



THE STAG AND THE LAKE

Once upon a time, there was a big, strong stag living in the forest. He was the most beautiful creature in the forest and when he strode through the pastures, all the other animals came to admire him.

One day, when the stag came to drink from the lake, he saw his reflection in the water. He watched his big, branching antlers, which rose from his head like a king's crown. He himself couldn't take his eyes off that beauty.

"My antlers are really pretty," he thought to himself.

But when he came even closer to the bank of the lake, he also saw his legs in the reflection. They seemed weak and thin to him. They didn't go with the rest of his body at all, let alone those crown-like antlers. He kicked a stone into the water angrily, so that he didn't have to see his ugly legs any longer.

"Oh, what a shame that my legs aren't also strong and beautiful. They are too thin and too weak," the stag sighed.

He watched himself in the lake surface for a while, trying to find an angle from which his legs would seem mightier. He was so absorbed that he didn't notice there was a lion watching him. When he saw that the stag wasn't paying attention, he slowly crept to him. He was just about to leap when the stag noticed and started running away. He ran into the open pastures, where he lost the lion quickly thanks to his long, slim legs.

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When he escaped the lion, he ran back into the forest to catch his breath. However, as he walked between the trees, his antlers got stuck in the branches. He tried to free himself, but he couldn't move a bit. He shook his head as hard as he could, but the more he tried to get his antlers out, the more entangled they became. Soon, he saw the lion, who had caught up, and now he knew that the end was coming.

“Oh boy, was I being dumb. I was unhappy with my legs, but they served me so well. And I was very proud of my antlers, but they betrayed me.”

That is why you should remember that the most beautiful things aren't always the best.