**(1) The Honest Woodcutter**

Once upon a time, in a small village near a big forest, there lived two woodcutters named John and Tim. John was a hardworking and honest man, while Tim was lazy and always tried to take shortcuts in life.

One day, while John was cutting a tree by the riverbank, his axe accidentally slipped out of his hand and fell into the river. He felt very sad as he did not have any other axe to continue his work. “Oh no! I lost my axe. How will I work now?” cried John as he sat on the riverbank feeling hopeless.

Suddenly, a beautiful goddess appeared from the river and asked him, "Why are you so sad, John?"

"My axe fell into the river, and now I have nothing to continue my work," replied John.

The goddess asked, "Would you recognize your axe if you see it?"

"Yes, I would," replied John.

The goddess went back into the river and returned with a golden axe in her hand. "Is this your axe?" she asked.

John looked at the axe and said, "No, this is not my axe."

The goddess went back into the river and returned with a silver axe in her hand. "Is this your axe?" she asked again.

John looked at the axe and replied, "No, this is not my axe either."

The goddess went back into the river one last time and returned with an iron axe in her hand. "Is this your axe?" she asked for the third time.

John saw the iron axe and smiled happily, "Yes, this is my axe. Thank you so much, goddess!"

The goddess was pleased with John's honesty and integrity. As a reward, she gave him all three axes, including the golden and silver ones.

John went back home and showed all three axes to his friend, Tim. Tim was surprised and asked, "How did you get so many axes?"

John then narrated the whole incident to Tim, and he got jealous. The next day, Tim went to the same spot where John had lost his axe and deliberately threw his axe into the river.

He waited for the goddess to appear and said, "Goddess, I have lost my axe in the river."

The goddess appeared and asked, "Would you recognize your axe if you see it?"

Tim replied, "Yes, I would."

The goddess went back into the river and returned with a golden axe in her hand. "Is this your axe?" she asked.

Tim got greedy and lied, "Yes, that's my axe."

The goddess was furious and said, "I know this is not your axe. You are dishonest, and you will not get your axe back because of your greed."

Tim felt ashamed and returned home empty-handed. He realized that honesty is always the best policy, and one should never try to take shortcuts in life. From that day on, Tim promised to be honest like his friend, John, and always work hard to achieve success.