

# The Sparrow and the Eagle

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There once was a sparrow who was the oldest of seven siblings. His mother loved him very dear. They were a poor family living in the poorest part of town. Sparrow didn't like his life, he would watch the wealthy birds fly by.

One day, his mother asked him to sell her coats in the marketplace. Sadly, he went to the market. He was about ready to leave when an eagle soared in.

Sparrow had never seen this eagle before. The eagle walked up to Sparrow and said, "My name is Eagle. I will grant three wishes to you." Sparrow was delighted!

Eagle said, "I will grant you three wishes Sparrow, but be careful what you wish for." Sparrow said, "Okay. For my first wish I want to become the most divine peacock! So beautiful all the birds will bow before me!" "As you wish." Eagle said. Sparrow rose into the air, engulfed by beautiful glitter that he knew was Eagle's magic. Sparrow gently floated back towards the Earth as a beautiful peacock.

Upon landing, Sparrow said, "I am beautiful! I will now go by the name of Peacock." Then Peacock realized he was beautiful, but not rich. He said, "Eagle, I am ready for my second wish! I want to become the richest bird in the world!" "Okay." said Eagle, with a sigh. Again, Peacock floated into the air and was engulfed by Eagle's magic; this time when he floated back to the Earth he was covered in jewels. He had all the riches in the world. Still, he wanted more.

Peacock realized he would need servants to serve him. Peacock said "Eagle, for my last wish I would like 500 servants!" Again, he floated into the air, this time he landed in his castle with 500 servants. Peacock said, "Now I am happy. All of my riches are here!" Eagle left the castle, quietly.

Years went by, Peacock slowly grew sadder and sadder. No one liked him, he was so greedy, and he didn't respect anyone. Twenty years later, Peacock

was sitting on his throne when Eagle walked through the door.

Peacock did not recognize him at first. Then, he said, "Oh Eagle, I should have listened to you! I am more miserable by the day! If only there was a way to get back to my old self." Eagle said, "You have learned your lesson. I will grant you one final wish." Peacock said, " I will use it wisely!" He floated into the air, once again engulfed in Eagle's power; when he floated back towards Earth he was back where it all started. On the street selling coats.

He was Sparrow again. Sparrow thanked Eagle then hurried off to see his family. Sparrow's family was delighted to see him. He said quietly, "I was only looking at what I didn't have instead of looking at what I did have."