



Learn English Through Stories

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The Demon Who Quit – Version 1

In the hot, fiery place called Hell, the boss was Dyavol. He was the Lord of Hell, the Devil himself. He had many names: the Big Bad, the Devil Almighty.

One day, Dyavol was eating dinner. He tasted his soup with a spoon.

"It's too hot, and it needs more salt!" he shouted down to the kitchen in the flaming pits."

"Sorry, boss!" shouted the chief cook. His name was Pointee Tail. He had black skin that shone in the orange firelight. His pointed tail moved quickly from side to side. He shouted over the loud screams of the damned souls.

"Turn down the flames! Add more fat sinners to the big pot!"

The kitchen demons laughed loudly and used their pitchforks to push the sinners into the boiling cauldron.

A demon named Seytan sat with Dyavol. He looked sad.

"I quit," said Seytan. "I can't do this job anymore."

"What? You can't quit! You are my best demon!" said Dyavol.

"Humans don't fear me now," said Seytan. "In the past, they were scared of me. Now, they just laugh."

"Is it that priest, Father Vivaldi, again?" asked Dyavol. "Try this meat. It's lawyers. They are tender because they never did hard work."

"Seytan took a bite." Yes, it's Father Vivaldi. I like bankers better. They taste richer."

Dyavol laughed. "You are getting old for this job. We have new sinners from Wall Street. Big business people. We cook them while they are still alive. Very fresh and juicy!"

"I tried everything to scare them," said Seytan. "I spoke words backwards. I turned my head all the way around. I shouted bad words. I even did silly things. But they laughed at me."

"Did you float above the bed?" asked Dyavol. "Did you walk like a crab on the ceiling?"

"Yes, I did all my best tricks," said Seytan. "But nothing worked."

Dyavol shouted down to the kitchen again. "Cook them alive! I don't want dead meat!"

"Sorry, boss!" shouted Pointee Tail. "No chainsaw. Just throw them in. Start with the fat one in the suit."

Dyavol shook his head. "It's hard to find good helpers these days."

"When I floated above the bed," said Seytan, "the priest opened the window. He said, 'Fly out if you can!' Then he laughed when I couldn't."

"We have rules," said Dyavol. "We can't kill the person we possess. We can only scare them."

"I know," said Seytan. "It's very hard."

"Did the priest make you leave?" asked Dyavol.

"The people were laughing so much. I had to go," said Seytan. "Why can't we just kill the person? Then it's over."

Dyavol hit Seytan lightly on his bald head. "Stupid! Remember the first rule in my book?"

"Which book?" asked Seytan.

Dyavol hit him again. "The Demon's Guide to Possessing Humans! I wrote it myself."

Dyavol gave the book to Seytan. "Read this part."

Seytan read: "We grow strong from human fear. As long as people are afraid of us, we have power."

"Yes!" said Dyavol. "If they laugh, we become weak."

They both laughed about some bad leaders on Earth who followed the book.

"Now, this priest found the secret," said Dyavol. "Laughter beats us. We can't win against laughs."

"What can we do, boss?" asked Seytan.

"We stop possessing people," said Dyavol. "Maybe we try something new. Like spreading ideas of freedom... or banning holidays!" He joked.

Seytan smiled. "Good idea, boss."

Three years later, the church said: "There are no more demon possessions in the world."

People had learned that laughter is the best way to fight evil.

The End.

Glossary:

- fiery: full of fire, very hot
- pitchfork: a long tool with sharp points, used by demons
- cauldron: a big pot for cooking over fire
- possess: to enter and control a person's body (like a demon)
- priest: a church leader who helps people with religion
- exorcise: to make a demon leave a person's body
- damned souls: bad people punished in Hell
- juicy: full of good taste, like fresh meat

Moral: This story is funny and shows that fear gives power to bad things, but laughter can take that power away.

Comprehension Questions

Question 1: Where does the story take place?

Question 2: Who is the boss of Hell in the story?

Question 3: What is the name of the demon who wants to quit?

Question 4: Why does Seytan want to quit his job?

Question 5: What does Father Vivaldi do when the demon floats above the bed?

Question 6: What do demons need to stay strong?

Question 7: Where do the new sinners come from in the story?

Question 8: What is the name of the chief cook in Hell?

Question 9: What happens to demon possessions at the end of the story?

Question 10: What is the main lesson of the story?

Answers

Answer 1: The story takes place in Hell.

Answer 2: The boss of Hell is Dyabol.

Answer 3: The demon who wants to quit is Seytan.

Answer 4: Seytan wants to quit because humans laugh at him and do not fear him anymore.

Answer 5: Father Vivaldi opens the window and tells the demon to fly out, then he laughs.

Answer 6: Demons need human fear to stay strong.

Answer 7: The new sinners come from Wall Street (big business people).

Answer 8: The name of the chief cook is Pointee Tail.

Answer 9: At the end, demon possessions stop all over the world.

Answer 10: The main lesson is that laughter can take away the power of evil (or fear gives power to bad things, but laughter wins).