

Forest Legends

Satyrs

By Tea Orsi



Satyrs are very peculiar creatures: they sort of look like stocky humans and, instead of feet, they have hard, noisy hooves, like goats. They have pointed ears and are very skilled at building things using the wood they find in the forest, but they also use iron and other metals.



Some satyrs are wonderful musicians and play all kinds of instruments, coming up with beautiful melodies. When they run, you can hear them coming from miles away (kind of like galloping horses), so it's hard for them to go unnoticed.



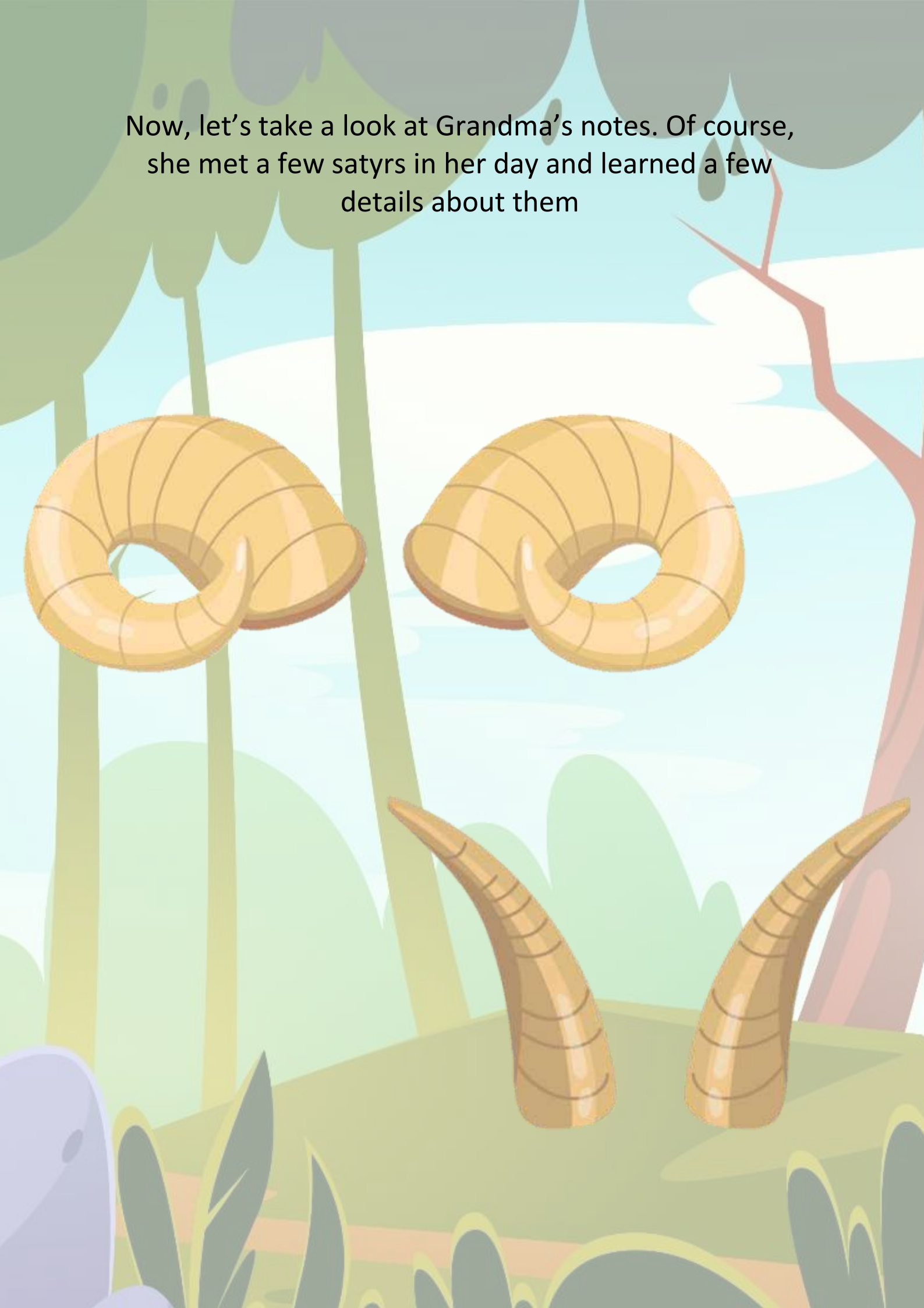
Oh, and one last detail: they don't exactly smell good.



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Beards are all the rage among satyrs. It doesn't matter if it's thick, extra-long, or just a goatee; the important thing is to have one (and to keep it as wild and unruly as possible).



Their favourite habitat is the wildest of woods. Living among tangled brambles and twisted trees is where they feel most at home. In short, they're not afraid of anything and yes, they're a little quirky.



The Legend of Pan

Have you ever seen panpipes? If the answer is yes, great! We'll explain how they came to be by telling you a beautiful story. If the answer is no, don't worry. You'll find out what they look like in this story.



One day, while walking through the woods, a satyr named Pan noticed the beautiful Syrinx, a water nymph who was also the daughter of the river god Ladon.



Pan immediately fell in love with her and began to walk towards her. However, as soon as she saw his long horns and became frightened and ran to her father Ladon for protection.



Poor thing! She was terrified and didn't want to run the risk of seeing that scary satyr ever again! She asked her father to turn her into a plant so that Pan wouldn't recognise her.



Ladon was puzzled but agreed and turned her into a reed.

Soon Pan learned what had happened and spent days searching for Syrinx among the rushes that grew along the banks of the river.



But his quest was in vain, so he decided to find a way to keep a part of her always with him. he cut a reed at its base, then divided it into pieces of different lengths. He tied them together, using strong threads of straw, creating the Pan flute, an instrument that he named Syrinx in honour of his beloved.



Blowing into the various reeds produced different sounds, from the highest pitch to the lowest and its melody was as sweet as it was sorrowful.



From then on, Pan went back to wandering, running, playing and dancing in the woods with the nymphs and scaring off passing wayfarers. Today, the Syrinx is also called a Pan flute or panpipes (there, now you know what we were talking about before!) and is one of the favourite musical instruments of satyrs all over the world.





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