The story is about the Estonian national hero called Kalevipoeg / the Son of Kalev/

The Story about Kalevipoeg

Once upon a time there was a young widower who , while coming home, found a hen and a grouce’s egg. She put the hen on the egg in a big basket. After a while she found out that the hen had changed into a lovely girl Salme and the egg had turned into another girl called Linda.

When the girls had grown up, young men called the Moon and the Sun came to ask for Salme’s hand. Salme turned them back. Then came the Star to ask her to marry him. Salme said ,“Yes,Yes!“ The bride was dressed up and a big wedding party started.

During the party Moon came to ask for Linda’s hand. But Linda said „ I won’t marry Moon!“ Then came Sun to ask for her hand. And Linda refused again! She said,“ I won’t marry Sun!“ Then came the third groom- Water. And Linda sent him back as well.

At last a strong , handsome young man called Kalev rode a white horse to the party and Linda fell in love from the first sight crying out, „This will be my husband!“ Linda was dressed up as a bride and the wedding party lasted for a few days.

Kalev and Linda were married now and they lived and ruled the country happily for a long time. Linda gave birth to 2 sons. One day Kalev said to Linda,“I think my time is over. After my death you will get one more son. When our youngest son has grown up, he has to compete with his elder brothers to see who would rule the country and protect people.“

Quite soon Kalev passed away. Linda got her third son who was called Kalevipoeg. Since his birth he was very strong and he grew even bigger and stronger every day: being 2 months old, he could crawl on the floor and when being 3 months old was able to walk around.

When all 3 brothers were adults, the eldest brother said, „Who can throw this big stone the further, will rule the country and protect its people.“ The eldest brother was the first to try. He threw the stone very high, but it fell into the lake. The second brother tried to hit the sun and tried to throw it also very high, but the stone only fell on the other side of the lake, between the land and water. Now it was the youngest brother, who said,“It’s my turn now!“ The youngest brother was a smart man and he didn’t throw the stone too high . The stone flew very far, to the other side of the lake. His stone had flown the farthest/the longest distance. He announced,“Now it’s my turn to rule my country and protect my people.“

This story is the beginning of our national epic „Kalevipoeg“