump into the bad-tempered dwarf again. But to their surprise, they saw him sitting down in a clearing counting his precious stones. As soon as he saw them, he said angrily, "You horrid human girls have come to rob me! Just wait, I'll cast a spell on you two!" The girls were very frightened.





At that moment, a huge bear appeared on the scene! “Stop! Don’t harm the girls !” the bear growled and reared up to his full height. The angry bear looked frightful. But the girls knew him to be their friend; he was the same bear who used to take shelter in their home on cold winter nights.

“Oh, big bear, don’t hurt me!” cried the dwarf, shaking with fear. “I shall give all my precious stones to these girls as a reward for saving my life three times! Please let me go!” cried the dwarf. The bear did not listen to his pleas. He snatched him from the ground and hurled him far away. The wicked dwarf fell into a deep ravine and was never heard of again.





“Thank you so much for saving us, Mr. Bear!” said the girls, happy to see their old friend again. Suddenly the bear changed into a handsome prince! “I am a king’s son. The wicked dwarf had made me into a bear. Now that he’s gone, I’m back as a prince!” he said, smiling. “Here, take all these precious stones. They’re yours now!”

The prince then took the sisters to his palace and introduced them to his twin brother. He too was handsome and kind. A week later, there were two weddings in the king's castle. Snow White was married to the bear prince and Rose Red to his twin brother. Thus the sisters were able to stay together, like they always wanted to. Even their mother moved into the castle and all of them lived happily together ever after.

