Once upon a time there was a brother and a sister who lived in an African village. The boy’s name was Igawo. The girl’s name was Gezola. She played flute, and she played very well. But she played much too often. Sometimes she would play in the middle of the night when people were trying to sleep.
Sometimes she would play lullabies in the middle of the day when people were trying to work.
Her brother was even worse. He had a magic wand. He wore a magic hat, and a magic suit with a magic cape. If he touched something with his wand, it would turn to stone. Imagine the mischief he caused!
One day, the people of the village got so tired of it they sent the boy and the girl to see the king. The king said, “I am Ceto Hirimo. The people have complained too much about you. So now you will be banished to the Robin’s Forest.”
Now in this land, there were legends about the Zim, but no one believed them. The Zim were said to be big, hairy monsters, who looked like people except they were covered all over with hair and they were 9 feet tall.
When the two youngsters went into the forest to live, they found a cave. They saw great big footprints outside the cave. So they thought it was a Zim’s cave.
They were right, because soon the people saw tracks, too. Then they heard strange growls. Finally someone saw a huge shadow coming toward the village.
Two great big Zims came running into the village. All the people hid in their houses.
The Zims smashed down a door. Then they picked up a house and threw it. There were 5 people in the house and they got hurt.
Everyone ran away from the village.
Igawo and Gezola heard the noise and realized what had happened. They decided to help the people. They made a plan. Igawo remembered stories about the Zim. He said, “If you can get the Zim to lie down, I can use my wand to turn them to stone.”
They had to be very brave to go that close to the Zim. Gezola began to play her flute. She played so sweetly that the female Zim started listening to the music.
She stopped throwing things. Then she sat down. Then she laid down. Soon she was snoring like a great big bear.
Igawo ran over to touch her with his wand. Suddenly he heard a shout. “Stop!”
The Zim's brother ran toward them, but it was too late. The girl Zim was a statue.
The brother Zim tried to grab the wand away from Igawo, but he touched the tip of the wand and turned himself into stone.
Suddenly everything was quiet. The people realized it was safe again. They all came out and cheered for Igawo and Gezola. Ceto Hirimo welcomed them back into the village. Since then Gezola learned to play her flute just at reasonable times. Igawo only used his wand to help people. So they all lived happily ever after.