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Wittlestiltspin
by Audrey Jackson

Once upon a time, lived a little baker girl named Riley. She loved to bake so much that rumors said she once made food for the whole village! She lived with her sister Julia, her mother Emily, and dog named Fido.

All the other maidens in the village wanted to spin thread but none knew how! Riley decided to teach herself day after day. Once Riley figured out how to spin thread, that was all she did! But her mother did not approve. Riley was told to sit in front of the palace steps to show to the village what a disgrace she was for not wanting to bake! The whole village glared, and grumbled, and pouted, but Riley did not care. The king was going for his *daily* check in, only when the sun was bright of course so his gold would glow like a reflection beaming on a hot day, when he stopped in his tracks.

“What is such a beautiful lady doing spinning thread outside of my palace?” he shouted for the whole village to hear.

Now, of course, the mother replied, not wanting to be embarrassed. “Well..she..she was taking a break from...from baking golden bread!” she blurted out.

The king was dumbfounded, “Well! Come with me, little lady, if you bake the golden bread, you will be my wife!” he announced. Everyone stared at Riley as she disappeared through the golden door. Now we all know, this was NOT good for Riley.

As she entered the palace, she was blinded by the shimmer of gold in the sunlight: fancy chairs and tables, cups and plates! Pans and pots galore! She was led to a dirty old metal kitchen, not anything like the one she'd seen.

“You will make the bread here, if you do not make it by the time I come back I will chop your sister and dogs' heads off, along with yours!” said the king. This scared Riley. She had totally forgotten how to bake, let alone golden bread! She would be blamed for her dog and her sister's head being cut off! Just then, a little man jumped out of thin air, shouting, “Yippie yippie yah hoo! It's time for me to do my job, woo!”

“Who are you!?” she yelled.

“I'm the one who's going to save you! If you give me what I want I will save you,” he sang.

“Fine! Whatever you want. Just help me!”

He started twirling his hands and waving his fingers. He snapped, then he was gone, but three golden pieces of perfectly baked bread were there. Riley was shocked! But also delighted. When she was queen, he would have whatever he wanted...surely, right?

The next hour passed of Riley trying to learn to bake again in the kitchen. She was trying to bake bread, cake, and much more! When the king entered, his jaw clenched,

“Where is the golden bread!?” he screamed.

“Right here, sir!” replied Riley.

He stared at the bread for a long while. “Well, I guess I have found my wife!” He cheered.

Soon, Riley and the king were married and had three little babies, one was three years old, another was one year old, and the most recent was only one month. Riley had totally forgotten about the little man! Until one night, the little man appeared in her room.

“I have saved you! You now must give me what I want,” he whispered and danced trying not to alert the guards.

“Fine, what do you want?” Riley emerged from her bed half awake.

“Give me your children!” he cackled.

“WHAT NO!” she gasped. “You can’t! I won’t let you!” she screamed.

“If you can guess my name by sundown in two days, you may keep your children.” With that, he disappeared into thin air.

Day 1

The next day when the little man appeared Riley guessed all the names she could think of, “London, Tom, Julio, Peter!” She scrambled thinking of names.

“Nope! You have guessed quite enough, I must go now!” he twirled his fingers and *poof* he was gone.

“NO!” she screamed, just then the king walked in.

“The craziest thing happened on my check in!” He chuckled. “A little man was jumping around rhyming saying, ‘Oh oh! Look at me! Little Wittlestiltspin will soon have a feast!’”

This was it! His name! It was Wittlestiltspin! “Thank you dear!”

The king was puzzled but said, “You’re welcome?”

Day 2

It was dawn when the little man appeared in her room, “Now. What will you guess?” he smirked.

Riley smiled, “Oh...I don't know...Maybe...WITTLESTILTSPIN?!”

“WHAT! HOW!? YOUR WITCHCRAFT I SAY WITCHCRAFT!” puffed the little man's, his face as red as a tomato. The little man jumped out the window and no one has seen him since, but Riley and her family lived...

HAPPILY

EVER

AFTER.

The end.