

How Wolf Earned His Howl

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Grade 4

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There was once a wolf named Arrow. He loved to sing to his mate, Honey and his daughter Lilac. He always sang them to sleep. However, he hated the fact that he had to earn his voice everyday by hunting food for his ancestors. It was always worth it though to see Honey and Lilac smile, so he continued it.

Until one day, Honey was washing herself off in a river. Suddenly she was pulled down into the water deeper and deeper, until she no longer had the strength to swim up. She was helpless and could do nothing more. Nor could the ancestors themselves change her destiny.

The next day Arrow decided that he would not give anymore food to his ancestors and would hunt it for himself. He had lost all respect towards them since Honey drowned and the ancestors had made no attempt to help her. That night he tried to sing to mock the ancestors with his voice, but all was silent. He suddenly remembered the deal he had made with the ancestors. He then regretted defying them. He soon reminded himself that Honey would still be alive right now. However, he couldn't bear the thought of never singing to Lilac again. He decided to go to the ancestors.

Arrow pleaded for his voice back. "I'll do anything!" he begged.

"There is one thing," a starry wolf told him. "You must teach other wolves how to sing like you do."

"I can't share my voice. It's mine!" Arrow growled.

"Do you ever want to sing again?" she snapped.

"Yes," Arrow sighed. So that night Arrow taught other wolves how to sing.

Now wolves sing at the moon saying thank you to Arrow for teaching them how to sing.

Arrow's daughter, Lilac, soon grew old enough for her own adventures. Arrow also raised his nephew Frost after his sister died. Frost's howl is a whiney howl.

To this day Arrow still continues to teach wolf after wolf how to sing. Maybe just maybe you might hear Arrow's howl one day, if you listen.

His howl is more magical and wonderful compared to all the other wolves' voices. So listen closely. If you want to hear Lilac's howl listen

for a rough long howl, one that misses her mother. This is how wolf earned his howl.