

Ivan Tsarevich, the Firebird and the Grey Wolf

There lives a Tsar Berendey. He has got three sons. The youngest son's name is Ivan. The Tsar has a wonderful garden. There grows a tree with golden apples. Someone starts coming to the Tsar's garden. He steals the apples. The Tsar becomes very upset about it. He sends some guards there.

wonderful	[ˈwʌndəfʊl]	прекрасный
garden	[gɑːdn]	сад
apple	[æpl]	яблоко
steal	[sti:l]	воровать
upset	[ʌp'set]	расстроенный



The guards can't track the thief.
The Tsar stops eating and drinking. He becomes sad.

His sons try to help him:

“Dear Father, don't be sad! We will guard the garden!”

track	[træk]	выследить
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thief	[θi:f]	вор
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guard	[gɑ:d]	охранять
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The oldest son says: “Today is my turn, I’ll go to watch over the garden.”

And the oldest son goes to guard the garden.

In the evening, there isn’t a trace of anyone. He lies down on the soft grass and falls asleep. In the morning the Tsar asks him:

“Well, tell me, did you see the thief?”

“No, Father, all night I didn’t sleep, my eyes never closed, but I didn’t see anything.”

turn	[tʒ:n]	очередь
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trace	[treɪs]	след
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soft	[sɒft]	мягкий
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close	[kləʊz]	закрывать
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The next day the middle son goes to stand guard. He sleeps the whole night, but in the morning says that he didn't see the thief.

At last it's time for the youngest son to stand guard. And Ivan goes to guard his father's garden. It's getting dark. He is sitting there afraid. But he doesn't want to lie down on the grass. He knows he may fall asleep.

Midnight comes. Suddenly he sees the light in the garden. It gets brighter and brighter. All the garden is bright now!

He sees the Firebird! It's sitting on the apple tree and It's eating golden apples! Ivan Tsarevich comes up quietly

midnight	[ˈmɪdnɑːt]	полночь
brighter	[braɪtə]	светлее
Firebird	[ˈfaɪəbɜːd]	Жар-птица
quietly	[ˈkwaɪətli]	бесшумно



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to the apple tree... And he grabs the bird by the tail. The Firebird flaps its wings and flies away. But it leaves one feather in Ivan's hand.

In the morning Ivan Tsarevich goes to his father.

“Well, my dear Vanya, did you see the thief?”

“Dear Father, I did. Here is a feather of a very clever thief. Dear Father, It's the Firebird!”

grab	[græb]	хватать
tail	[teɪl]	хвост
flap	[flæp]	взмахнуть
feather	['feðə]	перо
clever	['klevə]	умный