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# Chocolate Game for Christmas Fun

by Anita Zuber

The chocolate game can be played by any number of children and adults who sit around a table and take turns rolling a pair of dice. A large wrapped chocolate candy bar, i.e. "Toblorone" is placed in the middle of the table for all to see, as are a hat of any kind, a long scarf and a pair of thick gloves. The first person to roll a double quickly dons the hat, scarf and gloves, then opens and begins to eat the chocolate with a knife and fork. That person can continue to eat the chocolate until another player rolls a double and then must release the clothing and chocolate to that player. Play continues until the chocolate is gone.

*We had lots of fun with a large Toblerone for us 4 players it took a long time!!!-Ed.*

Equipment

Oscar rolling the dice

Editor trying to eat chocolate with fork and knife

Desperate to roll a double

Disappointment

# Graueli's Christmas

a Christmas story from Marta Wild

A lovely, white-haired old lady told me this story which she experienced when she was a small and cute Emmeli with brown curls. I'll let her tell it to you:

Yes, a lot was different in the old days! My brother Noldi and I weren't spoiled and I'm still thankful for that today. As soon as we were able to do some work we were helping our parents from morning till evening. We had a very humble and quite poor upbringing, but we never realised that. It was the opposite - we thought we were rich, because we had Graueli!

You're wondering who Graueli (little grey one) is? Our one and only cow! Oh, how much we loved our Graueli! Noldi and I always cleaned the stable. Mother had to laugh and said it was much cleaner than in many farmers' living rooms. Nearly every evening we enjoyed singing to Graueli all the songs we learnt at school and from our mother. Our worries left us as soon as we started singing! And I can tell you it actually sounded very nice. Graueli enjoyed the singing as she was always lying happily on her clean straw and looking at us with her beautiful eyes. We would sing songs until we didn't know of any more or our mother would call us for bed and of course in those days one had to obey.

One day our father noticed new neighbours moving in and we were very excited as we lived fairly isolated and until then there were never other kids in our neighbourhood. We were too shy to go and say hello but then a friendly woman came outside and introduced her three children and said "We hope you will get along as you will be attending the same school".

After that, we weren't that shy anymore and greeted them. We didn't say a lot but helped to unload and bring things into the house – we had never seen so many beautiful things. However when we told our parents about all the expensive things they weren't interested and our father said "We hope the new neighbours aren't the type of people who like to be wealthy and noble on the outside but are actually quite poor on the inside."

We were happy when winter school started the next day and we could see the neighbour's children every day. One day on our way home we were talking about Christmas because our teacher taught us some new Christmas songs. Then the neighbour's boy Roebi asked us: "Do you usually have a Christmas tree at school?" "What?" we asked blankly. "A Christmas tree!" "What is this?" both of us asked. "My goodness - you don't even know what a Christmas tree is! Our father was right yesterday when he said it feels like we're living behind the moon here!" Roebi started scoffing.

"You better tell us what a Christmas tree is!"

"We have one every year", he said, "and it's the most beautiful for miles around! Our father gets a well-grown pine from the forest and our mother then puts a lot of colourful candles on it and ties red apples onto the branches. Christmas cookies and golden nuts get tied on it too. And we've got a big box full of shiny Christmas balls in different colours and golden stars. Even an angel with real hair and wings. All of it gets tied onto the Christmas tree and on Christmas we light the candles and it looks beautiful..." Yes, we totally believed him and mentioned that we would love to see their Christmas tree. "I can't promise you anything, but I'll see what I can do", Roebi said a bit pretentious.

From then on we were only thinking about this wonderful tree. Until now we didn't