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The Trap for Baby Jesus

The entire apartment is permeated by the spirit of Christmas. In the living room there is a decorated Christmas tree; an incense cone is burning on the cupboard, and the mistletoe is hanging from the chandelier. Everything is ready for the annual Christmas celebration. While the parents are finishing the Christmas dinner in the kitchen, their children Vašek (8) and Terezka (5) are waiting for Baby Jesus, who brings presents to Czech children. But nobody has seen him doing this, because Baby Jesus only comes, when the room is empty. So nobody really knows what he exactly looks like. And there is a big temptation for Vašek . He decides to build a trap and catch Baby Jesus. He draws a plan of the trap on a piece of paper and shows it to his sister. But what to do with the parents, worries Terezka. Vašek makes some suggestions and finally they decide to go for the last one.

The parents are frying last pieces of the carp and putting the potato salad on the plates. They are setting the table in a special way, while both children are getting seated. Being preoccupied with preparations, the parents do not notice their suspicious smiles and sinister looks. They sit down together with their children, make a toast and start to eat. However, Vaška and Terezka are not as much interested in the dinner as in their secret plan. After a while, Vašek winks his eye at Terezka. She takes a look at her mum and dad, and then she starts pretending that a bone has got stuck in her throat. Getting up from the table, she grabs her neck and, coughing, runs away from the table. The startled parents run after her. As soon as Terezka lures both grownups away into the adjoining room, Vašek takes all contents of a little box with tea for sleep and places all the teabags into a jug with a special Christmas drink. Just before Terezka calms down, he manages to pull them out. Parents and Terezka sit down again. The children continue eating, time to time pushing parents to make a toast. And so they do. After a while the parents became drowsy and before they get back to their senses they fall asleep in the middle of the Christmas dinner. The children jump from the table to run to the Christmas tree. There they start to fix a trap for Baby Jesus. Using the clothesline they make a loop and fix it under the Christmas tree. They tie the other end over the beam under the ceiling to three buckets, roped together, and place them on the cupboard. Using the pot Terezka fills the buckets with coal and Vašek fixes the string to the radiator and the buckets. When Baby Jesus comes, the trap will pull him up to the ceiling.

While Vašek and Terežka are finishing the trap, their mother wakes up at the table. Not comprehending, she keeps looking around. She does not understand what has happened. Her glance is arrested by the glass and her sleeping husband. She wakes him up. They are both very sleepy. They are trying to recover and are looking for their children in the main room where the trap has been prepared, but they are so sleepy that they do not notice it. They take the children back to the dining table and try to continue their Christmas ritual. It does not go well, because they keep falling asleep, but in spite of that they manage to fill the sink with water and make the nutshells with candles float on the water. But the children are more interested in what is happening next door. So far nothing. The children are getting nervous. Is the Baby Jesus coming or not? The moment their parents fall asleep again they go to the living room to take a look. But Baby Jesus has not showed up yet. Half-asleep, their mother calls them back. In the dining room the children see father sleeping with his sleeve on fire. At the same time mother decides to go to check the Christmas tree. But the children can't stop her, because they have to save their father first. The cold water wakes father up. At the same moment we can hear a loud bang from the main room. Father decides to go there and find out what is going on. He shuts the door behind him. Soon we can hear another big crash. Children feel that there is a big trouble on the horizon. Maybe the trap wasn't such a good idea... The children cannot wait any longer and go to take a look. They carefully open the door.

When they open the door they are shocked. They see their mother trapped, with her legs in the air. Otherwise she is lying on the carpet, asleep. Dad is sleeping too, leaning back against the Christmas tree, which has toppled to the floor happening. Terežka first begins to cry, because the scene makes her sad. But then she sees – for the first time this evening – a peaceful expression on the faces of her parents. Then the smile returns to her face. Vašek looks around the room and then he notices something. It is an imprint of a small child's hand on the window leading to the balcony. The children go closer. And on the balcony they see a big pile of presents...