

Captain Albernmut,

Once upon a time, a long, long time ago, before the revolution in France, when there were still be queens and kings, when handmaids still gave birth to good children, when morning was evening and evening was morning, there were ten orphans who lived in a dark alley.

They were so covered in dirt that they stinked.

So hungry and so thin that they limped.

But blessed with a pure heart that they overflowed with joy.

To their chagrin, however, they lived in captivity with the most notorious of clumsy good-for-nothings, Mr. Falschenschein.

Mr. Falschenschein was so mean that it only blackened the walls.

When he laughed, it sounded like threatening thunder. He could only make stupid faces and say stupid remarks, otherwise nothing else was good.

Mr. Falschenschein was so mean because he had been disfigured in his childhood. No one really knew how, but

they whispered just so loud in their throats about it in every corner of the north.

The children from the East shared the alley in common like a house. They had to beg for food. Most of the time, they were laughed at or simply ignored.

One day, a gentleman passed by. He wore a magnifying glass over one eye and walked on a cane.

It was a dark and rainy night, and as he leaned against the wall and sought shelter from the rain, he heard a song that was nothing cheerful and sweet, but it came from the tender voices of children.

They sang like this:

O Lord, deliver us from our misery, for we long for a little Eden

Mr. Falschenschein trembles, no baby falls on the big tree early.

O Lord, free us from our chains, because we want some seeds.

The little mother is waiting

The small father is busying

We, the lonely children from the East, just want a little Heart.

The gentleman, curious, approached and asked: "Who are you?"

The children replied in chorus: "We are the orphans from the East!"

"Oh hey! I'm Captain Albermut! he said, laughing so stupidly and merrily, making the most beautiful grimace the children had ever seen.

Their hearts were filled with such a joy and warmth that they shouted and jumped back and forth, up and down, and so on with pure joy.

All of them moved and joyful, looked up at Captain Albermut with great expectation.

This one asked them with feigned seriousness, "May I ask you what you are doing here and why you are only doing good-for-nothings?"

The children laughed so and giggled so loudly and carefree that they didn't notice that they had stood up and were now looking at Captain Albermut with bright curious eyes.

"Nothing to do!" he said.

"Listen to this, please!" shouted joyfully Captain Albermut, as loud as he could, turning around his own feet.

The children jumped around him and clapped their hands with pure happiness and all called out in chorus, again, again, "Will you do this again, please?"

Captain Albernmüt stopped, smiled so wonderfully, and roared loudly, "Nothing to do!"

Then he asked them very loudly: "Who are you again?"

"The orphans who live here in the alley!" »

said a tender child's voice, a little frightened.

"There's nothing to be done!" roared Captain Albernmüt cheerfully again.

The children laughed and looked at him

"Can you all hear me here, please?" asked Captain Albernmüt very loudly and jumped up, one leg twisted around his length.

"Nothing to do!" he said.

"It won't be fun at all like that!"

"Who are you?" he asked the children happily once again.

"The children who are imprisoned and who have to live like this!" said a tender child's voice again, but this time a little bit louder and clearer.

"Nothing to do!" roared Captain Albernmüt laughing.

He took out his stick, a sound resounded out of nowhere, click-clack, an umbrella opened, Captain Albernmüt took off from the ground.

The children were so amazed that they couldn't help but were in awe. Captain Albernmüt winked at them and asked them again, "Who are you?"

"The captive children from the land of the east!" they shouted so loudly and vibrant that suddenly light appeared and then they flew away from there with him.

Fin°

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