

## HERR KORBES

Once upon a time there was a rooster and hen looking to take a journey together. So the rooster built a handsome carriage with four red wheels and hitched four mice to it. The hen climbed aboard with the rooster and they drove away together.

Not long afterward they met a cat, who said, "Where are you going?"

The rooster answered, "We're on our way to Herr Korbes's house."

"Take me with you," said the cat.

The rooster answered, "Gladly. Climb on the back, so you won't fall off the front. Be careful not to get my red wheels dirty. Faster mice, faster!. We're on our way to Herr Korbes's house."

Then a millstone came along, then an egg, then a duck, then a pin, and finally a needle. They all climbed aboard the carriage and rode with them.

But when they arrived at Herr Korbes's house, he was not there. The mice pulled the carriage into the barn. The hen and the rooster flew on top a pole. The cat sat down in the fireplace and the duck in the water bucket. The egg rolled itself up in a towel. The pin stuck itself into a chair cushion. The needle jumped onto the bed in the middle of the pillow. The millstone lay down above the door.

Herr Korbes came home and went to the fireplace, wanting to make a fire, but the cat threw ashes into his face. He ran quickly into the kitchen to wash himself and the duck splashed water into his face. He wanted to dry himself off with the towel, but the egg rolled into his face and broke, gluing his eyes shut. Wanting to rest, he sat down in the chair, and the pin pricked him. He fell into a rage and threw himself onto his bed, but when he laid his head on the pillow, the needle pricked him, causing him to scream and run out of the house. As he ran through the front door the millstone jumped down and struck him dead.

Herr Korbes must have been a very wicked man.