

1.The Happy Man

Many, many years ago, there was a chief. He was very rich but not happy. He thought, "I have everything, but that does not make me happy. What must I do to be happy?"

Once he shouted angrily to his servants, "Why can't I be happy? What must I do to be happy?"

One of his servants said, "Oh, my chief! What about music? Music makes a man happy. We shall play to you from morning till night, and music will make you happy."

The chief's face became red with anger. "Oh, no!" he cried. "What a silly idea. Music is fine. But to listen to music from morning till night, day after day? Never!"

So the servants went away and the chief sat angrily in his rich room. Then one of the servants came back into the room and bowed, "Oh, my chief," he said, "I think I can tell you something that will make you very happy."

"What is it?" asked the chief.

"It is very easy to do," the servant said. "You must find a happy man, take off his shirt and put it on. Then his happiness will

go into your body, and you will be as happy as he is!"

"I like your idea," said the chief. He sent his soldiers all over the country to look for a happy man. One day the soldiers found a man in a small village who said, "I am the happiest man in the world."

He was poor. But he always smiled and sang. The soldiers brought him to the chief. "At last I shall be a happy man!" said the chief, and he took off his shirt at once. "Bring the man in!" The door of the chief's room opened. A small, dark man with a happy smile walked in.

"Come here, my friend!" said the chief. "Please take off your shirt!" The happy man with smile came up to the chief. The chief looked at him, and what did he see? The happy man, the happiest man in the world, had no shirt!