

SYNOPSIS

The elements ruling the earth – wind, storm, mist and rain – are on their „regular inspection tour“. Out of the four elements, we are following The Rain Fairy. She is walking through the country, dressed like a poor woman. She gets to know that people really started thinking mainly about money, that love and goodness are disappearing. Both became mere words, without any value.

People like that are represented by a farmer named Mr. Greed, Andrew’s father, in a certain village; his son Andrew and his girl - friend Lily is the opposite. Lily is in love with Andrew, but she comes from a poor cottage and the farmer dislikes seeing their love. Such an emotion promises no riches.

Once the elements return to their „boss“ The Sun, they demand strict punishment. The Sun hesitates, knowing that people are people – he has no others and likes them in spite of their faults, but is defeated in the vote. At the last moment, The Rain Fairy helps him. She asks The Sun whether she can punish the people herself. The other elements accept that reluctantly, since she will be too mild, but The Sun agrees.

„What kind of punishments is it going to be?“

„I’ll take the rain away from them,“ The Rain Fairy says.

The country suffers, is dry and barren. There is nothing but harvest, the wheat does not grow, the hay is almost burnt. The only one who is satisfied is the farmer – Mr. Greed. His fields and meadows are near the swamps, still have moisture enough, and his harvest is good. However, he knows that the water will not stay there forever. Therefore, when Andrew asks for his permission to marry Lily, he cleverly uses the situation:

„You will get Lily if you arrange for rain again.“

In reality, he does not mean it. He would not give him Lily even if he had called the rain season back.

It is an impossible task. Nobody knows how to call rain back, nobody knows how to do it. For some time it is rumoured, though, that the poor woman walking that winter through the country is responsible, but who can believe it? This is what the forgetful and confused Grandpa Fairy-Tale, who always has a bottle of rum readily available, claims.

Andrew tries to question him. The Grandpa doesn’t talk sense, but there is one thing he repeats over and over: „I met her when I was leaving the forest, she was an old woman and transformed herself into The Rain Fairy. I clearly remember what she said – only Lily can see me. Nobody else. Somehow, she got to like her.“

„And where should she go?“

„It’s hard to say. Supposedly, she lives in every sincere tear. It’s up to you to decide.“

It does look like a nonsense, but Lily makes up her mind to go. Andrew wants to accompany her, but Andrew’s father does not allow him to.

Lily is walking, asking, but nobody knows where The Rain Fairy lives. Finally „a trace“, but it does not lead her to The Rain Fairy, just to The Mist. The Mist advises Lily like The Mist may, leads her through the mist so that Lily is getting lost even more. Once the mist is lifted, Lily finds out that she returned to her country again. She loses hope. She cries, the tears are dropping. As soon as the first tear touches the earth, out of this drop The Rain Fairy appears. Quite as if she had lived in a sincere tear.

And so she leads Lily into her „rain kingdom“.

„What is it that you want?“

„Rain.“

The Rain Fairy promises that, but only provided that Lily would be able to meet her three wishes.

The first wish: „The people in your country, thanks to their selfishness and desire to own, closed the water well I am taking their rain from. You have to unlock the well. But be careful – the fire and the heat are guarding it. You will be very, very thirsty. I will give you a jar with water. You will go to the well, but may not drink before you unlock the well.“

Lily is walking to the well. The journey is hellish; real stifling heat. At least twice she wants to drink, but resists. She reaches the well. There is a lock on the well, but also a key placed nearby. Glowing, red-hot. When she wants to touch it, she cLilyot. What remains to be done – she pours all the water from the jar over the key, till it becomes cold. She herself suffers from thirst all the time. She takes the key, is unlocking. Her jar is full of water again. Finally, she can satisfy her thirst.

The second wish: „So we have water, but all the little lambs that have to drink from the well and transform themselves into the rain clouds run away. You need to gather them close to the well.“

Lily is calling, but the sky in the water kingdom is absolutely clear, cloudless. What remains to be done – she sadly sits down and without thinking, almost automatically starts singing a song she used to sing at home in order to call in the flock of sheep. (This will be exposed, of course.) And it doesn't last long before the little lambs start appearing even here – they are coming and drinking....

The third wish: „It's the easiest and the most difficult at the same time. I want the most precious thing you have.“

Lily: „And what is that?“

The Fairy: In this well, the last drop of water that will give it life is lacking; that last drop has to be alive.

Lily: Where should I look for a drop of live water?

Fairy: You yourself have to become a drop of water.

Lily: To sacrifice my life? Because of water?

Fairy: Because of people, because of life in your country. If rain doesn't come, people will die of thirst, of lack of crops. Their quilt is that huge.

Lily: Some of them are not to be blamed.

Fairy: The rain falls either on all or on nobody.

Lily: I went to fetch the rain so that I could have Andrew. This way, I will have neither Andrew nor the rain. I will not even live. Don't I get the choice?

Fairy: You do. Sacrifice Andrew. Thus you will live and have rain as well.

Lily stands stunned.

We are back in the country. Everything is green, people are harvesting. The streams are full of water; it is clear that rain has returned. Just Andrew is nowhere to be seen. And one more strange thing is happening. From time to time the farmer leaves his house, walks through the village and throws money around. Meditative, silent. The children are collecting the money as long as he is throwing, before his servants lead him back home.

And then, Grandpa Fairy-Tale has to tell the children in the village green a story every day.

Grandpa Fairy-Tale: ... and Lily has not come back since. It rained, the sun shone, it rained again, a year passed and so Andrew got up and went to look for Lily, because his mother was no longer sick. And he did not come back either.

We are in the water kingdom. We see that Lily transformed herself into a live drop of rain. That she sacrificed herself. She does look like herself, but is somehow transparent, immaterial, like The Rain Fairy.

The Fairy: Your sacrifice was great and therefore I begged The Sun to listen to me. If Andrew stays faithful for three years and will not replace you with another girl or woman, he will deserve your sacrifice and I will ask The Sun to give you permission to return to the earth again.

Autumn begins.

The country is covered with snow.

Spring begins.

There is summer again.

Andrew is returning to the village – tired, shabby. Alone. He hasn't seen Lily anywhere, hasn't met her, knows nothing about her. The farmer offers him money, the house, just to hear a word. But money is no good – will not help to find Lily.

Andrew and his mother start farming again and quite a few pretty village girls start to flirt with him. But Andrew thinks about Lily all the time. However, one cLilyot live from memories only, with a shadow. Even the lime-tree in front of the cottage where Andrew and Lily used to meet and in the end said good-bye withered. And so Andrew slowly relaxes and one day, a wedding is agreed on. Moreover, everybody in the village approves of it; poor Lily is most probably no longer among those alive and life must go on.

But the rain in the country gets sadder and sadder, since the rain is Lily and her hope is gradually waning. Her sincere tears – the rain – make one little twig on the lime-tree green. One can barely notice it.

The day of the wedding comes. A few more minutes and Lily will remain lost forever. At the last moment Andrew notices that one twig on the lime-tree turned green after all. Moreover, it starts drizzling; the last desperate message from Lily, the last call for the little lambs.

Andrew: I will not marry. What would my life be worth should I forget Lily?!

Some people think he got mad, some are offended. The bride briskly leaves, offended. Huge confusion. In the middle of chaos, a strange thing happens. Together with the rain, as if a tiny bit of sky was falling. And people are staring, because that tiny bit of sky is transforming itself into a rain carriage, rain horses, and this team is bringing Lily. She is dressed up for wedding – Andrew, of course, too. Surprise, joy! Embraces. So, finally wedding, after all. Even Lily's parents are happy, but when Lily is ready to jump into the carriage with Andrew, the farmer stops them:

„No, not this! You didn't bring the rain, I will not let you have Lily!“

„You, man!“ his wife screams, so that he remembers that people had that already, that for such things the whole country was punished with barrenness.

And so the farmer rather disappears in the crowd. And Lily with Andrew are driving away.

Just Grandpa Fairy-Tale stays and looks into the sky; only he sees the picture of The Rain Fairy there. He considers it strange, takes another sip:

„Where did I see that woman? At a ball? Gathering brushwood? No. At the market. She was selling slippers. Yes, this is me – I look and see.“