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The Doll-Maker

Once there was a doll-maker in small village. He had a son- Shanu. His father always hoped his son would grow up to be the best doll-maker.

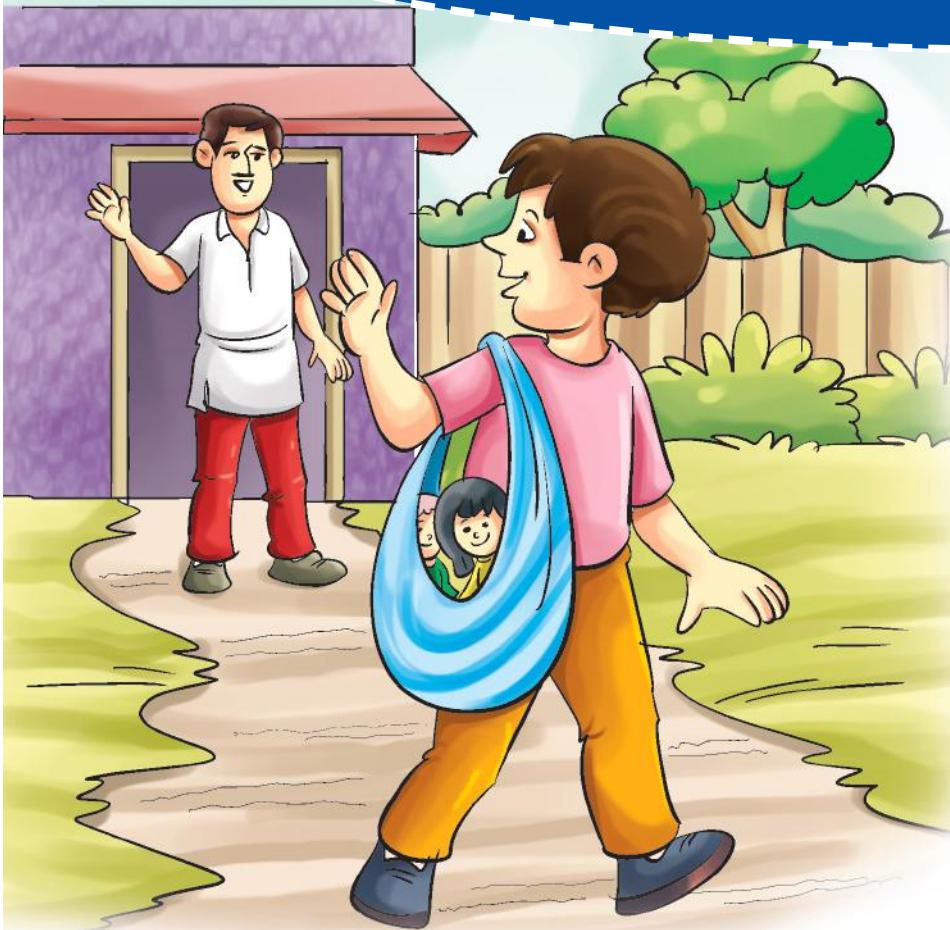
One day Shanu said, “Dad, I’ve decided to leave home and seek my fortune.”

Sadly. The doll-maker said, “I wish you would stay with me and learn the making of dolls. The life of a doll-maker is very good. But if you have made up your mind, then I will not stop you. But let me give you companions for your journey.”

He showed his son four wooden dolls he had designed and said, “Each doll has its own quality.”

The first doll was the queen of Gods. The second doll was the queen of **giants**. The third doll was the queen of **wizard**. The fourth doll was a **holy hermit**. The doll-maker said, “The God’s quality is wisdom. The giant’s quality is strength. The wizard’s quality is knowledge. The hermit’s quality is **goodness**.”





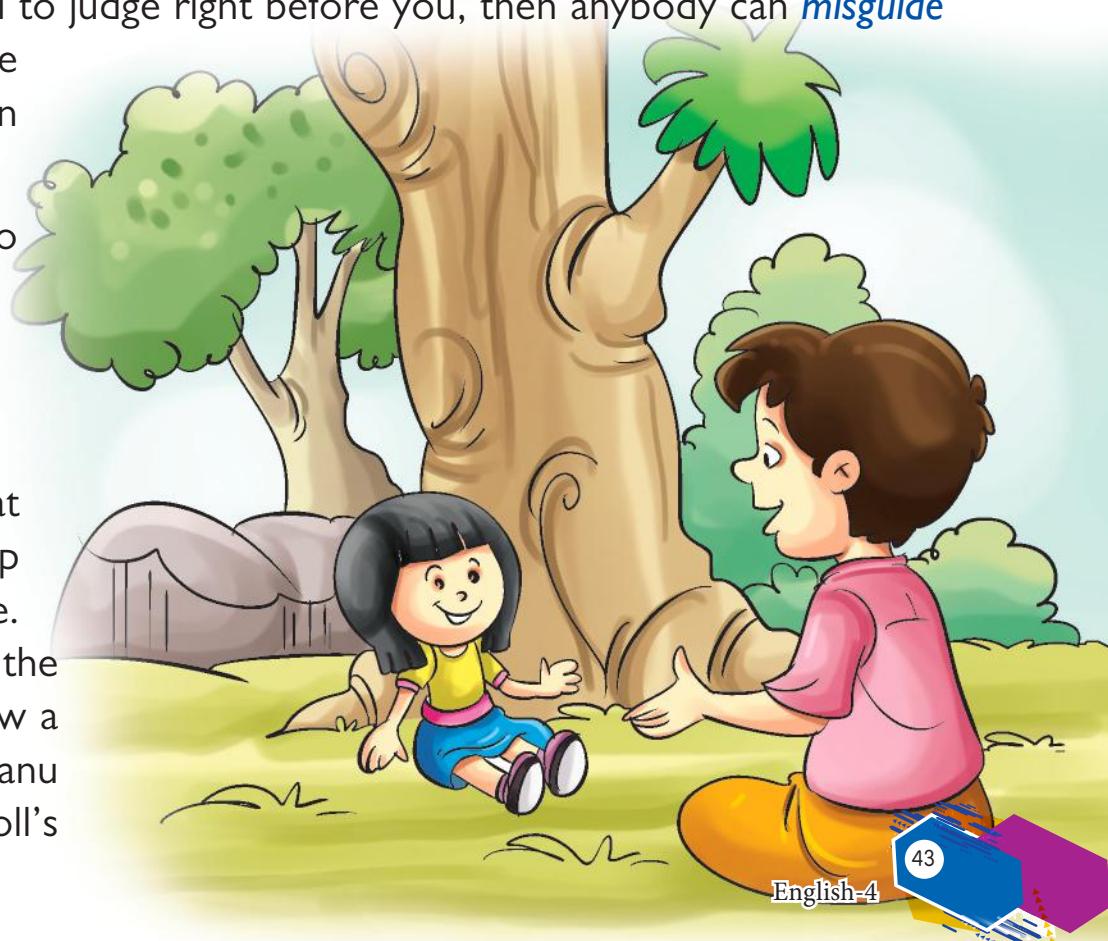
He told his son, "Each quality will help you in your journey. But remember, strength and knowledge must always serve wisdom and goodness."

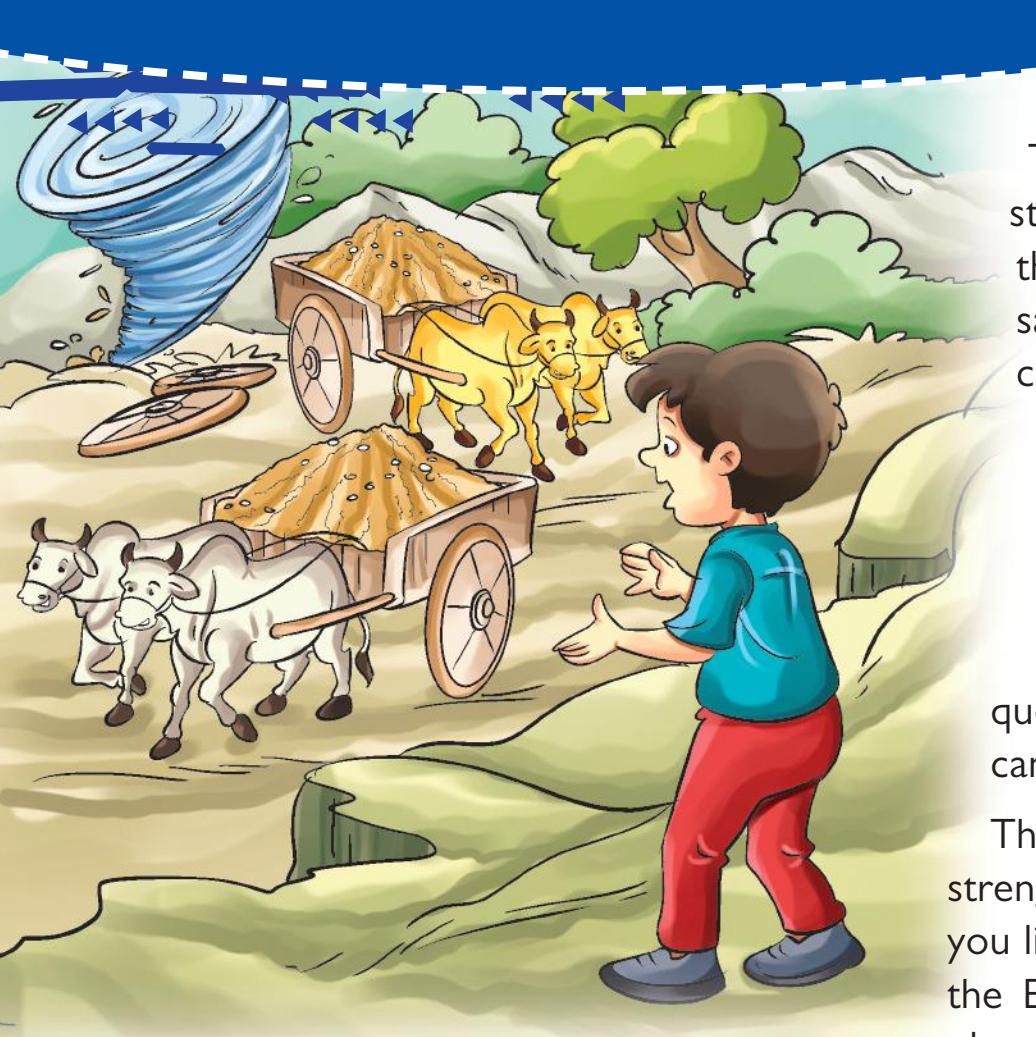
Shanu started his journey. He carried a bag on one of his shoulders with food and clothing, and on other the dolls were hanging. After a long journey, it became dark and at that time, he was in the forest. He stopped beneath a banyan tree.

"It is a good place to sleep, but there is no surety," he thought. Then he thought that he must ask one of the dolls. He turned to the queen of gods, "Tell me, is it safe here?"

The doll said, "Shanu, open your eyes and look around you. That is the first step to wisdom. If you fail to judge right before you, then anybody can *misguide* you easily." Saying this, the doll was hanging again on his shoulder.

Shanu was shocked to hear this and he looked carefully all around the tree. Suddenly, he observed the footprints of a tiger. That night he preferred to sleep in the branches of the tree. And after some time in the middle of the night, he saw a tiger *wandering* there. Shanu was very glad at the doll's advice.





The next day, Shanu again started his journey and reached the mountains. On the way he saw a caravan with costly goods carried by six bullock-carts coming along side. Shanu told himself, "I wish I had wealth like that."

Then he had a thought and he turned with a smile to the queen of giants. "Tell me, how can I gain such wealth?"

The doll said, "If you have strength, you can take whatever you like. She **engraved** her foot and the Earth shook. A **landslide** took place and it blocked the road. The terrified people of caravan jumped

from their carts and ran off.

"Now, all wealth is yours," said the giant doll.

Shanu rushed down to the carts and shouted, "All is mine!"

Just then, Shanu heard a voice of cry. He saw a very beautiful girl was lying in that cart. She was crying and **shivering** in fear.

"I won't hurt you," said Shanu gently. He asked, "Who are you?"

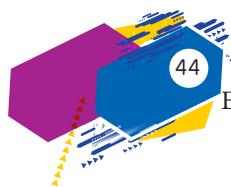
"My name is Divya. My father is the owner of this caravan. We were on our way to meet him," she said.

All at once, Shanu fell in love with Divya. He wanted her at any cost. He said, "Don't worry. I'll marry with you and give everything you desire."

Divya shouted, "Shut up. You are talking like a thief. I'll never speak to you."

Shanu was **shocked** at her statement. He didn't know what to say.

The giant doll **provoked** him and said, "Don't listen to her. Now you have



everything what you wanted.
Now, you can enjoy."

Shanu asked the giant doll,
"What should I do now with
all these wealth?"

"Don't ask me!" said the giant
doll, "ask the queen of wizard."
Saying this, the doll was hanging
again on his shoulder.

Shanu turned to the queen of
wizard, "Can you show me the
right path?"

The doll came alive and stood
in front of him. The doll said, "If
you want your wealth to grow,
you must learn the secrets of
nature."

The wizard doll took out a magic mirror and told Shanu to look into this. Shanu saw everything in a new way. He was now aware of the suitable land for farming, and the mines of diamonds. Then, the wizard doll was hanging again on his shoulder.

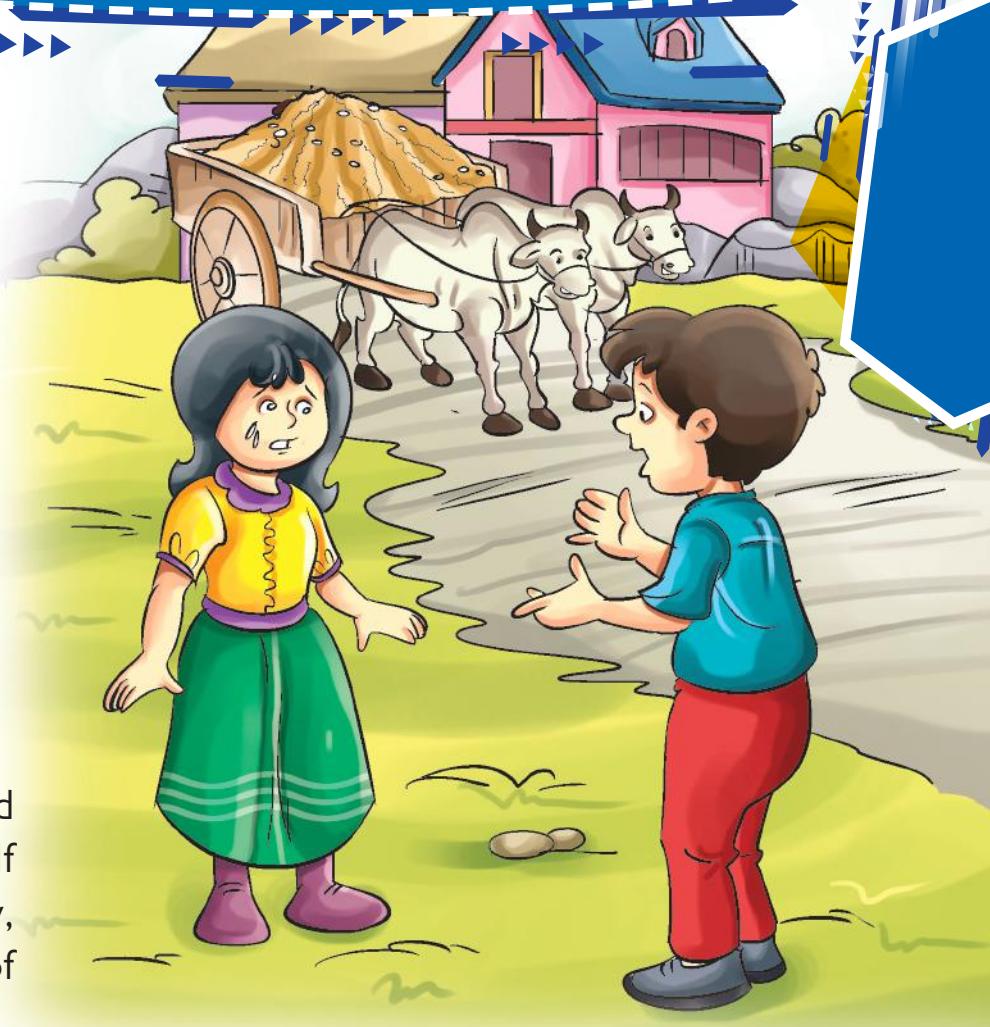
Now Shanu came to the city with Divya and became a merchant. He bought a palace for himself and Divya, and kept the dolls in a special room of their own.

But Divya still would not speak to Shanu. One day, he placed before her a *precious* necklace but Divya pushed it away.

Shanu was *heartbroken*. The next morning, when Shanu was awake, Divya was nowhere in the palace. He went to the dolls' room in despair. He asked the giant doll and wizard doll, "What good is all my wealth if I've lost what I care for most?"

This time, these two dolls were silent and still.

Then Shanu remembered there was one doll he had never called on. He turned to the holy hermit and asked, "How can I find my Divya, my life?"



The hermit doll came to life and said, "Shanu, it is true that wealth brings happiness. But true happiness comes only from goodness."

The doll of Gods also came to life and encouraged the hermit and said, "You have forgotten your father's words that strength and knowledge must always serve wisdom and goodness."

Shanu realized his mistake and from that day on, Shanu used his wealth and talents to do good. He built a fabulous dharamshala, and offered food and shelter to those who visited it.

One day a young woman and an old man visited there. Both of them were in ordinary clothes. Watching them, Shanu cried, "Divya!"

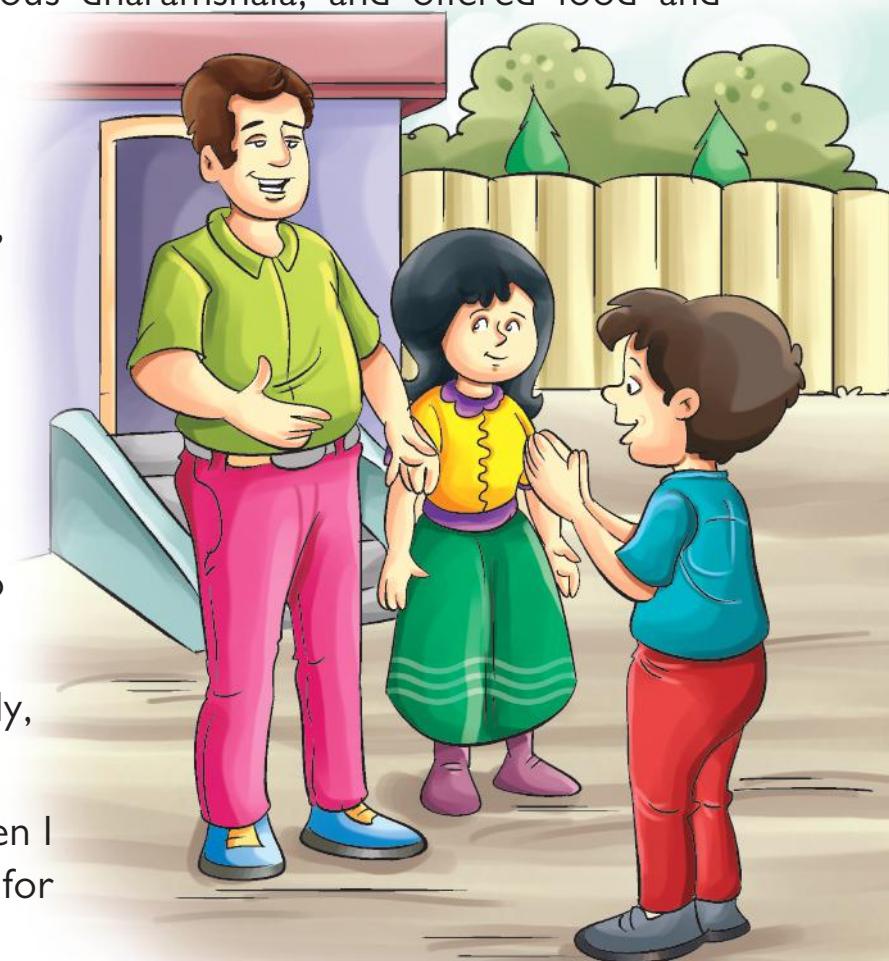
He rushed over her knelt before her puzzled father.

"Sir, please forgive me. All this is yours. Please take your wealth back and I will be pleased to return to my village and make dolls."

Divya turned to her father and said softly, "This is Shanu. But he has changed."

Her father said, "If he has changed, then I will be happy if he would like to work for me, and live with us in the palace."

So Shanu started living with his lovely wife in the palace. He also called his father to make him live with them. And Shanu still called the dolls whenever he needed their help.



Word Treasure

giants : monster

holy hermit : pious person

engrave : cut in

wizard : magician

wandering : roaming

shivering : trembling

landslide : a fall of earth or rock from a mountain or cliff

provoked : inflamed

heartbroken : disappointed

precious : valuable



EXERCISE TIME

Comprehension Skills

A. Tick (✓) the correct option :

1. Once there was a _____ maker.
a. doll b. pot c. furniture
2. Each _____ has its own quality.
a. doll b. boy c. girl
3. Both of them were in _____ clothes.
a. beautiful b. ordinary c. new

B. Fill in the blanks with the correct option :

Dharamshala, caravan, wizard, Shanu, designed

1. He showed his son four wooden dolls he had _____ and said, "Each doll has its own quality."
2. To his _____, the doll came alive and stood in front of him.
3. The terrified people of _____ jumped from their carts and ran off.
4. The wizard doll took out a magic mirror and told _____ to look into this.
5. He built a fabulous _____ and offered food and shelter to those who visited it.

C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements :

1. Shanu's father did not allow him to go.
2. The first doll was the queen of Gods.
3. Shanu bought a palace for himself and Divya.
4. Shanu used his wealth and talents for himself.
5. Shanu started living with his lovely wife in the palace.



D. Answer the following questions :

1. What did Shanu's father always hope for?
2. Describe the quality of each doll.
3. What did the first doll say to Shanu?
4. How did Divya introduce herself to Shanu?
5. What did Shanu do when he realized his mistake?

Fun with Words

E. Write the meanings of the following words :

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 1. companion | _____ | 2. giant | _____ |
| 3. hermit | _____ | 4. palace | _____ |
| 5. wealth | _____ | 6. encourage | _____ |

Essential Grammar

F. Fill in the blanks with two, too or to :

1. It was _____ early for the baby _____ go _____ bed.
2. She went _____ the bathroom, turned on the _____ taps and flooded the place.
3. There was _____ much jam on the slice of bread.
4. The doll was _____ expensive _____ buy.
5. I was _____ frightened _____ tell mum the story.
6. When she broke the _____ cups. Dad spoke gently _____ her, but her mother was not _____ pleased.

Essential Writing

G. Write a few lines on each of wisdom, strength, knowledge and goodness :
