Maria, the chestnut girl

Once upon a time there were six naughty elves that lived in a cabin in the middle of the forest. All of them wear a hood and a dress. Each one had different colour. They like to play and sing. One was dressed in blue and was called Blue. Another was dressed in green and they called him Green. Another was always dressed in orange and they called him Orange. Another was always wearing grey clothes. That is why they called him Grey. The fifth elf was always dressed in red, so they called him Red. And the last one was always dressed in yellow, so his name was Yellow.

Every morning one elf was in charge of cleaning the house, preparing their breakfast, lunch or dinner, do the laundry, iron... While this elf was doing all these things, the rest of the elves were playing and running in the forest. On Monday Blue had to do everything, on Tuesday it was Green’s turn, on Wednesday Orange, on Thursday it was Grey’s turn, Friday was Red’s day and Yellow was in charge every Saturday. But, when Sunday arrived no one wanted to do those tasks. All of them were very angry because no one would ever cook breakfast, lunch or dinner. So, on Sundays they were always hungry.

On the other side of the forest a girl called Maria lived there with this grandmother. They were happy and they spend their time picking chestnuts from the forest. Their house was full of big bags with chestnuts that they sold in the city’s market. Maria’s grandmum was always telling Maria not to go to the other side of the forest because some naughty elves lived there. But one Sunday morning Maria was walking in the forest and without noticing it she crossed the bridge and ended up in the other side of the forest. She met the elves. They told her that to live with them on Sunday and they made her clean
the house, iron their clothes, cook their meals... And she did it so well that they didn’t let her go. They told her that is she escaped they would go to her granddad’s house and take all the chestnuts. So, poor Maria had to stay there. Maria’s grandma was very sad because Maria was not coming back. But he had a raven and the raven knew where Maria was. The raven told the grandmother that Maria was fine.

But one Monday, after having worked on Sunday, the elves let her go to see her granny. They told her that she had to come back the following Sunday to help them at home. They made her promise that she was going to go back. But Maria’s grandmother didn’t let her go back with the elves. The elves got very angry with Maria and they went to her granny’s house and stole all the chestnuts. Suddenly there was a storm. It started raining so much that the elves were sinking with the chestnuts. They started to cry: “Help! Help! Help!” Maria and her grandmother listened to them and saved them. The elves realized that they had been very bad with Maria. They returned them the chestnuts and from that day they are all very good friends. And from that day, the elves decided to do all together the housework.