



# FAIRY TALES FOR EQUALITY



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## Youth Exchange



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## PROLOGUE

This compilation of fairy tales is the result of youth exchange that took place in the little paradise that is Curaçao. Thirty two young people from very different countries met for nine days to learn deeper and sensibilise about gender equality. This topic is trendy in all our societies, but in our generation we still have big gaps between different genders. So it is necessary that youth works for ending this problem. This structural problem is reflected in small details in our daily life. Even though we come from very different backgrounds we have found similarities in the essence of this situation, the myths and legends that are reflection of our different identities are full of the stereotypes that feed the inequality. That is why we have been working in a new perspective of our fairy tales in order to make them more conscious and more focused towards an inclusive education.

All our work is shown here and it has been illustrated with the drawings of the children from the FELIS foundation. FELIS is a wonderful space where Gerda Van Petersen has been working very hard to be able to give those children with the difficult childhood some skills and most off all love to grow in this world.

We want to thank organizations that have made possible this learning. Erasmus, Stichting FELIS, Inochange, FIFEDE, KIEC European Club, Gerda Van Petersen, Fokje Scgipper and our leaders and participants. It has been very enrichening and we are coming back to our countries with a new perspective about equality, learning and sharing.



## Natsarkekia

### A fairytale from Georgia

Once upon a time there was one lazy and care-free man.

Whole day he would be sitting in front of the fireplace, holding stick in his hands and playing with the ashes. That's why everybody call him "Natsarkekia". He had good wife, she would always clean the house, take care of the children and cook the food if there was any in their house. Every day she would tell to her husband, "Come on, do you want to eat or drink?"

But it was easy for him not to listen to his wife and continue playing with the fire. One day wife kicked him out of the house and told him "Do not come back before you have something to bring here!" Natsarkekia grabbed one cheese and his stick and started his road. He walked a lot and on the river edge he saw a large



Natsarkekia- Georgian word for the man who plays with the fire.



DEVI\*. Everyone was afraid of him, so devi woul always took their property. At firs Natsarkekia was afraid of devi, but then he said "Hey, you! devi! you think you are the strongest here? try to break the stone and squeeze the juice out of it." Devi got confused, he broke the stone and juicy nothing came out of it. Then the men took his cheese and squeezed it, devi dazed, he started running and disappeared from the world. Man came back to his wife and took his family in the devi's castle. They lived happily ever after.



## *“Natsarkekia” A different perspective*

Once upon a time there was a family with economical problems because he didn't have a job and his only hobby was to play in the fireplace, that's why people called him “Natsarkekia”. Very often, the couple of the family try to figure it out a solution to bring food at home. As both of them were smart and innovative people, they decided to make a purporsal to the richest -but scaring- being in the town: the DEVI.

DEVI was always fearing people because it was alone in the world with nothing to

do. But it had a huge amount of money. So the idea of our protagonists was to create three of them together a NGO where they can work and earn some money and, at the same time, they helped other people, including the DEVI that became a hero for children because it was saving the world from the pollution with its generosity.

At the end of their lives the global warming was just a memory and their friendship lasted forever. THE END.







## *The legend of Garajonay*

### **A fairytale from Spain**

The story of Gara and Jonay is without doubt one of the most romantic Canarian tales. The story tells of how Princess Gara from Gomera and the son of a Guanche king from Tenerife fell in love during a meeting between the rulers of both islands. Sadly, a fortune-teller predicted that their love would bring tragedy in the form of fire and lava, so their parents forbade it. Nevertheless, Jonay escaped and



swam away to La Gomera, aided by some goatskins, where he took refuge with his beloved in the island's highest forests. When the lovers realised they were surrounded, they sharpened a lance at both ends, placed it between them and joined in an embrace that would end their lives forever. Today, the forest bears their names and is known as Garajonay National Park.

### *“The legend of Garajonay” A different perspective*

The story tells of how Princess Gara from Gomera and the son of a Guanche king from Tenerife fell in love during a meeting between the rulers of both islands. Sadly, a fortune-teller predicted that they can not be together. Nevertheless, Jonay escaped and swam away to La Gomera, aided by some goatskins, where he took refuge with his beloved in the island's highest forests. When the lovers realised they were surrounded, they explained it to the society and their parents that they had a healthy love in an equality. It does not matter if you are poor, rich or where you come from. And together they could have a good kingdom. Today, the forest bears their names and is known as Garajonay National Park.







aside. In the corner of the house he saw Nanzi shake on his stomach.

How are you, Cha Tiger? "Nanzi asked in a complaining voice. "I came to hear from your own mouth what you said about me. Grrrr. "" Me? Did I speak angry of you? How is it possible that people can be so mean! This is the pinnacle, honestly. Don't you see how sick I am? "

Nanzi waited a moment, like someone who can't breathe well, and then continued in the same complaining tone: "Shi Maria wanted to take me to the king, because I don't have a cent left to buy herbs. There a learned man can examine and heal me. I, I can't talk anymore. "Exhausted, Nanzi fell over again. "I, a father of nine children ..."

Cha Tiger was startled. Nanzi was really sick. Who knows if he didn't die. "Cha Tiger, you are strong. Could you not take me to the king? "Cha Tiger felt sorry for Nanzi. That's why he said, "Okay, just climb on my back." "Oh dear, I can't do it! It hurts everywhere. Have Shi Maria put a pillow on your back. "" Good. "

Shi Maria placed a cushion on the back of Cha Tiger. With great difficulty, Nanzi stood on a bench. He grabbed Cha Tiger's ears with his hands and slid onto the tiger's back. He kept his head on Cha Tiger's neck.

"That's how I shake too much and I have to hold on to your ears. I better put a rope

through your mouth, then I can sit up straight. "Cha Tiger grumbled that it was good. While Nanzi sighed and complained, Shi Maria put the rope through the mouth of Cha Tiger.

Calm down, "Nanzi told Cha Tiger when he started walking. In the forest, Nanzi said: "Even the mosquitoes are teasing me. They see that I don't have much time left to live. Cha Tiger, let me cut a branch off this tree to scare them away from me. "Cha Tiger stopped and Nanzi cut his branch. Again and again he waved the branch and howled with pain. There they came from the forest. A group of people stood on the side of the road. Nanzi rose to his feet, swung the branch and hit Cha Tiger so hard that it frightened him and ran it all the way to the king. With the tongue out of his mouth, he stood still before His Majesty.

"Did the king see it? Cha Tiger is no more than my ass! "All people shouted, "Hooray for Nanzi! " He ran to the forest. He stayed there to this day. The king gave Nanzi a bag of money. His Majesty's carriage brought Nanzi home. Nanzi and his children were given new clothes and Shi Maria was given a dress full of lace and embroidery and a hat with ostrich feathers.



## *"Nanzi and Cha Tiger" A different perspective*

Many years ago, Cha Tiger, the tiger, did not live in the forest but with the people. Everyone was afraid of him. When they saw Cha Tiger just come around the corner, they already walked away from him. One evening a couple of people were sitting under an enormous tamarind tree.

They were talking about Cha Tiger. Someone said: "You must know, the buddy is extremely strong and I don't trust him for a cent. He must probably eat a lot. I'm afraid of him. "

"Oh, you're not very wise! What can Cha Tiger do? Just roar. I'm not afraid of him at all. Of course he eats a lot. With such a large body he has to work a lot inside, otherwise he is too weak to walk. But I bet I can sit on his back, like I can sit on the back of the first donkey. "

It was Nanzi who spoke these words. People were laughing at each other. "You, Nanzi? You are lying. He will blow you over like that. Stop it! "" I don't lie and I don't brag. I'll prove it to you. I will ride him tomorrow. He will take me all the way to the king. "

The next morning, very early, the king already knew everything. He wondered if Nanzi would really dare. Cha Tiger came by. "Good morning, Cha Tiger," someone greeted him. "Grrr." "Cha Tiger, listen!" "Grrr." "Nanzi mocked you." Cha Tiger stopped and roared a little louder: "Grrrrrr ..." "Do you know what he said?" That he is not afraid of you. That he will climb on your back. That you are not nearly as

strong as we think. "Cha Tiger became furious and shouted," I am going to him and I will tell him! "

Cha Tiger roared all the way with anger. All children and large people ran into their homes. They looked through the blinds at what was going to happen. The street was empty; Cha Tiger had free play. Nanzi too had heard the roar that the longer the louder it sounded.

He was startled and pale. His teeth were chattering, as if he had chills. Sweat ran down his forehead. Shi Maria couldn't ask, because Cha Tiger was already banging on the front door as if he wanted to knock him out of his handles. Shi Maria opened the door. Cha Tiger pushed her aside. In the corner of the house he saw Nanzi shake on his stomach.

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## HOW MAN WAS TECHING HIS LAZY WOMEN

### An Ukrainian Fairytale

There was a daughter of some people. But she was very lazy, didn't like any work, all days doing nothing or just fall asleep on the oven/stove. But even her mother was supporting her in all her deals.

"Enjoy your life" she says, "till you are still young. And in old age you have to work for yourself. Woe will teach you everything".

Well, she lived till became a young women already; she must already marry, but nobody doesn't want to marry her because she is very lazy.

Finally one guy decide to marry her and sent her to her wedding matchmakers. The father and mother, of course, were happy, only mother says:

- And what, son, will you not beat her?

- No, Mom, I will not. I already know what to do with her.

Well, they engaged, married, took the trousseau and drove away to the young man house.

They lived after the wedding, just like everyone else, and then the harvesting times are coming, and the young man says to all his family, so that the woman (his wife) also heard:

"Well, listen to all: as much you do today, as much you will eat and who will not do anything, will not eat anything!" - and all

went to the fields, and Olena (wife) stayed with the old mother of the husband.

She thought to herself and said:

- No, it's probably my husband joked. My father also said that he would not give me any food, but he gave me food!

She thought to myself so, and she lay down for sleep on the stove and slept till lunch. And here they (other family representatives) came from the field for lunch, because the field was not far away.

Husband began asking everyone: how much is done by everyone. One says: I stumbled, another says: I knit a sheaf, the third says: but I drove the bread to the river.

- And you, woman, what did you do?

- I ... I have nothing!

- Well, then you will eat nothing!

Olena sat down here, and in her stomach like someone rides.

On the second day, the man again said the same, and Olena would be happy already begun to work, when it is her first obligation. Then she took a bucket and brought water, but she was tired so much that she decide to lay down. And she was resting till the lunch.

And people are come from the fields, and her husband began to ask again, who did what. One says - those, the second - that.

- And you, Olena, what did you do?



- I brought water for lunch today!

- Well, then you have a cup of water, and I will not have lunch and dinner.

On the third day, as everyone went to work, Olena starts to help grandmother, because she wanted to eat a lot on that moment: she put firewood, brought water, clean in the house, flooded the stove, kneaded the dough ...

It's just that lunch was ready, Olena see, that people is already walking out of work. She was so sad that time is run so fast.

This time Olena had a lunch and prepare dinner.

So she was working like that till Sunday.

Her father comes on a Sunday to visit her daughter, as she lives with his son-in-law. He has come - and can't take his eyes from his daughter: she flooded the stove, and set the lunch in the house, and she clean the house... He put his hands up and asked:

- How did your husband teach you to work?

How to fight your laziness and start to do something (edited version)

There was a daughter of some people. But she was very lazy, didn't like any work, all days doing nothing or just fall asleep on the oven/stove. But even her mother was supporting her in all her deals.

"Enjoy your life" she says, "till you are still young. And in old age you have to work for yourself. Life will teach you everything".

Well, she lived till became a young women already; she decide that she want already marry, but nobody doesn't want to marry her because she is very lazy.

She is silent. Here they come from the church. Olena ran faster from the house, brought raw skin, gave to her father, and said:

"Well, daddy, atleast work on this skin. There are such people: as someone does not do anything, then they do not eat."

The old man was surprised, but he took the skin and start to work on it.

The young owner comes, looked at the old man, greet him and asked:

- What are you doing?

"Working on skin, because my daughter said that you do not give food for people who do nothing." Young owner was laughing and said:

- Throw, father, this skin, this I was teaching my wife to work not with a hammer, but with hunger.

The old man laughed, embraced his son-in-law. And the young couple began to live well from that time.

And she meet a guy and they fall in love. In a while guy make her proposal and she agree to marry him. The father and mother were happy for their girl. And on meeting with parents Olena's mother asked:

- And what, son, will you not beat her?

- No, Mom, I will not. I already know what to do with her.

Well, they engaged, married and drove away to the young man house, not far from house of his parents.

They lived after the wedding, just like everyone else, and then the harvesting times are coming, and the young man says to all



his family, so that the woman (his wife) also heard:

"Well, listen to all: as much you do today, as much you will eat and who will not do anything, will not eat anything!" - and all went to the fields. They call Olena (wife) with them too, but she decide to stay.

She thought to herself and said:

- No, it's probably my husband joked. My father also said that he would not give me any food, but he gave me food!

She thought to herself so, and she lay down for sleep on the stove and slept till lunch. And here they (other family representatives) came from the field for lunch, because the field was not far away.

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Olena sat down here, and in her stomach like someone rides.

On the second day, the man again said the same, and Olena would be happy already begun to work, when everybody is working too. Then she took a bucket and brought water, but she was tired so much that she decide to lay down. And she was resting till the lunch.

And people are come from the fields, and her husband began to ask again, who did what. One says - those, the second - that.

- And you, Olena, what did you do?

- I brought water for lunch today!

- Well, then you have a cup of water, and I will not have lunch and dinner.

On the third day everyone starts to help mother-in-law, and Olena put firewood, brought water, clean in the house, flooded the stove, kneaded the dough. Then all went to work in field with Olena too, because she wanted to eat a lot on that moment.

Lunch time came fast. Olena even become sad that time is run so fast.

This time Olena had a lunch and prepare together with her husband dinner.

So she was working like that till Sunday.

Her father comes on a Sunday to visit her daughter, as she lives with his son-in-law. He has come - and can't take his eyes from his daughter: she flooded the stove, and set the lunch in the house, and she clean the house... He put his hands up and asked:

- How did your husband teach you to work?

She is silent. Here they come from the church. Olena ran faster from the house, brought raw skin, gave to her father, and said:

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## Ukrainian Fairy Tales

# A DIFERENT PERSPECTIVE

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And she meet a guy and they fall in love. In a while guy make her proposal and she agree to marry him. The father and mother were happy for their girl. And on meeting with parents Olena's mother asked:

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They lived after the wedding, just like everyone else, and then the harvesting times are coming, and the young man says to all his family, so that the woman (his wife) also heard:

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Father laughed, embraced his son-in-law. And the young couple began to live well from that time.

*THE END.* 



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