

The Invisible Cargo

Once, long ago, there was a ferryman named Reimer. He worked carrying cargo across the Lim Fjord in Denmark. Reimer had traveled to Copenhagen, the biggest city in Denmark, to renew his ferry license. Renewing the license took a while, and it was Christmas Eve by the time he finished.

Reimer was sad as he walked along the streets of Copenhagen. Snow fell all around him, and the gas lamps flickered in the darkness. It was a long way home, and Reimer did not want to miss Christmas with his family. Reimer went into a small coffee shop to warm up a little.

A little man in a gray coat was already in the shop. When he saw Reimer's long face, the little man asked Reimer what was wrong. Reimer explained that he was far from home and was sad about missing Christmas with his family.

·Reimer, would you like to get home in one night?· the little man in a gray coat softly asked.

Reimer looked at the man. ·Of course I would, but it is too far.·

·Not for me,· the man said. ·I will get you home in one night if you will do me a service.·