

 LEGEND FOR PIJO AND PENDA

      Once upon a time in the Rhodope Mountains lived a modest family, who were very sad because it was impossible for them to have children. Once an old and ugly woman came into their house. The housewife welcomed her and gave her to eat. Then the old woman told her:
 I'll help you have kids. And even they will be twins. You will call them Pijo and Penda. When they are 16, I will come and take away Penda with me.
     The woman was so pleased with the opportunity to become a mother that she did not even hear the old woman's condition. In the evening she shared with her husband what had happened and they both lived with hope and expectation.
      Nine moons had passed,it was March and one day in the morning the woman gave birth to two wonderful children: the boy was named Pijo and the white girl Penda. Time was running fast, Pijo and Penda grew nicer and nicer.16 years had passed and one day the old woman came to the door to take away Penda. The mother tried to save her daughter and pushed the old woman. The brother and sister came out of the house and saw how the evil woman turned their mother into a cherry tree.The woman looked at Penda. After that Penda fell dead on the ground. Then Pijo rushed to the old woman, asking her to give back his sister's life at least. After long requests the old woman told him:
 "If you love your sister so much, you will always be together, but you will have to pay with your own blood.
Pijo approached his sister, kissed her for the last time and hugged her.

 When the father came back in the evening, he saw two storks in front of the house, and in the branches of the cherry tree there was a white and a red thread-holding each other- forever Pijo and Penda.