

The Wonderful Apple

Long ago, Kara lived with her family on a farm. She was not very happy. The sun was hot. The work was hard. And Kara's two proud sisters would not help her with her work.

One day, a woman walked through the field to talk to her, "Hello, little one. I have walked all day. I need something to eat. Will you help me?"

Kara said, "Come with me. I will get some warm cakes for you." The two went to the house together.

After the woman ate, she said, "Many thanks to you. Your mother and father must be very proud of you. Now what can I do to help you?"

Kara said, "I would like something to make me happy as I work in the field."

The very next day, Father came in with a bag of many things. He gave his two big girls coats they needed. He gave Kara a pretty, red apple in a cup.

He said, "A woman gave this to me in the city. She wanted to give it to you."

The two sisters laughed at Kara's new apple. But Kara was proud of it.

Once Kara turned the apple in the cup, the apple started singing. What pretty music it made! Day after day, Kara would sing along with the apple she worked in the field.

When Kara's sister saw how happy the apple's music made her, they wanted to hear it, too. So Kara gave the apple to one of them. The sister played with it. She dropped it on the ground. At once, the music stopped. The apple did not play any more music.

For many days, Kara worked hard and was not happy. She wanted to hear the apple sing once more.

One day, the woman appeared and asked, "Where is your wonderful apple?"

Kara said, "The apple does not work any more. It does not sing, because it was dropped in the field."

Then the woman said, "Little one. You don't need the apple. You have all you need to be happy. You know how to sing just like the apple did. Be happy and sing with me."

With that, the woman started singing. Soon Kara was singing along with her. And she was happy again.