

< Chuko Meets her Bridegroom >

< Narrator

Long long ago, there lived a rich mouse family in a warehouse of rice.
Chuko was the daughter of the family. She was a good-natured maiden mouse.

< Chuko

"My name is Chuko. I am very glad to see you. Now, I want to get married to a nice gentleman. But what shall I do then?"
... Well, I will ask my parents what to do."

< Father mouse

"Oh Chuko, you are of age to marry. You have to look for a good bridegroom."

< Mother mouse

"You must marry the greatest man in the world."

< Narrator

Then, Chuko thought who could be the greatest in the world. She thought for a long time. One day, Chuko had an idea and said to herself. 'The Sun is the greatest in the world because he lights up the whole world from high up in the sky.' Then Chuko went to see the Sun next day.

< Chuko

"Mr. Sun, Mr. Sun, you are the greatest in the world. Will you marry me, sir?"

< Mr. Sun

"Well, Chuko, do you think I am the greatest in the world? You may well think so, but sorry, I am not the greatest. Look at the cloud, Chuko. He is stronger than I because he can hide me from the world."

< Chuko

"Oh, I see. You are right."

< Narrator

Chuko understood and gave up Mr. Sun. Then she went to see the Cloud.

< Chuko

"Mr. Cloud, Mr. Cloud, you are the greatest in the world. Will you marry me, sir?"

< Mr. Cloud

"Well, Chuko, do you think I am the greatest in the world? You may well think so, but sorry, I am not the greatest. Look at the wind, Chuko. He is stronger than I because he can blow me off."

< Chuko

"Oh, I see. You are right."

< Narrator

Chuko understood and gave up Mr. Cloud. Then she went to see the Wind.

< Chuko

"Mr. Wind, Mr. Wind, you are the greatest in the world. Will you marry me, sir?"

< Mr. Wind

"Well, Chuko, do you think I am the greatest in the world? You may well think so, but sorry, I am not the greatest. Look at the wall, Chuko. He is stronger than I because he can stop me from going forward."

<Chuko

"Oh, I see. You are right."

< Narrator

Chuko understood and gave up Mr. Wind. Then she went to see the Wall.

< Chuko

"Mr. Wall, Mr. Wall, you are the greatest in the world. Will you marry me, sir?"

< Mr.Wall

"Well, Chuko, do you think I am the greatest in the world? You may well think so, but sorry, I am not the greatest. Now, listen, Chuko. I am bitten every night by a mouse, but I cannot fight him by myself. His name is, I heard, Chutaro. He is surely stronger than I am."

< Chutaro

"Did anybody call my name?"

< Chuko

"Whow wonderful! I know him. He is one of my playmates."

< Narrator

At that moment, Chuko noticed she was wrong. For Chuko, Chutaro must be her only and one fiancé.

< Father mouse

"Dear Chutaro, I cordially request you. Please be Chuko's bridegroom."

< Narrator

In this way, Chuko and Chutaro, a couple of mice, got married, blessed by their families and friends.

This is one of the happy ending folk stories told in Japan and India.

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2007.6.2