

One-Sun Boy

A Japanese Folktale



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Once there was an old man and woman. They wanted a baby. They prayed for a baby. Then they had a baby. But the baby was very small. He was the size of a sun. A sun was a Japanese coin. It was one inch tall. They called him One-Sun Boy.

One-Sun Boy got older. But he did not grow. He was still one inch tall. One-Sun Boy wanted to become a samurai. A samurai is a kind of warrior.

One-Sun Boy left his home. He used a bowl as his boat. He took a needle for a sword. He went down the river. He went to the city.

One-Sun Boy

One-Sun Boy found a job. He worked for a king. The king had a daughter. One-Sun Boy became friends with her.



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One-Sun Boy and the Princess take a walk together

One day, One-Sun Boy and the princess took a walk. They walked in the woods. An oni attacked them. An oni is a monster. The oni wanted the princess. One-Sun Boy took out his sword. He stabbed the oni in the foot. The oni did not like this. He picked up One-Sun Boy. He swallowed him in one gulp. Then the oni tried to grab the princess. But he suddenly stopped.

One-Sun Boy was inside the oni. He stabbed him in the belly.

The oni yelled. "Please stop. Ow! It hurts! Stop, stop! I beg you."

One-Sun Boy did not stop. The oni spit him out. Then the oni ran away. He was afraid of One-Sun Boy. The oni never came back.

One-Sun Boy was a hero. He saved the princess. From then on, he was a samurai. He had a new job. He protected the princess. He was happy. He found his place in this world.

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Once there was an old man and woman. They wanted a baby. The woman prayed. She asked for a baby, no matter how small. Soon after, they had a baby. But the baby was very small. He was the size of a sun. A sun was a kind of a Japanese coin. It was one inch high. Because of this, the couple called him One-Sun Boy.

One-Sun Boy got older, but he did not grow taller. He stayed the same size. He felt like he lived in a world of giants. He did not feel like he had a place in it. He wanted to become a samurai. That is a kind of warrior.

One-Sun Boy left his parents. He took a bowl as his boat. He took chopsticks as his paddles. He took a needle as his sword. He rowed down the river to the city.

One-Sun Boy

One-Sun Boy found a job in the city. He worked for a rich lord. The rich man had a pretty daughter. She was a princess. One-Sun Boy became friends with her.



One-Sun Boy and the Princess take a walk together

One day, One-Sun Boy and the princess took a walk. They walked in the woods. They came upon an oni. An oni is a monster. The oni wanted the princess. One-Sun Boy tried to save her. He stabbed the oni in the foot with his sword. The oni found this annoying. The oni picked up One-Sun Boy. He swallowed him in one gulp. Then the oni tried to grab the princess. But he suddenly froze.

One-Sun Boy was inside the oni's stomach. He began to stab the oni with his sword.

The oni started to yell. "Please stop. Ow! It hurts! Stop, stop! I beg you."

One-Sun Boy did not stop. The oni had no choice but to spit him out. Then the oni ran away for he became very afraid of One-Sun Boy. The oni never came back to bother the city again.

One-Sun Boy was a hero. He saved the princess. From then on, he was a samurai and his new job was to protect the princess. One-Sun Boy was happy. He found his place in this world.

One-Sun Boy

A Japanese Folktale



By Internet Archive Book Images [No restrictions], via Wikimedia Commons

Once upon a time, there was an old man and woman. They wanted a baby very badly, even though they were very old. The woman prayed. She asked for a baby, no matter how small. Soon after, they had a baby, but the baby was very small. He was the size of one sun. A sun was a kind of a Japanese coin that was only one inch high. Because of this, the couple called their tiny son One-Sun Boy.

One-Sun Boy got older, but he did not grow taller. He stayed the same size. One-Sun Boy felt like he lived in a world of giants. He did not feel like he had a place in the world. He wanted to become a samurai, which is a kind of warrior.

One-Sun Boy

One day, One-Sun Boy decided it was time that he left his parents' home. He took a bowl as his boat, chopsticks as his paddles, and a needle as his sword. In this way, One-Sun Boy rowed down the strongest river in Japan to the great city beyond.

One-Sun Boy soon found a job in the city. He became a clerk for a rich lord in a large palace. The princess, the rich lord's daughter, was very pretty. One-Sun Boy became friends with her and they spent a lot of time talking together.



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One-Sun Boy and the Princess take a walk together

One day, One-Sun Boy and the princess took a walk in the woods. All of a sudden, they were attacked by an evil oni. An oni is a demon. The oni wanted to kidnap the princess. One-Sun Boy tried to protect her by stabbing the oni's foot with his sword. The oni was surprised that something so small could be so annoying. He grabbed One-Sun Boy and swallowed him in one gulp. Then the oni moved to capture the princess. But before he could grab her, he suddenly froze for he was being attacked from the inside.

One-Sun Boy was inside the oni's stomach. He began to stab the oni with his sword again and again and again.

One-Sun Boy

The oni started to yell, "Please stop. Ow, It hurts! Stop, stop, I beg you!"

One-Sun Boy did not stop and did not give up. The oni had no choice but to spit him out. Then the oni ran away for he became very afraid of One-Sun Boy. The oni never came back to bother the city again.

One-Sun Boy was a hero. He saved the princess and the rest of the city. From then on, he was a samurai and his new job was to protect the princess. One-Sun Boy was happy. He found his place in this world.

