

Vocabulary

A sultan

the vizier

Scheherazade and Dunyazad

Once upon a time, a sultan of a big and powerful empire left his castle to embark on a hunting trip. Returning unexpectedly early, he caught his beloved wife in bed with servants. Enraged, he beheaded them on the spot. Engrossed in feelings of betrayal and rage, he vowed to take revenge on all womankind by beginning a monstrous tradition: he would take a new virgin wife every night, only to behead her the following morning, so as to not allow her the opportunity to cheat.

In the sultan's madness, the kingdom slowly became a hostile place for all young women. Families fled elsewhere with their daughters as the sultan continued with his rage-filled murder. Sick with worry, the vizier urged his daughters to leave. He had to stay in the capital and fulfil his duties, but his two daughters, Scheherazade and Dunyazad, could flee. Scheherazade refuses to leave – and instead insists on becoming the sultan's next bride. After many attempts to try and make her see sense, and much to the vizier's dismay, Scheherazade and the sultan were married.

On Scheherazade's wedding night, as a last wish, she begged for her sister's company. Dunyazad joined them and requested one last tale from her sister. With the sultan's approval, Scheherazade started her very first story. So captivating and mesmerizing were her charm and her storytelling capabilities, it was almost dawn before anyone realized. Clever Scheherazade ended the night's storytelling on a captivating turn, leaving her audience on edge, wanting more. The sultan was so engrossed in Scheherazade's story that – to everybody's surprise – he allowed her to live one extra night to finish it.

Of course, the following night she finished the first story – and began another one. She continued this night after night, always ending on a tantalizing twist. Scheherazade continued telling her tales for a thousand and one nights, and in that time the sultan slowly started to fall for her beauty, charm and intelligence. He eventually saw the error of his ways and the injustices he'd brought. Professing his true love for Scheherazade, they finally began a life together. The bloodlust stopped, and peace was restored.

Irish Danger sports

Three Irishmen are drinking and because they are bored so they want try to something exciting. Gerry says to Paddy, lets do something fun. Paddy says "Yes, what about a little dangerous". So they ask Seamus for some ideas and he tells them about some danger sports. They decide to go to the ConnorPass cliffs where there is a sharp fall down to the rocks below. They go in Gerry's van and stop off at a pet shop on the way.

They get into Gerry's van and drive until they are high up in the hills and stop at the top of a cliff with a 100-metre drop.

"This looks like a grand place, eh?" says Seamus.

"Oh, yeah, this looks good," replies Paddy.

"I guess I get to go first?" says Gerry.

He then takes two birds out of a bag, places them on his shoulders and jumps off the cliff.

Paddy watches as his mate drops off the edge and goes straight down for a few seconds, followed by a 'SPLAT'.

As Paddy looks over the edge of the cliff he shakes his head and says....

"OUCH!! THAT BUDGIE JUMPIN IS TOO DANGEROUS FOR ME !!"

Seamus look over the cliff. He says "perhaps the birds were too small" to Paddy. He pulls a chicken out of the bag and puts it on his back. "Hi, Paddy – watch this", Seamus says and launches himself over the edge of the cliff. Paddy watches as Seamus continues to plummet until there is a SPLAT, as he joins Gerry's remains at the bottom. Paddy shakes his head and says, "Bejesus, that HEN GLIDING is as bad as the budgie jumping"

Paddy pulls himself together and persuades himself tht his plan is better as he has a secret weapon. He also pulls a bird out of the bag but also pulls out a gun. He then jumps off the cliff. Half way down he shoots the parrot on his shoulder with the gun, but to his surprise nothing happens. Whilst falling, Paddy shakes his head – "Oh no, first there was Gerry with his BUDGIE JUMPIN, then Seamus drops when HEN GLIDING and now my parrot shoot doesn't work!

Strange true Stories

Fluffy on the porch

When a boy was around 8, his dog followed his dad to wait with him for his school bus. While they were waiting, the dad saw Fluffy get hit by a truck, so he took him and buried him. The family then went out of town for the weekend. But on Sunday evening when they got home, Fluffy was standing on our porch! The dad couldn't believe it and told the family, 'I buried him on Friday!' Turns out, Fluffy had just been knocked out, so he must of rose from the grave and waited on them to come home.

Charles VI who was 'made of glass'

Medieval French King Charles VI suffered from a condition known as 'glass delusion', whereby he believed he was made of glass and could quite literally shatter if not careful. Whilst it's not an affliction we are aware of today, the condition was not uncommon in Europe between the 15th and 17th centuries.

Charles would often refuse to be touched by anyone for fear of shattering. He put iron rods in his clothes to protect himself from falling and breaking. On one occasion, he was even reported to have wrapped himself in blankets to prevent his buttocks from cracking.

Mike the Headless Chicken

Back in 1945, a chicken destined for the chop miraculously survived the farmer's axe and ran around without a head for the next two years.

The farmer and his new headless chicken (now named Mike) soon left their farm in Fruita, Colorado and hit the road showcasing the unbelievable sight of a walking, breathing headless chicken to all those willing to pay a fee.

People from across America gawked and stared at Mike, whilst scientists poked and prodded him to try and understand exactly how he was still alive. The answer lay in the positioning of a chicken's brain, which is situated in the back of their heads. Whilst the farmer chopped off most of Mike's head, much of his brain was left intact. A fortunate blood clot then prevented Mike from bleeding to death.

In the end, Mike choked to death in 1947 after mucus became stuck in his throat.