

The Tiger Story and the Sarah and the Glass Castle Stories, a short
Anthology for Children

By K. E. Ward & E. L. Ward



The Tiger Story (Little Girl Version)

There once was a tiger on the prowl and oh! He was so ferocious. Huddled in the corner there was a girl, and around her there was this terrible darkness. “Roar, roar!” said the tiger, and she could see the spit drooling from his mouth.

A great white light flashed everywhere, all over the earth, and then out of the light there stepped a man. He held out his hand and he said to the tiger, “Stop!” You must not eat this lady.”

It was Jesus! “You found me!” she cried. “I can’t believe you came to save the day!”

“I’m here, little girl,” he said. No one will ever harm you again. And do you see that little tiger over there? He’s just sad and old, and he’s frightened. Do you see? He didn’t even mean to harm you in the first place.”

“Now I see,” she said.

Jesus hugged her and dried the tears from her face. Together they walked towards the tiger, and then the tiger nudged her with his nose. He licked the palm of her hand, and that’s when she knew that she would never be frightened of anything ever, ever again.

The End

The Tiger Story (Little Boy Version)

There once was a tiger on the prowl and oh! He was so ferocious. Huddled in the corner there was a boy, and around him there was this terrible darkness. “Roar, roar!” said the tiger, and he could see the spit drooling from his mouth.

A great white light flashed everywhere, all over the earth, and then out of the light there stepped a man. He held out his hand and he said to the tiger, “Stop!” You must not eat this gentleman.”

It was Jesus! “You found me!” he cried. “I can’t believe you came to save the day!”

“I’m here, little boy,” he said. No one will ever harm you again. And do you see that little tiger over there? He’s just sad and old, and he’s frightened. Do you see? He didn’t even mean to harm you in the first place.”

“Now I see,” he said.

Jesus hugged him and dried the tears from his face. Together they walked towards the tiger, and then the tiger nudged him with his nose. He licked the palm of his hand, and that's when he knew that he would never be frightened of anything ever, ever again.

The End

Sarah and the Glass Castle

Sarah was a simple girl who never asked for much. She lived in a castle made of pure, clear glass, and the castle loomed on the horizon of a lush, green meadow deep in the heart of the Land of Dreams.

Her parents loved her dearly, and gave her everything she asked for.

But Sarah knew that she already had everything she needed, and that the most precious gift of all—the love of her parents—would never go away.

She spent her days and nights locked in her room, dreaming of fantastic adventures and knights in shining armor.

Sarah had everything she wanted—but could she have a little more?

You see, what she wanted was a friend. The glass castle was lovely to live in and her parents were alright, but Sarah did not have anyone her own age to play with.

One day her mother was serving pancakes. “Sarah,” she said. “Why don’t you go down to the brook and play beside the water today?”

Sarah swallowed the buttery pancakes in her mouth. “That sounds like a good idea, Mom.”

So as soon as breakfast was over Sarah put on her coat and headed for the brook.

But this time Sarah decided to go another way.

She looked at the birds in the air and the white, puffy clouds in the sky rolling by as she walked. There was a song in her heart, and a smile on her lips.

She stopped right where she was. “What could this be?” she said out loud.

Right before her she saw a brown walkway, and when she bent down to look at it, she realized it was made of chocolate!

Very fond of chocolate, Sarah decided to follow the trail. It led her up a hill, into a glen, around another hill, and then—

“Oh, my!” Sarah gasped.

It was a castle, all made of chocolate!

“Well, I may as well see who lives inside,” she said.

And so she marched up the chocolate steps straight to the chocolate front door.

She knocked. "Hello?" she called.

And who should come to the door, but a handsome young boy with brown hair and sable-brown eyes?

"Hi!" Sarah exclaimed. "I was just admiring your castle. Is it really made of chocolate?"

"Take a taste," the boy said.

And so Sarah bent down and broke off a piece of the rich, dark chocolate. It was delicious!

"What's your name?" the boy asked.

"I am Sarah," she said.

"And my name is Hershey," the boy said, extending his hand.

"You have the most marvelous castle!" Sarah said. "You can eat all the chocolate you want!"

"Yes," said Hershey, looking down sadly. "But there is a problem."

"Oh?" Sarah said.

“It is now summertime,” he said, “and the sun is getting so hot that it is melting the chocolate!”

“Oh, dear,” Sarah said. “That is a problem.” Then she got an idea. “Hershey,” she said. “I live in a castle on the hill. We have plenty of glass to spare. Suppose we build a shield to put over your castle?”

Sarah went home that day and presented the problem to her parents. She was delighted when they gladly gave her the glass to build a shield.

The next day, they put the glass shield over the chocolate castle. But after a while, Hershey realized it was still melting.

“How can that be?” they wondered.

Sarah looked at the castle and thought. “It must be because the light is still coming through the glass.”

“I think you’re right,” Hershey said. “But what will we do?”

That afternoon they rode on their horses through the meadows.

They traveled places they had never been before, until they came to a spot that was so lovely that they just had to stop.

A bubbling brook flowed over smooth pebbles, and tall, lush trees seemed to guard whatever was behind them.

Together, Sarah and Hershey explored.

And as soon as they walked through a thick gathering of trees, they stopped.

Before them loomed the most beautiful castle they had ever seen.

It seemed to be covered in a soft, luxurious fabric that they had never seen before.

So they walked up to the front and knocked.

A pretty little girl with honey-colored ringlets answered.

“My name is Sarah,” Sarah said, “and this is Hershey. I live in a glass castle and he lives in a chocolate castle.”

The little girl smiled sweetly. “My name is Cindy,” she said. “and this is a velvet castle.”

Sarah suddenly got an idea. “She told Cindy about Hershey’s melting castle and the shield she had made to put over it. “What if we covered the glass shield with velvet?” she said. “Then surely the warmth of the sun would be blocked out!”

Cindy agreed. “We have plenty of velvet, and we would be happy to give you some.”

So they took the velvet and put it over the shield. And, wonder of wonders, the castle stopped melting!

Sarah, Hershey and Cindy stood back and looked at their accomplishment with pride.

“You see what you can do when you have friends?” Hershey said.

Sarah smiled. “You can do anything.”

The End

Cindy and the Sweltering Castle

In a far-away land there lived three best friends who each lived in their own castle.

In the heat of the summer, Sarah and Cindy found that they were getting very hot, indeed.

Hershey's castle was doing just fine, because his two friends had built him a shield made out of glass and velvet to stop it from melting. And plus, there was plenty of room at the bottom for cool air to come in and refresh the family who lived there.

But Sarah's castle was made of clear glass, and the light and warmth of the sun came right through and into the castle. It had many windows, but this wasn't enough to fight the stifling heat that came in.

Cindy's castle was made of dark velvet, and there were no windows to allow cool air to rush in.

One day as Sarah and Cindy were eating chocolate chip cookies, Cindy's mother said, "Dark colors soak up heat, so it's no wonder that it's so hot in here."

Just then Sarah got an idea. “Why don’t we make windows in your castle like there are in mine? Surely this place will be much cooler if we allow the breeze to blow through.”

Cindy agreed and her mother gave them permission to use the scissors. So they went room by room, cutting large windows into the velvet.

When they were done, the castle was much cooler. “Thank-you so much, Sarah!” exclaimed Cindy. “But what will we do with all this fabric?”

The two girls put their heads together and then Cindy remembered that Sarah’s castle was kind of hot, too.

“Why don’t we use the fabric to make curtains for your castle, Sarah?”

Sarah loved the idea. So they spent hours and hours stitching and sewing the velvet together until they became beautiful, long curtains.

When they put the curtains up in Sarah's castle, Sarah's mother was very pleased. "You've done an excellent job, girls," she said.

And once the curtains were up, the castle became much cooler.

But there was still a lot of velvet left, and by this time the girls were very fond of sewing. They invited Hershey over to help them.

"Hershey, we have all this fabric left, and nothing to use it for. What do you suggest we do?"

Hershey said, "Let's make winter clothes. After all, it's not going to be summer forever, and sooner or later it's going to get cold."

So the three friends got to work making dresses, pants, tops, and jackets for winter.

When they were all finished, all three of them had new wardrobes.

Sure enough, Fall came, and the temperatures outside became cooler.

When Sarah, Hershey and Cindy first wore their new clothes, their parents were amazed. “You did all this yourself?” they asked.

Even though their clothes were nice and warm, Cindy’s castle was a little cold with the new windows that had been cut into it.

So Sarah said, “We’ll give you some of our glass, and you can have glass windows.”

So they put the glass into the windows and Cindy’s family was very pleased.

That year at Christmas, Hershey gave everyone a ten-pound bag of chocolate.

Sarah’s castle had new, beautiful drapes.

Cindy’s castle had glass windows.

And Hershey was very happy with his new clothes.

The End.



Beyond the Mountains

Sarah of the glass castle, Hershey of the chocolate castle, and Cindy of the velvet castle had been friends for a long time now.

In fact, best of friends. They played together every day, riding on the backs of their horses into the far reaches of the meadows and playing in the fields.

They had so much fun together, and they loved each other so much, that they vowed that they would never, ever part, no matter what would happen.

But even still, the meadows seemed to get smaller and smaller as they explored and played in each and every part of it.

The meadows and fields grew boring, and the three children longed for adventure in their lives.

They looked off into the distance at the mountains one day. “Do you ever wonder what lies beyond the mountains?”

All three were in agreement that they must discover what was beyond the mountains, and so all three went to their parents.

Sweetly, each of them asked to take a trip.

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