



THE FORN FAMILY

(Sounds of the sea. A ship's horn)

She knew that if Ulysses, her husband, had stayed with them, everything would be different, better, easier, like eating watermelon in summertime.

Each afternoon she looked out to sea hoping that today would be the day of his return.

THE FORN FAMILY

She and Ulysses had been madly in love and had had four children.

Mary, the eldest, had skin like the peaches that she loved so much. She was engaged and wanted to get married, but as she didn't have enough money, the wedding was postponed year after year. "I'll never get married," she used to say to herself. One year when the harvest was bad she even had to pawn the engagement ring to be able to pay the expenses of the family home.

Then there were the twins, Irene and Aina. They had very different personalities. Irene was shy and withdrawn, and she was so sad when her father left that she had not said a word since then. She only went "Yum yum!" when she ate the apricots that she loved.

The other one, Aina, also missed her father but as she was a dreamer she imagined a thousand and one adventures and entertained the rest of the family with her stories, like the one about the drinking jug; every time you drank from

the jug you were transported to the unknown land where their father lived, in a house just like the one in the village, where they had been so happy ...

The youngest, who was called Ulysses, like his father, can't even remember when his father left, as he was only one year old.

But as soon as he grew up he always repeated, "Mother, why don't we set up a winery with the wines from our land? This way we can raise the money to make father come back."

And his mother replied, "Yes, we'll do that one day, but I know that he'll come back before, perhaps on the next ship ..."

And they spent the years this way, dreaming that he would return on the next ship.

Perhaps ...

(Sounds of the sea. A ship's horn)

That afternoon, when she heard the horn, Irene, the one who had not spoken for years, shouted out, "Fa-ther, fa-ther"