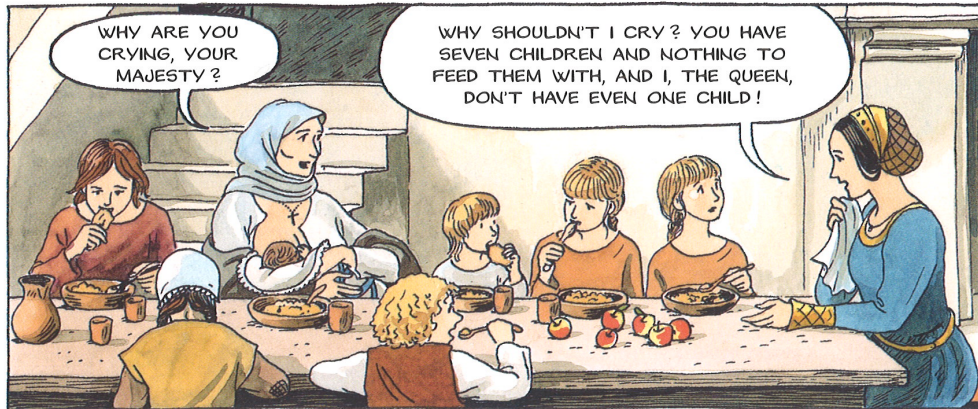
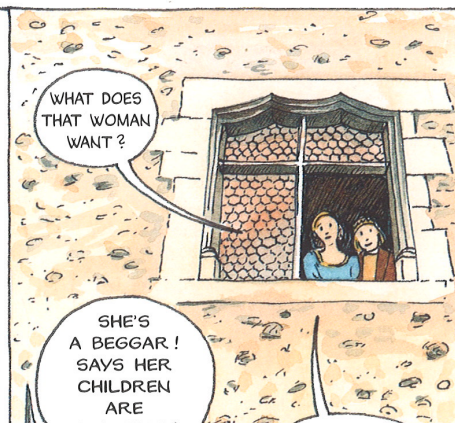


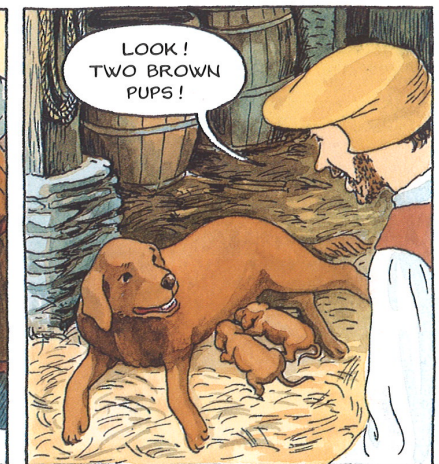
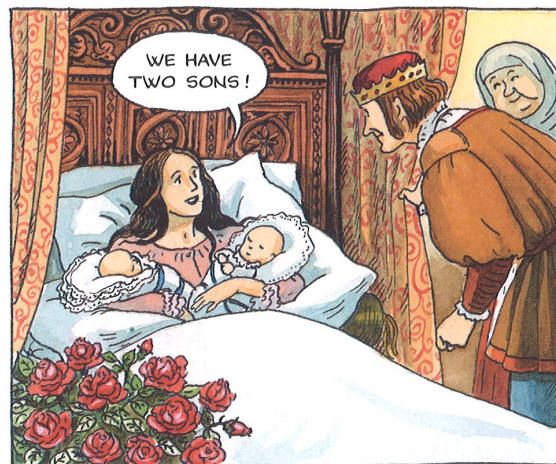
THE TWINS

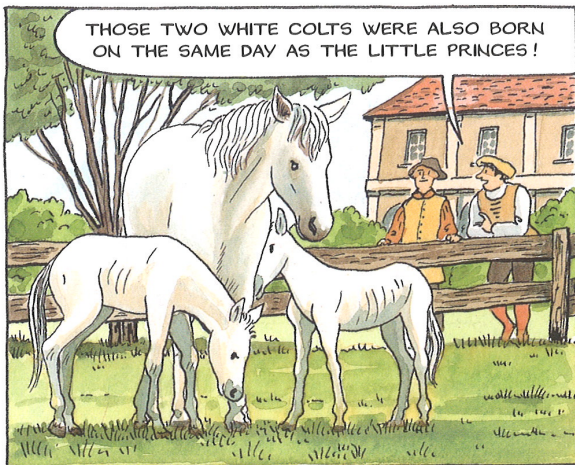


ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE LIVED A KING AND A QUEEN. THEY HAD NO CHILDREN, AND WISHED FOR THEM VERY MUCH.

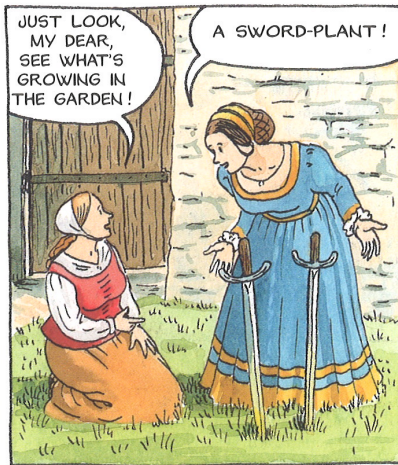


THE QUEEN DID EVERYTHING THAT THE WOMAN SAID. AND AFTER SOME TIME...





THOSE TWO WHITE COLTS WERE ALSO BORN ON THE SAME DAY AS THE LITTLE PRINCES!



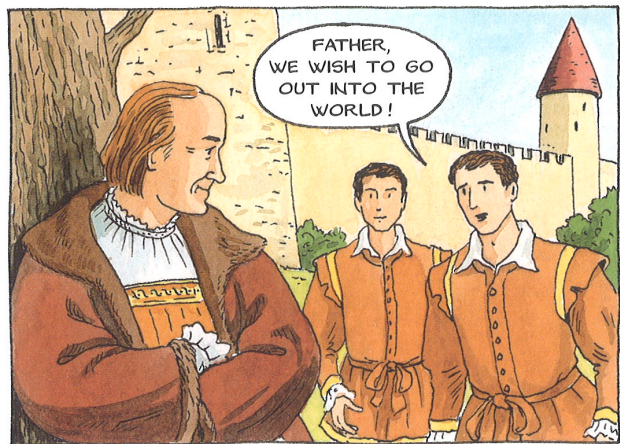
JUST LOOK, MY DEAR, SEE WHAT'S GROWING IN THE GARDEN!

A SWORD-PLANT!

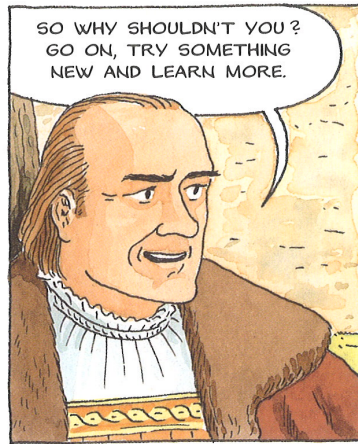
THE TWO BROTHERS GREW MUCH FASTER THAN OTHER CHILDREN. EACH YEAR, IT WAS AS IF SEVEN HAD PASSED, AND AFTER THREE YEARS, THEY WERE ALREADY FULL-GROWN...



THAT WENT QUICKLY! WHAT HANDSOME YOUTHS!



FATHER, WE WISH TO GO OUT INTO THE WORLD!



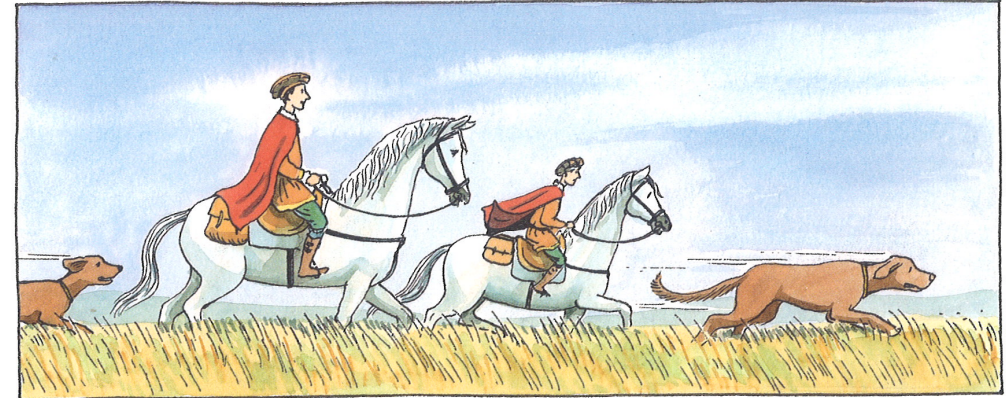
SO WHY SHOULDN'T YOU? GO ON, TRY SOMETHING NEW AND LEARN MORE.



EACH OF THEM TOOK ONE WHITE HORSE, ONE BROWN DOG AND ONE SWORD FROM THE SWORD-PLANT, AND SET OFF ON HIS WAY.

THE BEST OF LUCK, BOYS!

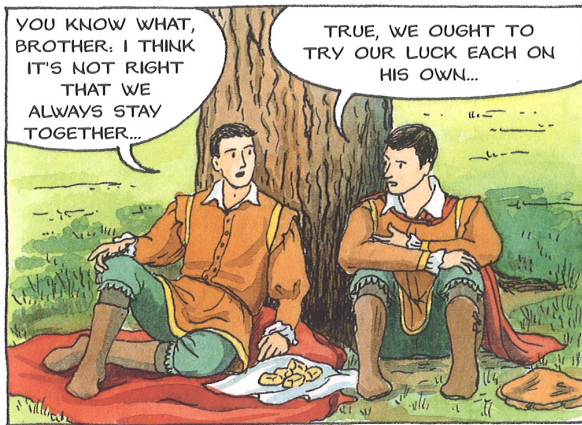
ALWAYS STICK TOGETHER!



WHERE NOW?



HARD TO SAY WHICH ROAD IS THE BETTER...



YOU KNOW WHAT, BROTHER: I THINK IT'S NOT RIGHT THAT WE ALWAYS STAY TOGETHER...

TRUE, WE OUGHT TO TRY OUR LUCK EACH ON HIS OWN...



SO IF I GO THIS WAY...

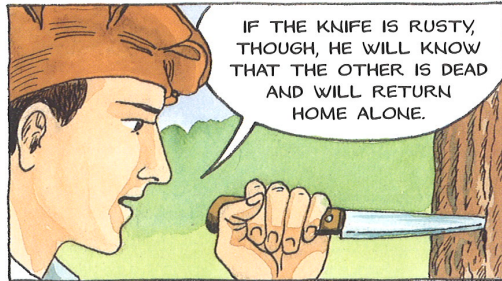
AND I THIS WAY...



LET'S BOTH STICK OUR KNIVES INTO THIS OAK. IN A YEAR AND A DAY, WE WILL RETURN...



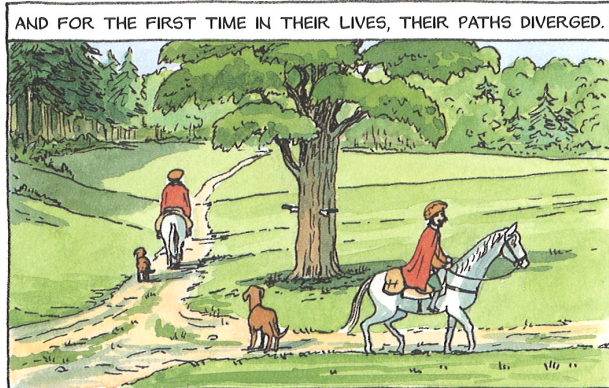
IF THE FIRST ONE TO ARRIVE FINDS THE KNIFE OF THE OTHER CLEAN AND FREE OF RUST, HE WILL KNOW THAT HIS BROTHER IS ALIVE AND WELL, AND WILL WAIT FOR HIM.



IF THE KNIFE IS RUSTY, THOUGH, HE WILL KNOW THAT THE OTHER IS DEAD AND WILL RETURN HOME ALONE.



FAREWELL, MY BROTHER!



AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR LIVES, THEIR PATHS DIVERGED.

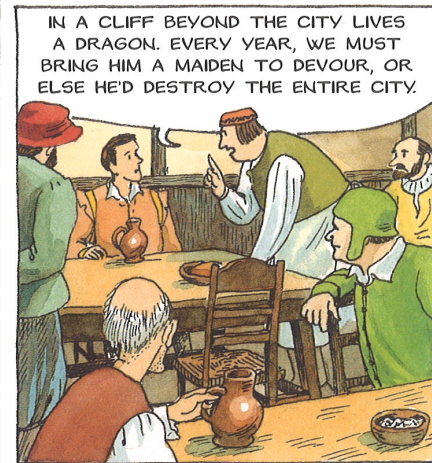


THE ROAD OF THE FIRST BROTHER LED THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS UNTIL HE CAME TO A LARGE CITY.

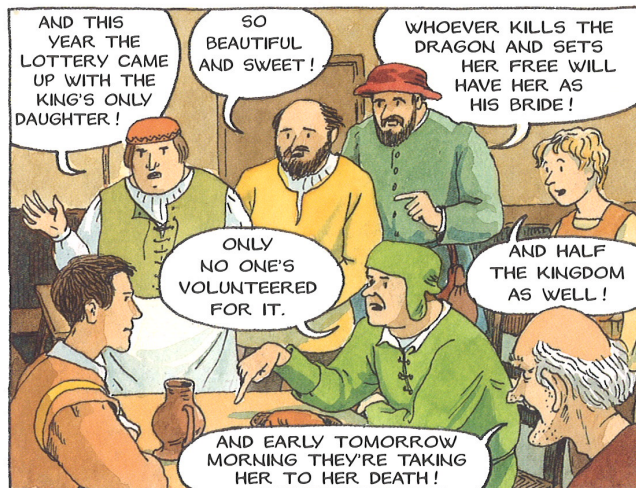
WHAT IS THE REASON FOR ALL THIS SADNESS?



YOU MUST BE FAR FROM HOME, TRAVELLER, IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT HAS HAPPENED!



IN A CLIFF BEYOND THE CITY LIVES A DRAGON. EVERY YEAR, WE MUST BRING HIM A MAIDEN TO DEVOUR, OR ELSE HE'D DESTROY THE ENTIRE CITY.



AND THIS YEAR THE LOTTERY CAME UP WITH THE KING'S ONLY DAUGHTER!

SO BEAUTIFUL AND SWEET!

WHOEVER KILLS THE DRAGON AND SETS HER FREE WILL HAVE HER AS HIS BRIDE!

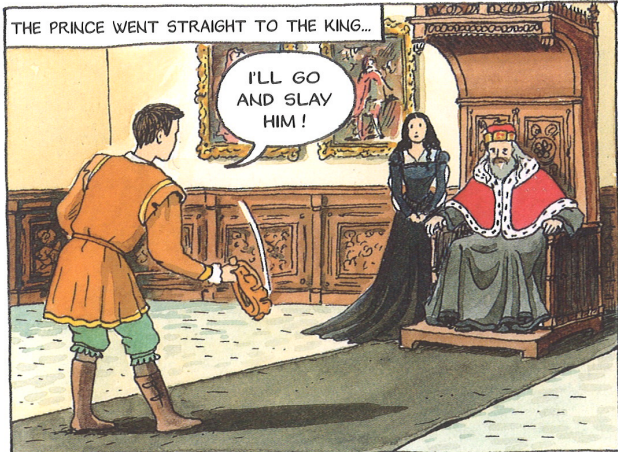
ONLY NO ONE'S VOLUNTEERED FOR IT.

AND HALF THE KINGDOM AS WELL!

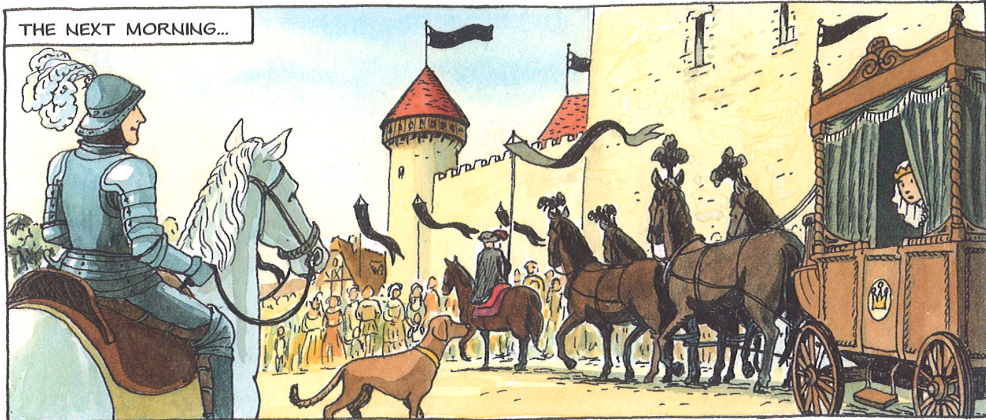
AND EARLY TOMORROW MORNING THEY'RE TAKING HER TO HER DEATH!



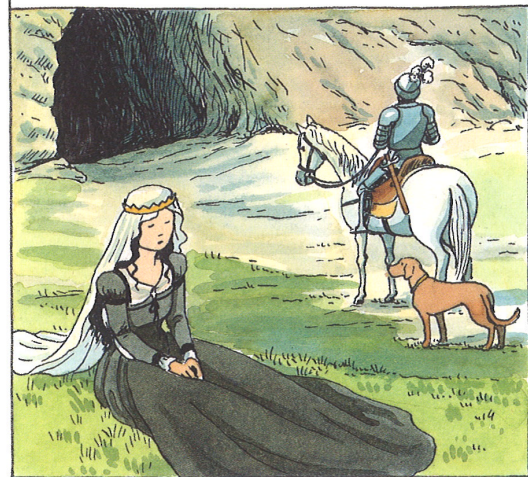
SO MAYBE I SHOULD TRY...



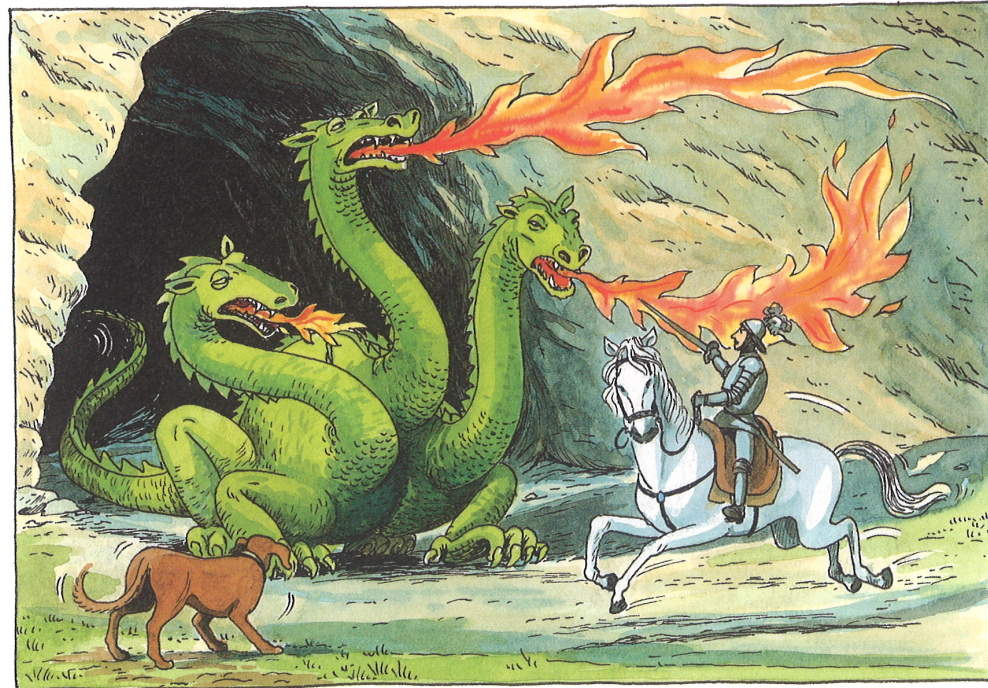
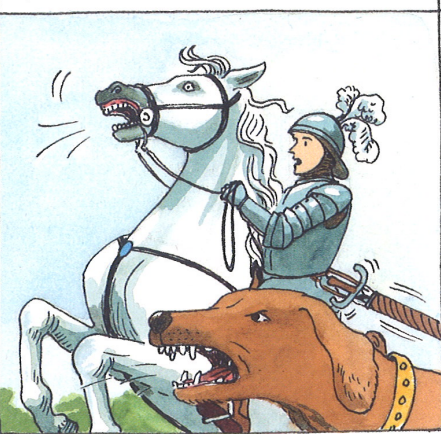
THE NEXT MORNING...



THEY ARRIVED AT THE DRAGON'S LAIR AND WAITED...

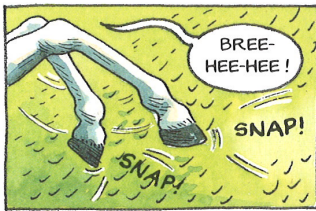
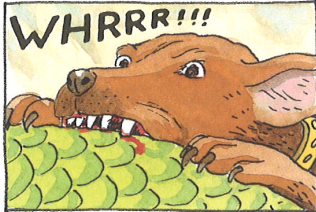
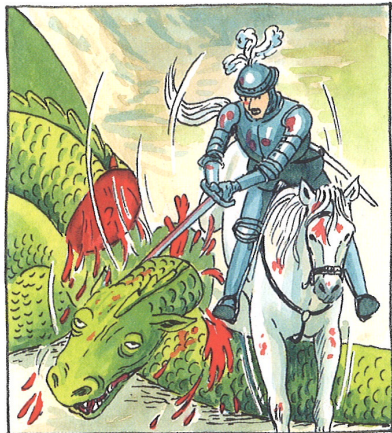
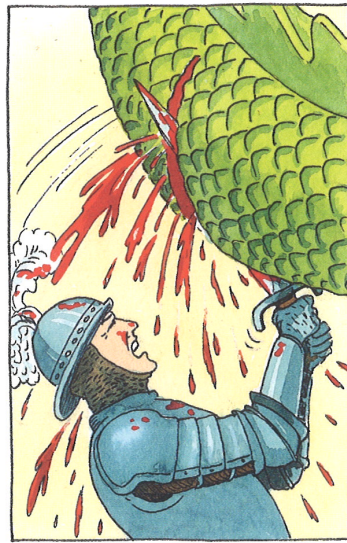


SUDDENLY, THE WHITE HORSE REARED UP, THE BROWN DOG BARKED, AND THE SWORD JUMPED IN ITS SHEATH AS IF ALIVE.





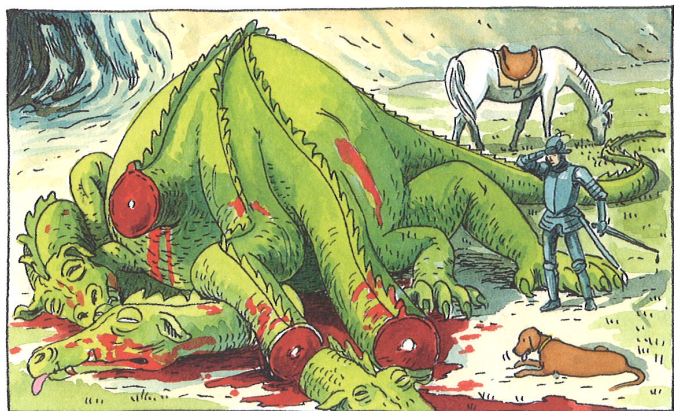
RRRAAHHH!



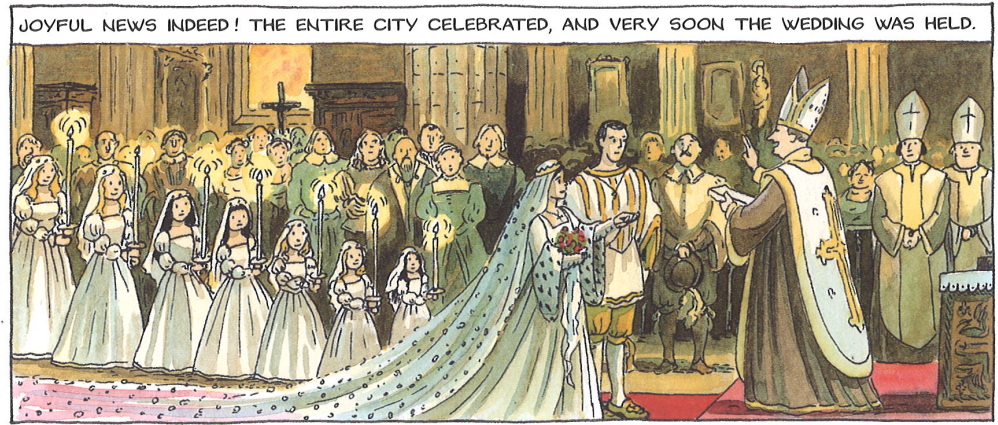
WHRRR!!!

BREE-HEE-HEE!

SNAP!



THANK YOU, PRINCE!
I BELIEVED ALL ALONG
THAT YOU
COULD!



JOYFUL NEWS INDEED! THE ENTIRE CITY CELEBRATED, AND VERY SOON THE WEDDING WAS HELD.

FOR SOME TIME, THE NEWLY WEDDED COUPLE LIVED HAPPILY AND PEACEFULLY, UNTIL ONE NIGHT...



WHAT IS THAT
LIGHT SHINING
FAR OFF IN THE
FOREST?



WE'VE BEEN MARRIED
FOR NEARLY A YEAR,
AND YOU'VE NEVER
TOLD ME. EVERY
DAY I SEE IT!



YOU DON'T
WANT TO KNOW,
MY BELOVED! IT WOULD
ONLY BRING SORROW TO
YOU AND TO ME!

BUT THE YOUNG KING COULD NOT BE QUIETED, AND THE NEXT EVENING HE RODE OUT TOWARDS THE LIGHT...



HE RODE THROUGH THE DARK FOREST, DEEPER AND DEEPER, UNTIL NIGHT HAD FALLEN...



AND THE CLOSER HE CAME, THE MORE DISTANT THE LIGHT SEEMED, UNTIL HE COULD NO LONGER SEE HIS WAY...



HE DISMOUNTED AND BUILT A FIRE TO WARM HIMSELF.



THEN SUDDENLY, OUT OF NOWHERE, AN AGED CRONE APPEARED...



OOOH, OOOH, MY DEAR, I'M COLD, COLD!

GRRR!



COME AND WARM YOURSELF!

OH MY DEAR, I'D LOVE TO, BUT I'M SO SCARED OF YOUR HORSE AND YOUR DOG!

GRRR...



DON'T BE AFRAID AND COME NEARER!

BUT MY DEAR BOY, JUST ALLOW ME TO WAVE MY STICK AT THE HORSE AND THE DOG...



...AND DRIVE THEM AWAY FROM THE FIRE!



WOOF! WOO...

GOOD GRIEF! THEY'VE TURNED TO STONE!

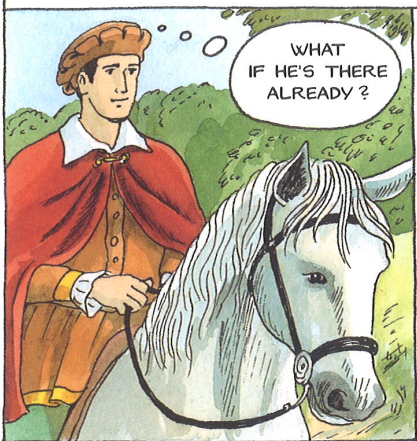


OH NO!

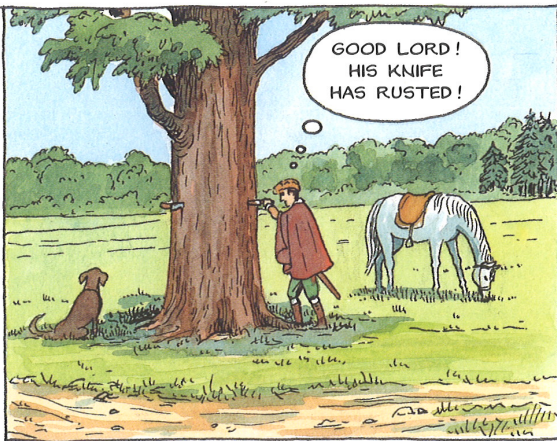


HE, HE HE! HE HE HE!

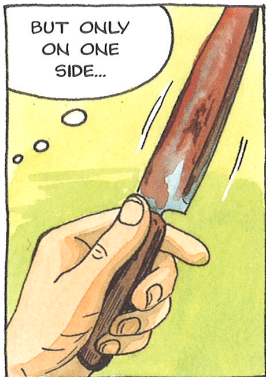
VERY SOON AFTER, IT WAS PRECISELY ONE YEAR AND A DAY AFTER THE BROTHERS HAD PARTED BY THE GREAT OAK...



WHAT IF HE'S THERE ALREADY?



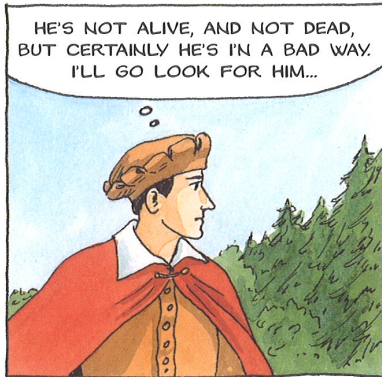
GOOD LORD! HIS KNIFE HAS RUSTED!



BUT ONLY ON ONE SIDE...

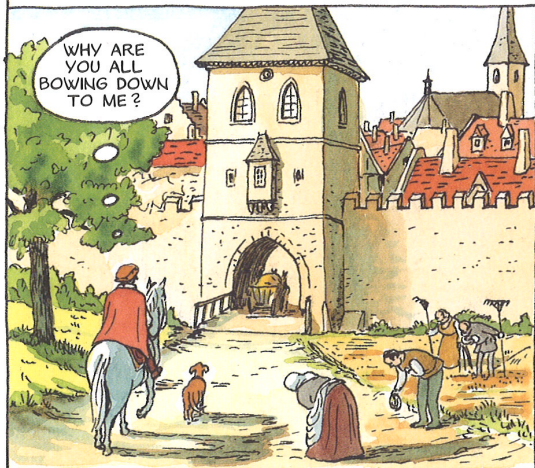


...AND THE OTHER IS AS SMOOTH AS GLASS...

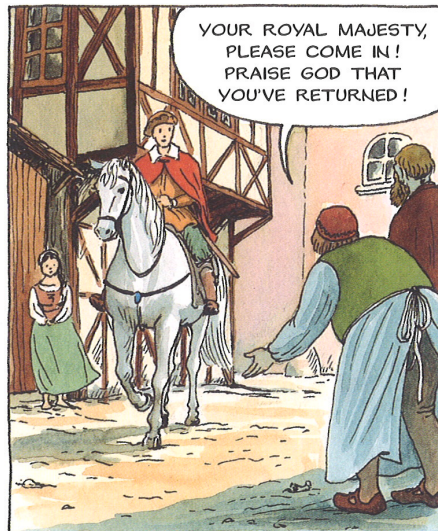


HE'S NOT ALIVE, AND NOT DEAD, BUT CERTAINLY HE'S IN A BAD WAY. I'LL GO LOOK FOR HIM...

AND SO THE PRINCE SET OFF ON THE SAME ROAD THAT HIS BROTHER HAD TAKEN BEFORE...



WHY ARE YOU ALL BOWING DOWN TO ME?



YOUR ROYAL MAJESTY, PLEASE COME IN! PRAISE GOD THAT YOU'VE RETURNED!



HOW WE'VE ALL WORRIED ABOUT YOU! FOR THREE DAYS WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING!

THE YOUNG KING IS BACK!

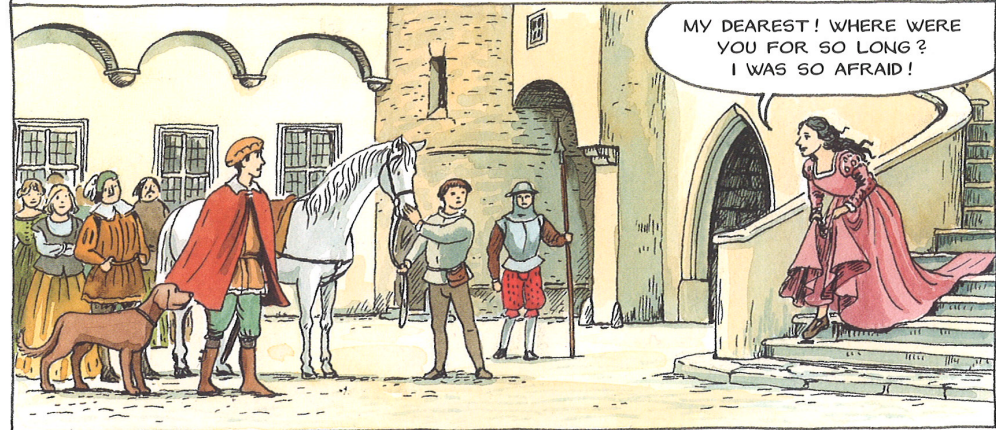
SO HE'S A KING...



AND TO THINK, YOUR MAJESTY, YOUR BEAUTIFUL QUEEN HAS BEEN WEeping!

HMM...EVEN A BEAUTIFUL QUEEN!...

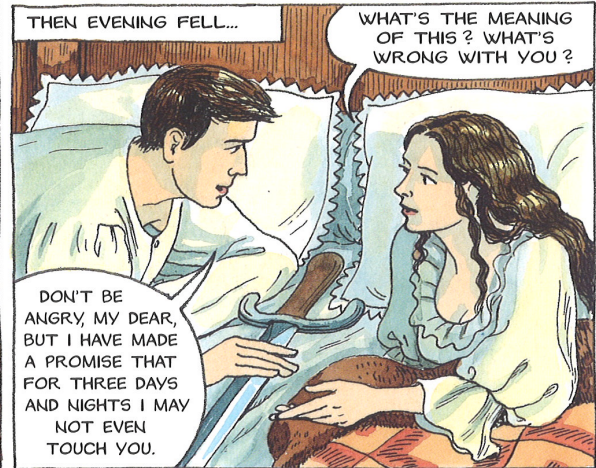
THE PRINCE DID NOT REVEAL THAT HE WAS NOT WHOM THEY THOUGHT HIM TO BE, BECAUSE HE WISHED TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HIS BROTHER. SO HE ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE LED WITH GREAT CEREMONY TO THE CASTLE.



MY DEAREST! WHERE WERE YOU FOR SO LONG? I WAS SO AFRAID!



I WENT HUNTING AND GOT LOST IN THE FOREST.



THEN EVENING FELL...

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS? WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

DON'T BE ANGRY, MY DEAR, BUT I HAVE MADE A PROMISE THAT FOR THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS I MAY NOT EVEN TOUCH YOU.



DON'T ASK ME, PLEASE, BUT YOU'LL KNOW SOON...

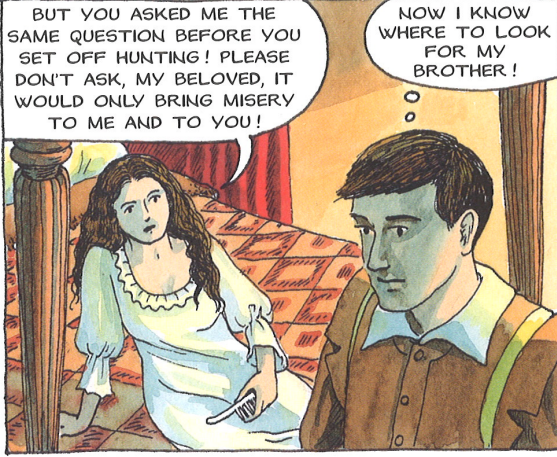


COME TO SLEEP, YOU MUST BE TIRED...

HE SAW THE DISTANT LIGHT SHINING THE NEXT DAY, AND THEN AGAIN...



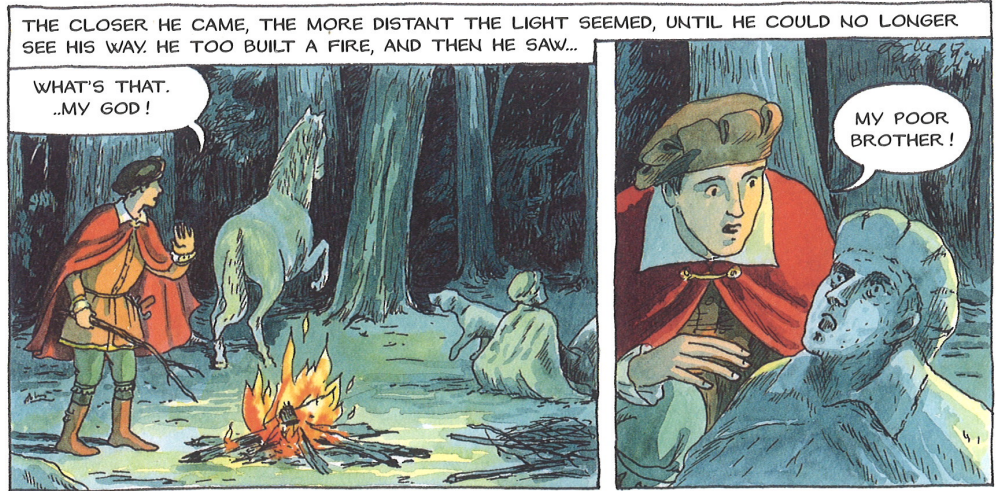
WHAT IS THAT LIGHT IN THE DISTANCE?



BUT YOU ASKED ME THE SAME QUESTION BEFORE YOU SET OFF HUNTING! PLEASE DON'T ASK, MY BELOVED, IT WOULD ONLY BRING MISERY TO ME AND TO YOU!

NOW I KNOW WHERE TO LOOK FOR MY BROTHER!

WHEN THE QUEEN WAS ASLEEP, THE PRINCE SET OFF IN SEARCH OF THE LIGHT.



THE CLOSER HE CAME, THE MORE DISTANT THE LIGHT SEEMED, UNTIL HE COULD NO LONGER SEE HIS WAY. HE TOO BUILT A FIRE, AND THEN HE SAW...

WHAT'S THAT. ..MY GOD!



MY POOR BROTHER!



CRACK! SNAP!

WHO'S THERE?

GRRR...

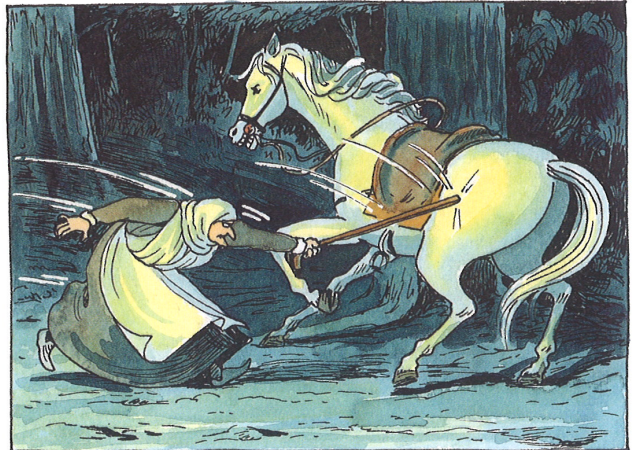


OOOH, OOOH, MY DEAR, I'M COLD, COLD!

COME NEARER AND WARM YOURSELF!



BUT I'M SO AFRAID OF YOUR HORSE AND YOUR DOG! PLEASE JUST LET ME CHASE THEM AWAY A BIT FROM THE FIRE!





NOW I'VE GOT YOU, YOU EVIL HAG, AND WOE BETIDE YOU IF YOU DON'T DO JUST AS I SAY!



OOOH, MY DEAR, OOOH MY DEAR, I'LL DO ANYTHING IF ONLY YOU GIVE ME MY STICK BACK!



RETURN THOSE THREE STONES AND MY HORSE BACK TO LIFE! AND IF YOU DON'T...! ?...



HERE'S THE WATER OF LIFE! SPRINKLE IT ON THEM AND THEY'LL BE ALIVE!

YOU DO IT YOURSELF!



WATCH OUT FOR HER!



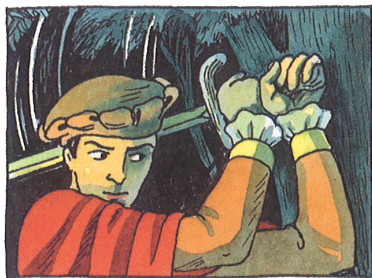
MY BROTHER!



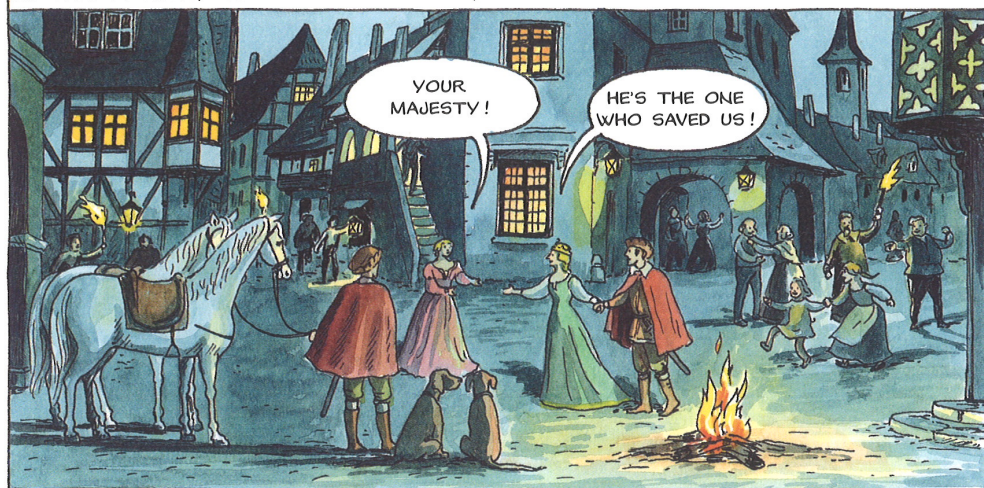
YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO HURT ANYONE AGAIN!

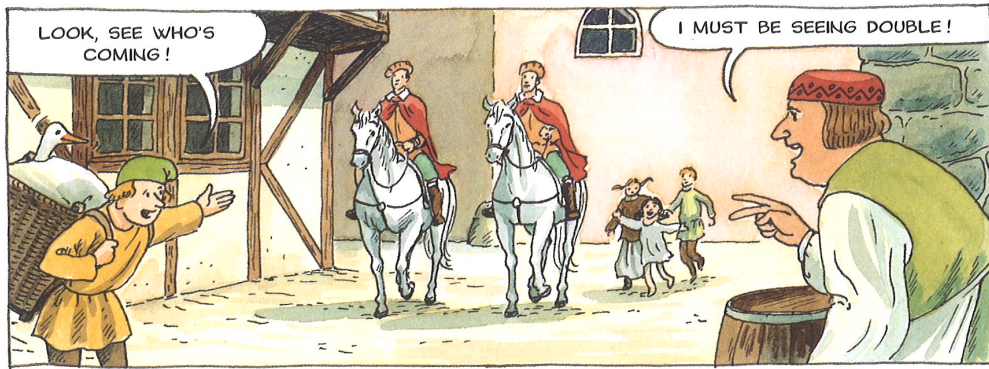


...AND NOW, YOU HAG, HERE'S WHAT YOU GET!



AT THAT MOMENT, THE FOREST DISAPPEARED, AND IN ITS PLACE ROSE A LARGE CITY.





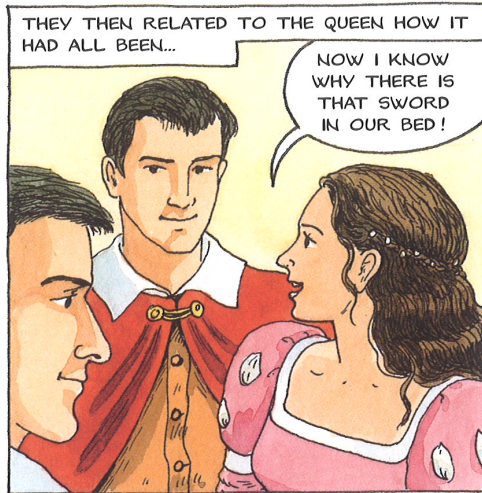
LOOK, SEE WHO'S COMING!

I MUST BE SEEING DOUBLE!



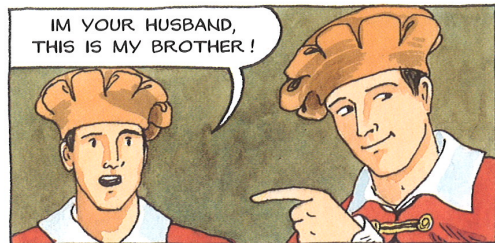
MY DEAR! I WAS STARTING TO FEAR THAT YOU'D BEEN LOST AGAIN!

BUT WHO'S THAT WITH YOU!



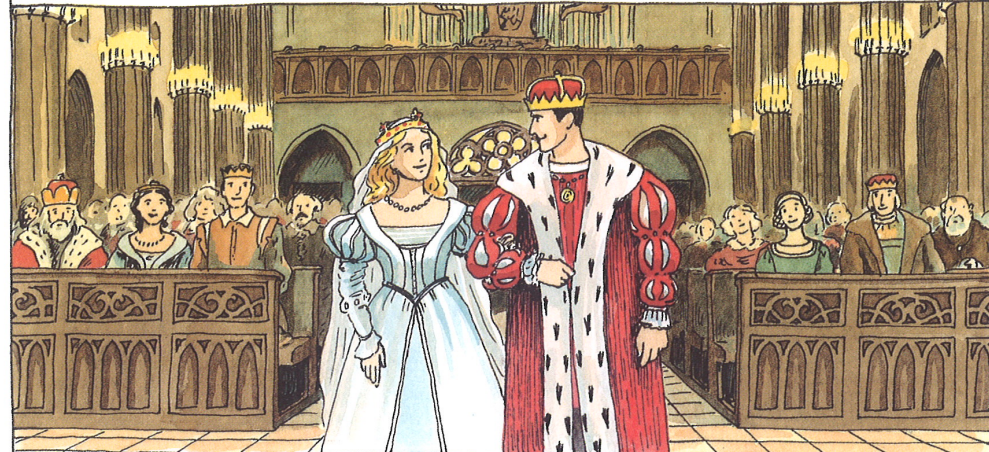
THEY THEN RELATED TO THE QUEEN HOW IT HAD ALL BEEN...

NOW I KNOW WHY THERE IS THAT SWORD IN OUR BED!



IM YOUR HUSBAND, THIS IS MY BROTHER!

VERY SOON AFTER THERE WAS ANOTHER SPLENDID WEDDING. THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER...



...AND STILL DO, IF THEY HAVEN'T YET DIED...

THE END