**The Sword of God**

Once upon a time when the clans of Hunor and Magyar, who were the two princes of the ancient Hungarian tribes, settled down in the country of the Scythians, who had been living there for a long time. The Scythians did not like the idea of newcomers settling down there, but the Huns and the Magyars consecrated a sword to God, who helped them to defeat the people of Schytia.They called this sword *The Sword of God.* The shamans said that they should fear no one as long as they had the sword because as long as it remained in their hands, God would protect them.

So Hunor and Magyar did not ask many questions and invaded the country of the Scythians with the Sword of God.

They divided up the land into 108 parts among the 108 clans. Every clan got the land, fields and forest that they would need to make a new life for themselves.

They did not suffer any hardship for a long time until their population grew and grew until once again there were too many of them for the land that they were in. The king of the clans was the old Bendegúz in that time, and he called the leaders of the 108 clans together to discuss where to take the people because now even Scythia was not big enough for them. The leaders of the Hun clans advised to go to the West while the leaders of the Magyar clans suggested that they should go back to their original country that their ancestors had left behind. The descendants of Hunor said that it would be no use going back because that land would not be vast enough for them, so they should go to the West because God will lead them to a place where both the Hun and the Magyar clan could live till the end of time.

„You go and we will stay here”, said the Magyars, „If you find a land which is big enough for both of us, send a message and we will set out and join you there. If you can’t find a place big enough for both of us, come back and we will find a way to live together. After all, a small place is enough for those who love each other.”

Everybody agreed with this, but suddenly Attila, the son of Bendegúz, stood up and said: „Who will possess the sword of God, the Huns or the Magyars?” It was an important question. The wise men were debating for three days and three nights, finally they decided to hand the sword to a blind man who should spin the sword seven times in his hands. After the seventh time he should drop the sword and if it fell to the West, the Huns should have it and if it fell to the East, the Magyars should keep it. Everybody agreed with the decision and a grey, old, blind man was led forward and he was given the sword. He was told to spin the sword seven times and then to drop it. He did what he was told but the sword did not drop to the ground. Suddenly, a huge wind rose up and took the sword carrying it flying to the West where it disappeared out of sight.

Attila said „It is a sign from God that we must go to the West! Don’t worry about the sword, we will find it and when we do so, we will let you know and you can come there, too.”

The Huns started their way. Old Bendegúz and his sons Attila and Buda were leading the way and they were followed by all their people. Sometimes they stopped to examine the ground, the forests, the rivers but they could not find anything. One day they reached the territory lying between the river Danube and the river Tisza. They liked the land a lot and decided that they would go no further and would settle in this fine land. There was however a big problem – the iron headed Detre with a mighty army, made up of the frightened people living in this region to force the Huns to move on. He sent a message to the Huns that they could stay for three days but then they would have to leave. Attila the young prince was not afraid of the iron headed Detre. So Attila told him that they would not leave. The iron headed Detre responded by launching a full attack on the Huns, with all his men behind him. The old Bendegúz and the young Attila fought back valiantly and so viciously that the Danube flooded because so much blood flooded into it. The Huns won the battle and they claimed the wonderful new land for their own.

As time went by, the Huns lived in peace and they did not even think about fighting. Only Attila could not find his place in the region because wanted to conquer the whole world. His father, the old Bendegúz told him to forget about this until they could find the sword of God. Unless they found it he would be defeated because God would not help him.

One day Bendegúz died and the Huns proclaimed Attila as their king. From that day on he had nothing ese on his mind but the sword, wishing that he could find it. One day he dreamed a dream that he could not figure out. When he woke up he called for the fortune tellers.

“Listen to me. I dreamed a miraculous dream last night. Please tell the meaning if you can. A grey, old man came down from the sky for me and put a sword on my side and then disappeared as sudden as he came. I took a look at the sword and realized it was the sword of God. Out of the blue sky, I was picked up by a strong wing and carried over forests, hills, seas, plains and big towns. As I was flying I struck down with my sword several times and the forests bent, the rivers and seas parted and the towns burst into flames. Tell me shamans, what does my dream mean?”

The oldest shaman stood in front of the king and said: “Your majesty, your dream means that you will find the sword of God and you will conquer the whole world.” All the shamans agreed with what the oldest one predicted.

At that moment, a young shepherd boy ran into the room and shouted: “Your majesty, I found a sword on the plains and I want to present it to you.”

Attila took the sword and spun in in his palm and his happiness, he shouted out so loud that shook the ground.

“This is the mighty sword of God.”

Attila asked the shepherd boy where he found the sword. He answered:” Your majesty, I was following my flock when I saw that one of the sheep’s legs was bleeding. I was wondering what could have caused it because we were walking in very tender grass. As I looked down, I realized that there was the tip of a sword poking up out of the ground. As I was pulling it out of the ground, suddenly a flame erupted from the tip of the sword. I was frightened and ran away as fast as a I could, but as I looked back, I saw that that the sword forced its way up out of the ground and started spinning as if it was driven by the wind. Suddenly the flame died down and the sword fell to the ground so I went back and picked It up.”

“It is the sword of God”, shouted the people.

Attila tried the sword immediately and when he realized that it was the real sword he ordered that everybody should make bonfires in order to thank God that he gave him back the sword. The prophecy of the shamans proved to be true and Attila conquered the whole world…