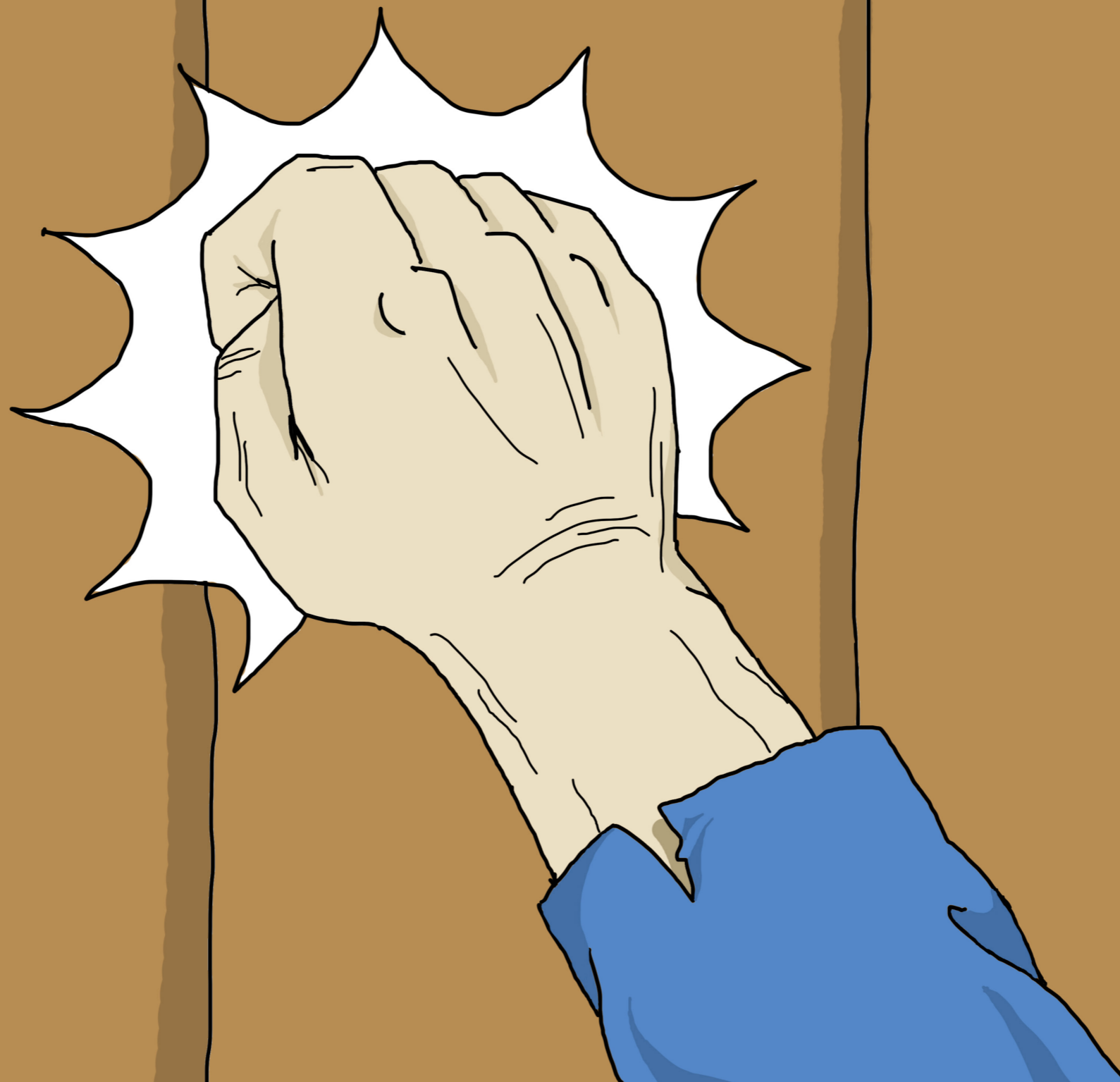


365Stories

24. Mister Roth



24. Mister Roth

One day, an older man knocked at the back door of the house that we were renting. After having slightly opened the door a few centimeters,



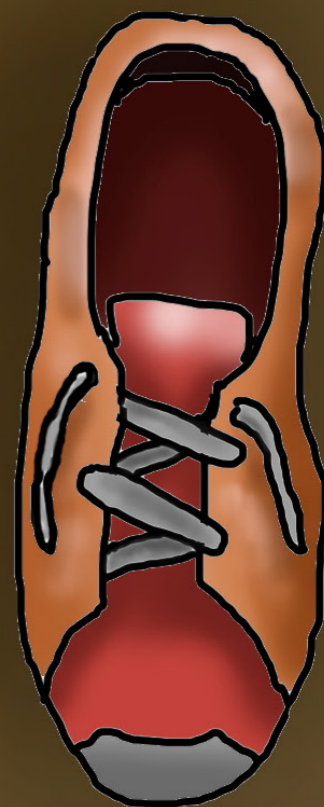
We soon noticed the glassy eyes and the wrinkled, shimmering face, trimmed with a silver beard of our visitor. Holding on to the wicker basket that contained some unappetizing vegetables, he greeted us and offered us his products. Somewhat uncomfortable, we did a quick purchase to ease both our pity and our fear.



To our disappointment, he returned the following week. He presents himself as M. Roth the one who lives in the cabin, a little further on down the road. As our fears dissipated, we approached him enough to understand that it wasn't alcohol, but the cataract that marbled his eyes.



On his next visits, he entered dragging his feet, wearing straight unpaired shoes, and got out his harmonica. With glassy eyes fixed on a glorious future, he interpreted his comments on the subject of the vegetables and of his faith in Jesus Christ, on old tunes of gospel music. During one of these visits, he exclaimed : Ah, the Lord is so good ! This morning, when leaving my cabin, I found a bag filled with shoes and clothing on my porch.



- That's wonderful, Mister Roth. We are really happy for you !
- But do you know what is even more wonderful ? Yesterday, I met some people that really were in great need !

Magnificent illustration of the words of Jesus : "there is more joy in giving than receiving". Book of Acts chapter 20, verse 35