Bathing in Pond

A Tale Play

By: Hosein Fadaihosein

Characters

Narrator

Stork

Goose

Duck

Turtle

[Today, like the other days of God, is a nice day, but it is warmer.* The sun is in the middle of the sky and smiling to the earth permanently. All of them are for the God's greatness. He has created the sun to heat the earth and us, instead he has created the water for when we got so warm, we could make cool ourselves with it.

Indeed, bathing is so pleasure in the warm weather. Bathing reminded the pond to me. Do you know what is pond? The pond is like a small lake, which is located in forest, plain or thicket. One of them is hereabout. Let's go to see what's up in our pond.

There is the sound of splashing. Surly someone bathing in the pond. Yes, those long beak and legs is Stork's.1

Stork: Wow! How cool water! Bathing in cool water is so pleasure in warm weather.

[Stork goes inside water, comes out and shakes his feathers repeatedly. It means he is bathing. Ok, maybe storks bathe this how! I

^{*} Note: All the sentences into the square brackets [...] and by italic font can be expressed by a narrator or storyteller.

Stork: I have bathed so much and now I'm very tired, it's better to take rest.

[Beside the pond, he folds his legs, puts his stomach on the ground, bends his neck, takes his head between his features and closes his eyes. He tries to pretend sleeping.

His snore has not heard yet that Goose and Duck appear. They are old friends. They always promenade together. As if, they are impacted twins! They eat, study and play with each other. They are running after each other now. Duck is running faster and Goose is trying to catch him with his short legs.]

Goose: Stop! I'll catch you soon, Duck!

[Once Goose wants to catch the Duck, he sidesteps.]

Duck: You can't catch me!

Goose: Soon, you'll see that how I catch you.

Duck: You can't, you can't.

[While Duck is saying to Goose "you can't catch me!", he goes toward the pond. Nearby the pond, he stops at once! Goose, that is unaware of the presence of the pond, runes toward him and bumps into him and both fall on the ground!]

Goose: Why did you stop, Duck? Do you play anymore? **Duck:** I'm tired of this game. Let's bathe, inside this pond!

[It is clear that Goose notices the pond at this moment. He gets up, shakes his muddy feathers and looks at the pond gladly.]

Goose: That's good idea, let's go to dabble. I have run very much.

Duck: So, get ready to jump into water!

[Duck and Goose take each other's wings and make a distance from the pond. They want to run from afar and jump in the pond at once for more pleasure.]

Duck: So, we will count until three then we will jump. One ... Two ...

[They have not yet said "three" Stork gets up and sees them.]

Stork: Hey! Hey! What are you doing? **Goose:** Hi, dear Stork, how do you do?

Duck: Hi, Mr. Stork!

[As if Stork takes offence at something, he does not answer them. Why? It is not clear. Maybe because he has woken suddenly from sleep and has worked up! Or maybe... If we wait, reason of his anger will become clear.]

Stork: What are you doing here?

[He frowns to them. As though, he is very disgruntled! However, Duck smiles to him, maybe in order to making him smiling too.]

Duck: Well... we want to bathe in the pond, Mr. Stork!

Stork: In my pond?!

[Goose (the old friend of the Duck) gets angry from Stork speech, and stands in front of him; then try to rises on toes of his short legs to become face to face with Stork. Nevertheless, Stork is very taller than him.]

Goose: This pond is yours?!

[Stork poses.]

Stork: Yes, it's mine.

Duck: Why do you claim that?

Stork: Because I have found it first, so it is mine. If you find a delicious food, I won't say "give it to me", of course it's yours, because you have found it!

Goose: But the pond is not a delicious food. It is all's.

Stork: Even though it is all's, I won't let anybody to play in it.

Goose: You are very selfish, Stork!

Stork: That's that!

[Duck, that clearly has taken offence at the selfishness of Stork, turns his face to other side to show his huff. However, Stork does not pay attention him, jumps inside the pond and dabble. Goose, that is confused, does not know what have to do.]

Duck: Mr. Stork! It is right that it is yours, but let us to bathe in your pond please!

Stork: No!

[Stork says "No" in somehow as though he has really bought the pond. Dock is at fault too, he should not beg to that proud Stork, nevertheless he continues.]

Duck: Mr. Stork! Just for a few minutes. We'll play a little and will leave soon.

Stork: It's impossible!

Duck: You know, the weather is very hot, just for a few minutes.

[Duck overdoes in begging to Stork. I do not know, how much Duck will beg to selfish and proud Stork! Goose, that is annoyed of the selfishness of Stork and begging of Duck, mediates;]

Goose: Dear Duck, my good friend! How long would you beg to such a selfish Stork?

Duck: Until he allows us to play in his pond.

[Again, Stork poses to them.]

Stork: But, I won't allow.

Goose: My dear Duck! Let's go to play another game.

Duck: So, what about the pond?

Goose: The pond will be selfish Stork's!

[Although, Duck wishes to jump in the pond, but he accepts his friend advice and go to play another game

with each other. Those two old friends have not yet started playing that Turtle appears.]

Goose: Dear Duck, look there! Who is coming?

[Duck looks to that ward.]

Duck: It is Turtle, our old friend, and what a beautiful ball he carries on his back!

[You know that turtle walks very slowly. If he has a big ball on his back, he will walk slower than before. He comes slowly until gets to the pond. Although he has walked so slowly, he pants heavily. Therefor he stops to rest.]

Turtle: Oh, I got tired. Thanks God there is a pond. I can bathe and take a rest!

[Turtle has weak eyesight, because when he passes beside Duck and Goose, he does not see them. In addition, he does not see Stork who has stood among the pond and is looking at him angrily.]

Stork: Hey, loiterer Turtle! What are you doing here?

Turtle: Oh! Is it Mr. Stork? I'm sorry, I didn't see you. You know, I have weak sight.

Stork: You didn't answer, what are you doing here?

Turtle: I became very weary so I decided to bathe here.

[Turtle who is breathing heavily, stretched his hands and legs, to show his fatigue, then he gets ready to jump into the pond!]

Stork: Loiterer Turtle stop! Do you know this pond is mine?

Turtle: Oh, how wonderful! Therefor we can dabble together.

Stork: Dabble together?

Turtle: Yes, I have a ball; look! It is on my back. We can play and dabble too. I mean, while we dabble inside the water we can play with ball.

Stork: No, I don't allow someone not only to dabble in my pond but also to play with ball!

Turtle: Oh, that's too bad! What should I do now?

Stork: I don't know, loiterer Turtle! Go and play lonely.

Turtle: Oh! But I don't like to play lonely!

Stork: However, I like that.

[After saying that, Stork dives into the water and after awhile comes out from the other side. He splashes around the water by shaking his feathers. It was clear that he does it intentionally just for showing off!

Poor Turtle has stood and is looking to Stork dabbling by his weak eyes. Duck who wishes to play with that big and beautiful ball, goes toward Turtle.]

Duck: Hi, Dear Turtle! What a large and beautiful ball you have!

Turtle: Oh, hi Mr. Duck! You're welcome, if you wish, you can play with it.

Duck: You mean we can really play with this ball!

Turtle: Oh, of course, you can .Even if you want, we will play with each other, because playing alone is not joyful.

[Duck that has rejoiced from Turtle suggestion refers to Goose.]

Duck: What about my friend, Goose? Can he play with us?

Turtle: Goose? Is he here?

[It is clear that Turtle has not seen Goose yet, so he looks around to see him. Goose comes in front of Turtle and hails.]

Turtle: Oh, hi Dear Goose! I'm so sorry, I didn't see you. You know...

Goose: Dear Turtle! No problem! I know your sight is low.

Duck: Dear Turtle, you didn't answer, can he play with us or not?

Turtle: Oh, Dear Duck! Of course, he can. You're welcome both. We can play joyfully together.

[Turtle speech has not end yet that he drops his ball down and shoots it to Duck.]

Turtle: Mr. Duck, take it!

[Duck takes the ball and shoots it to Goose, then he throws it to Turtle by his beak. But because of his eyesight weakness he can't get it, so the ball eddies round and falls in the pond.

Immediately, Duck goes toward the pond to bring back the ball, but Stork, who has looked them from the beginning of play until now, removes the ball.]

Duck: Hey, Stork! Give our ball! We are going to play.

Stork: I don't give it, meanwhile it belongs to Turtle not to you!

Duck: So, give it back to Turtle. **Stork:** I don't. I want to play too!

Goose: Stork! Why don't you dabble, in your own pond?

Stork: I have been bored of dabbling.

Turtle: Oh, Mr. Stork, Really? Do you want to play with us?

Stork: Yes, I do.

Turtle: So, throw the ball to me!

[Proud Stork throws it, but Turtle can't catch it, therefor the ball eddies toward Duck. He takes it and shoots to Goose. Goose goes near Turtle then shoots the ball to him so that Turtle can see the ball. Turtle takes it and shoots to Duck. Stork comes out from the pond, stands in front of Duck and waits for ball.]

Stork: Duck, throw it! We are going to play with ball!

[Duck shoots the ball to Goose with a wry smile. Stork gets upset and runs toward the ball to take it, but Goose takes it and throws for Turtle and playing continues in the same way. Annoyed of their behavior, Stork starts to cry loudly.]

Turtle: Oh, Mr. Stork! Why are you crying? **Stork:** You don't let me play with your ball.

Duck: Why you didn't allow dabbling in your pond?

Stork: Because it's mine!

Duck: So, the ball is ours too.

[After saying that, Duck throws the ball to Goose immediately. They continue to play together and selfish Stork runs around to catch the ball. Eventually he gets tired and pants!]

Stork: Wait a minute! I'm tired and breathless.

Goose: Panting Stork! What's up?

Stork: If I let you bathe in my pond, will you allow me to play with your ball?

Duck: Of course, yes. Dear Turtle! isn't it?

Turtle: Oh, of course we will. Do you accept that the ball is yours instead the pond is ours?

Stork: I accept.
Turtle: Well done!

[Turtle while says "well done" throws the ball to Stork and runs toward the pond. He is in such hurry that he may dip with head into the mud of the pond edge!

Duck and Goose run toward the pond as if they race with each other! Suddenly a loud is heard, and the water sprinkles around! When you look, you will see that the Duck, Goose and Turtle jump all together into the pond.

Now, the only sound that can be heard is the sound of splashing, bathing and laughing from the pond side.

Stork is completely confused by their behavior and he doesn't know what to do with this big ball.]

Stork: Now, how can I play lonely with this ball?

[There is no one to answer. All of them are busy. Stork throws the ball up and down lonely several times but he becomes bored soon.]

Stork: What are you doing? Let's go to play with each other!

[Turtle gets his head out of the water and looks to Stork.]

Turtle: Mr. Stork! If you want to play with us, come into pond!

Stork: Come into pond?

Turtle: Yes, we can dabble and play with the ball into the pond. Playing with the ball and dabbling! Come in soon! Playing with each other is very pleasure.

[Stork thinks about his suggestion, then he throws the ball into the pond and jumps in.]

Stork: look! I'm here to play all together, because it is very pleasure!

[This time the splash of water is louder and louder, because all of them are playing with each other.]

Finish

By: Hosein Fadaihosein

From: IRAN

Address: No. 20, No. 2 St, Moalem-e Sharghi St, QOM, 3715835189 IRAN

Tel: +98 912 7478958 Fax: +98 251 7747700

Email1: hfadaihosein@gmail.com Email2: hfadaihosein@yahoo.com