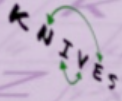


# Kevin's Puzzle of the Week

## Fractured Fairy Tales



*So many crazy things happen to me.*

What a story I have to tell you! The other day, I walked out of my chicken-legged hut and flew off in my mortar and pestle. After flying for a while, I came to a firebird, but it belonged to the king, who said I couldn't have it unless I brought him a horse with a golden mane. While searching for the horse, I found a deserted house where I tried to take a nap, but it took me three tries to find a bed that wasn't too hard or too soft.

I got bored and called all my friends and told them I was in danger - normally they come right away, but this time, everybody assumed I was lying, so they all ignored me. Thanks to this, I had to escape from forty thieves. I tried to escape my troubles - along with a rooster, cat, and donkey - by moving to a new town and becoming a musician, but we accidentally scared the thieves away, so we slept in their house instead.

The next morning, I dropped my axe in a river, but I had learned my lesson, so when Mercury offered me a golden axe instead, I was honest. My sister and I walked through the forest until we found a cottage made of sweets. We were trapped there until I found a magic lamp with a genie inside, who was able to deliver me back home. I learned that dashing from place to place is not the fastest way to travel, but slow and steady wins the race.