

Don Quixote got everything ready for his journey. He remembered the innkeeper's words, and this time he took money and clean clothes with him. In the middle of a dark night, he and Sancho Panza left their village without a goodbye to friends or family. They didn't want to change their plans for anybody.

The two men went down the road, Don Quixote on Rocinante and Sancho Panza on his donkey. They talked and talked.

'Will we be rich and important?' asked Sancho Panza.

'Yes, I'll fight other knights and perhaps wizards. Perhaps I'll win a fine horse for you, or a castle for your family – or possibly a small country!'

'A country? Is that possible?' asked Sancho Panza.

'Yes, this often happens with the best knights. One day I'll give you a country – a small one – and you'll be the **king**. Everybody will listen to you,' said Don Quixote.

'Really? Will my wife listen to me?' asked the squire.

'Yes,' said Don Quixote. 'Everybody!'

Sancho Panza smiled happily. 'Thank you, sir. You're very good to me.'

When the sun came up over the trees, the two adventurers saw thirty or forty **windmills** in front of them.

'Look over there, Sancho,' said Don Quixote. 'We'll be busy now. Thirty or more dangerous **giants** are waiting for us. I'll kill all of them and we'll be rich.'

'Giants? What giants?' asked Sancho Panza.

'There! In front of your eyes. Look! Their arms are more than three kilometres long.'

'Please look again,' Sancho Panza said kindly. He wanted to see giants, but he couldn't. 'Those aren't giants. They're windmills. Their arms are **sails**. The wind pushes them and the sails turn.'

king /kɪŋ/ (n) The *king* is the most important man in a country.

windmill /ˈwɪndmɪl/ (n) *Windmills* are tall, thin buildings with sails. A *windmill* works when the wind turns the sails.

giant /ˈdʒaɪənt/ (n) *Giants* are very big, tall, strong men in stories.

sail /seɪl/ (n) When the wind pushes the *sail* on a boat, the boat moves across the water.

'I'm sorry, Sancho, but you're a beginner in adventures. Perhaps you're afraid of these giants. Wait here and I'll fight them.'

With these words, Don Quixote and Rocinante ran at the windmills. The knight shouted, 'Stop, stupid giants! Stop and fight me! I'll send you away from this place or kill you. My good Dulcinea will help me.'

When Don Quixote and Rocinante were near the windmills, the knight pushed his lance into a sail. The wind turned it suddenly. Then another heavy sail hit Don Quixote and broke his lance. He was sitting on the ground when Sancho Panza arrived next to him.

'Why didn't you listen to me, sir? They're windmills, not giants,' Sancho Panza said.

'You don't understand, friend Sancho. For a knight, things change from minute to minute. This is the work of the wizard, Frestón. He took my books from my house, and here he changed giants into windmills. He hates me and all good knights.'

