



Department of German Language.

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English Language.

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Before You Read Part 2

At the end of Part 1, the stranger granted Midas the Golden Touch. Everything the king touched turned to gold. Midas was certain that this would bring him great happiness. Do you think that it will? See if you are right.

PART 2

It had been an active morning for King Midas, and he was very, very hungry. The king ordered his servants to bring him breakfast, and he told them to **summon** Marigold, his daughter.

Usually, little Marigold was the happiest of children. Midas really loved his daughter, and he was eager to inform¹ her about his amazing good fortune. Before long, he heard her voice, but the child was crying bitterly². This amazed King Midas, for she almost never shed a tear.

Marigold opened the door. She held a handkerchief to her red eyes, and she cried as though her poor heart was breaking.

"Why, dear child, what is wrong?" asked the king. "Why are you crying on this very fine morning?"

Marigold did not answer, but she held out a bright yellow rose that she had picked in the garden.

"It is a *beautiful* rose!" exclaimed her father. "It is a rose made of gold."

"It is not beautiful," **responded** the girl. "It is ugly. All the roses in the garden have changed like this one and are no longer soft and **fragrant**. A rose should be soft, and a rose should smell sweet."

She looked sadly at the rose in her hand, and then she tossed it away.

"Do not cry, my dear girl," said the king. "You can get hundreds of roses for one made of gold. Now, let us have breakfast."

The servants had placed plates of food on the table, and Midas picked up a roll.

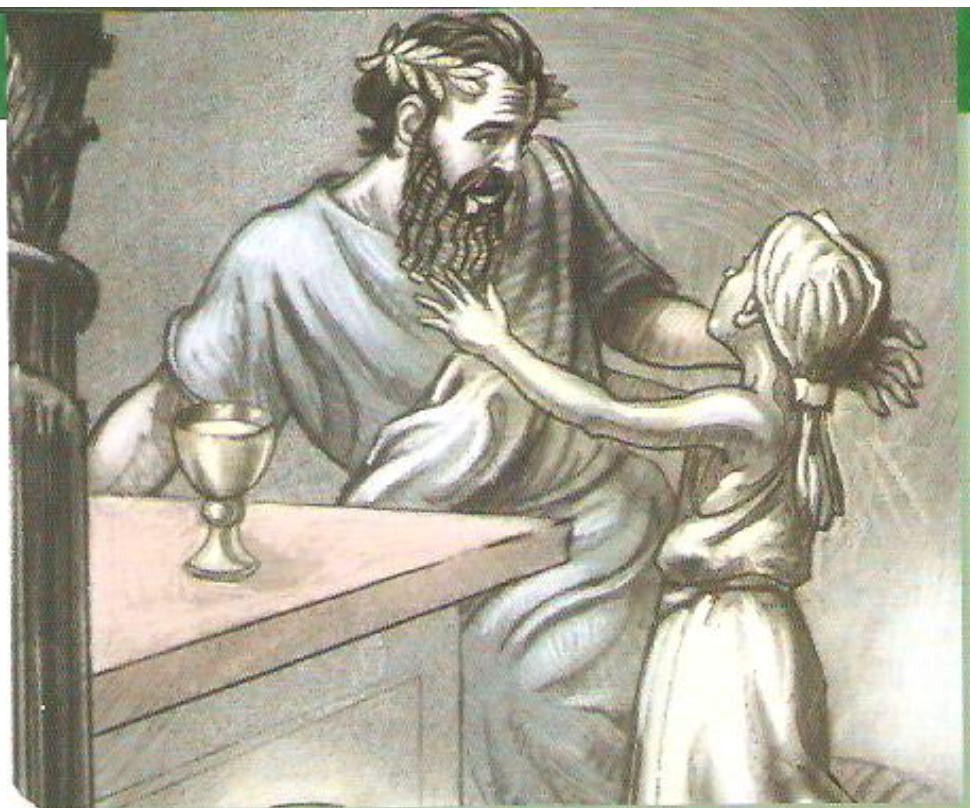
The astonished³ king stared at the roll—it had turned to gold! He picked up roll after roll, but each one turned to gold.

The king reached for an egg, but it instantly changed to gold in his hand. There was water in a glass, but when the king touched the glass, the glass turned to gold, and the water in the glass became gold when it touched the king's lips.

1. *inform*: tell

2. *bitterly*: very sadly; filled with pain

3. *astonished*: very surprised



Midas sat silently at the table, bewildered and stunned. "Ah, dear child," he finally said to his daughter, "I do not know what will become of your father."

35 "What is the matter?" she asked, alarmed. Then she jumped out of her chair and hurried to comfort the king. When she reached his side, Midas threw his arms around the girl and bent down to kiss the child's head.

But Marigold did not move. She did not speak. She had turned to gold!

40 "What have I done!" King Midas cried out. "What have I done! Oh, my precious Marigold!"

While Midas, filled with **despair**, stared at the ground, he suddenly became aware of the young man standing near the door.

"Well, friend Midas," said the stranger, "I granted you the Golden Touch. Are you happy now? Are you satisfied now?"

45 Midas shook his head. "I am very miserable," he said. "There are more important things in life than gold. I hate the Golden Touch! It has cost me my child."

"You are wiser than you were, King Midas," said the stranger. "Tell me, do you sincerely wish to rid yourself of the Golden Touch?"

50 "With all my heart," King Midas said. "It is hateful to me."

"Then hurry to the river that runs past your garden. Throw yourself into the water, and it will wash away your wish. Bring back a pitcher of water from the river. Sprinkle the water over your daughter, and you will have her back again."

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It goes without saying that King Midas lost no time in doing exactly what he was told. He hurried to the river and plunged into the water. When he emerged, a cold, hard, and heavy weight seemed to be lifted from his heart.

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Midas filled a pitcher with water and rushed back to the palace. He sprinkled the water on his daughter and, all at once, she came back to life. She was not aware and did not even know, or remember, that she had been changed to a little golden statue.

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Then Midas went into the garden and sprinkled some water onto every rose bush there. The roses turned red, and each one smelled sweet. The following day, Midas returned to the river. He saw that the sand of the river sparkled like gold. And to this day, if you look at the sand near a river, you will see that it always glistens like gold.



Meet the Author

Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804–1864) was born in Salem, Massachusetts. After he graduated from college, Hawthorne shut himself up in an old house in Salem. For more than ten years, he seldom left his room. He spent almost all of his time writing. Hawthorne started out by writing short stories and then began to write books. *The Scarlet Letter*, his best-known novel, made Hawthorne famous around the world. He is one of America's greatest writers.

CHECK YOUR READING

Put an **X** in the box next to the correct answer.

How many questions did you answer correctly? Circle your score. Then fill in your score on the Score Chart on page 200.

Number Correct	Score
1	10
2	20
3	30
4	40
5	50
6	60
7	70
8	80
9	90
10	100

Reading Comprehension

- Marigold cried because
 - ☐ a. her father did not love her.
 - ☐ b. the roses in the garden had turned to gold.
 - ☐ c. she did not want to eat breakfast.
- Which sentence is true?
 - ☐ a. At breakfast, King Midas ate several rolls.
 - ☐ b. The servants forgot to put food on the table.
 - ☐ c. Midas was unable to eat or drink.
- Midas told the stranger that the Golden Touch had
 - ☐ a. made him very unhappy.
 - ☐ b. satisfied him completely.
 - ☐ c. made him even richer.
- To rid himself of the wish he had been granted, it was necessary for Midas to
 - ☐ a. do many good deeds.
 - ☐ b. throw himself into the river.
 - ☐ c. promise to share his riches with others.
- What did the king use to bring his daughter back to life?
 - ☐ a. a magic spell
 - ☐ b. a kind word
 - ☐ c. drops of water

Vocabulary

- The king told his servants to summon Marigold. The word *summon* means
 - ☐ a. send for.
 - ☐ b. feed.
 - ☐ c. help.
- "It is not beautiful," the girl responded. What does the word *responded* mean?
 - ☐ a. cried softly
 - ☐ b. answered
 - ☐ c. thought
- Roses should be fragrant. Something that is *fragrant*
 - ☐ a. costs a lot.
 - ☐ b. looks pretty.
 - ☐ c. smells sweet.
- The sorrowful king was filled with despair. When you are *filled with despair*, you
 - ☐ a. are sure that things will get better.
 - ☐ b. love only yourself.
 - ☐ c. lose all hope.

Idioms

- It goes without saying that Midas did exactly what the stranger said. When something *goes without saying*, it means it
 - ☐ a. is hard to understand.
 - ☐ b. is very clear.
 - ☐ c. is not important.

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

Exercise A ~ Checking Comprehension

Answer each question by writing a complete sentence. Begin each sentence with a capital letter, and end each sentence with a period. You may use the line numbers in parentheses to help you.

1. What did the king order his servants to do? (2)

The king ordered his servants to bring him a golden touch.

2. What was Marigold holding to her red eyes? (9)

A handkerchief.

3. What had Marigold picked in the garden? (13)

A single rose.

4. What did Marigold do with the rose? (20)

She placed it on the table.

5. What had the servants placed on the table? (23)

A glass of water.

6. What happened to the water in the glass when it touched the king's lips? (29)

It turned to gold.

7. Why didn't Marigold move or speak? (38)

Because she was so afraid.

8. What did Midas do when he came to the river? (56)

He sprinkled the water on his daughter.

9. What happened when Midas sprinkled the water on his daughter? (60)

She turned to gold.

10. What did Midas see when he returned to the river? (65)

He saw his daughter lying on the ground.

Exercise B ~ Putting Events in Order

Part A

Put the events in the order in which they occurred. You may look back at the story.

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1. <u>6</u> | a. The king filled a pitcher with water from the river. |
| 2. <u>1</u> | b. The king tried to eat breakfast. |
| 3. <u>4</u> | c. The stranger told the king how to get rid of the Golden Touch. |
| 4. <u>2</u> | d. When the king touched the food, it turned to gold. |
| 5. <u>3</u> | e. The king touched Marigold, and she turned to gold. |
| 6. <u>5</u> | f. Midas sprinkled water on his daughter, and she came back to life. |
| 7. <u>7</u> | g. The king hurried to the river and jumped into the water. |

Part B

Now list the events in the correct order on the lines below. Write the complete sentences.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Exercise C ~ Adding Vocabulary

In the box are ten words from the story. Complete each sentence by adding the correct word.

sprinkled	amazed	sincerely	granted	active
aware	inform	plunged	bitterly	miserable

1. King Midas was hungry because he had done so many things before breakfast. It had been a very _____ morning for him.
2. The king was eager to _____ Marigold of his good fortune.
3. Marigold's eyes were red because she had been crying so _____.
4. The king was shocked; he sat there _____.
5. The stranger _____ Midas the Golden Touch.
6. Midas hated the Golden Touch. It had cost him his child and made him feel _____.
7. Therefore, the king _____ wished to be rid of the gift he had received.
8. When Midas reached the river, he _____ into the water.
9. Marigold did not know that she had been changed into a statue. She was not _____ of that.
10. Later, Midas _____ some water on the roses in the garden.

Exercise D ~ Picking an Adverb

Fill in each blank by adding the correct adverb. Use each adverb once.

swiftly	loudly	silently	suddenly
wisely	proudly	brightly	kindly

Remember, an *adverb* usually describes (tells about) a verb. Adverbs often end with the letters *ly*.

verb **adverb**

Example: The child *played happily*.

1. King Midas did not say a word. He just sat _____.
2. Midas thought he had been clever to ask for the Golden Touch. Later, he realized he had not acted _____.
3. Everyone could hear Marigold because she was crying so _____.
4. The king hurried to the river as fast as he could. He ran there _____.
5. Midas did not expect to see the young man, but he _____ appeared.
6. The sand near the river glistens like gold; it glistens _____.
7. Probably, the stranger felt sorry for Midas and decided to act _____ to him.
8. He loved his daughter very much and always spoke _____ of her.

Exercise E ~ Changing Statements to Questions

Change each statement to a question that begins with the word in parentheses. Put a question mark at the end of each question. The first one has been done for you.

1. Little Marigold was usually the happiest of children. (Who)

Who was usually the happiest of children?

2. King Midas really loved his daughter. (Who)

3. King Midas was amazed because Marigold almost never cried. (Why)

4. Marigold was holding a bright yellow rose. (What)

5. The servants had placed plates of food on the table. (Who)

6. The king was astonished because the roll turned to gold. (Why)

7. The stranger told Midas how to wash away his wish. (Who)

8. Midas felt better when he came out of the river. (When)

9. Midas put water in the pitcher. (What)

10. The following day, Midas returned to the river. (When)