

The gory story of a spoilt king and a wicked queen : meet King Ahab and Queen Jezebel of Israel.

Old Naboth had a vineyard,
It was his pride and joy;
He'd helped his dad and granddad there
Since he was but a boy.
The grapes he grew were beautiful;
So luscious, large and sweet;
Gave lovely raisins, juice and wine,
And yummy fruit to eat.

Right next door lived King Ahab
In the Palace of Jezreel;
He wanted Naboth's field himself;
And offered him a deal.
"I'll swap you for a better field;
Or pay you very well."
But Naboth said, "It's family land,
And so I cannot sell."

The King was miffed, he wouldn't eat,
He sulked and moped in bed;
"It's so unfair!" he whined and moaned,
"I want that land!" he said.

Then in marched evil Jezebel,
"Ahab, what's up, my dear?
Old Naboth's being a nuisance – huh?
Aren't YOU the King round here?"

"Leave it to me, my love," she laughed;
Now don't you fret or worry.
Old Naboth's just as good as dead;
I'll sort it in a hurry."

Her cunning plan she set about;
Poor Naboth's fate was sealed.
They killed him off by stoning him,
Then Ahab claimed the field.

But God in heaven observed it all;
He saw their sin and greed;
"The wicked have no peace," said He;
"I'll punish this evil deed."

Elijah the prophet heard a message
From God that very day;
"Go down to Naboth's vineyard now,
I'll tell you what to say."

"You'll find Ahab and Jezebel
At the vineyard in Jezreel;
They murdered Naboth for that field;
It's wrong to cheat and steal."

"They need to hear the truth right now -
I hate their nasty plans;
Their envious hearts and evil deeds
Have killed an innocent man."

So go and tell them this from me,
"Naboth never injured you;
You brought him death and suffering;
Now you will suffer too."

From then on everything went wrong
For Ahab and his wife:
The king died fighting in a war,
Then Jezebel lost her life.

I'll skip the really nasty bits –
It's pretty bad and gory;
But you'll agree it served them right,
Now you've heard the awful story.

The moral to our tale is this:
As you may well be guessing;
If we envy other people's things
Our end could be depressing!
So let's learn from the fate of Jezebel
And Ahab King of Israel,
To not crave other people's stuff
And find our own things quite enough!