

In a small village far in the hills of long ago lived a wealthy man and his daughter. Her beauty and wit were known throughout the land and her hand was sought by many a suitor. Her father decided that in order to stop the constant string of flowers and gifts and men knocking upon the door at all hours. He would set up an impossible task in order for a man to win a chance to court his daughter. That next day he made a statement that anyone who could bring his daughter the moon and put it in her hand could marry her. This challenge was far beyond most of her suitors comprehension and they left in foul moods or with forlorn hearts and the charred remains of their dreams. The father was happy and the daughters life was once again peaceful, although she was lonely.

In the countryside not far from the village lived a young boy who loved to spend his day herding his goats. He would take them out to the lake that lay between his cabin and the nearby village. He would often go there and contemplate the days wanderings and areas the goats were particularly fond of. He would sit by the lake up on a tree branch that extended out above the water and was wide enough to lay down upon if he chose. The goats would often nestle amidst the low brush and nap and chew and stare up at the herder boy.

News began to spread about the impossible task of capturing the moon and placing it in this girls hands in order to win her favor. One afternoon the boy overheard some people on the nearby roadway talking about how she would be alone her whole life and what a pity it was to waste such a fine woman. The boy thought the whole thing strange from top to tail. It was the full moon coming up and it was such a warm summer night that the boy decided to sleep out by the lake. He lay spread out upon the long length of tree the sat above the lake and let his arm dangle back into the water and watched as the ripples resounded out and touched the glowing light of the moon. THE MOON! There it was sitting there suspended in the indigo waters of the lake.

The next afternoon the boy brought his flock to his cousins house and asked if he would watch them for a day or so. He then travelled to the nearby village where he sought out the wealthy man and his daughter. He told them that he could fulfill the impossible task and bring her the moon. That she could hold it in her hands. The wealthy man did not believe him but as the boy spoke other people came and listened and began to push the man to see if there was any truth to the boys story. The boy asked that they all come meet him at the lake outside the village that night at midnight for he would need some room to house the moon.

That night many people gathered by the lakeside and waited for the wealthy man and his daughter and just as the moon began to peek out from behind the clouds they appeared. and the boy began to show them how the moon was now sitting in the lake and they looked down at the pure reflection and saw the moons luminous glow and the boy scooped up the water and handed the cupped handful to the daughter and she looked down and there in her hands she held the moon in all its beauty and she smiled and kissed the young herder boy.