

The Fox and The Crow



There are many versions of this fable, most notably those of Aesop and Jean de La Fontaine, but Latin and Greek versions exist from the 1st century. In some versions the crow is replaced by a raven.

The story has been told in prose and poetry, and as well as appearing on stamps, is the subject of paintings and sculptures, and has even been set to music. It is also believed to be depicted no less than three times in the border of the Bayeux Tapestry.



Used as a warning against listening to flattery, it tells of a fox who sees a crow fly off with a piece of cheese in its beak and settle on a branch of a tree.

Wishing to get hold of the cheese he walks up to the foot of the tree and begins to make compliments upon the crow's size and beauty.



He goes so far as to say that she would probably be made Queen of the Birds if she also had a voice.

Anxious to prove to him that she does possess a voice the crow lifts up her head and begins to caw vigorously. But the moment she opens her mouth the piece of cheese falls to the ground and the fox pounces upon it and carries it off.

