

STORY TIME
FOR KIDS
PART 2
(SHORT PREVIEW)

CONTENTS

- 1) **Story of Tiny Issun Boshi**
- 2) **Little Elephant Jumbo**
- 3) **The Intelligent Student**
- 4) **True Meaning of Wealth**
- 5) **A Magical Talking Fish**

1) Story of Tiny Issun Boshi

- Long ago in Japan there lived a couple who had no children.
- They prayed to God for a child.
- And finally their prayers were answered.
- The child born to them was so small that they named him Issun Boshi, "Little One Inch".
- When Issun Boshi reached the age of 15, he set out for Kyoto to seek his fortune.
- His parents proudly gave permission to their only son and his mother gave him a needle and told him to carry it always.
- In city of Kyoto he found employment in a wealthy household.
- He could not do much work because of his size, but his diligence and sincerity pleased his master and his mistress.
- And their daughter found him delightful.
- One day Issun Boshi accompanied the master's girl to the temple.
- On the way, two giants leaped out in front of them from behind some bushes.
- Issun Boshi deliberately drew their attention to him so that the girl could escape.
- But then the giants were furious with him and one of them picked him up and swallowed him.
- Issun Boshi had a needle his mother had given him.
- He used to wear it around his waist like a sword.
- When he found himself in the giant's stomach he took out the needle from its scabbard and began to stab the giant's stomach with it.
- The giant was frightened and immediately spat him out.
- When the other giant bent down to look at him, Issun Boshi stabbed him in the eye.
- They giants had enough.
- They ran away, one holding a hand to his mouth and the other to his eye.
- In their haste they left behind their magical mallet (hammer).
- The temple priest who saw the mallet said, "You have to hit it on the ground and make a wish."
- So Issun Boshi hit the mallet on the ground and made a wish.
- The next moment, Issun Boshi had grown to normal size and stood clad in the armour of a Samurai.
- Soon he got married to his master's daughter.
- He even brought his parents too to live with them.
- The old couple was happy to see their son grown so big but they continued to call him Issun Boshi.

2) Little Elephant Jumbo

- Once upon a time a baby elephant name Jumbo used to live in a forest.
- He always used to dream that one day he would be able to swim.
- His mother tried hopelessly to make him believe that he is very heavy in weight that's why he could not swim.
- But he never listened.
- He would reach by the river and happily look at his glance in it.
- Once he slept early and then he dreamed that he was swimming deep in the river.
- He was swimming here and there and frolicking happily.
- He made friendship with some small but harmless fishes.
- He even found a place to take rest in nights.
- He was very happy.
- He could see the colors of different lights that were flickering ceaselessly
- The lights were coming out from some fishes that were very beautiful and colorful.
- After seeing him, the colorful fishes went to him and they asked his name.
- He said his name was Jumbo and from the very next day he became friends with them.
- Now they would daily play hide and seek together.
- But in the meanwhile Jumbo could not realize the mischievous plan of those fishes.
- The fishes were actually very amused at the look of Jumbo.
- They wanted to make his big ears their home.
- They thought how would it like be if they play hide and seek in Jumbo's big fans like ears and his mouth.
- One day when Jumbo was fast asleep after playing, all those colorful fishes arrived and entered his mouth and making exit from his ears.
- They were playing and making fun of Jumbo.
- When Jumbo woke up he realized that he made a big mistake by making friendship with them.
- He cried but nobody came for his help.
- At last his mother woke him up from his dream.
- Seeing his mother in front of him, Jumbo cried inconsolably and promised that he would never ever think of swimming in future.
- That made his mother happy and she served him delicious food.

3) The Intelligent Student

- In olden days there was a centre of learning in Varanasi, India.
- There were many students Dharmananada was the teacher.
- He had only one daughter, her name was Sugunavati.
- She was beautiful looking girl for whom Dharmananada was searching for the right match.
- He preferred an intelligent student among his pupils as his son-in-law.
- But he was worried as how to judge the intelligence of his students.
- So he decided a plan and made a trick.
- One day all the students were listening to teacher.
- “Oh my students, I wish to arrange the marriage of my daughter.
- But I don’t have any capacity to get her special costumes and jewels.
- Can anybody do that job for me”, the teacher asked. Then he continued.
- “Suppose any of you steal and bring then nobody should see you stealing.”
- The students listened what their teacher said.
- From then onwards each of them started bringing articles secretly and handing over them to the teacher.
- They were all stolen things.
- The teacher decided to examine them and return to the owners of those articles.
- One student, Gunasheela didn’t bring any article.
- He was seen depressed.
- “Gunasheela, why did you not steal anything?” the teacher asked
- “Guruji, I could have done it.
- But you said that nobody should see it.
- It was not possible.
- Nobody may see.
- But I would definitely see what I do.
- Is there anything more than conscience?” Gunasheela replied
- “Fine! Gunasheela! I was in search of students like you.
- You are intelligent.
- I don’t need any luxury.
- I just made a trick to find the intelligent person.
- Stealing for a good cause is also wrong,” the teacher appreciated him
- Dharmananada ordered his pupils to return the articles to the respective owners.
- Sugunavati was married to Gunasheela.

4) True Meaning of Wealth

- Once upon a time, there lived a very rich and wealthy man in a big town.
- He has all sorts of wealth and led a luxurious life.
- He had every luxury at his footstep and could afford to feed for the entire people of his town.
- He always boasts his luxurious life to his friends and relatives.
- His son was studying in a distant place and he returned home for vacation.
- The rich man wanted to show off how rich his father is to his son and make him very proud.
- His son wasn't always fond of the luxurious lifestyle.
- However, the rich man wanted to make his son realize that his lifestyle is extremely rich and how the poor people suffer.
- He planned for a day visit to the entire town to show him off life of poor people.
- The father and the son took a chariot and visited the entire town.
- They returned home after 2 days.
- The father was happy that his son was very quiet seeing the poor people honouring the rich man and sufferings of the poor ones due to lack of facilities.
- The rich man asked his son, "Dear boy, how was the trip? Have you enjoyed it?"
- "Yes my dad, it was a great trip with you," the son replied.
- "So, what did you learn from the trip?" - Father asked.
- The son was silent.
- Finally you have realized how poor suffer and how they actually are – said the father.
- No Father-replied son.
- He added, "We have only 2 dogs, they have 10 dogs.
- We have a big pool in our garden but they have a massive bay without any ends.
- We have luxurious and expensive lights imported from various countries, but they have countless stars lighting their nights.
- We have a house in a small piece of land, but they have abundant fields that go beyond the sight.
- We are served by servants, but they serve people.
- We are protected by huge and strong walls around our property, but they bond with each other and surround themselves.
- We only buy foods from them, but they are so rich to cultivate their own food".
- The rich father was stunned to hear his son's words and he was completely speechless.
- Finally the son added, "Dad thank you so much for showing me who is rich and who is poor and let me understand how poor we are!"

Moral: True wealth is not measured by money and property we have! It is more about friendship, relationship and good compassion we share with others.

5) A Magical Talking Fish

- Once upon a time, a poor fisherman and his wife lived in a little cottage near a river.
- One day the fisherman caught a magical fish in his net.
- It said, "Fisherman, I request you to live me alive.
- I am not really a fish, I am an enchanted prince.
- Please let me swim away."
- The fisherman quickly agreed to let the fish go.
- "For that I will grant you a wish," said the fish but the fisherman said there was nothing he needed.
- When he went home his wife asked, "Husband, what you have caught for me to cook for our dinner?"
- "I haven't brought anything home", he said.
- "I did catch a big fish. But he claimed to be an enchanted prince, so I threw him back into the water."
- "Oh dear!" She said.
- "You might at least have made a wish before you set him free!"
- "I couldn't think of anything that we needed," replied her husband.
- "What would you have wished for?"
- The Fisherman's wife said, "Husband, this house is too small. We need more space.
- Go back to the river and ask the fish for a castle!"
- The fisherman wanted his wife to be happy, so he went back to the river and called: Princely fish that I set free hear my words and come to me.
- Just as soon as the fisherman finished speaking, the fish appeared.
- "Alas, I must ask favour of you," the fisherman said regretfully.
- "It seems as though my wife wants to live in a castle."
- "Go home. She is already there." Said the fish.
- When the fisherman returned home, his wife waved to him from the balcony of a huge castle.
- "Now that your wish is fulfilled," said the fisherman, "Surely you will not wish for anything more."
- "I'm not at all sure of that," said the wife.
- "I have a feeling there is something else we need,"
- That night the fisherman slept well.
- As the wife was about to fall asleep, the morning sun came up.

- Bright sunlight poured in through the royal bedroom window.
- The wife sat up in bed.
- “Husband!” she called out. “I do not think the sun should be allowed to rise without my permission! You go and tell that enchanted fish of yours that I want to have complete power over the rising and setting of the sun!” Wife, said to the fisherman.
- He reached the riverbank.
- As he stood facing out over the water he called the fish. “What does your wife want now?” Bellowed the fish as he rose up through the choppy waves.
- “Oh fish,” said the fisherman fearfully, “She wants the power to make the sun rise and set.”
- “Go home to your wife” said the fish.
- Suddenly the wind stopped blowing just as quickly as it had started.
- The waves in the river calmed and the water was peaceful again.
- The fisherman went home to find his wife in front of their humble cottage.
- Everything that he had wished for changed back to what it was.
- Realizing her mistake, “Husband”, said the wife, “I am so sorry that I got carried away with greed. I forgot to be happy with what I already had.”
- “It’s my fault, too,” the fisherman said.
- “When you wanted more. I asked the princely fish for it.”
- Then next morning like before fisherman took his net and went to the river and started fishing for their dinner again.