

Read the passage “The Little Chipmunk and the Terrible Troll King” and then answer Numbers 1 through 4.

The Little Chipmunk and the Terrible Troll King

- 1 One morning, as I sat in the hollow log that is my home, I spotted a woman crying in the grass. I was not sure how I, a tiny chipmunk, could help her, but I decided to try my best. I hopped over to the sad woman to see if I could cheer her up.
- 2 “Hello, ma’am,” I said. “What is your name? And why are you so very sad?”
- 3 “I am Jenny,” the woman answered as her tears fell down on me. “I made a terrible mistake. I do not know how to fix it!”
- 4 “Oh, dear. That sounds serious. Can I help?” I asked.
- 5 “I do not think anyone can help me,” cried Jenny. “I made a deal with the Troll King many years ago. He gave me gold to buy food for my brothers and sisters. He said someday he would ask me for something in return. Today, he asked me to be his wife. If I do not marry him, he will cause all the plants in the land to die. All the people and animals will go hungry unless I keep my promise. He is very mean and tricky.”
- 6 “Oh, dear,” I said again. “That is very serious, indeed!”

7 “I must find the Troll King’s ring with the large red stone,” said Jenny. “If I do, the promise I made will be broken. I will not have to marry him.”

8 “Well,” I said, “I am small and very quick. A terrible Troll King will not notice a little chipmunk like me. Maybe I can find his ring so you will not have to marry him!”

9 So, Jenny and I came up with a plan. We hurried back to the Troll King’s palace. Once there, she hid in the garden while I slipped under the front door. I climbed through the tight space very easily. No one saw me! I crawled under the Troll King’s bedroom door and stopped when I saw him resting on the bed. He was loudly snoring, so I quietly climbed up on the bed. There was the ring! It was on his huge pinky finger. Ever so slowly, I crept up to the Troll King as he slept. I gently wiggled the ring until finally it was off his finger. It was a heavy ring, but I managed to get off the bed with it. Then I hurried under the door and out of the palace!

10 When I showed Jenny the Troll King’s ring, she laughed and hugged me with joy. “How can I ever repay you?” Jenny asked.

11 “Please take the ring far away so everyone will be safe,” I said.

12 Jenny took the ring to a far-off land where the Troll King could never find it. Without his ring, the Troll King had no power, so he could not trick or harm anyone ever again. I went back to my log and lived a quiet, happy life. Jenny lived happily ever after, and so did I!