



Once upon a time there lived a great Duke.  
He had a large castle, was very rich, and  
had everything in this world to make a man  
happy. His only child was a beautiful girl,  
who was beloved by all around.

When she was twenty-one years of age her  
father asked all the young nobles of the land  
to the castle. He spoke gently to his daughter,  
'Many of these men will ask for your hand in  
marriage. I beg of you to make a good choice,  
for your happiness will depend on it.'

The time soon came for the celebration and  
while the young woman was in her room with  
her maid dressing, a loud knocking was heard  
at the back door of the court.







A servant went out to see who was making such a noise and found that it was a beggar man on crutches.

‘Don’t trouble her Ladyship today,’ he said, ‘she is very busy and a great many guests are coming shortly to the castle.’





But the beggar answered that he would not go away until he had seen the Duke's daughter.

