

The poor merchant and his golden watch

Once upon a time, there lived a poor merchant in England. His name was Sam. One day, he decided to go and seek his fortune. Before he set off, he went to visit his friend, Peter, for the last time. Peter asked him, "What can I do for you, Sam?" Sam said, "Peter, can you look after my golden watch?" Peter said, "Yes, sure!" Sam said, "Thank you, you are my best friend." And off he went.

He went to Australia, and started selling blankets. At first, his blankets weren't so popular, but after a month, almost everybody bought his blankets. He opened a shop, then another one. Altogether he had opened ten shops in Australia. After two years, he became every rich and he decided to go back to his home-town.

When he was back in England, he went to visit his friend, Peter. Peter asked him about his adventures and other things. Before Sam left, he asked Peter, "Do you remember the golden watch I asked you to keep for me?" Peter did not know what to say because he wanted to keep and sell Sam's golden watch for money to pay back the rent he owed his landlord. Peter scratched his head and said, "Dear Sam, I have never ever seen your precious golden watch, sorry!" Sam warned, "You better know what you are saying!"

The next day, they went to the magistrate. Sam said, "Your Honour, this man, who I think is my friend, is a liar and a cheater. I asked him to keep my precious golden watch for me while I was away. When I came back and asked him for it, he said that he had never seen it." The magistrate said, "Peter, why don't you give Sam your watch instead?" Peter said, "Yes, Your Honour." While Peter was trying to remove his watch and give it to Sam, Sam saw that Peter's watch was his golden watch. Sam at once said, "Your Honour, that was my golden watch!" The magistrate said, "Peter, return Sam his golden watch, and don't ever lie and betray your friend again, or he will do the same to you." Peter felt embarrassed and unwillingly, he returned the golden watch to Sam.

In the end, Sam and Peter were not friends anymore.

