Christmas Spider Story

How do you feel about spiders. Most people think spiders are only around Halloween but let me tell you a story of a special Christmas spider that goes way back. There are good spiders and bad spiders but by enlarge they are helpful. They help deal with insects and stuff like that.

A long time ago there was a single mother, and she had two children, an older young girl and a smaller young boy. A boy and a girl. They were VERY, VERY poor. They all lived in a little tiny house that was falling apart. There were holes in the floorboards and walls. The windows were cracked and would let in the cold winter wind. They got by as best as they could.

Well one spring, an acorn fell through the ceiling into a crack in the floorboard below. After a few weeks the older daughter noticed that out of the floorboards was growing a little tree plant. It was a little pine tree, and she said, *"Mama, Mama, Mama ...look it's a pine tree growing out of the floor."*

The mother said, *"Let me get a knife and I will cut it down."*

The two children yelled, "*No don't cut it down, can we please keep it....PLEASE, PLEASE."*

[EVERYBODY SAY PLEASE WITH ME!!!]

And the mother let out a sigh, and said to herself, *"They really don't have anything else so why not."*

And so she let that little tree grow, and it grew, and it grew, and it must have been a pretty magical tree by Christmas there was a beautiful kind-of pine tree in the house.

[What kind of tree do you think that was? (Christmas Tree)]

They didn't have much to decorate it with. The morning of Christmas Eve that mother was very sad because she knew the next day there probably wasn't going to be that much in the house. No presents, and barely enough food to feed them all….more or less than having a tree decorated.

Then the children looked up in the tree and low and behold in the tree was a spider. And the spider was going back and forth, back and forth, back and forth.

[And can you tell me what that spider was doing? (spinning a web in the tree)]

It was making a web. It was decorating the tree. It was going back and forth and decorating the tree, and the children went, *"Ma, Ma, Ma look there is a spider in the tree, and he is decorating the tree."*

And the mother ran and grabbed a cast-iron frying pan. She went to go hit the spider and the little young gal yelled, *"Wait, Wait, Mama don't kill the spider. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE. Can we keep the spider."*

[CAN YOU SAY PLEASE-PLEASE-PLEASE WITH ME!!!]

And the mother let out a sigh, and said to herself, *"I hate spiders, but they really won't have much for Christmas so why not."*

She looked at that spider and said, *"Alright spider, this Christmas Eve you get a reprieve. You stay in that tree…ok"*

The spider didn't say anything and just kept going back and forth, back and forth, and kept decorating.

They all went to sleep. It was cold and whistlie. (make whooshing sounds).

The mother got up the next morning and it was cold and grey and there was a little light coming in through the window, and she got the fire going to make a bit of gruel.

She turned and looked there was light coming through the window and through the tree, and the tree looked like it was covered with gold and silver.

She sighed and said, *"How beautiful. The light is making the web look likes its decorated with beautiful gold and silver thread." Another BIG SIGH… "I wish."*

And she started making more of the gruel, and the children got up and they looked at the Christmas tree and their eyes got wide and said, *"Mama, Mama look at the Christmas tree."*

And she said, *"I know darlings isn't it beautiful."*

Then the children went over to look and said, *"Mama, Mama its covered in gold and silver thread."*

And the mother said, *"No sweety it's just a trick of the light."*

Just then the young girl walked over and handed her a piece of gold and silver thread, and said, *"NO Mama it's REAL THREAD!"*

I must tell you gold and silver thread in those days was VERY precious because all the clergy, the kings, the queens, the nobles, and rich merchants would decorate their clothing with gold and silver thread. It was VERY, VERY expensive, and VERY hard to make.

And here they had a tree full of it.

The mother went over and looked and sure enough the tree was covered in beautiful gold and silver thread. So, she carefully wound it all up, and said, *"You children stay right here. I am going to be back in a little bit."*

And she went to the market, and what do you think she did? She sold that beautiful gold and silver thread.

She came back and she had warm clothes, she had blankets, she had delicious food, she had toys, she had firewood, she had everything for a wonderful Christmas morning.

Because that Christmas spider with its beautiful gold and silver thread had made a Christmas miracle.

[Do you think that Mama got rid of that spider]

No, she did not. She left that spider alone. That house did get better, but they did not get rid of that Christmas tree that came through the floor, and they didn't touch that Christmas spider.

For two more years that spider would come back and would decorate that tree with beautiful gold and silver thread.

Now other people heard about this spider, and they wanted a magical Christmas spider too. So, people started putting spiders in their Christmas tree with the hopes that it would spin gold and silver thread. That did not work as well as people thought.

However, in some countries they put Christmas spider ornaments in trees. They make them out of beads, and they hide them in the tree. The first person who spots the spider has good luck throughout the year.

When you see tinsel or even sparkling garland in a Christmas tree think of the poor family who had nothing. Many people don't have much during the Christmas Holiday, but they have each other. The Christmas Spider is a reminder that blessings come from all over, but true blessings are in the ones we love.