**The Neat Girl**

Long ago, in a distant land, there lived an old queen who ruled over her kingdom. She had only one son — a handsome, wise, and brave young man.One day, the queen decided it was time for her son to marry, and to find a suitable bride for him, she made a special announcement to her people:“Today, all the girls in the kingdom must clean and tidy up their homes! The girl who collects the most trash from her house will become the bride of my one and only son.”That day, all the girls eagerly got to work, each trying to out do the others. Every girl in the kingdom spent the whole day cleaning their homes.The next day, the deadline arrived. The queen, along with her servants, traveled across the kingdom, inspecting the trash collected by each girl. Many homes had piles of garbage in front of their doors — the yards were filled with waste.At last, the queen came to a humble, worn-out cottage where a simple woodcutter’s daughter lived. The girl had collected very little trash. Surprised, the queen asked,“Why have you gathered so little trash?”The girl replied:“No matter how hard I tried, this was all the trash I could find in my house.”Without hesitation, the queen declared, “I choose this girl.”Everyone was astonished by her decision. After all, the queen had said she would choose the girl with the most trash.But in truth, the queen had used this test to find the best girl in the land. She knew that a well-mannered, intelligent, and most importantly, neat girl would never have so much trash in her home. Her house would always be clean and tidy.The queen had chosen the perfect way to test them all.

**By** **Kizlarkhon Ibrohimova**