

## Theodore's Journey

Once there was a poor beggar named Theodore who lived outside a castle gate. His clothes were torn and his skin was dirty and ruffled hair[crazy]. Theodore was very hungry. Every time the gate of the castle opened, Theodore would beg for food and money. One day, Theodore stopped the Princess' carriage. The Princess was not a charitable person and demanded that Theodore leave the castle grounds. Disappointed, Theodore walked down the dirt road away from the castle.

After some distance, Theodore approached a cottage with a garden. Smoke was rising from the chimney. He quickly walked to the door and began to knock. An old lady with a kind face opened the door and said, "Greetings, traveler. I am Crowey." "please, ma'am" said Theodore, "I am very hungry. Could I please eat from your garden?" "You may" said Crowey, if you will agree to pull the weeds and water my garden with water from the creek in return." "Anything you say ma'am. Thank you," said Theodore and he went straight to work.

When Theodore had finished his feast, he weeded the garden and gathered water from the creek. As he was watering he noticed a bow and arrow laying against the side of the cottage. He thought that if he had the bow and arrow he would be able to hunt for his next meal. So he dropped the water bucket, grabbed the bow and arrow, and ran as fast as he could into the woods. Crowey was watching through the window.

Theodore ran far into the woods and hid under a log for the night. The next morning, he began to hunt, looking for any creature that moved. It seemed as though every time he found an animal, his shot interrupted by a noisy crow. He noticed there were many of them sitting on the branches of the trees above. Then, the crows attacked. They flew around his head, plucking his hair and pecking at his scalp. With every peck it felt as though somethings was being placed in his skin. Before long, Theodore was

completely bald. The crows were gone, and it was finally quiet. “What was THAT?” said Theodore. He had one last arrow. He spied a rabbit. He drew his bow. And then, he heard a loud cracking noise coming from right above his left ear. He looked up and saw a large tomato plant growing out of his head? “Am I DREAMING?” said Theodore.

Just then, Crowey stepped out from behind a tree. She had a big, warm grin and her arms were lined with crows. Theodore’s head cracked again and spotted a delicious looking branch of apples and then again with a heavy branch of cucumbers. “Look at all of the wonderful food!” exclaimed Theodore as he bit into a plump tomato. “My birds gave you magic seeds,” said Crowey. “You now have a lifetime supply of your favorite fruits and vegetables where ever you go. And, mama bird has a delightful nest of pretty brown hair to sleep in. Now if you will give me back my bow we can all be happy.” Theodore handed the bow to Crowey. “What’s your favorite food Ms. Crowey,” said Theodore “No wait, let me guess.” Theodore thought hard and his head cracked again. “Mmmmm, how did you know? I love green beans!” Crowey said.

One month later Theodore had sold so much food and got so much money that he bought new clothes and washed himself daily. One day he got the courage to ask the princess if he could live with her. Once he got there and asked her she said “I WOULD LOVE TO LIVE WITH YOU AND MARRY YOU” the princess said. And Theodore became a king. And as a sign of forgiveness one of Crowey’s birds come and swooped down.

THE END!!!