

## THE FORGOTTEN WISE MAN



Many people, tall and small, know the legend of the three Wise Men of the Orient. That what was passed down by word of mouth from the shaman Wise Raven is known much less. Wise Raven lived at the edge of a hillside, there where

both American continents greet another with a handshake. One of his activities or duties was the observation of the starry sky. Once a night he discovered an unusual white star. And behind the star, there was a trail to recognize like as of pure gold dust glittering. The starry sky was well known by Wise Raven, but such a thing he had not seen before in his life. He called the people together and said to them: "A new star has risen in the sky and I'm sure it's a star of a great king. I have to go and find the king to bring him homage." He took a lot of presents with him. Three Lamas with pots full of water, oil, honey and fine wool on their back. In addition enough corn bread and dried meal and also a bracelet made of precious jade, a bag with some gold nuggets and a colorful woven warm poncho.

Wise Raven said "Good bye" and his brother with the name *Clever Stag* gave him some good advice for his journey: "Do not look to the left, do not look to the right, do not worry about anything, or you'll never get to your destination." The mother took a jewelry with a shimmering pearl from her neck and gave it to Wise Raven's neck with the words: „This is my own bridal jewelry. It will remind you to help anyone who needs your help."

So Wise Raven started his journey and after two days he met two girls and a woman. They were suffering from hunger because the father was leaving them for hunting but didn't return. Immediately Wise Raven gave all his food to them and thought: That one who controls the stars will not let me die. And so he went on his journey. As he reached the mountain regions the winter had already arrived there.

Wise Raven found an old half frozen man who has tried to protect himself from a snowstorm under a big fir tree. Without hesitation he gave him his colorful woven warm poncho. During the Winter he stayed at the old man's little house, because the snow was too high to pass the mountains in security. So in Spring he continued his journey and reached a wonderful grassland behind the mountains. Now I will move faster, Wise Raven thought. But soon he met a shepherd boy lying in the grass. He had battled with a few wolves. The wolves were more powerful than he and had wounded him and the Llamas were scattered in all directions by fear. Wise Raven healed his wounds on body and soul. Not before fall he was able to continue to follow the star in the sky. He left his Llamas at the shepherd boy because a shepherd without animals is a poor human.

Finally Wise Raven arrived at the coast of the sea where he discovered a reed boat with a dead man and wife inside. Three crying children were sitting beside: "Pirates killed our parents", the boy reported. "They robbed the fishing net and the sail." One moment Wise Raven reminded on the advise of his brother: "Do not look to the left, do not look to the right, do not worry about anything." But he felt bad for the children afterwards and so he helped the children to bury the dead parents. The bracelet made of precious jade he traded for a fishing net and two sails from fisher men nearby.

The children were so thankful that they helped him to build a big reed boat. But that needed its time and so Wise Raven could set sail only after seven months and the white star guided him. Over a long, long time he saw nothing than water. He arrived the shore far away at last and heard from some people there that a desert was behind the hills of the coast. A caravan had left a few days before in the direction he wanted to go. Wise Raven quickly exchanged his boat for a camel and followed the cara-



van. Over weeks he went from a watering place to the next and nearly met the caravan when he arrived at an Oasis. There was a big sadness because some of the caravans men took a young boy with them to sell him as slave in Egypt.

On the next evening Wise Raven reached the caravan. With all his Gold he traded back the boy and a camel in addition on which the boy could ride home to his Oasis. He by himself accompanied the caravan near the border of Egypt. There he got the message about a new great king in the land of the Hebrew. So he did not hesitate and remembered the star again. As he arrived at the land of the Hebrew to his astonishment the star in the sky was gone. Wherever he questioned about the king of the kings, no one could tell him anything and he was always looking only into very surprised faces.

Wise Raven was on his journey for many years then and no one, who knew him from the past, would have recognized him again. Nothing reminded on the proud and wise shaman who he was at his people.

One day he arrived at a small village called Kana. There a wedding was ongoing and Wise Raven asked about a piece of bread because he was hungry. At the moment when the cook wanted to banish the old beggar, the groom passed the kitchen and invited Wise Raven to come into the house. It was not a rich wedding but one of the simple people's of the country. The stock of wine got to the limit and the bride had no jewelry to wear. Wise Raven recognized the shame and sadness in the face of the bride which she wanted to hide. So he took out the jewelry which was given to him by his mother and put it around the neck of the bride.

At the moment he had given away the last thing from his home and with it the last that he owned – he became a beggar in real. Tears got into his eyes and with shame, he wanted to withdraw into the garden - in thoughts why he didn't reach his goal. Over there in the garden some of the domestics worked hard to refill six big amphorae of stone with water. Wise Raven went to them, to help to take out the water from the fountain. As they came to the end of the work, a man of approximately thirty years of age went out of the house to the amphorae. There he spoke a blessing and said to the domestics to bring something of the content of the amphorae to the cook for tasting it. The domestics were surprised about this words because the water in the amphorae was originally intended for the traditional washings - but they did as they got instructed.

Just a moment later the cook came out and cried: "What a wonderful and tasty wine did you bring to me?" Wise Raven looked into the evening sky and there was the white star to recognize again. Clear and light it shined as it didn't for years. Wise Raven looked at the man whom it seemed even the water was obeying and turning into wine. At that moment he recognized that he had reached his goal. He cheered and cried: "That one who directs the stars didn't mislead me!" He approached with awe the new king, touched secretly his clothes and bent his knees and paid homage to him. Immediately a great joy filled him completely, and he exclaimed, "My eyes have seen the salvation! What a blessing I have received."

*May all of you have a holy and peaceful Christmas and with the help of God everything may prosper that each of you begin in the New Year.*