The Tale of Peter and Fevronia of Murom
Once upon a time there lived a Russian prince named Paul. He had a beautiful wife. They lived in an old Russian town which was called Murom.
One day an evil snake started to visit Paul’s wife. He looked like her husband. The Prince began to think how to kill this snake. He asked his wife to find out the secret of the snake’s death. When the evil snake came to the woman again she told him kind words and the snake gave away the secret about his death. It turned out that the only man who could defeat the snake with a magic sword was Paul's brother, Peter.
Paul called his brother and told him about the snake. Peter was ready to kill the monster but he didn’t know where to find the magic sword.
One day Peter went to the church to pray. Suddenly the walls were broken and Peter saw a magic sword. He took it out and went to kill the snake.
Peter defeated the snake, but snake’s blood spilt on him and his body was covered with aching sores. Doctors couldn’t help him. Peter was slowly dying.
Not far from Murom there lived a young woman named Fevronia. She said that she could heal Peter if he married her. Peter agreed. Fevronia gave Peter a healing ointment and told him to put it on all sores except one. Soon Peter was cured. But he didn’t want to marry Fevronia because she was poor. Peter decided to give Fevronia rich gifts instead of marrying her.
After a few days Peter was covered with aching sores again because he didn’t put ointment on one of the sores. At last he came to Fevronia and the woman healed him once more.
Soon they got married and lived a long happy life with love and peace.
They were very honest and fair rulers of Murom. People love and respect them very much. They died together on one day and were buried in one grave.
Saint Peter and Saint Fevronia have become the symbols of family, love and loyalty in Russia. They are the patrons of family and marriage.
THE END

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