

*They slowly enter. The house is quiet for a beat, but then a picture falls over next to a wall with curtains. Underneath the curtains are two feet. There's a bit of chaos until finally Red pulls back the curtain expecting to see a grown man, but instead sees a 10-year-old boy.*

**PRINCE CHARMING**

Well, look what you found! Another dwarf! *(speaking as if talking to someone who is deaf)* HELLO.  
WE MEAN YOU NO HARM.

**RED**

Ugh. Don't pay attention to him. What's your name? Is your mother home?

*Wilhelm appears.*

**WILHELM**

*(wielding a wooden sword)* I'm the king of this castle. Go on and get out, all of you. Before I sic my dragon on you.

**PRINCE CHARMING**

*(attack pose)* Back, vile beast!

**JACOB**

Wilhelm, I told you there's not a dragon in this story.

**WILHELM**

Well, I'm putting one in there anyway. En garde, or I'll take her and toss her to the wolves for a feast!

**PRINCE CHARMING**

Hey, little person! You can't talk to my princess like that!

*Wilhelm immediately stops and stares at them.*

**WILHELM**

What do you mean, *your* princess?

**RED**

That's what I've been saying!

**JACOB**

*(to Wilhelm)* Did you add something?

**WILHELM**

Nope.

**RED**

*(to the children)* Kids, where are your parents? Your dad, or an uncle? We're looking for two brothers who write stories and. . .

*Jacob and Wilhelm move to stand next to one another. Red stops mid-sentence and realizes who these two small children are.*

**RED**

. . .you're the brothers.

**JACOB**

I'm Jacob Grimm.

**WILHELM**

And I'm Wilhelm Grimm.

**RED**

I. . .I pictured you to be a lot older.

**JACOB**

We get that a lot.

**RED**

And how are you here? I read your stories out there, I mean, in *my* world, but here they're real people, and you're so young, and. . .(*trailing off*)

**WILHELM**

Confusing, isn't it?

**RED**

Yeah, a little!

**FROG PRINCE**

You need to do something quick, before all your stories are completely rewritten.

**WILHELM**

Rewritten?

**FROG PRINCE**

Have you not been paying attention? It's chaos out there!

*The boys look at one another, a little embarrassed.*

**WILHELM**

(*toes in, looking down*) We. . .might've lost track of time playing.

**RED**

Jacob. Wilhelm. Please, tell me what's going on. Why are you out here in this house in the woods? Where are your parents?

*The boys exchange a glance.*

**WILHELM**

We like it better here.

**JACOB**

Wilhelm.

**WILHELM**

It's not like the outside world! There, everything is bad.

**JACOB**  
*Wilhelm.*

**WILHELM**

There are no happy endings out there! Here, anything can happen. We can do anything, be anyone.  
. .and there's always happily ever after.