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Самые лучшие
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Самые лучшие английские сказки

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Чтение простых сказок – один из лучших способов начать изучение английского языка. Книга включает самые известные английские сказки, среди которых «Том Тит Тот», «Джек и бобовый стебель», «Три поросёнка» и др. Сказки подготовлены для начального уровня (т. е. для начинающих учить английский язык), снабжены комментариями и упражнениями для проверки понимания текстов. В конце книги дается англо-русский словарь. CD прилагается только к печатному изданию.

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Самые лучшие английские сказки

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Tom Tit Tot



Once upon a time there was a woman,¹ and she baked five pies. And when they came out of the oven, they were very hard to eat. So she says to her daughter:

“Daughter, put the pies on the shelf, and leave them there a little, and they will come again.”² That is,³ the crust will become softer.

But the girl says to herself, “Well, if they come again, I will eat them now.” And she ate them all.

Well, when supper-time came, the woman said, “Go and get one of the pies. I think they came again now.”

The girl went and looked, and there were only dishes. So she comes back and says, “No, they did not come again.”

“No?” says the mother.

“No,” says the daughter.

“Well,” said the woman, “I’ll⁴ eat one for supper.”

“But you can’t,⁵ if they didn’t⁶ come,” said the girl.

“But I can,” says she. “Go you, and bring the best pie.”

“Best or worst,” says the girl, “I ate them all, and you can’t eat the pie till it comes again.”

Well, the woman was very angry, and she took her spinning to the door, and she began to sing:

“My daughter ate five, five pies today.

My daughter ate five, five pies today.”

The king was coming down the street, and he heard her song. So he stopped and said:

¹ **once upon a time there was a woman** – жила-была женщина

² **they will come again** – они подойдут снова

³ **that is** – то есть

⁴ **I’ll** = I shall, I will

⁵ **can’t** = cannot

⁶ **didn’t** = did not

“What were you singing, my good woman?”

The woman told him these other words, instead of that:⁷

“My daughter span five, five skeins today.

My daughter span five, five skeins today.”

“Oh!” said the king, “I never heard of anyone who could do that.” Then he said, “Listen, I want a wife, and I’ll marry your daughter. During eleven months of the year she will have everything that she wants; but the last month of the year she will spin five skeins every day, and if she can’t I shall kill her.”

“All right,” says the woman; she thought only about a grand marriage. Her daughter was very happy. “I’ll marry a king!” she thought. “And in eleven months the king will forget about skeins.”

Well, so they were married. And for eleven months the girl had all she liked to eat, and all the dresses she liked to wear, and all the friends she liked.

When the time came, she began to think about the skeins. But the king did not say any word about them, and she decided that he forgot them.

However, the last day of the last month he takes her to a new room. There was nothing in it but a spinning-wheel and a stool. And he says, “Now, my dear, I’ll shut you here tomorrow with some food and some flax, and if you do not spin five skeins by the night, your head will be cut.”⁸ And he went away.

The girl was very frightened, she didn’t know how to spin, and what will she show the king tomorrow? Nobody will come to help her. She sat down on a stool in the kitchen, and began to cry.

Suddenly she heard a knock on the door. She stood up and opened it, and she saw a small black impet with a long tail. He looked at her, and asked:

“Why are you crying?”

“Why do you ask?” says she.

“Tell me,” said he, “why are you crying.”

And he turned his tail around.

So the poor girl told him about the pies, and the skeins, and everything.

“I’ll help you,” says the little black impet, “I’ll come to your window every morning and take the flax and bring it ready at night.”

“What do you want for that?” says she.

He said, “I’ll give you three guesses every night to guess my name, and if you don’t guess it before the end of the month you will be mine.”⁹

Well, she thought, “I’ll guess his name for sure”¹⁰. “All right,” says she, “I agree.”

The next day, her husband took her into the room, and there was the flax and her food.

“This is the flax,” says he, “and if you don’t spin it this night, you’ll lose your head.” And then he went out and locked the door.

So the girl heard a knock near the window. She stood up and opened it, and there was the little old impet.

“Where’s the flax?” says he.

“Here it is,” says she. And she gave it to him.

When the evening came, the knock came again to the window. The girl stood up and opened it, and there was the little old impet with five skeins of flax on his arm.

“Here it is,” says he, and he gave it to her.

“Now, what’s my name?” says he.

⁷ **instead of that** – вместо того

⁸ **your head will be cut** – тебе отрубят голову

⁹ **you will be mine** – ты будешь моею

¹⁰ **for sure** – наверняка

“Is that Bill?” says she.

“No, it isn’t!” says he, and he twirled his tail.

“Is that Ned?” says she.

“No, it isn’t!” says he, and he twirled his tail.

“Well, is that Mark?” says she.

“No, it isn’t!” says he, and he twirled his tail harder and flew away.

When her husband came in, there were the five skeins ready for him. “Well, I shan’t¹¹ kill you tonight, my dear,” says he; “you’ll have your food and your flax in the morning,” says he, and goes away.

Every day he brought the flax and the food, and every day that little black impet came mornings and evenings. And all the day the girl was trying to guess his name in order to¹² say it when the impet came at night. But she did not say the right name. By the end of the month, the impet began to look very angrily, and twirled his tail faster and faster.

Finally the last day came. The impet came at night with the five skeins, and said:

“Do you know my name?”

“Is that Nicodemus?¹³” says she.

“No, it isn’t,” he says.

“Is that Sammlle?¹⁴” says she.

“No, it isn’t,” he says.

“Is that Methusalem?¹⁵” says she.

“No, no, no!” he says.

Then he looks at her and says: “Woman, there’s only tomorrow night, and then you’ll be mine!” And he flew away.

She was very afraid. But the king came. When he sees the five skeins, he says:

“Well, my dear, if I see the skeins ready tomorrow night, I shan’t kill you. And I’ll have supper here.” So he brought supper, and another stool for him, and they sat down.

Suddenly he stops and begins to laugh.

“What’s up?¹⁶” says she.

“Oh,” says he, “I was hunting today, and I went very far in the wood. And I heard a song. So I got off¹⁷ my horse, and I went forward. I saw a funny little black man. He had a little spinning-wheel, and he was spinning wonderfully fast, and he was twirling his tail. And he was singing:

“Nimmy nimmy not

My name’s Tom Tit Tot.”

When the girl heard this, she became very happy, but she didn’t say a word.

Next day that little impet looked very malicious when he came for the flax. And when the night came, she heard the knock. She opened the window, and the impet came into the room. He was grinning, and his tail was twirling very fast.

“What’s my name?” he asked when he was giving her the skeins.

“Is that Solomon?¹⁸” she says.

“No, it isn’t,” he said, and came further into the room.

¹¹ **shan’t** = shall not

¹² **in order to** – чтобы

¹³ **Nicodemus** – Никодим

¹⁴ **Sammlle** – Сэммл

¹⁵ **Methusalem** – Мафусаил

¹⁶ **What’s up?** – В чём дело?

¹⁷ **I got off** – я слез

¹⁸ **Solomon** – Соломон

“Well, is that Zebedee?¹⁹” says she again.

“No, it isn’t,” says the impet. And then he laughed and twirled his tail like a wheel.

“Take time,²⁰ woman,” he says, “next guess, and you’re mine.” And he lifted his black hands.

The girl smiled and said:

“NIMMY NIMMY NOT, YOUR NAME’S TOM TIT TOT!”

When the impet heard her, he cried awfully and flew away into the dark, and she never saw him any more.

¹⁹ **Zebedee** – Зеvedей

²⁰ **Take time** – Не торопись

Упражнения

1. *Выберите правильный вариант:*

1. A woman lies to a king; she tells him that her daughter can spin five skeins.
2. A woman lies to a king; she tells him that her daughter can spin three skeins.
3. A woman lies to a king; she tells him that her daughter can spin six skeins.
4. A woman lies to a king; she tells him that her daughter can spin two skeins.

2. *Where does the king shut the girl?*

1. The king shuts the girl in a castle with no food.
2. The king shuts the girl in a room with impets.
3. The king shuts the girl in a castle room with a spinning wheel.
4. The king shuts the girl in a basement with ugly rats.

3. *What is an impet?*

1. a noble man
2. an animal
3. a big bird
4. a small demon

4. *Why does the girl agree to marry a king?*

1. Because she knows how to spin.
2. Because she does not need her head.
3. Because she thinks that he will forget about his promise.
4. Because she has nobody to marry.

5. *What is a skein?*

1. a machine for spinning
2. a length of yarn or thread in a loose coil
3. a round piece of wool
4. silk bobbin

6. *What is Tom Tit Tot's payment?*

1. three jars of gold
2. the girl herself
3. the pies
4. the kingdom

7. *Выберите правильный вариант:*

1. The king helped his wife to spin.
2. The king is very kind.
3. The king killed the impet.
4. The king learned the impet's name.

8. *What does it mean, "the pies will come again"?*

1. The pies have legs.
2. The pies will be ready soon.
3. The pies left, but they promised to return.

4. The pies usually come and go away.

9. *Why did the impet twirl his tail?*

1. He was nervous.
2. He was proud of his tail.
3. He had nothing to play with.
4. He did not know what to do with his tail.

10. *Выберите нужный глагол:*

The impet _____ from the girl a promise that she will be his.

1. tells
2. gives
3. makes
4. extracts

11. *Выберите нужные глаголы:*

The king _____ to his wife, "Now _____ me what you _____."

1. told, promise, give
2. tells, give, promised
3. promised, tell, give
4. gave, promise, give

12. *Выберите нужный предлог:*

for – of – with – on

1. Put the pies _____ the shelf, and leave them there a little.
2. During eleven months _____ the year she will have everything that she wants.
3. I'll shut you here tomorrow _____ some food and some flax.
4. Next day that little impet looked very malicious when he came _____ the flax.

13. *Ответьте на вопросы:*

1. How many persons are mentioned in the story?
2. What is the name of the impet?
3. What have you learned about the impet?
4. What do you like and what don't you like in the girl?
5. What would you do if you were²¹ the main character of the story?
6. What is the end of the story?
7. Retell the story.

14. *Заполните таблицу:*

²¹ What would you do if you were – что бы вы сделали на месте

come		coming
put		putting
	left	
bring		bringing
hear	heard	

ОТВЕТЫ:

1. A woman lies to a king; she tells him that her daughter can spin five skeins.
2. The king shuts the girl in a castle room with a spinning wheel.
3. a small demon
4. Because she thinks that he will forget about his promise.
5. a length of yarn or thread in a loose coil
6. the girl herself
7. The king learned the impet's name.
8. The pies will be ready soon.
9. He was nervous.
10. The impet extracts from the girl a promise that she will be his.
11. The king tells to his wife, "Now give me what you promised."
12.
 1. Put the pies **on** the shelf, and leave them there a little.
 2. During eleven months **of** the year she will have everything that she wants.
 3. I'll shut you here tomorrow **with** some food and some flax.
 4. Next day that little impet looked very malicious when he came **for** the flax.
- 14.

come	came	coming
put	put	putting
leave	left	leaving
bring	brought	bringing
hear	heard	hearing

How Jack Went to Seek His Fortune²²

Once on a time there was a boy named Jack,²³ and one morning he decided to go and seek his fortune.

He did not go very far and he met a cat.

“Where are you going, Jack?” said the cat.

“I am going to seek my fortune.”

“May I go with you?”

“Yes,” said Jack, “the more the merrier.”²⁴

So on they went.²⁵

They went a little further and they met a dog.

“Where are you going, Jack?” said the dog.

“I am going to seek my fortune.”

“May I go with you?”

“Yes,” said Jack, “the more the merrier.”

So on they went.

They went a little further and they met a goat.

“Where are you going, Jack?” said the goat.

“I am going to seek my fortune.”

“May I go with you?”

“Yes,” said Jack, “the more the merrier.”

So on they went.

They went a little further and they met a bull.

“Where are you going, Jack?” said the bull.

“I am going to seek my fortune.”

“May I go with you?”

“Yes,” said Jack, “the more the merrier.”

So on they went.

They went a little further and they met a rooster.

“Where are you going, Jack?” said the rooster.

“I am going to seek my fortune.”

“May I go with you?”

“Yes,” said Jack, “the more the merrier.”

So on they went.

The day was over, and they began to think of some place where they could spend the night. They found a house, and Jack told his friends to keep still²⁶ while he went up and looked in through the window.²⁷ There were some robbers, they were counting their money. Then Jack went back and told his friends to wait till he gave the word,²⁸ and then to make all the noise they could. So when they were all ready, Jack gave the word, and the cat mewed, and the dog barked, and the goat bleated,

²² **How Jack Went To Seek His Fortune** – Как Джек счастья искал

²³ **named Jack** – по имени Джек

²⁴ **the more the merrier** – чем больше, тем веселее

²⁵ **So on they went.** – И они пошли дальше.

²⁶ **told his friends to keep still** – сказал своим друзьям, чтобы они не шумели

²⁷ **looked in through the window** – заглянул в окно

²⁸ **to wait till he gave the word** – ждать, пока он не даст сигнал

and the bull bellowed, and the rooster crowed, and all together they made such a dreadful noise that it frightened the robbers and they ran away.

And then our friends came in. Jack was afraid that the robbers could come back in the night. So when it came time to go to bed he put the cat in the chair, and he put the dog under the table, and he put the goat upstairs, and he put the bull down cellar, and the rooster flew up on to the roof,²⁹ and Jack went to bed.

The robbers saw that it was all dark and they sent one man back to the house to look after³⁰ the money. But he came back in a great fright and told them his story.

“I went back to the house,” said he, “and went in and tried to sit down in the chair, and there was an old woman, she was knitting, and she stuck her knitting-needles into me.” That was the cat, you know.

“Then I went to the table to look after the money and there was a shoemaker under the table, and he stuck his awl into me.” That was the dog, you know.

“Then I started to go upstairs, and there was a man up there, he was threshing, and he knocked me down with his flail.” That was the goat, you know.

“Then I started to go down cellar, and there was a man down there, he was chopping wood, and he knocked me up with his axe.” That was the bull, you know.

“But the most dreadful thing was that little boy on top of the house. He was crying, ‘Chuck him up³¹ to me-e! Chuck him up to me-e!’” Of course³² that was the cock-a-doodle-do.³³

²⁹ **flew up on to the roof** – взлетел на крышу

³⁰ **look after** – присмотреть

³¹ **Chuck him up!** – Бросайте его вверх!

³² **of course** – конечно

³³ **cock-a-doodle-do** – ку-ка-ре-ку

Johnny-Cake

Once upon a time there was an old man. He lived with an old woman and a little boy. One morning the old woman made a Johnny-cake, and put it in the oven to bake.

“Watch the Johnny-cake and I will go to work in the garden,” she said to the little boy. Then the old man and the old woman went out.

But the little boy didn’t watch the Johnny-cake, and suddenly he heard a noise. He looked up and saw how the oven door opened. Out of the oven³⁴ jumped Johnny-cake and went towards the door of the house.

“Stop, stop!” cried the little boy, but Johnny-cake was very quick and ran away. The boy called his parents for help, but they could not catch Johnny-cake. Soon he was out of sight.³⁵

Johnny-cake was going along the road, and soon he came to two well-diggers who were digging a well. They saw him and asked, “Where are you going, Johnny-cake?”

He said, “I outran an old man, and an old woman and a little boy, and I can outrun you too-o-o!”

“Really? You can, can you? We’ll see!” they said, and threw down their picks and ran after him.³⁶ But they could not catch him, and soon they sat down by the road to rest.

Johnny-cake was going along the road, and soon he came to two ditch-diggers who were digging a ditch.

“Where are you going, Johnny-cake?” said they.

He said, “I outran an old man, and an old woman, and a little boy and two well-diggers, and I can outrun you too-o-o!”

“You can, can you? We’ll see!” they said, and threw down their spades and ran after him. But Johnny-cake soon was very quick, and when they saw that they could never catch him, they sat down to rest.

³⁴ **out of the oven** – из печи

³⁵ **he was out of sight** – он скрылся из виду

³⁶ **ran after him** – погнались за ним

Конец ознакомительного фрагмента.

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