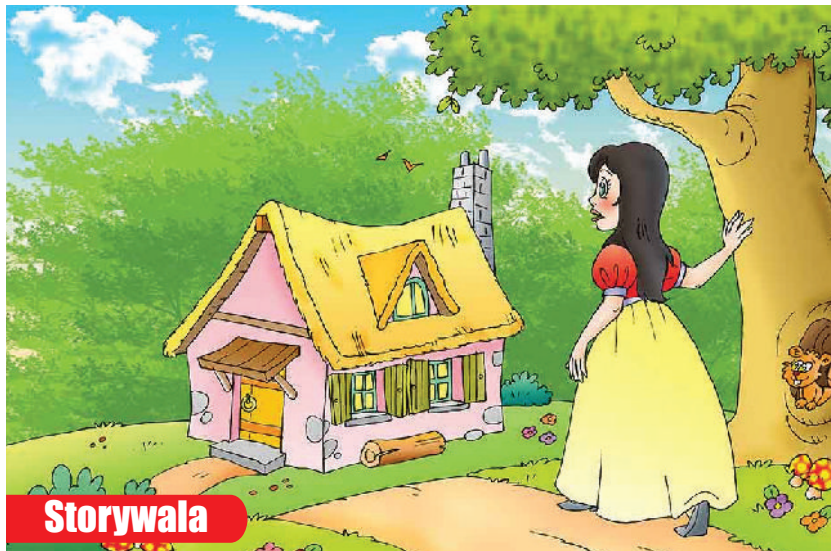


# A ruminating voice



Storywala

Shivanjali Sapra, AIS Saket, X A

The sun was shining bright, and I was excited to meet my forest friends—the giant elephant, the chirpy birds, the jumpy monkey, the tiny caterpillar and others. Just then, a knock on the door startled me. Peeping through the window, I saw Jumpy Monkey, who warned me that my stepmother, the Queen, was hunting for me. Fear gripped me, but I consoled myself with thoughts of the charming prince I had befriended.

My heart pounded as I debated whether to step outside. Within this period, another knock on the door sent a shiver down my spine. Gathering my courage,

I checked again and, to my surprise, saw a beautiful horse, probably there to quench its thirst. And how could I not help the animal as it was no different than my other forest friends.

So, I took it to the stream flowing near to the hill. As the horse quenched its thirst, I caught my reflection in the water - my eyes showed both a will to live and the terror of being hunted.

After some time, I returned to the cottage. However, I was petrified to see that it was all a mess again. Footsteps echoed, and when I opened the door, the same horse stood inside. “How did it get in?” I wondered. Then, it spoke: “Climb on my back, and I shall promise you a long life. Stay here, and I’ll

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leave you under a curse.” With no choice, I obeyed. I heard footsteps other than mine.

It took me to a banyan tree next to the hill, and the horse disappeared. Suddenly, a leaf fell on me with a message: “Come back!” “Who is calling me back? How in the world did I get here?” I thought to myself. As I touched the leaf, my body trembled as if melting. My head felt heavy, and distant, indistinct sounds reached my ears. The same tune repeated until I finally understood: “Snow White is the fairest of them all.” “No. That can’t be!” Then I heard someone else. It was a man’s voice, my prince’s voice! He said, “Come back, my princess, and live here.” I opened my eyes to see my prince leaning over me, his eyes brimmed with tears. “Snow White, it had been so long, I thought you were never going to come back to me,” said the prince. I looked at him and my surroundings, bewildered, still captured in a daze. I glanced at the hill and saw all my forest friends with tears of joy in their eyes as they hugged one another. Yes, the dreadful days were finally over. 🇮🇳

## WORDS VERSE

### Fading dreams

Hridika, AIS Gurugram 43, IX B

Such sweet old childhood dreams  
In the glow of golden afternoons  
Where laughter danced as fireflies  
Chasing shadows beneath the skies

In the twilight’s embrace, we’d roam  
Beneath an azure sky painted in gold  
We’d dance in fields, hearts at ease  
And wildflowers whispered to breeze

We’d chase clouds where winds blow  
Time was a river, flowing soft & slow  
With paper boats sailing on the stream  
Alas, we’ve grown and all was a dream

Those faint echoes of nostalgic laughs  
They would still shimmer and gleam  
In warm murmurs and gentle whispers  
Of our sweet old childhood dreams.



## Read Play and Win 79

Reading your favourite GT can fetch you a prize too. Complete all the boxes below. Click a picture and send it to [editor@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:editor@theglobaltimes.in) or submit your responses by visiting The Global Times website (<http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>). Three lucky winners will win a prize every week!



Q.1 Who has written the cover story of this edition?

Q.2 On which page can you find the poem ‘Fading dreams’?

Q.3 The article by Disha Dhir, AIS Gur 46, X D is on page \_\_\_\_\_.

Q.4 Which school organised the event ‘Atulya Bharat’?

Q.5 What is the scientific name of Death Cap mushroom?

Q.6 Which aquatic animal has symbiotic relationship with fish and corals?

Q.7 Pallavi Batra is a \_\_\_\_\_.

Q.8 Who has directed the movie ‘The Shawshank Redemption’?

Q.9 The autobiography on page 5 is on \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: ..... Class: ..... School: .....

Results of Read Play & Win-78: **Shivam Kumar**, AIS Gurugram 46, VI E; **Raj Chandra**, AIS Vas 1, IX B; **Lakshita Aneja**, AIS Mayur Vihar, VIII C

## BRUSH ‘n’ EASEL

Arisha Agarwal  
AIS Vas 1, X D

