**Bald Boy and the Magic Seal**

**SCENE 1**

**NARRATOR**

**BALD BOY.**

**MAN 1.**

**MAN 2**

**MAN 3**

**CAT**

**SCENE 2**

**BALD BOY.**

**CAT**

**WOMAN.**

**DOG.**

**MAN**

**SCENE 3**

**BALD BOY.**

**CAT**

**DOG**

**WOODCUTTER 1**

**WOODCUTTER 2**

**SNAKE MELISA**

**SNAKE EMPEROR**

**SCENE 4**

**NARRATOR**

**MOTHER**

**BALD BOY**

**EMPEROR**

**BEAD SELLER**

**CAT**

**DOG**

**SCENE 1**

Narrator: One day, Bald Boy was walking back from the marketplace after selling his crops to the people of the neighbouring village. He had made three gold coins that day and was very pleased with himself because now his mother would be able to buy food and clothing to last through the long winter.

(**Bald Boy** comes across **3 men** who were teasing a cat with a long stick. The cat looked very scared and was unable to escape.)

**Man 1 and Man 2:** (laughing loudly) HAHHHAAH

**Bald Boy:** (in a kind voice): ‘Please stop teasing that poor cat. If you stop, I will give you a gold coin.’

(Men stop playing with the cat and look up at the boy surprised)

**Man 3:** Okay, that’s a deal.

(men stop playing with the cat and bald boy hands over the coin)

(Men walk away)

**Cat:** (walking by the boys side)I am really grateful for your kindness and I promise I will repay my kindness if I get the chance.

**SCENE 2**

(Cat and boy walk for a few miles and come across 2 people yelling at a dog..)

**Woman:** You stupid dog, just shut up!

**Dog:** WOOF WOOF WOOF

**Man:** I’ll come and beat you up with a stick if you don’t stop barking.

**Dog:** WOOF WOF

**Bald Boy:** ‘Please stop beating that poor dog. If you stop, I will give you a gold coin.’

**Man:** Okay

(Boy hands over the coin and the man and the woman leave.),

**Dog:** I am really grateful for your help and I promise to be faithful to you if you let me join you.

**Boy:** Of course you can join us.

**SCENE 3**

(Bald Boy and his new companions stumbleupon two woodcutters in the forest who were trying to kill a snake with their sharp axe)

**Bald Boy** (to woodcutters): ‘Please do not kill that snake with your axe. If you leave the snake in peace, I will give you a gold coin.’

**Woodcutters:** Okay.

(The woodcutters agree and the boy hands over his last coin)

(Woodcutters leave)

**Snake:** ‘Thank you, Son of Adam, for saving my life. I am the son of the Snake Emperor and you must come home with me so that my father might thank you in person for your kindness.’

**Bald Boy:** Okay. I guess I can come with you to see your father before I go home.

(Bald boy and his 3 companions arrive in the forest)

**Snake Emperor:** (to bald boy) ‘I am very grateful and will give you anything that you ask of

me,’

**Young Snake** (in the boys ear): ‘Ask my father for his magic seal which he keeps under his tongue. With this seal all of your wishes will come true. All you have to do is ask and it will be given.’

**Bald Boy:** I want your seal.

**Snake Emperor:** ‘You ask me for my most precious possession, but you saved my son’s life and I will grant you what you ask.’

(Bald Boy stuffs the seal into his pocket and returned home with his faithful cat and faithful dog by his side.)

**SCENE 4**

**Narrator**: When Bald Boy’s mother learned that her son had given away all of their gold coins she was very angry, but the boy promised that he would make up for this loss by marrying the Emperor’s daughter and making a new life for his mother.

**Mother:** ‘And how will you do that, my son? This cat and this dog will not help you do such a thing.’

**Bald Boy:** Mum I have a magic seal which will grant all my wishes.

**Narrator**: The very next day, Bald Boy set off with his faithful cat and dog to the palace to ask for the hand of the Emperor’s daughter.

**Bald boy (to Emperor):** I wish to marry your daughter.

**Emperor:** ‘I cannot allow my daughter to marry such a poor boy. If you wish to marry my daughter you must first build a palace next to mine so that I know she will be well looked after. But I know that you will not build such a palace with the help of a cat and a dog.’

**Bald Boy:** Okay I will build a palace off my own.

**Narrator**: Bald Boy held the seal under his tongue and wished that he had a palace of his own. Suddenly a palace appears in the distance.

**Emperor:** (surprised) Ok, you can marry my daughter.

**Narrator:** The mother moved in with her son and daughter and lived like a queen in her new home. And the cat and the dog were also very happy in their new life.The months passed and Bald Boy wished for nothing else as he was so happy with his new wife whom he loved very much. And so he placed the magic seal in a room all of its own and never told the Princess of its magical powers.But one day, when Bald Boy was out at the marketplace, a crafty old bead seller knocked on the door of the palace and enticed the beautiful Princess to buy some of his beads.

**Bead seller:** (to princess) ‘They are very fine beads, my Princess, and you would do well to buy them from me.’

**Princess:** But I have no coins with which to buy them,’

**Bead seller:** I am willing to trade. ‘I hear that you have a dusty old seal which you keep in a room in the palace; surely that is no use to you. I will take the seal in exchange for all of my beads.

**Narrator**: As soon as the seal was gone, the palace disappeared into thin air and the Princess and the mother were left standing in the cold.

(The palace disappeared into thin air and the Princess and the mother were left standing in the cold.)

**Mother (of Bald Boy) and princess:** (Look around surprised) Where is the palace?

**Emperor:** (walks in to the room with Bald Boy): I reclaim back my daughter. He can’t be her husband if he can’t look after her.

**The cat** stepped up to the boy and said to him: ‘I can find the seal but I cannot swim across the lake.’

Then **the dog** stepped forward and said to the cat: ‘I can swim across the lake with you on my back and together we will find the magic seal.’

**Narrator**: The faithful cat and the faithful dog set off on their journey to recapture the magic seal from the crafty bead seller. And so the faithful cat and the faithful dog returned the seal to their master and the palace reappeared in a blinding flash of light.

(cat and dog arrive)

(palace returns)

**Bald boy:** (sees the palace): (Shouts with joy) Wow the palace is back!

(Bald boy and the princess hug)

**Emperor:** (Walks in) (to Bald boy) You can remain as my daughters husband. After all I can tell she is deeply in love with you.

**Narrator:** Bald Boy smiled because he had learned that friends always help each other when they can, and there is magic in such friendship. Perhaps even more so than in the magic seal.