

Two Boys And One Christmas Wish

A Special Friendship Around 1900 Blessed By Santa Claus

- raw version -

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"I know two little boys, who already liked each other when they were little babies. Their mums always used to go fishing at the best place of the creek having their babies with them.

One afternoon when Judy went to that fishing place with little Jayden, she surprisingly met Chumani with little Takoda for the very first time. Although she knew that there is a little Sioux village nearby, she wasn't prepared to meet any of them. Chumani, however, already watched Judy fishing several times before from a distance. She was curious now to meet Judy.

They looked at each other for a moment. Then Chumani smiled friendly. Judy smiled as well and put little Jayden at Takoda's side in the shore grass. Happy to get to know each other finally the ladies started to fish their families' dinner. They took care of each other, cared for their babies and helped each other, whenever one of them needed some assistance. It was a very nice and friendly meeting.

That day on they meet for fishing very often. Judy showed Chumani how to use a fishing rod. Chumani taught Judy how to fish with a javelin. They had a lot of fun at that, while Jayden and Takoda had been watching them. So Judy and Chumani made friends and sealed their friendship with a gift. Chumani was very happy about her new fishing rod, and Judy was very happy about her new javelin. So little Jayden and little Takoda grew up within this wonderful friendship, which is blessed by the Sioux community and Judy's husband Bill."

Grandma Annie looks in the curious eyes of her 5-year-old grandchild Jayden and his Sioux friend Takoda. *"That's how your wonderful friendship once began"*, she adds. She's to the family for a visit. She will stay on their ranch until Christmas. It is located somewhere in Moody County / South Dakota. Takoda is with Jayden for the night. He will sleep in Jayden's room. The two boys are very happy about that. They sit by the fire listening to Annie's wonderful tales. It's mid of December, and Christmas is yet to come. The house and the door step area are ornamented festively. It's new for Takoda. He likes that and enjoys the magic of the Advent season.

Now it's time to go to bed. The boys are embraced good night. But they are still too excited to be able to fall asleep already now. Especially Takoda is very curious about this wonderful magic time. He doesn't know anything about Christmas. So he asks Jayden a lot of questions. Jayden loves telling Takoda about the Christian traditions. So he starts: "It's said that God's son Jesus Christ was born about 2000 years ago." - "About 2000 years ago!" Takoda interrupts Jayden. "Yes", Jayden replies. "And his birthday is called Christmas Day. We celebrate it every year" Jayden adds. "Every year?!? Why??" Takoda asks in disbelief. "It's to make the kids happy, I think", Jayden said. "There's still one thing I don't understand: What has this to do with an old guy called Santa Claus, who

comes by an open reindeer sleigh? Is he Jesus' brother?" Takoda asks. Jayden replies: "I absolutely have no idea. But there seems to be a relation. Maybe we should better sleep now to get visited by our guardian angels. Let's ask them. They know much more about it than even our parents."

So they fall asleep after a while and are promptly visited by their guardian angels in their dream. The boys are so happy to welcome them. They rush into their arms at once. Jayden's angel is a very pretty female angel. She plays the nicest adventure games with Jayden when meeting in his dreams. She teaches him a lot of important things, what makes Jayden to be an uncomplicated and lovely little boy. His parents Judy and Bill Wittman are very proud of him.

Takoda's angel is a very handsome male angel belonging to the Native Americans. He, as well, watches over Takoda and practices all those things Takoda was taught by his grandpa during the day. His angel shows him how the animals feel, think and communicate to people. He also shows him how his actions and communication effect the animals and all the other things happening around him in nature. This is what makes Takoda learn so very quickly. His parents are very proud of him, too.

Now they all meet in one common dream! It is so fantastic for the boys! Their hearts leap for joy. Their angels are very delighted about their boys' happiness. They, of course, know exactly what the boys want to learn this time. So they start:

"Christmas is a traditional Christian celebration. As you already know, about 2000 years ago a poor young lady called Maria got a baby named Jesus, who was born to be a king. Her husband Josef wasn't Jesus' father, but God himself", Takoda's angel explains.

"Yes, I've heard about it in the kindergarten!" Jayden says and continues: "Jesus was a very good and wonderful man, who taught people to be gentle to each other and how to pray a real good prayer. He had so many friends and followers. He also had healed a lot of people from bad sicknesses, and he could walk on water." - "He could walk on water????!" Takoda asks in disbelief. "Yes, Takoda!" Jayden replies excitedly and adds: "He was a magic man, because he was God's son! And he never had killed any man or animal. He loved all the people in the world and told them, that God loves them very much, too. Even animals were not scared of him." -

"Who is God?" Takoda keeps on asking. His guardian angel explains: *"God is the Big Spirit. There are a lot of countries, cultures and religions all over the world. And all those people believe in a big creator, who has created them and the whole world. We call him the BIG SPIRIT, the Christians like Jayden call him GOD, the Muslims call him ALLAH, the Jews call him JAHWE and the Buddhists and Hindus call him the BIG NIRVANA. But it's the one big creator."* -

"Okay, I understand", Takoda says and asks: "But why does Big Spirit have so many names?" His angel replies: *"Because he loves variety. Please take a look at all the different flowers, trees and animals. The human beings, too, have different colors, beliefs and different ways to pray. This is what he loves. And he wants all the people to stand together as one mankind. Look at you, boys. You already do exactly this, and that's why your friendship is so very special."* - "So Jesus is the son of Big Spirit! Wow!" Takoda is amazed. "And he has founded the Christianity. That's why his birthday is still celebrated every year. Wow!" he adds.

"Yes, exactly", Jayden's guardian angel says and continues: "There are a lot of ways to celebrate Christmas all over the Christian culture. The Christmas season is a wonderful and magic time. Usually it already starts with the Advent season on First Advent, but on 1

December at the latest. The arrival of Jesus Christ is prepared festively in four steps. That's why there is a First, a Second, a Third and a Fourth Advent every Sunday until Christmas." - "So 2000 years ago the people already knew about Jesus before he was born?" the two boys ask. *"Only the few most important ones knew", Jayden's angel laughs.*

"What about Santa Claus?" the boys keep on asking.

"The legend of Santa Claus dates back to the fourth century. There was a very rich bishop called Nicolas in Myra. Myra was situated at the Mediterranean coast of the today's Ottoman Empire. That place will change into Turkey in 1923. He was the guardian of the poor and the giver of gifts to children. He also is celebrated in the Advent season."

Jayden's angel explains. „Oh, cool!“ Takoda says.

"In Europe he is celebrated on 6 December, which is his death-day. In the evening before all the children put a boot or a shoe to the door of their rooms, so that Saint Nicolas will fill it with a lot of sweets and candy. Then, in the morning of 6 December the kids run to their boots to see what Saint Nicolas has presented them. But this tradition is non-regular here in America.

[...]

Next morning it's very cold but sunny. The boys wake up happily. "Wow!" Takoda is still amazed. He still can see his guardian angel smiling to him. So he tells him loudly his wish for Christmas... [...]

"You want us to arrange that? Well, let's see what we can do", Takoda's angel replies winking.

"Let's get ready for breakfast!" Jayden shouts out. Excitedly the boys run into the bathroom to get washed. Then they rush back into Jayden's room to get dressed quickly.

Now they go into the dining room, where they are welcome cheerfully by Jayden's family. The kids enjoy their breakfast. After that Bill takes them into the garden, where they build a big snowman. After a funny snowball fight in the afternoon and drinking a warm cacao afterwards, Takoda is picked up by his father "White Eagle".

As soon as Takoda and his daddy arrive home, Takoda proudly tells his family about Christmas, Jesus and Santa Claus. His parents are very amazed, that Takoda has learned so much about the ex-European's tradition.

[...]

Meanwhile Jayden negotiates Takoda's visit for Christmas Eve with his parents. Having their angels' promise in mind he thinks how to get their Christmas wish fulfilled best. So he wants Takoda to stay with him from Christmas Eve to Christmas Day.

[...]

Days pass by, and Takoda's parents as well as Jayden's parents agree to Takoda's visit for Christmas Eve. The kids cheer for joy. They are so happy about their parents' allowance to spend another night with Jayden's family. Even so they have an exciting secret together...

It is early in the afternoon of Christmas Eve, and Takoda has made himself at home in Jayden's room. They are looking out of the window into the sky and share their mutual dream. Snow is falling. Their snowman smiles to the house. It seems to enjoy this cold and snowy day. And it even seems to know the boys' special Christmas wish.

[...]

After dinner the Wittmans come together in the living room and take a song book. Bill takes his guitar, and Judy sits down to the piano. Now they start to make some music and sing the most beautiful Christmas songs. Takoda of course doesn't know any of these wonderful songs. But he loves listening to them. At about 9:00 pm they finish singing, and the boys are kissed good night.

Lying in bed the boys are in a fever of excitement! They can't fall asleep right now! So they get up again, go to the window and look into the sky sharing their mutual dream again. Snow is falling peacefully.

This night, however, the snowflakes have a magic twinkle. Takoda and Jayden love watching the snowflakes falling to the ground. So they take a chair each and sit down at the window. We will never learn, whether they have tried to count snowflakes. But after quite a while they get tired and fall asleep.

As soon as they sleep deeply the snowflakes start to spin around in front of the window. They spin faster and faster and fuse together more and more until they formed into a big thick sleeping bag.

Suddenly the snowman wakes up, grows up to his four-fold size and goes to Jayden's window. Magically he takes the sleeping boys through the closed window and puts them carefully into the warm and fluffy sleeping bag. This does not wake them up. These soft movements accompany their sweet mutual dream instead. Now the snowman takes the boys into the sky directing to North Pole... [...]

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