

The Hare and the Hedgehog

Words: Gary McGath, Copyright 2013

Tune: Mozart, "Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja" (The Birdcatcher's Song)
My entry in the 2013 OVFF Iron Filker contest, "Fractured Fairy Tales"
Based on the Grimm story, "Der Hase und der Igel"

I am a hedgehog, proud and fair,
I met a stupid, snooty hare.
I said hello, but he's the sort
To sneer my legs are much too short.
I won't take insults to my face,
And so I said, "Let's have a race!"

Chorus:

A hedgehog may not be so quick,
But hares aren't very hard to trick.

The hare replied, "Now that's a joke!
You'd never win, you old slowpoke!"
I said, "I thought you hares were bold.
Come on, let's bet a coin of gold!
Just let me get a bite to eat
And after lunch right here we'll meet!"

Chorus

I went back home and told my wife.
She said, "You've thrown away your life!"
I told her, "No, we really can,
Just listen to my sneaky plan!
This hare is very dumb, you see,
And he can't recognize you from me."

Chorus

The hare and I both started out,
And he outran me, there's no doubt.
But when he reached the end, the hare
Espied a hedgehog standing there!
He asked her, "How'd you pull this hack?"
She said, "Come on, I'll race you back!"

Chorus

So back that stupid bunny ran,
And I was there, it was my plan.
He fumed with rage and shouted, "Zorn!
I'll win this time, sure as I'm born!"
He kept on running, back and forth,
Until he reached his seventy-fourth.

Chorus

This hare, so full of boasts and pride,
Fell down exhausted and he died.
My wife and I took home the gold
We'd won from that dumb hare so bold.
So if you'd live a happy life,
You should appear just like your wife.

Chorus