The Princess Who Never Smiled
To our young readers

Enjoy reading this book on your own in both languages! You could refer to the story in English to help you to read and understand it in Marathi.

To parents and teachers

The words and sentence-structures in this story are graded appropriately for young readers. The text of the story is therefore simplified. At the same time, a word-for-word translation from one language to the other has been avoided, so as to preserve the unique rhythm of the story in each language.

Read the story aloud in both languages to preschool children. Talk about the pictures. Help older children to use the familiar English text where necessary in order to make sense of the Marathi.
The Princess Who Never Smiled

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Marathi Translation: Anjali Pimpalkhare

Centre For Learning Resources
Princess Jayanti was very beautiful and very rich. She lived in a big palace. The palace was very quiet. No sounds at all! And Princess Jayanti never smiled.
तिचे बडील म्हणजे राजेशाहेब, नेहमी काठजीत असायचे.
"हिला मी आनंदी कशी करू शकेन?" हाच विचार करायचे.

Her father, the king, was worried.
"How can I make her happy?" he thought.
एके दिवशी राजानं आफल्या राज्यातील सर्व तरुणांना बोलावलं आणि विचारलं, "माझ्या मुलीला कोण हसवेल?
जर तू हसवलंस तर तुला माझी अर्धी सप्तती मिळेल
आणि राजकुंवा जयंती तुझी बायको होईल."

One day, the king called all the young men in his kingdom, and asked, "Who will make my daughter smile?
If you do, you will get half my riches.
And Princess Jayanti will be your wife."
Many rich men wanted to marry the princess. They came from places far away. They sang and danced. They did tricks. But Princess Jayanti never smiled.
Some men told her funny stories.
But Princess Jayanti never smiled.
Far far away there lived a farmer's son.
His name was Raju. Raju worked hard.
He was kind and honest.
But he was very poor.
He could not hope to marry a princess.
एके दिवशी सकाढी एक आश्चर्याची गोष्ट घडली.
कृष्णच त्याच्या पुढी उभा होता. त्यानं हातात
सोन्याचं बदक पकडलं होतं. तो राजूकडे बघून हसला.
तो म्हणाला, “तू दयातू आणि प्रामाणिक आहेस, म्हणून मी तुला
सोन्याचे बदक देतोय.” मग कृष्ण अदृश्य झाला.

One morning, a strange thing happened.
Lord Krishna stood in front of him. In his hand
he held a golden duck. He smiled at Raju.
“You are kind and honest”, he said. “So I give you this
golden duck.” Then Lord Krishna disappeared.
Raju put the golden duck under his arm.
He started to run. He wanted to show it to his friends.
Soon a soldier saw the golden duck.
As he tried to grab it, he got stuck to Raju.
He could not pull his hand away.
A weaver saw them running.
"A golden duck", he said, greedily.
He too tried to grab it.
But he got stuck to the soldier.
He could not pull his hand away.
So the soldier and the weaver had to run along with Raju.
तेवक्ष्यात दोन तरुण मुली आल्या.
त्यानी सुधावरील पठवायचा प्रयत्न केला.
त्याही चिकटल्या.

Then two young girls came along.
They too tried to grab the golden duck.
They too got stuck.
The line of greedy people grew and grew and grew.
Soon they were running past the palace.
Princess Jayanti was looking out of the window.
Suddenly she saw them. "How funny they look!" she thought.
And she began to smile.
When she heard the whole story, she laughed and laughed!
The birds and butterflies laughed with her.
राजूनं कृष्णाला विनंती केली की या सगंध्या
चिकटलेल्या माणसांना मोकळं करा. आणि राजा म्हणाला,
"हा तरुण माझ्या मुलीशी लम्ब करेल
आणि याला माझी अर्धी संपत्ती मिळेल. कारण त्यांचं तिला हसवलंय."

राजपुत्र राजू आणि राजकुम्या जयंती सुखानं राहू लागले.

Raju asked Lord Krishna to free all the people who were stuck. And the king said, "This young man shall marry my daughter and have half my riches. For he has made her smile!"

Prince Raju and Princess Jayanti lived happily ever after.
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This bilingual storybook can be enjoyed in both English and Marathi. The Centre For Learning Resources is developing a range of graded, bilingual reading materials for young children, based on the globally-researched understanding that a known language can fruitfully be used to learn a new one.

The Centre For Learning Resources (CLR) is a non-governmental educational institution involved in training, research, materials development, advocacy and consultancy for educational programmes. Its main goal is to improve the quality of education and development of socially and economically disadvantaged children in India.

Jeyanthi Manokaran has adapted and illustrated this story. She is a well-known, award-winning Indian illustrator of children's books. She has had extensive experience in writing and illustrating children's educational resources for print and multimedia.

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