

Chapter 1: Alexei's Big Change



Alexei is a little boy. His father is very sick. His father dies. Alexei is sad. He sees his father lying still.



His baby brother is very small. Alexei, his mom, and his baby brother go on a boat. They go to live with Grandma and Grandpa. Grandma is very kind. Alexei likes Grandma.

Chapter 2: The Big, Loud House



Alexei meets his Grandpa. Grandpa looks very scary. He meets his uncles, Yakov and Mikhail. They are huge and very loud.

He meets cousin Sasha in the big, busy house. Everyone shouts a lot. Alexei does not like the noise. He feels small and scared.

Chapter 3: Grandpa's Special Book



Alexei likes to watch Grandpa. Grandpa counts money. Grandpa is strict. One day, Alexei plays. He cuts Grandpa's special book.

Grandpa is very angry. Grandpa hits Alexei. Alexei gets very sick. Grandma takes care of him. Grandma tells him nice stories.

Chapter 4: Watching from the Corner



Alexei gets better. He watches the people in the house. His uncles fight. They want Grandpa's things. They shout at Grandpa.

Alexei feels scared again. Grandma tries to make peace.

Chapter 5: A Friend Named Ivan



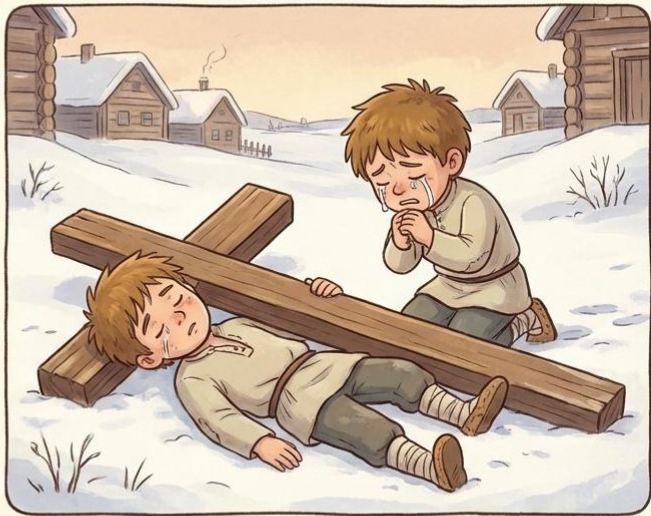
Alexei has a friend named Ivan. Ivan is called "Gypsy". Ivan is kind. Ivan works hard. Ivan works hard.

Ivan carries heavy things. Alexei likes Ivan. Ivan helps Alexei feel happy. Ivan makes Alexei laugh.

Chapter 6: The Heavy Cross and Ivan's End

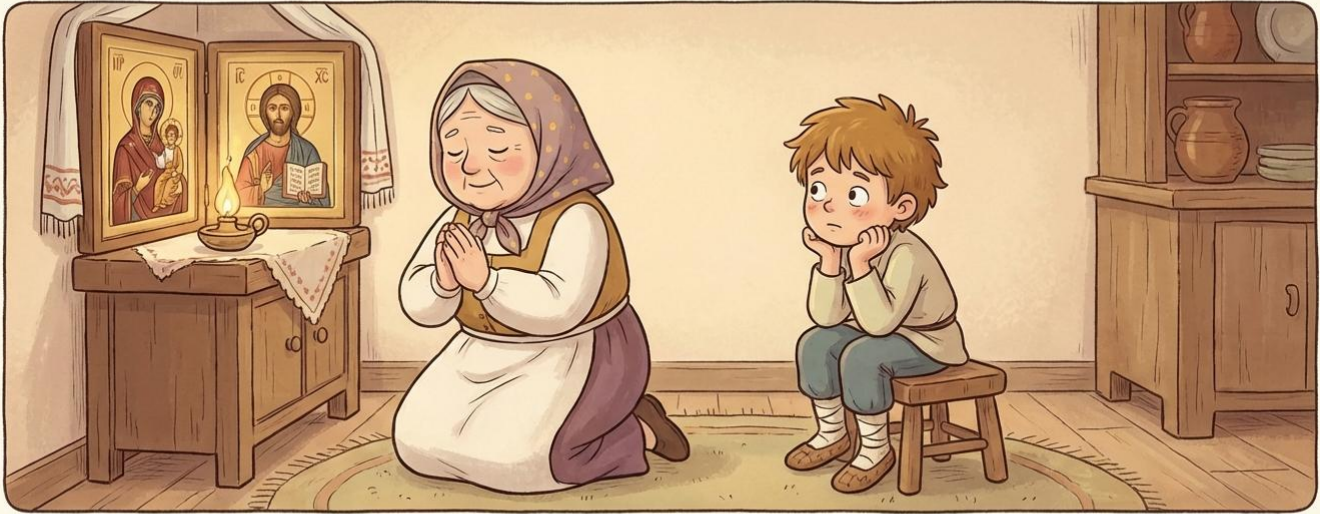


Ivan is carrying a big cross. The cross is very heavy.



Ivan falls down. The cross falls on Ivan. Ivan dies. Alexei is very sad. He misses his friend Ivan.

Chapter 7: Grandma's Prayers



Grandma talks to God a lot. She prays.
Alexei listens.

Grandma tells Alexei about God. Alexei
thinks about God. He tries to be good.
He wants God to like him.

Chapter 8: Grandpa moves to a new house.



Alexei explores the new yard. He meets new children and plays games with them. They find treasures in the yard.

Grandpa moves to a new house. Alexei likes playing outside with his new friends.

Chapter 9: Good Deed and the Quiet Man



Alexei meets a man called 'Good Deed'.
Good Deed is quiet. He thinks a lot.
Alexei likes Good Deed. They sit together.



Good Deed moves away.
Alexei is sad again.

Chapter 10: Mom's Return and the Baby



Alexei's mom comes back! Alexei is happy.
But Mom is sad. She has a baby boy.

The baby is sick and dies. Alexei is very
sad about the baby.

Chapter 11: The Fight



Grandma and Grandpa fight a lot.
Grandpa hits Grandma.

Alexei sees this. He is angry at Grandpa.
He wants to help Grandma. He feels bad
for Grandma.

Chapter 12: The Big Move



Grandpa sells the house. He tells
Grandma he will not give her money.
Grandpa is mean.

Grandma is sad.
Alexei feels sad for Grandma.

Chapter 13: School and Stories



Alexei goes to school. He does not like school at first. He gets sick. Grandma

Grandma takes care of him again. She tells him more stories.