

Name _____



The Fisherman's Wife

In a small coastal village, there lived a humble fisherman named Hans. Hans was a hardworking and content man who spent his days at sea, casting his nets and hoping for a good catch. One day, as he was about to cast his net, he felt a sudden tug that was stronger than any he had ever experienced.

With all his might, Hans pulled the net onto his small fishing boat. To his astonishment, instead of fish, he found a magnificent fish trapped in his net. This fish was no ordinary fish; it had shimmering scales that glistened in every color of the rainbow. But what was even more astonishing was that the fish spoke.

The fish begged for its life, promising Hans that if he released it, it would grant him three wishes. Hans, a kind-hearted man, agreed to release the magical fish back into the sea. As the fish disappeared into the water, it told Hans to call upon it whenever he needed.

Hans returned home that evening and told his wife, Eliza, about the magical fish and the three wishes. Eliza, however, was not content with just three wishes. She persuaded Hans to go back to the sea and ask the fish for more. Reluctantly, Hans went to the shore and called upon the fish.

The fish, true to its word, appeared before Hans. When Hans explained his wife's desires for a grander home and more riches, the fish granted those wishes as well. Eliza was thrilled with her newfound wealth and opulent home, but her desires were insatiable.

Time and again, Eliza sent Hans to the sea to ask for more extravagant wishes—a palace, a kingdom, and even to become the ruler of the ocean itself. Each time, the magical fish granted her wishes, making her desires a reality.

However, with each request, Eliza's greed and arrogance grew. She became power-hungry and believed herself to be the most powerful being in the world. One day, she ordered Hans to ask the fish to make her a goddess who could control the sun, moon, and stars.

Hans, worried about the consequences of her request, reluctantly went to the sea. When he called upon the fish and told it of Eliza's wishes, the magical fish was angered by her greed and arrogance. Instead of granting her wish, the fish reversed all the previous wishes, taking away the palace, the kingdom, and the riches.

Hans returned home to find that they were once again living in their humble cottage by the sea, with nothing but their simple life. Eliza had learned a valuable lesson about greed and the consequences of her actions. From that day on, she and Hans lived contentedly with what they had, grateful for the lessons they had learned from the magical fish.

