

# ***Wizard Krahwinkybach***

***By  
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***This story is dedicated to Dr. D. J. Krahwinkel, DVM, MS, DACVS, DACVA, DACVECC, Professor of Surgery at the University of Tennessee. We thank Dr. Krahwinkel for saving the life of a little Yorkie named Winky who needed liver shunt surgery. You are our hero!!***

***The doe and her fawn stood on the edge of the clearing that led into the lush green meadow. Off in the distance was the silhouette of Prince Kristopher's castle. Dusk was beginning to set, and the orange hue of the sky was starting to fade and the darkness of night was beginning to take over. The doe walked into the green meadow with a pronounced limp, and her fawn scampered behind her. Mother and daughter started to graze on tender morsels of grass. There was a slight breeze as the wind gently blew through the meadow. The birds were busy chirping their last song of the day before returning to their nests and settling in for the night.***

***Suddenly, the doe heard the flapping of heavy wings, and lifted her head toward the sky. She could see the majestic eagle just as he let out a loud powerful screech and the large creature slowly swooped toward the meadow. He gracefully glided in and landed just a few feet away from the doe and her fawn. Neither the doe nor her fawn appeared startled.....and both looked toward the eagle with curiosity. The eagle looked up just as the air around him began to spin and swirl. Particles of gold, silver, emerald, ruby, and sapphire drops filled the air and glistened like fireflies. Faster and faster the colors danced and spinned until a mist appeared and the eagle was replaced by a tall distinguished wizard in a robe of midnight blue. Wizard Krahwinkybach's robe glittered as he took a step toward the doe and her fawn.***

*The wizard appeared ageless; neither old or young, his face giving no telltale signs of his years. It was a wise face, but a kind one. His eyes were deep and intense; the color of dark slate. His steps were firm when he walked, yet he left no footprints behind him as he walked forward.*

*“Susette”, called the wizard to the doe, what have we here? Who is this new little fawn that walks beside you?” Susette instantly recognized Wizard Krahwinkybach and she took a step toward him. Susette stumbled on her lame leg and fell to the ground. The doe struggled to get back up, until the gentle hand of the wizard came to her aid and helped her back on her feet. Susette looked up at the wizard and in a soft voice said, “Wizard Krahwinkybach, it has been a long time since we have been graced with your presence. We have missed you so. I want you to meet my daughter. Her name is Gracie.” The wizard smiled at the young fawn, and he touched the tip of Gracie’s nose with his long slim finger. The instant his finger made contact with Gracie’s little black button nose, the fawn’s body began to shimmer and glow in the darkness. Gracie kissed the Wizard’s hand with her soft pink tongue and looked up into Wizard Krahwinkybach’s eyes. Gracie felt the warmth and strength emanate from the wizard and she knew she and her Mom were safe. Wizard Krahwinkybach turned back toward Susette, “You have a beautiful daughter and she will grow up to be just like you. Now, what has happened to your leg that causes you to limp so badly?” Susette shook her head as she replied “There were hunters chasing us, and I stumbled into a hole. My leg was hurt very badly.” The wizard knelt down and touched Susette’s right front leg. He softly slid his hand down her leg. He could feel the break in the bone and knew that Susette was in terrible pain. Wizard Krahwinkybach reached inside his robe for his magic pouch. He opened the pouch up, and took a pinch of the contents out. He gently brushed Susette’s leg with the magic dust and chanted his wizard’s spell as he rubbed the dust into her leg. Susette could feel a tingling sensation going up and down her leg. Wizard Krahwinkybach stood*

*up, and looked at Susette, "Try your leg now," he told Susette. Susette hesitantly took a step and was astonished that the pain in her leg was gone. She took a few more steps and she walked with ease. Her limp was gone and her leg was as good as new. Susette looked up to the wizard gratefully, "Thank you Wizard Krahwinkybach, you have made me well again." Wizard Krahwinkybach smiled and told Susette, "Go, run through the fields with Gracie." Susette turned to her fawn and the two of them scampered across the meadow in joyful glee.*

*Wizard Krahwinkybach watched for a few moments as the two faded into the darkness. He was now alone in the empty meadow. He turned toward Prince Kristopher's castle. He stared at the castle as if he were looking into a crystal ball. A few moments later, Wizard Krahwinkybach started to see images appear before him.*

*The Grand ballroom at Prince Kristopher's castle was a bustle with noise and merriment. Dishes clattered and cups clinked as everyone enjoyed the evening festivities and celebrated the engagement of Prince Kristopher and Kayla. The wine flowed generously into the guest's goblets as the servants were quick to refill them before they were half empty. Bowls of sparkling cold water were a plenty for the yorkies. King Marc and Queen Karyn looked elegant in their royal attire as they walked around the room and stopped to talk to each and every one of the many guests.*

*Suddenly, the Grand ballroom began to fill with swirling droplets of gold, silver, ruby, emerald, and sapphire. The droplets glittered in the glow of the castle's candlelight and became brighter and brighter. A soft melodic tinkling tune accompanied the twirling colors and in the middle of the Grand Ballroom, a puff of smoke appeared and rose up towards the ceiling. King Marc walked towards the smoke and roared in glee as the smoke dissipated and a tall handsome wizard stood in place of the smoke. King Marc embraced Wizard Krahwinkybach in a hearty hug, "My*

*favorite wizard, leave it to you to enter with such commotion!!! Welcome, welcome. Come and share our evening feast with us and fill us in on your travels!!” Wizard Krahwinkybach gathered the folds of his robe and followed King Marc as he led the wizard to Queen Karyn. The handsome wizard bowed before Queen Karyn, and lifted her hand to press a kiss against her soft skin, “My Queen, it is good to see you again, smiled Krahwinkybach. As usual, you look radiant and beautiful. Does the King know how lucky he is to have such a beautiful wife?” Queen Karyn smiled at Wizard Krahwinkybach with affection, “You, my wizard are your usually charming self. It is good to see you again. What brings you to our kingdom, this time?” Wizard Krahwinkybach rubbed his chin and looked at the Queen and King, “Ahhhhh, I am here because there is someone who needs my help. You will help me find the little one that needs me. That will wait though; right now we have a celebration underway. Where is that handsome son of yours, Prince Kristopher?” Queen Karyn smiled as she turned toward the dance floor and look affectionately at the two young yorkies on the dance floor, “Ahhhh, our son is over there with his beautiful Kayla, dancing his heart away. Wizard Krahwinkybach chuckled as he walked toward Prince Kristopher and Kayla, and in a boisterous voice addressed the Prince, “Prince Kristopher, I hope you will allow me to take over your dance partner, as I have yet to meet your betrothed!!” Prince Kristopher jumped up into the wizard’s arms, “Wizard Krahwinkybach, where have you been? We have missed you terribly. I want you to meet my lovely Kayla!!!” Prince Kristopher jumped down and ran over to Kayla, “Kayla, meet the kindest wizard in all the land, Wizard Krahwinkybach.” Kayla looked up at the wizard and smiled, “It is a pleasure to meet you sir and I would love to finish this dance with you.” The wizard smiled at Kayla and took his wand out of his robe and swirled it over his body and instantly he vanished – only to reappear as a Yorkie!!!!!! The wizard walked gracefully over to Kayla, wiggled his pert little yorkie ears and tail, and swept Kayla off her feet and onto the ballroom dance*

***floor!! After the dance, Wizard Krahwinkybach bowed to the young Kayla and twirled himself into a haze of smoke to reappear as the handsome wizard!***

***The rest of the evening went by rather quickly for Wizard Krahwinkybach, as he mingled with the guests and greeted friends he had not seen in ages. They talked about old times, and laughed at the shared adventures told by all. Long ago, before Krahwinkybach had become a wizard, he had dedicated his life to missionary work and helping others. It was on one of those trips to help the less fortunate, that Wizard Krahwinkybach's destiny had changed, and he was given the powers of a High Wizard.***

***Soon, the Wizard excused himself and went to the chambers that were always reserved for his visits to Prince Kristopher's castle. He entered the chamber to find a fire blazing brightly in the stone fireplace, his bed turned down for him, and a pitcher of clean cold water on the bath stand. He should have been tired, but his mind would not allow him to rest. He had been sent to the castle by forces far greater than himself, and he knew he had been sent for a reason. He paced his chambers a few times then stopped in front of the window overlooking the castle grounds. He stared out into the darkness. He could hear the last of the guests departing the castle for their homes...laughing and joking as their buggy's and carts rolled over the castle drawbridge. Krahwinkybach tuned out the sounds of the laughter and talk, as something much greater was calling to him. The room filled with a misty haze, and the wizard transformed himself into an eagle, and out the castle window he flew.***

***A new day had dawned...and the smell of breakfast permeated the castle dining hall. The scent of fresh bread wafted through the kitchen, with the smell of bacon, eggs, and porridge mingled in. Wizard Krahwinkybach rubbed his stomach as the growls of hunger plainly made themselves known by the rumblings. He needed to sate his hunger as he had a full day's work ahead of him. Now, he***

*knew what he had been sent to do. One of the servants ushered the Wizard to a table and set before him a plate laden with food. The Wizard thanked the young servant and dug into his breakfast with relish. The lemon curd was fresh and literally melted like butter into the hot biscuit. The eggs were fluffy and the bacon crisped to perfection.*

*The Wizard ran into King Marc as he left the dining hall. The King had eaten his morning meal hours earlier, and had been on his way back to the dining hall to see if he could find Wizard Krahwinkybach. The two men greeted each other with slaps on the back. King Marc looked up at Wizard Krahwinkybach and said, "Now, we must discuss your reason for being here." Wizard Krahwinkybach nodded at the King, "Yes, now I know why I am here, the news is not good." The two men went off into King Marc's personal study and as both men entered the room, King Marc shut the door gently but firmly behind him.*

*Several hours later, Wizard Krahwinkybach and King Marc walked out of study. Both men had intent looks on their faces. King Marc paused and spoke to Wizard Krahwinkybach, "I will gather a small group of three men to go with us. I must speak to Queen Karyn before we leave on our journey. We shall meet at the stable in an hour's time." The two men parted their ways, each going to their chambers to gather personal belongings for the trip.*

*The small group of men who had been appointed by King Marc to go on the journey, entered the stable. All three men were quiet as they thought about the journey that lay ahead. Each man quickly finished saddling their own horse, and double checking the saddlebags to ensure nothing was forgotten. The king's colors were braided into the horse's manes, and the purple and magenta stood out against the brown and golden tan of the horse's hides. A stable boy brought forth King Marc's brown and white gelding Dakota and led him out to the stable yard. King*

***Marc could have had any horse in the stable, but he always chose Dakota for the long journeys because the animal was so dependable. Dakota knew he was going out with his master and the horse was restless. He snorted into the morning air and his legs stomped the ground in anticipation. When Dakota saw King Marc coming into the stable yard, the horse reared up on its two back legs and pawed the air with his front legs. Dakota loved his master King Marc, and would do anything for the man. Dakota whinnied loudly in greeting as his master approached.***

***The small entourage saddled up just as Krahwinkybach entered the stable yard. Wizard Krahwinkybach saw that everyone was ready to go, so he waved his arms and disappeared into a puff of smoke, only to reappear as the magnificent eagle once again. The group steered their horses to the castle moat gate, and once across, each horse broke into a fast trot. The lone eagle in the sky glided and circled around the entourage as they made their way across the King's land.***

***The King and his men had been riding for most of the day. They had made a stop at the noon hour to allow every one time to rest and replenish themselves before continuing on their way. The horses had been watered and fed, and the men ate a light fare before continuing their ride. Now, evening was beginning to approach, and the group was looking for an ideal spot to camp for the night. The entourage soon came to a clearing with a running creek. There were tall oak trees to offer protection and the King raised his hand to let all know the day's journey was at an end. The eagle soared downwards and glided into the clearing. Even before he had time to land, the eagle vaporized in a cloud of smoke and Wizard Krahwinkybach appeared. The men dismounted and began the task of setting up camp. King Marc and Wizard Krahwinkybach did their fair share of work before taking the time to go down to the creek and fish for dinner. While they fished,***

*they sat and discussed the next day's ride and what was to come.*

*Wizard Krahwinkybach looked at King Marc and sighed, "I thought when the evil Ludwig had died, the cruelty towards the animals had died with him. I was wrong. Evil Ludwig's son Puffwart has now taken his father's place. He is much worse than his father ever was. He is cruel and if the dogs do not do his bidding, he will beat them to death. There is someone at Puffwart's place who needs are help, but my visions will not tell me who that someone is or what they need.*

*King Marc frowned as he answered, "We will go and have a look and see what we are up against. Then we will go back to the kingdom and gather reinforcements from the surrounding lands. All the soldiers will help us close Puffwart down and put him out of business. A while ago, Prince Ian and I had been discussing all that happened with the Evil Ludwig. Prince Ian told me that he would open his kingdom and castle to any other dogs in need. Princess Anna gave her blessing. If we can get these dogs from Puffwart, Prince Ian and Princess Anna will open their home to all."*

*Wizard Krahwinkybach's fishing pole jerked as he was about to begin his next sentence. His fishing pole began to bend as the fish on the end began to wiggle and squirm. The wizard gave the fishing pole his undivided attention. If he brought this fish in, the beginnings of a hearty dinner would come to fruition. King Marc's fishing pole also began to jerk and both men concentrated on catching the evening meal. Ten minutes later, both King Marc and Wizard Krahwinkybach had reeled in their catch. Beautiful huge rainbow trout were on the other end of the fishing pole...Oh Yes, a few more of these fish and dinner was going to be a feast!!! An hour later the men boasted a stringer full of fat fresh trout.*



***Stomachs full, the King and the Wizard sat contently on a couple of the huge boulders overlooking the camp. The men had agreed that Krahwinkybach would check out Puffwart's land that eve. Before King Marc could blink, the wizard sitting beside him disappeared in a puff of smoke. King Marc heard the flapping of the great eagle's wings as Krahwinkybach flew off into the night sky.***

***A couple of hours had passed, and King Marc was beginning to worry about Wizard Krahwinkybach. King Marc did not have a good feeling...and his gut feelings were usually right. Just as King Marc got up to pace the campsite, he heard the flap of mighty wings before he saw the eagle return. A cloud of glittering droplets swirled and Wizard Krahwinkybach appeared before the King. The wizard was not alone; his arms held a young yorkie pup. The pup was thin, and every bone in his body protruded. The King could see the yorkie struggle for each breath – his tiny little chest moving in and out. The wizard handed the pup to the King, "This is why I was brought here. I found this babe on the edge of Puffwart's land. Puffwart had dug a hole to put him in, leaving him out in the dark and cold to die. His mother lay beside him dead. I could not leave him there." The King nodded, "You did the right thing bringing him here, Krahwinkybach. " The King looked the yorkie over, his gentle hands examining the babe. The King always carried his medical pouch, and he asked one of his men to bring his pouch to him. Inside the pouch, was a magic instrument that let him look inside the young yorkie's body. He slowly moved the instrument over the pup's body, starting at the yorkie's head and moving down to the back end. Once more he moved the instrument up towards the kidneys, lungs, and liver. Look", said the King to Krahwinkybach, "You can see the blood flowing around his liver instead of through it. He has a liver shunt. That blood is poisoning this little one. He will die soon unless we can help him. I need one of my Queen's magical rings. I have none with me." Krahwinkybach glanced at the King as he said, "One magical ring you shall have, my King!!" Wizard***

***Krahwinkybach looked into the night sky. He reached up with his wand, and a trail of magic stars appeared. The stars went into the sky toward the moon, until they enveloped the golden globe, and slowly the stars pulled the moon towards the wizard. The globe swirled toward the earth surrounded by stars and became smaller and smaller until it fit in the palms of Krahwinkybach's cupped hands. The wizard stared hard into the golden globe, and soon King Marc saw the face of his beloved Queen appear. Queen Karyn spoke softly to her husband, "My king, what calls you to me?" King Marc touched the globe gently, "Karyn, I need one of your magical rings. We have a pup that will not make it through the night unless we can give him one of your rings. Queen Karyn's hand reached out through the golden globe and placed a magic ring in her husband's hand. "The pup will be fine, he has you and Krahwinkybach." Queen Karyn smiled at her husband as her face began to fade from the globe. Wizard Krahwinkybach raised the globe in his hands and with a mighty toss, threw the moon upward, back into the night sky.***

***"Use your powers", directed King Marc as he looked at Krahwinkybach, "We do not have time to spare if this yorkie is to live." Krahwinkybach held out his hand, and as the King placed the magical ring in the wizard's hand, a circle of crystals like seeds of grass began to sprout from the ground. King Marc, Krahwinkybach and the sickly yorkie became encircled inside the crystal ring wall. The King's three men took position outside the ring and stood guard. The wall began to glow; hues of green, purple, and yellow. Balls of colored light began to dance up and down the walls, undulating in no set pattern. Time passed, and the wall began to glow red, ruby red – the color of blood. The red became brighter and brighter and the crystal ring wall turned into a circle of flames, higher and higher they rose, until the flames floated up toward the sky and disappeared. King Marc, Wizard Krahwinkybach, and the yorkie baby stood inside the circle where the wall had once been. All was silent for a moment, and then the distinct***

*sound of a tiny bark could be heard. King Marc turned to Wizard Krahwinkybach, “This pup will live because of you. Therefore, he will be your namesake. His name shall be Winky.” Krahwinkybach looked at the young yorkie. He was not sure if he should be flattered or embarrassed that a yorkie had been named after him!!!*

*The next morning came all too soon, and King Marc and Wizard Krahwinkybach were checking on the young Winky. Winky stretched and struggled to stand up. Wizard Krahwinkybach took some of his magic powder out of his pouch and sprinkled it over Winky. He gently rubbed his hands down the sides of Winky’s thin body and the young yorkie quivered. Winky could feel his body getting stronger!! Winky walked a few steps and then broke into a full run, going in circles around Wizard Krahwinkybach’s robes. Winky started barking and dancing on his hind legs. Before Krahwinkybach knew what was happening, a young yorkie was in his arms and kissing the wizard’s face!! King Marc chuckled as he watched Winky and Krahwinkybach.*

*Wizard Krahwinkybach put the young Winky on the ground. Winky danced for joy and ran around the camp site giving the soldiers hugs and kisses. King Marc paused to watch Winky before he turned to Krahwinkybach and said, “Krahwinkybach, you have accomplished what you were sent to do – save this young yorkie. We will begin the journey back to the castle. I think our seamstress Teresa and her faithful companion Lacey will find room in their hearts to take Winky under their wings. Once we have gotten reinforcements, we will return to Puffwart’s land and close the evil man down. When we return, Winky shall be yours!!” Krahwinkybach frowned at the King, “What am I going to do with a young pup? I think he will be much better off with your Teresa. I can visit him on occasion.” The Wizard slapped his hands together, and looked at King Marc, “Let us begin our journey back home. We have a lot of work to do.”*