

Tut and the Forest of Spells

Tut was no ordinary dog. When he was a pup, his parents abandoned him and a magician found him. The magician cast a spell on him that he would have special powers and they would only go once he died. Now these powers weren't just any ordinary powers like flying without wings and that stuff, his special powers were to be able to turn into any animal--including a human--and speak their language.

When Tut grew up, the magician wanted him to turn into a rat and spy on his enemies like the wicked sorcerers, but Tut didn't like his job. He didn't want to be used. It was cruel. So Tut ran away, but unfortunately the place he ran to was the forest of spells. And once you enter the forest of spells, an evil flying rock named Diemoan casts a spell on you. Tut's spell wasn't any ordinary spell like growing wings (which would be bad because dogs don't like to be in the air, or to have an automatic tug to go South for the winter), or to be turned into a frog. No, Tut's spell was to be unable to give his powers to his children until he was 14 (which is old for a dog), and only if they stayed with him for that long.

The reason Diemoan cast this particular spell on Tut was that the passing of Tut's powers from one generation to the next shortened the rock's life. You see, Diemoan was the human grandson of the magician who had given Tut his powers, turned into a flying rock by one of the evil sorcerers when he was his grandfather's apprentice.

But Tut didn't know about his spell until his wife, Hannah, had two pups, a girl named Josanna and a boy named Howard (after Howard Carter who discovered King Tut's tomb). So when his children were christened, the evil rock Diemoan came to Tut and Hannah's cabin and almost cast a spell on them, but he didn't because Tut chased him away before he could. But as soon as Diemoan went out into the forest, he whispered in Tut's mind "You have a spell on you!! And you cannot give your powers to your children unless they stay with you until you are fourteen! Bwaaaahaaaaa (evil laugh)."

Tut was a little freaked out. I mean, wouldn't you be if you just found out you were under a spell? And what he feared most was that his children wouldn't stay with him. He wanted his children to have his powers because they were so rare, they only happen to two dogs every two-hundred years. He didn't tell Hannah because he didn't want to freak her out too, but a week later, he spilled the beans. She was so horrified, she ran away, and Josanna went with her. Howard stayed for a month after that, but then he got bored--he was a very adventurous puppy--and left too.

Now Tut was scared because his children weren't there, and he was only three years-old. As quick as he could, he left the cabin to look for a new wife. He had to leave the forest of spells, but the spell stayed stuck on him like a cricket stuck in tree sap. He went to the nearest town called Hoseiten. There, he changed into a man so he could walk around without being questioned like "Where's your owner little dog," and he kept his identity a secret.

He went into a Pizza Hut for lunch, and while there, he saw a little girl Chihuahua through the window. He got so excited, he forgot to keep his identity secret, and he turned back into a dog. Everyone in the room wondered why a dog was sitting alone at a table eating a pizza, and the

manager threw him out of the building.

The little girl Chihuahua was so startled to see another dog getting thrown out the door, she ran over to him. She was a stray, and was worried that he would be hurt because she was a very kind and intelligent dog with nursing skills, so she dragged him behind the dumpster to check him out. He fainted at the sight of her beauty.

Once she figured out he was OK, he woke up. He looked at her with a relieved look in his eyes. He said "Um, I'm Tut, named after King Tut, what's your name?"

She said, "My name is Julia, are you okay?"

Tut said, "I'm fine, and I'm very glad to meet you."

Julia said, "I was a little startled when you flew out the door, and when I saw you through the window, you were a man. Why were you a man one minute, and a dog the next?"

Tut replied, "I have special powers that I have to pass down to my children, but my former wife and our children Josanna and Howard left, so I can't pass my powers down to them because I'm not fourteen yet, and they aren't here."

"Why do you have to be fourteen?" Julia asked.

"Because a spell has been cast on me by an evil flying rock named Diemoan," Tut replied.

Julia was flabbergasted, but this didn't scare her away. It made her a little nervous, but it made her want to help him even more.

"I'll help you solve your problems with Diemoan," Julia said.

"How about we get rid of him somehow," she asked.

"OK," Tut said, "But you have to promise not to enter the forest because Diemoan will find you and cast a spell on you."

"I'll go with you to the edge of the forest, then when you defeat Diemoan, you can show me your house."

Tut liked the idea, but then he heard an angry shout: "HEY YOU! BEHIND THE DUMPSTER!"

"Um...We'll talk about this later," said Julia, but first we have to get away from that human!"

Tut found a secret passage under the dumpster used by rats, but he and Julia were skinny enough to squeeze through it. He told Julia to wait at the entrance to the passage while he checked out the rest to see where it went. When he poked his head out the other end, he found

he was right inside the Forest of Spells, a few inches from Diemoan's lair--just a few more inches and he would have been clear of it.

So Tut went back into the tunnel and dug a new hole that led to the edge of the Forest of Spells, outside of Diemoan's territory. Then he heard a faint call in the distance from Julia to hurry up.

Then Tut ran back to Julia the two dogs headed back to the edge of the Forest of Spells in the new tunnel Tut dug.

When they got to the edge of the forest, they crawled up out of the hole. Julia saw the massive forest right in front of her.

"Is *this* where you live?" She asked nervously.

"Yes," Tut said.

"So.....Why don't you just stay out of the forest if Diemoan is so dangerous?"

"Because the spell still works outside the forest, and the only way to get rid of the spell is to get rid of Diemoan."

"But how are we going to get rid of Diemoan," Julia asked.

"Julia, are you a good artist?" Asked Tut.

"Well, I sculpt and paint rocks as a hobby," she replied.

"Perfect, we could use your art skills to sculpt a Chihuahua, and paint it the color of my fur to use as a decoy." Tut said.

"Why do we need a decoy," Julia asked?

"Do you know if there's a quarry nearby?" He continued.

"Um...I think there's one in the next town over." She answered.

"We can use the decoy to lure Diemoan to the quarry to be crushed with the other rocks."

"Okay! I'll get right to work on the decoy!" Said Julia.

A few hours later, Julia and Tut, and the decoy Tut were ready to put their plan into action.

"Do you like the air?" Tut asked.

"If you mean flying, I guess it's okay, but I've never flown before." Julia answered.

"Get ready for a surprise, and do you mind if I hold your shoulders?" Tut asked.

"Okay, as long as you know what you're doing Tut." She responded.

"BOOM!"

"Tut! Where are you?" Julia asked in bewilderment, seeing only an eagle where Tut used to be.

"I'm right here in front of you!" Said the bird.

"Tut, did you just turn into an eagle?" Asked Julia.

"Yes," said Tut, "I'm sorry Julia, but this is pretty normal for me because of my powers. Anyway, so you said there was a quarry nearby?"

"Yes, but it's on the other side of this forest." She said.

"That's alright," said Tut, "we have to go through the forest to lure Diemoan anyway."

"How am I going to get through the forest with you Tut," asked Julia. "I don't want to have a spell put on me too."

"You can hide in the feathers on my back," Tut said, "and I will carry the decoy in my new talons."

"I hope you know you know what you're doing....By the way, have you ever been an eagle before?" Julia asked.

"No," replied Tut, "but I'd never been a man before either, and I did a pretty good job of ordering that pizza!" Tut chuckled.

"Good point," said Julia, "Okay, let's get this over with!"

So Julia climbed on Tut's back, and buried herself in his feathers.

"Comfortable?" Asked Tut.

"It tickles a little, but I'm ready to go!" Julia answered.

Tut picked up the decoy in his talons, being careful not to crush it (because eagle's talons are very strong), and off they flew, back in the direction of Diemoan's lair.

Back inside the Forest of Spells, Diemoan was busy trying to figure out what made the "boom" noise he heard, when a huge eagle came swooping by with Tut clutched in his talons. Diemoan

saw Tut and decided to follow them. He was curious where they were going, and since they were headed straight for the headquarters of the evil sorcerers, he was worried Tut might have found out that they could break the spell.

Meanwhile, Tut had no idea that the quarry was the headquarters of the evil sorcerers who had created Diemoan, he just knew it was a good place to crush rocks. Once he heard the sound of Diemoan's heavy wings flapping behind him, he knew his plan was working.

Tut flew straight into the quarry, and Diemoan had to decide: follow them into the most dangerous place on Earth for rocks to stop them from what he thought was their plan, or turn back towards safety and risk shortening his life if Tut got help breaking the spell.

Diemoan decided to follow them, even though they were flying straight at the rock crusher. The Eagle landed and placed fake Tut on the conveyor belt that went into the rock crusher. Diemoan landed right next to the fake Tut, while the the real Tut turned himself into a human quarry worker and flipped the switch to super fast speed, and before Diemoan realized what was happening, he fell into the crusher and he and the decoy Tut were crushed into gravel.

When Diemoan was crushed, the spell was instantly broken for Tut.

Tut and Julia were married three days later. Some time later, Julia had five pups, three girls and two boys, all born with their father's powers. Their names were Isis, Nephthys, Bast, Osirus and Horus. They lived happily-ever-after in Tut's cozy cabin in the forest. As a wedding present, Tut planted a lovely garden for his beloved Julia, and used some gravel from the quarry to pave a path to get to it.

THE END