

# THE SNOW QUEEN

Written by Hans Christian Andersen

First published in 1844



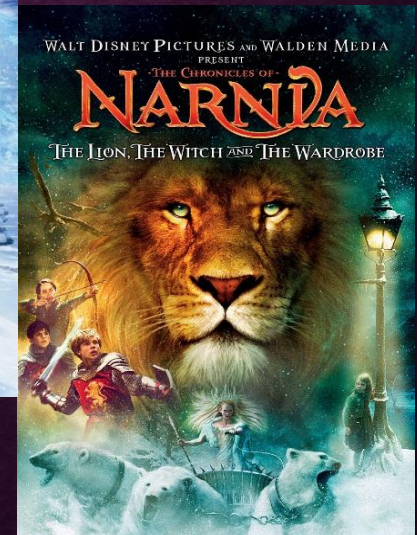
This adaptation by Kiwi Opa

# THE SNOW QUEEN

This is the original Hans Christian Anderson story, the Snow Queen (1844)

which inspired  
the highly successful  
Disney movie  
'Frozen' (2013)

And the very popular  
C S Lewis's  
Chronicles of Narnia  
'The Lion, the Witch  
and the Wardrobe' (1950).



# THE SNOW QUEEN

In the original story,  
"the devil", creates a mirror  
that turns good to evil.

He delights in using it to  
distort everyone and everything;

it makes the loveliest  
landscapes look like  
"boiled spinach."

The mirror fails to reflect the  
good and beautiful aspects of  
people and things,  
but magnifies  
their bad and ugly aspects.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

His demons attempt to carry  
the mirror into heaven  
in order to make fools  
of the angels and of God,

But the higher they lift it,  
the more it shakes with laughter.  
It slips from their grasp  
and falls back to earth,  
shattering into a billion pieces,  
some no larger than a grain of sand.

Two of the grains from the mirror enter Kay.

The Turkish delight in this story  
comes from C S Lewis, to simplify things.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

The story begins:

Gerda  
was a little girl  
who lived  
with her Grandma.

Her BFF  
(best friend forever)  
lived next door.

His name was Kay



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Between Gerda's house and Kay's there was a small walkway.

Gerda and Kay played there everyday, played games, read books and talked.

They talked about getting married, when they grew up.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

One winter's day  
they were playing inside,  
when Gerda's grandma cried,

“Look, the Snow Queen  
is gathering her bees.

See them swarm  
all around her.”

Gerda and Kay  
rushed to the window.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“Often at midnight,  
she flies through  
the streets of the town.

She looks in  
the windows.

As she looks,  
the ice freezes  
into wonderful shapes,

shapes like  
flowers and castles.”





# THE SNOW QUEEN

“If you warm pennies by the fire,”  
Grandma continued,  
“and hold them up to the frosted glass.

The warm pennies  
create a peep hole  
in the frost,  
and you can look out.”

Kay pointed his nose  
to where the Snow Queen  
was and poked out  
his tongue.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Later, on the roof,  
Gerda asked Kay,  
“Do you think she might,  
come for us?”

“Only let her try,”  
said Kay,

“I’ll set her  
on the stove  
and she’ll melt away to  
a toasted marshmallow.”



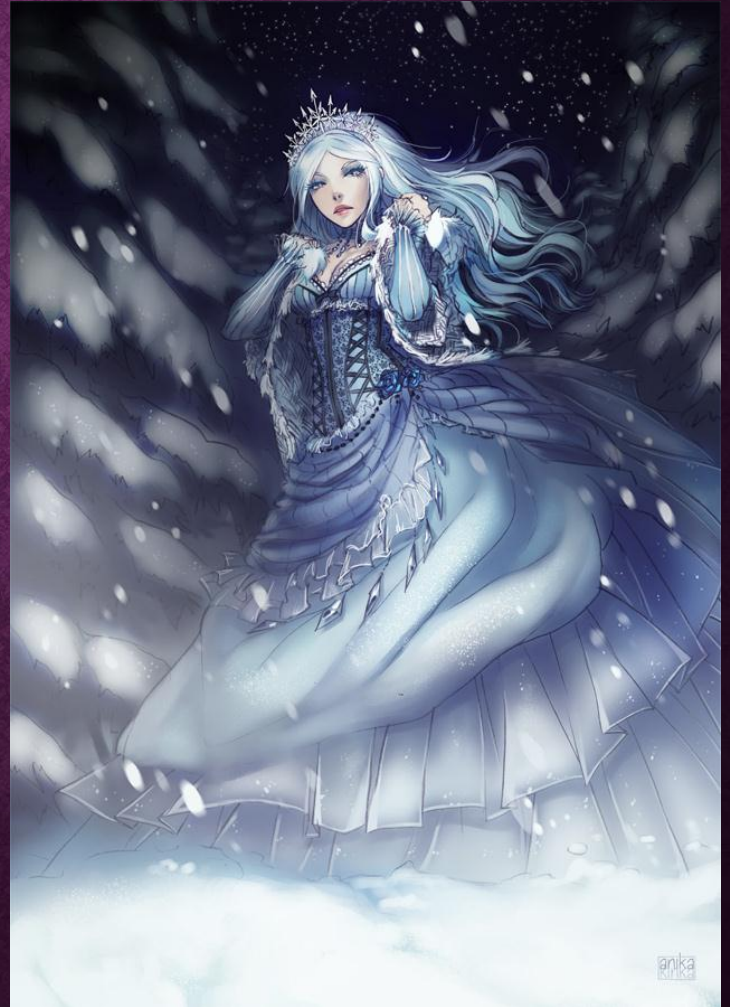
# THE SNOW QUEEN

Gerda shivered, “Don’t say things like that,”

She rushed back inside hoping the Snow Queen wasn’t watching them.

“I’m not afraid,” said Kay,  
“I’ll show her if she dares come near me!”

Then he climbed back through the window to his own room.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

That night, Little Kay was getting ready for bed.

Half undressed, he climbed on a chair, by the window and peeped out.

A snowflake grew larger and larger until ... it became the Snow Queen.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Her dress looked like millions of starry snow-flakes linked together.

She was made of ice shining and glittering.

Her eyes sparkled like bright stars,

but there was no peace, no rest in her glance.

She was evil.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

She nodded towards the window and waved with her hand.

The little boy was frightened and sprang from his chair.

When he looked up, he saw the beautiful lady at the window.

She held in her hand a plate of Turkish delights.

Kay couldn't resist. He undid the catch and snatched a handful from the plate.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

As he shoved them greedily into his mouth, the lady grabbed his wrist and pulled him out of the window onto her sled.



She flicked her whip and the horses started off.

Kay should have been very frightened but instead, with Turkish delight all around his mouth, he held out his hand for more.

# THE SNOW QUEEN

Because this wasn't any normal sweet.

The Snow Queen had baked a powerful spell into the Turkish delight.

It was addictive,  
like a drug.

Those that ate it,  
would become  
her slave  
forever.





# THE SNOW QUEEN

The Snow Queen's sled lifted off the ground.

“Are you cold?”  
she asked.

“May I have  
another sweet?”  
Kay replied.



The Snow Queen smiled as her sled  
flew high over the houses and away up north.

# THE SNOW QUEEN

Kay had crept inside the Snow Queen's fur coat.  
She kissed him on the forehead.

The kiss was colder than ice;  
it went straight to Kay's heart  
and he thought he was going to die.

'If only  
she'd give me  
more Turkish delight,'  
he thought,  
'then I'd be warm.'



# THE SNOW QUEEN

They arrived at the castle.

The Snow Queen set her sled down in the snow covered courtyard.

She grasped Kay's little hand, and dragged him up the stairs towards the great castle door.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

They were suddenly surrounded  
by thousands of fluttering snow-flakes.

But they didn't fall  
from the sky  
as normal snowflakes do,  
they poured out of  
the doors and windows.

They were the  
Snow Queen's guards,  
and they were alive.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

The Snow Queen dragged Kay through a big hall, then down into the castle's dungeon.

Little Kay was quite blue almost black with cold, but he did not feel it.

The Snow Queen kept feeding him Turkish delight.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

The next morning when Gerda came to visit Kay he wasn't there. She looked everywhere for him.

She raced out  
the front door  
and down  
to the village square.

“Have you seen Kay?  
Have you seen  
my friend?”  
she cried.



But no-one had seen him.

# THE SNOW QUEEN

She spoke to the flowers in the fields,  
“He didn’t pass this way,”

and she wept many tears.

Nobody knew where  
he had gone.

“He must be dead,”  
she cried,

and tears by the bucket full  
poured out of her eyes.

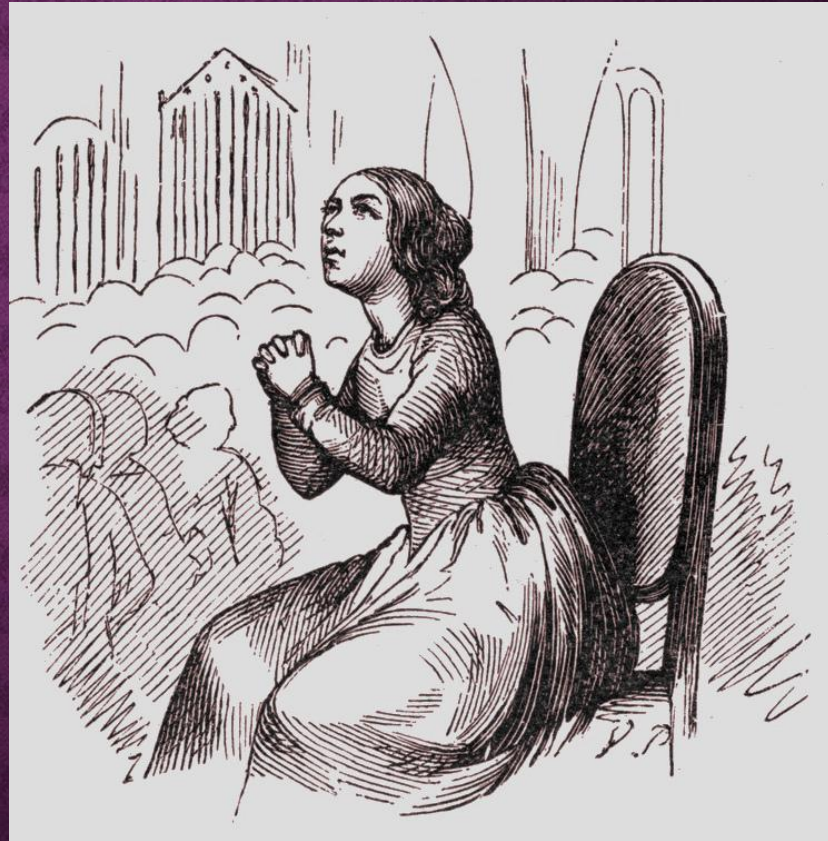


# THE SNOW QUEEN

She returned to her house sooooo sad,  
that her feet  
tripped over  
her bottom lip.

She trudged  
up the stairs  
and climbed  
out the window.

She began to pray,  
“Don’t let my Kay be dead,  
please, don’t let my Kay be dead.”





# THE SNOW QUEEN

“I don’t believe he is,” said a voice.

Gerda looked up,  
and there in the garden  
sat a little sparrow.

“When we’re searching  
for food we sit  
high on the rooftops.  
We see everything.

We would have seen him unless  
... he fell in the river.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

A tiny spark of hope lit up in Gerda's heart,  
“I'll go and ask the river.”

She put on  
her new red shoes  
her winter coat,  
her fur hat  
and gloves,

“If he drowned  
the river will know.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“River, river,” shouted Gerda  
to the fast flowing water,

“Did my Kay  
come by here?

Did he fall  
in your  
deep waters  
and drown?”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

There was no answer.

“Is it true,  
that you have taken  
my little playmate  
away from me?”  
cried Gerda,

“I will give you  
my red shoes,

if you will only give him back to me.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“She crept into a boat on the edge of the water, stood in the bow and flung her red shoes that she loved so much, into the river.



“There,” she said to the river,  
“Now give me back my friend!”

# THE SNOW QUEEN

Sad for Gerda, she didn't realise that the boat she stood in, wasn't tied to the bank.

Her movement rocked the boat loose.

Away down stream she floated.



She was frightened but she didn't cry.  
She was determined to find Kay.

# THE SNOW QUEEN

The little boat floated on with the stream getting faster and faster.

Little Gerda sat quite still.

Her red shoes floated beside the boat, but too far away for her to grab.



# THE SNOW QUEEN



Then Gerda saw a small cottage.  
It had strange red and blue windows,  
a thatched roof and two wooden soldiers  
standing guard at the door.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

An old lady  
came hobbling out.

She was bent over  
and carrying  
a walking stick.

She wore a large  
sun hat,  
with all sorts of  
pretty flowers  
painted on it.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

The old woman walked to the edge of the river, caught the boat with her walking stick and drew it in to land.

She lifted Gerda out.

Although Gerda was afraid of this strange old woman, she was glad to feel herself on dry ground again.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“Come stroll with me through the garden and tell me who you are.”

Gerda told her everything,

“Have you seen my little Kay,” she asked.



“No, but perhaps he might come by.”

The perfume of the flowers was hypnotic.  
Gerda felt at peace, and safe.

# THE SNOW QUEEN

They went inside.

On the table stood a bowl of beautiful cherries.

The little old lady  
told Gerda  
not to be sorrowful,  
but eat  
some cherries.

Gerda was allowed  
to eat as many  
as she wanted.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

While Gerda was eating,  
the old woman combed out  
her long flaxen ringlets  
with a golden comb,

As she combed  
she whispered,  
“I have longed for a  
granddaughter like you,”

Gerda forgot about Kay  
for the old woman  
was casting a spell on her.  
She wanted to keep Gerda as her own.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

For the rest of the day  
they returned  
to the flower garden.

‘How fragrant and beautiful  
it is,’ thought Gerda!



Every flower that could be thought of,  
for every season, of every year,  
was here in full bloom.

Gerda jumped for joy, and played  
till the sun went down.

# THE SNOW QUEEN

Then she slept  
in an elegant bed  
with red silk pillows,  
embroidered  
with coloured violets.



Lulled into a dream-like state  
by the flowers, the cherries,  
the bed and the old woman's spells,  
Gerda dreamt a happy dream  
with the old woman as her grandmother.

“I will stay here forever,” she murmured.

# THE SNOW QUEEN

But in the garden one day  
Gerda noticed the roses.

They reminded her of Kay.

She asked of the roses,  
“Do you know where  
my dear friend Kay is?  
Is he dead?”

“No,” they answered,  
“We have been in the ground where all the dead lie.  
Your Kay is not there.”





# THE SNOW QUEEN

“Kay is not dead!” “Kay is not dead!”

The knowledge broke the old woman’s spells.

Gerda raced to the garden gate.

It was locked but the latch was rusty.

She leant on it  
and it gave way.

She ran till she could  
run no longer.

There she sat on a great stone.

It was then she realised,  
the summer had passed; it was now autumn.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Suddenly she heard the sound of a carriage.  
It stopped, “May we give you a lift?”

Inside was a Prince  
and a Princess.

They invited Gerda  
to stay in their castle  
for a few days.

She told them her story.  
They said, “you must hurry.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“You won’t get very far without boots,”  
said the Prince.

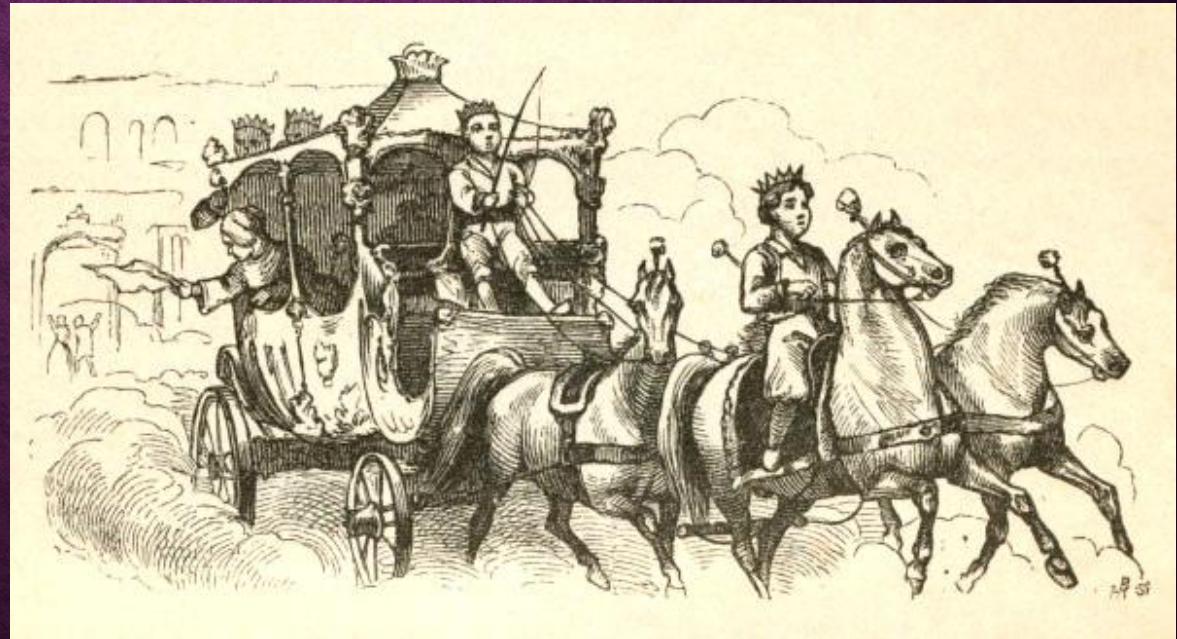
“And you’ll go faster with a carriage,”  
exclaimed the Princess.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

They not only gave her boots and a coach made of pure gold but also a muff, a coachman, a footman, and riders all wearing golden crowns on their heads.

The Prince and the Princess waved her off, and wished her every success with her quest.

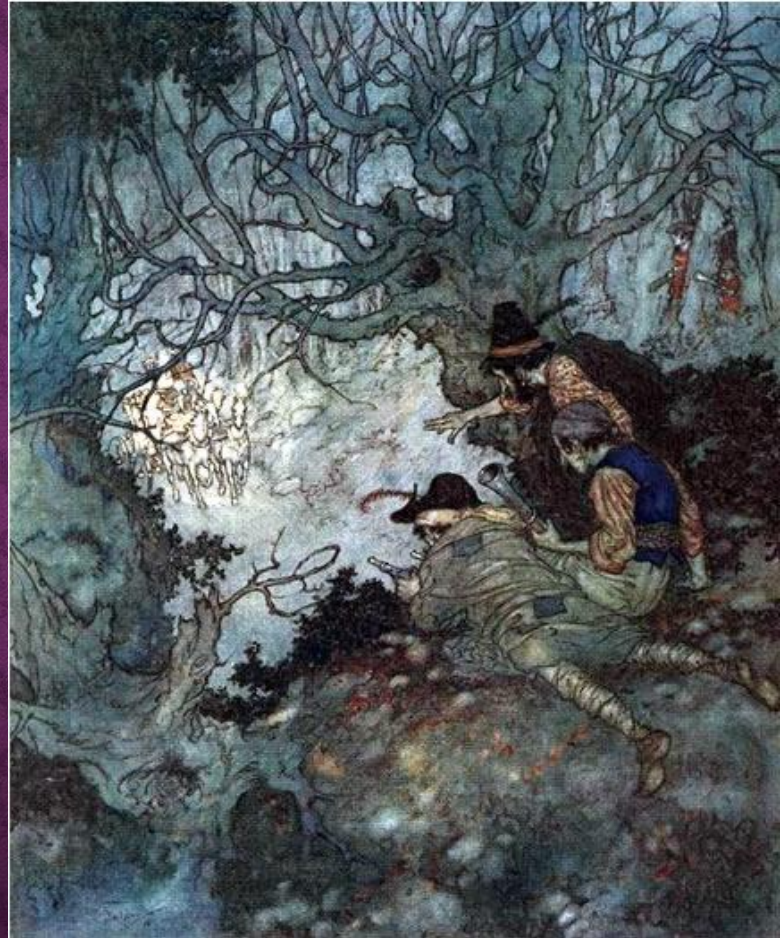


# THE SNOW QUEEN

The coach drove on through a thick forest where robbers waited.

“It is gold! It is gold!” they shouted, and rushed forward, seizing the horses.

During the battle, the coachman, the footman and all the riders died.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Little Gerda stepped bravely from the carriage.

“She is fat and pretty,  
and she has been fed  
on nuts and honey,”  
said the old robber-woman

The woman  
had a long beard  
and eyebrows that hung  
over her eyes,  
“How nice she will taste!”

she cackled.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“Ow!” screamed the old woman, springing in the air, and jumping about. All the robbers laughed. Her ear had been bitten by her own daughter!

“She shall play with me,” said the little robber-girl; “she shall give me her muff and her pretty dress, and sleep with me in my bed.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

The little robber-girl,  
who was about  
the same size as Gerda,  
wore a mournful look  
on her face.

She clasped little Gerda  
round the waist,  
and said,

“They shall not kill you.  
I will protect you.”





# THE SNOW QUEEN

“I suppose  
you are a princess,”  
she smiled at Gerda.

“No,” Gerda replied.

Gerda explained  
her story.

How fond she was  
of little Kay.

How she must find him.

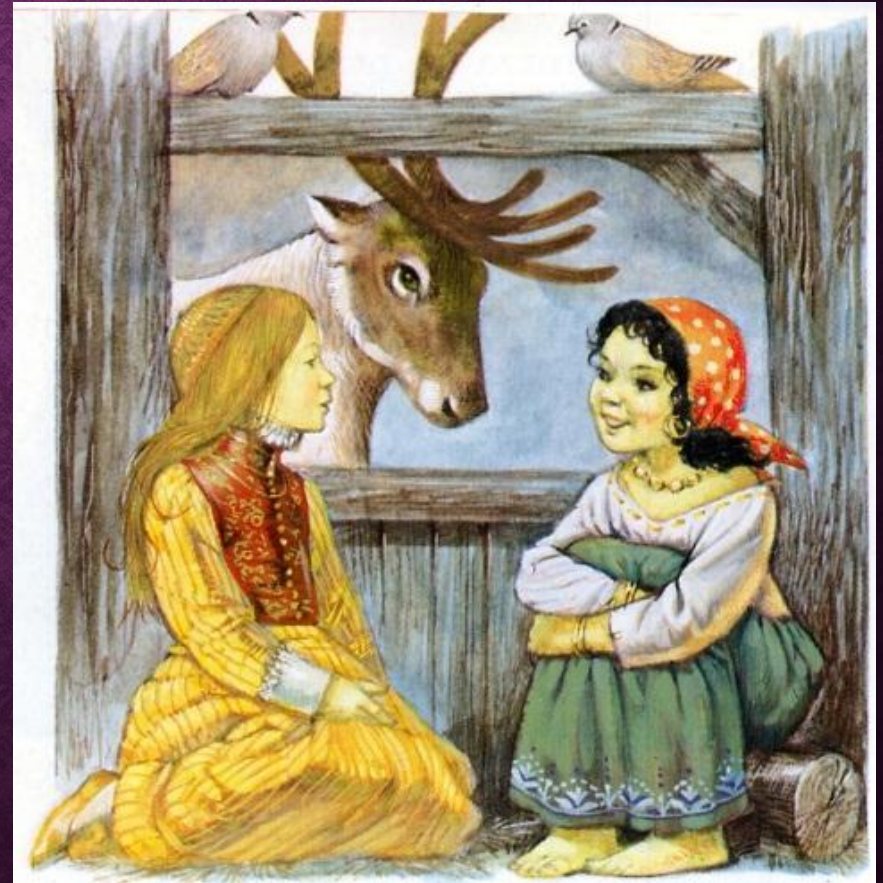


# THE SNOW QUEEN

After they ate and drank,  
they slept in a corner on straw and carpet.

Above them, more than  
a hundred pigeons, who  
pretended to be asleep,  
watched and listened to  
the little girls.

“These all belong to me,”  
said the robber-girl  
proudly.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“And here is my old sweetheart ‘Ba’,” she dragged a reindeer out by the horn.

“Why is he all tied up?” Gerda wanted to know.

“To stop him running away.”

The little robber-girl laughed.

“I tickle his neck every night with my knife. It makes him look so funny”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

The robber-girl had drawn her knife.

Gerda looked at it in great fright,  
“Will you take that knife  
to bed?”

“I always sleep with my knife,”  
said the little robber-girl,  
“You never know what  
might happen in the night.

But now, tell me again about little Kay,  
and why you’ve come searching for him.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Gerda was drifting off to sleep when one of the wood-pigeons cooed, “We have seen little Kay.”

Gerda sat bolt upright,  
“Where?”

“In the carriage of  
the Snow Queen.

They drove through the woods  
while we were lying in our nest.

She blew upon us and ... all our young died.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“Where were they going?”  
cried Gerda,

“Lapland!” said the reindeer,  
“A place you can leap  
and run about freely  
on sparkling ice plains.  
The Snow Queen has a castle there.”



“Kay, my little Kay!” Gerda sighed.

“Lie still,” said the robber-girl,  
“or I shall run you through with my knife.”

# THE SNOW QUEEN

In the morning  
Gerda told the little robber-girl  
what the wood-pigeons had said.

She looked serious,  
nodded her head,  
“I’ll help you escape,” she said.

“Our men have gone,  
mother is the only one here.

At noon, she drinks out of a great bottle,  
then falls asleep.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

When the mother was asleep,  
the little robber-girl  
went to the reindeer,  
squinted her eyes  
and said,

“I should  
very much like  
to tickle your neck  
a few more times  
with my knife,  
for it makes you look so funny ...





# THE SNOW QUEEN

Instead, I will untie your cord.

You shall go to Lapland,  
where you can  
leap and run freely  
on sparkling plains of ice.

But you must make good use  
of your legs, run fast,  
carry this little maiden  
to the castle  
of the Snow Queen.

Help her find her Kay.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

The reindeer jumped for joy.

The little robber-girl lifted Gerda onto his back, “Here are two loaves and a ham so that you won’t starve.”

Then the little robber-girl gave Gerda a really big hug; cut the string holding the reindeer, and away they flew.



GERDA BIDS FAREWELL TO THE LITTLE ROBBER GIRL.

# THE SNOW QUEEN

The reindeer flew,  
over stumps and stones,  
through the great forest,  
up snowy mountains,  
across flat plains.  
Wolves howled.  
Ravens screamed.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Above them lights danced across the sky.

“The Northern Lights,” explained the reindeer.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

They stopped by a little hut where an old Lapland woman, by the light of an oil lamp, was cooking fish.

After Ba and Gerda had told their stories, the Lapland woman said, “Oh, you poor things, you still have a long, long way to go.

The Snow Queen lives more than a hundred miles further North.”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“I have a friend  
who lives near the castle.  
She can give you more  
information than I.

I have no paper,  
but I will write a few words  
on a piece of dried fish.”

Gerda accepted  
the message,  
and the pair set off  
for the Snow Queen’s palace.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

They found the woman's hut.  
She lived in an igloo  
which had no door.

The entrance  
was so low,  
Gerda and Ba had to  
crawl in on their  
hands and knees.



Outside was terribly cold,  
but inside was as hot as summer,  
the woman wore nothing but shorts and a tee-shirt.

# THE SNOW QUEEN

She loosened little Gerda's dress,  
and took off her fur boots and mittens,  
otherwise Gerda might have melted  
like butter on hot toast.

Then she placed  
a piece of ice  
on the reindeer's head.





# THE SNOW QUEEN

The woman  
read what was written  
on the dried fish.

She read it three times  
until she knew it by heart.

Then,  
she popped the dried fish  
into her soup pot.

She knew it was good to eat,  
and never wasted anything.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“You are so clever,” said the reindeer.

“Can you give little Gerda something to make her stronger.

Perhaps as strong as twelve men.

She needs to overcome the Snow Queen?”



# THE SNOW QUEEN

“The power of twelve men,”  
said the woman,  
“that would be  
of very little use.”

She looked at little Gerda.

“Dear, you have everything  
you need to overcome  
the Snow Queen,  
your purity, your innocence of heart.

Go with God, and the Angels will protect you.”



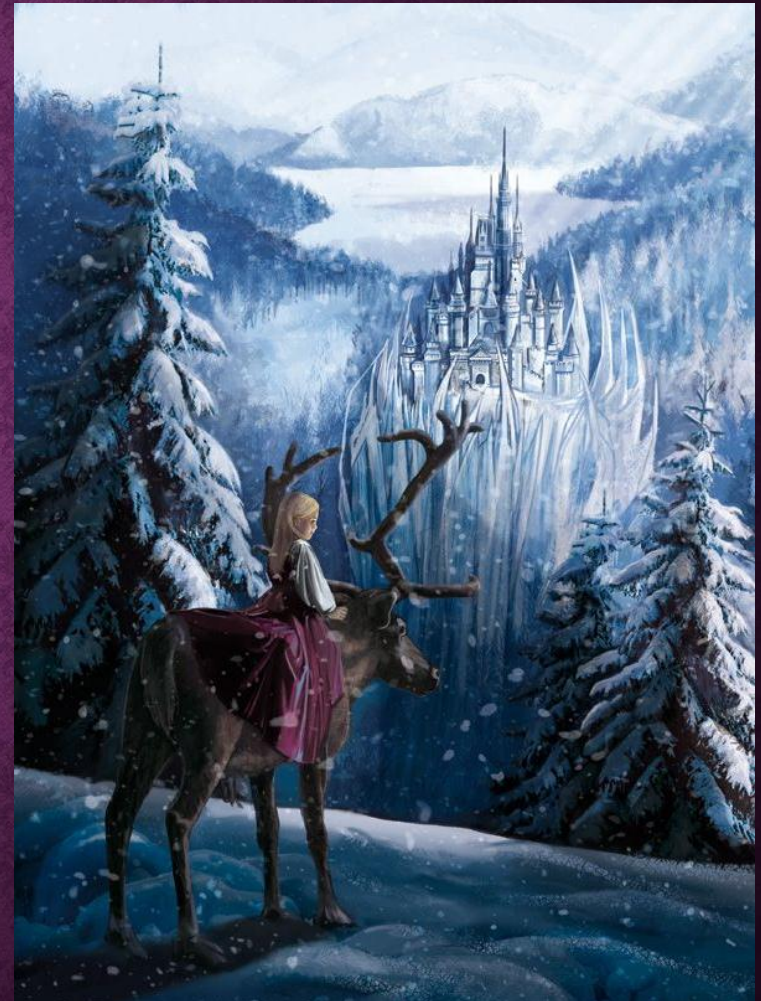
# THE SNOW QUEEN

“Two miles from here is the Snow Queen’s castle.”

Stop by the large bush, which stands in the snow, covered with red berries.”

Gerda and Ba rode on through the forest.

Gerda felt the cold, “Oh, I have forgotten my boots and mittens!” she cried.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

But the reindeer  
dared not stop.

They were too close  
to the Snow Queen's  
palace.

“She has guards.  
She can sense  
our presence,”  
and he was afraid.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

He ran on until he reached the bush with the red berries.

There he set Gerda down, kissed her with a sloppy wet kiss, great bright tears trickled down his cheeks,



“IT SET GERDA DOWN, AND KISSED HER.”

“You must go on alone from here,” he said, “I will be here when you come back. I will make sure you and your little friend, if you find him, get home safely.”

# THE SNOW QUEEN

Gerda stood there,  
no shoes, no gloves,  
outside the  
tall ice walls  
of the  
Snow Queen's  
palace.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

She was suddenly surrounded by thousands of snow-flakes that fluttered about her.

They didn't fall from the sky as normal snowflakes do but poured out of the doors and windows of the castle.



She suddenly realised they were alive.

They were the Snow Queen's guards.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Gerda prayed.

The cold was so great she could see her own breath. It came like steam from her mouth.

As she continued to pray the steam appeared to increase, until it took the shape of little angels.

They all wore helmets and carried shields and spears. They grew in size the moment they touched the earth.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

By the time Gerda had finished her prayers,  
a whole legion stood round her.

They thrust their spears  
into the terrifying snowflakes  
who shattered into  
a hundred pieces.

The angels stroked  
her hands and feet.

She felt warm, both inside and out.

Warm, full of courage, feeling safe,  
Gerda hastened on to the Snow Queen's castle.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Winds raged around her,  
cutting into her like a knife.

But she offered up a prayer  
and the winds  
sank down,  
as if they were  
going to sleep.

Little Gerda  
forced open  
the great  
castle door.



"Little Gerda struggles through the biting wind."

# THE SNOW QUEEN

Gerda found Kay, deep in the castle  
beside a frozen lake.

She flew to him,  
threw her arms  
round his neck,  
and held him fast,

“Kay, dear little Kay,  
I have found you  
at last.”

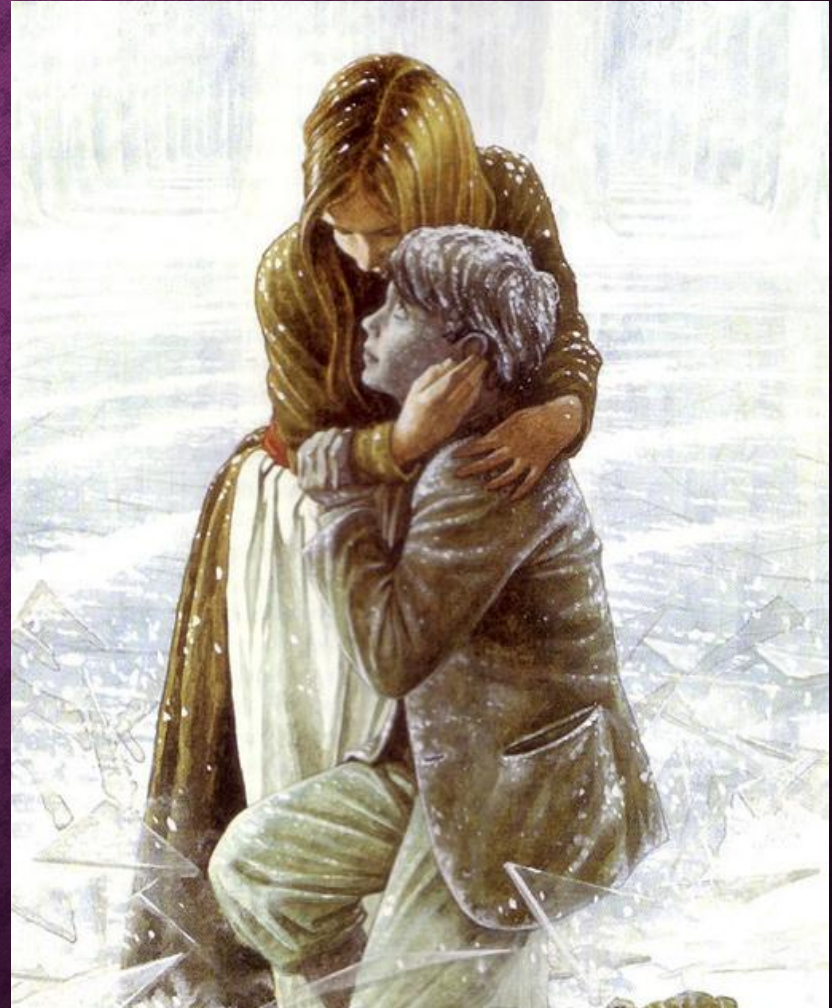


# THE SNOW QUEEN

Little Kay was quite blue with cold,  
indeed almost black,

but he had become  
so addicted  
to Turkish delight,  
he no longer felt it.

All this time  
the Snow Queen  
had fed him  
that sweet with  
the powerful spell.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Gerda wept hot tears  
that fell on his breast  
and penetrated  
his heart.

They melted the ice  
and washed away  
all desire  
that Kay had  
for Turkish delight.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

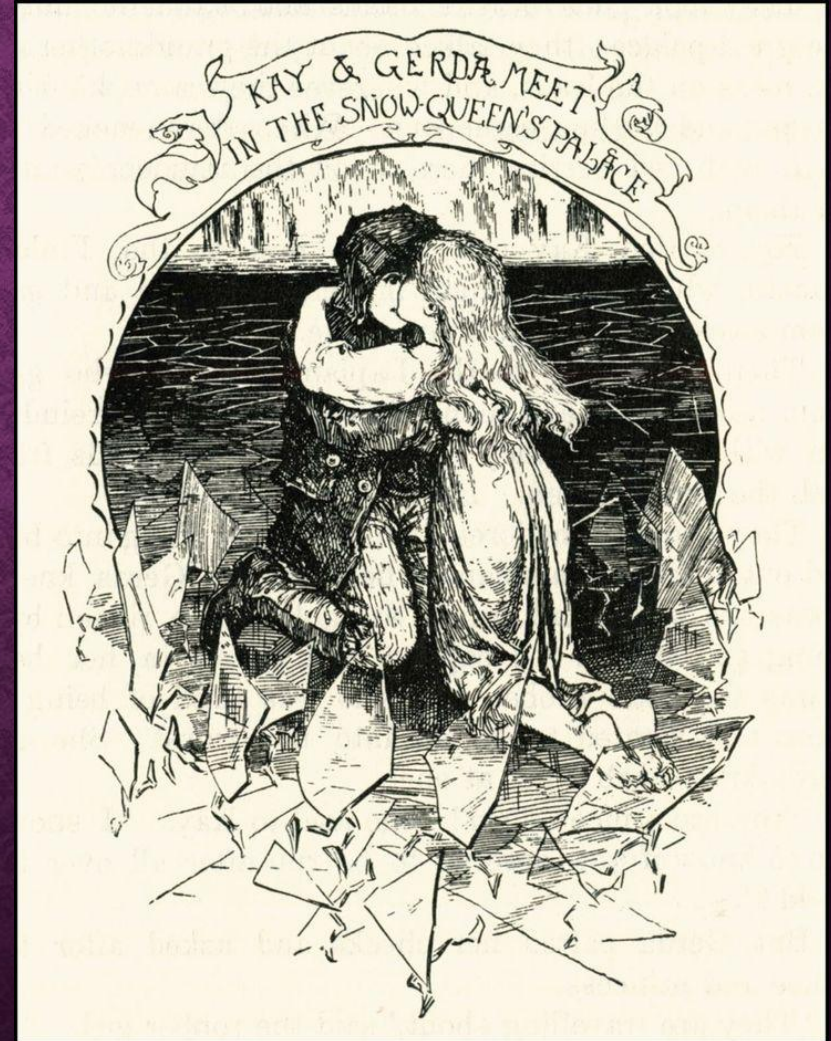
Warmth returned to his body.

He recognized Gerda  
and cried joyfully,

“Gerda?

Where have you been  
all this time?”

They clung together,  
laughing  
and weeping for joy.



# THE SNOW QUEEN

Ba was waiting  
when the children got  
to the large bush  
covered with red berries.

He knelt down in the snow.

The two children  
climbed on his back.

Away he flew,  
hoofs kicking up snow as he went,  
the children holding on tightly.





# THE SNOW QUEEN

He took them to the river.

The river was overjoyed when it saw Gerda had found her Kay.



Happy they rode home in the little boat and arrived just in time for supper.

Grandma made them a steaming hot cup of chocolate and they slept for three whole days!

# THE SNOW QUEEN

THE END

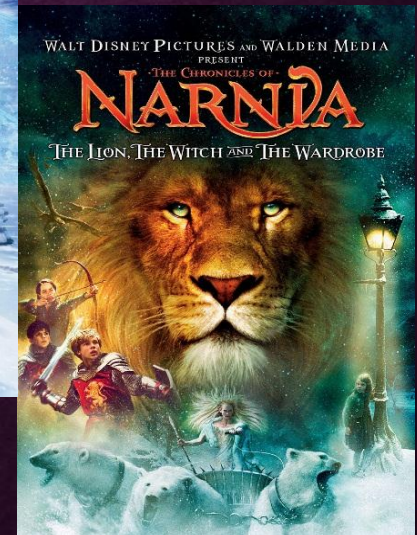


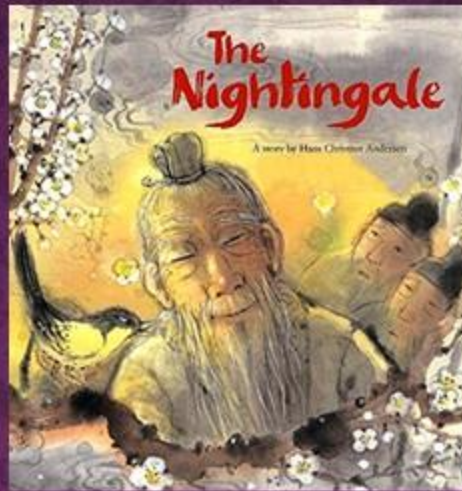
# THE SNOW QUEEN

This is the original Hans Christian Anderson story, the Snow Queen (1844)

Which inspired the highly successful Disney movie 'Frozen' (2013)

And the very popular C S Lewis's Chronicles of Narnia 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' (1950).





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