

The Little Fir Tree

Once, in a beautiful forest which was full of tall, dark green trees, there was a little fir tree. Other trees in the forest were tall. The little fir tree was short.

One day, as the little fir tree looked at the other trees, a rabbit came through the forest. The rabbit saw the little fir tree and hopped over him. The little fir tree was very embarrassed.

The next day, a group of women were walking through the forest and saw the little fir tree. They laughed and called him the baby of the forest. Again the little fir tree was embarrassed. Every day, the little fir tree tried to grow tall like the other trees in the forest, but it remained short.

One day, a stork came to the little fir tree and said, "The tall trees are being cut down to build ships. The biggest tree will be used as the ship mast to hold the white sails of the ship." After the stork left, the little fir tree was sad. He wanted to be a tall ship mast too.

Months later, the little fir tree watched more tall trees getting chopped down. Some sparrows chirped, "These trees will be put inside the houses and will be decorated for Christmas!" The little fir tree wanted to be decorated too.

The little tree stood all alone, sad and lonely. He wished and he wished and he wished to be tall.

One day, as he looked around, he noticed something. There were lots and lots of little trees on the ground. He has been so sad and his eyes so full of tears that he forgot to look down all this time! He was the tallest tree in the forest!

Very soon the little fir tree was chopped down and taken to the very middle of the village. Everyone in the village stood waiting with baubles and tinsel and light and stars. Before long the little fir tree was the shiniest, fanciest and brightest tree for miles around!