The Unlucky Face

✍️ **Shreevalli Rai Martell**



Once upon a time, there lived a king in a village. One day, he felt like disguising himself and going around the village. He told his minister to send a servant early the next morning to accompany him.

The following morning, the servant arrived, bowed respectfully to the king, and said, “Shall we go?” Together, they set out.

As they walked around the village, the king grew extremely thirsty. Not even a handful of drinking water could be found anywhere. Soon, he began to feel dizzy. Somehow, he struggled back to the palace and summoned his minister.

The king said, “The servant you sent with me this morning has an unlucky face. After seeing his face, I could not find even a handful of water to drink anywhere. Such an ill-omened person should not be allowed to live. Have him beheaded!”

The minister calmly tried to reason with the king. “Please think for a moment, Your Majesty. You say that because you saw his face, you could not find water to drink. But because he saw your face, his very life is now in danger! So tell me, who is the greater bad omen?” The king realized his mistake. He summoned the servant, honored him, and sent him away with respect.

Moral: Never consider anyone unlucky or a bad omen.