



A Muffin for the King

Behind the seven mountains, right next to Easter, lies a huge wood with old trees. Under their roots live the dwarfs. It was cool there during hot summers and warm during the cold winters. Each family lived under its own tree. The tree's name gave the family its name as well. Mr. and Mrs. Oakley lived under the oak-tree, the Larch family with their children dwelled under the larch-tree and the Cherry brothers with their wives resided under a cherry-tree.

Theophrastus Beecher and his family lived under the beech-tree. Theophrastus is a normal name amongst dwarfs. His lovely wife was called Kunigunde. Her parents had always had an inclination for the exotic and hadn't wanted her to have any of those common names like Berengaria or Grismifalda. Nor did they like Madashellia, the name that had been given to Mrs. Oakley.

Theophrastus Beecher and his Kunigunde had a little son, named Pepi. No-one knew why Pepi Beecher had been called Pepi, as this was a most unusual name for a dwarf-child.