



The Treasure

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Italian

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Once upon a time there was a prince who studied and racked his brains so much that he learned magic and the art of finding hidden treasures. One day he discovered a treasure in a bank, let us say the bank of Ddisisa: “Oh, he says, now I am going to get it out.” But to get it out it was necessary that ten million million ants should cross one by one the river Gianquadara (let us suppose it was that one) in a bark made of the half shell of a nut. The prince puts the bark in the river and begins to make the ants pass over. One, two, three,—and he is still doing it.

Here the person who is telling the story pauses and says: “We will finish this story when the ants have finished passing over.

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