

### (3) The Tigress Witch

Once upon a time, in a cozy mountain home, lived a lady with her two daughters. The older daughter was called Kim, and the younger one was Jill. Even though they didn't have much money, they were happy. One day, the mom had to go to the city, leaving Kim and Jill alone. She was really worried about her daughters, so she told them to lock the door and not to open it for anyone while she was away.

Not long after the mother's departure, someone came to their house and began to knock loudly. The sisters were scared and had no idea what to do. Then, the person outside the door began to call out loudly, "Open the door! Open the door, my little girls. I am your mother."

The sisters stepped closer to the door and said, "You are not Mama! She couldn't be back so soon." However, the person outside knocked even harder and yelled, "Oh, it's me, your great-aunt! I live on the other side of the mountain. Your mother asked me to stay with you while she's away."

Kim and Jill thought it could be true, so they opened the door. There stood an old woman with hair as white as snow, and her face was wrinkled like a cat. Jill was young and didn't know much, so she welcomed her great-aunt warmly.

It was very late, so Jill slept with her great-aunt. But Kim was older and smarter, and she still wasn't sure. So, she decided to sleep in the next room by herself.

In the middle of the night, Kim woke up and heard a strange noise from Jill's room. When Kim went to see, she found her little sister tied to a chair and crying. It turned out the great-aunt was actually the Tigress Witch! Kim knew she might be the next target.

Kim, being clever, came up with a plan to outsmart the Tigress Witch. She thought of a solution quickly to rescue her sister, and then escaped through a window to safety. However, the crafty witch tracked them down and began chopping the tree

they were hiding in. Seeing the danger, Kim remained composed and quickly thought of an idea.

"Hey, great-aunt, you don't need to chop down the tree. We'll come down soon. But, uh, there's a little problem. We're really hungry and skinny. If you gobble us up now, you'll still be hungry after. But hey, how about this? If you boil some water for us, we can cook some birds up here and have a feast. Once we're full and chubby, you can eat us without feeling hungry anymore."

The Tigress Witch thought it was a brilliant idea. She boiled a big bucket of water and sent it up to Kim. After a while, Kim shouted, "Okay, we're ready to jump down! Now, open your mouth!" When the Tigress Witch heard this, she opened her mouth wide, thinking she was about to have a tasty meal. But instead, she got a mouthful of scalding hot water and got hurt really bad. Then she ran off and never bothered them again.