

Городской стратегический подпроект «Одаренные дети»
Управление образования Администрации города Екатеринбурга
МАУ ДО Городской Дворец творчества детей и молодежи
«Одаренность и технологии»
Муниципальное автономное образовательное учреждение
гимназия № 155

Открытая гуманитарная конференция
«Малахитовая шкатулка»

Секция: "Чернильница"
(английский язык)

My native land in P. Bazhov's tales

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г. Екатеринбург, 2017

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INTRODUCTION

Reading plays a very important part in the life of people. People should read books because they educate and enrich the intellect. Books can also shape a person's character and his moral values. Apart from that, reading is simply fun. It entertains us and gives lots of pleasure. We travel to distant places together with main characters. Thanks to reading, we learn to express our thoughts and feelings more clearly and be well-educated people.

We like reading very much! Our favourite Russian writers are A. S. Pushkin, M. U. Lermontov, A.P. Gaidar.

One of the most famous Russian writers is Pavel Petrovich Bazhov. He is our countryman. P. P. Bazhov was born in Sysert and lived there for some years. Both children and adults read Bazhov's tales with a great interest. Every reader can find in his tales something unusual and engaging, charming and instructive, informative and picturesque [1]. We read his tales and liked them very much.

The aim of our project: To motivate our schoolmates to read P. Bazhov's tales as much as it possible.

For that it's necessary to do the following **tasks**:

- to find the most interesting facts from P. Bazhov's biography and visit Sysert Museum of P. Bazhov;
- to describe some of the main heroes of his books;
- to make a list of the most wide-known P. Bazhov's tales;
- to draw the portraits of the most interesting characters how we imagine them and to held the school exhibition of pupils' paintings and art works devoted to Bazhov's tales;
- to publish our work in school magazine ["Friendship"](#) .

The object of the investigation is P. Bazhov's tales.

The subject of the investigation is the content of P. Bazhov's books and their main characters.

The methods of the investigation: studying different kinds of literature (books, encyclopedias, web-sites), analysis.

I. PAVEL BAZHOV, OUR COUNTRYMAN

Pavel Petrovich Bazhov is the most well-known Ural writer. He is the founder of the Urals skaz. Bazhov was born in our home town Sysert. His father Pyotr Bazhov was the master of the welding shop of the Sysertskaa Steel Plant. His family, like most in factory towns, struggled to make ends meet. From these beginnings, Bazhov found a calling in public service. Between 1889 and 1893 he studied in a religious school in Yekaterinburg. The city made a huge impression on him, and he returned to live there many years later. In 1899, Bazhov graduated third in his class from Perm Theological Seminary, where Alexandr Popov and Dmitriy Mamin-Sibiryak previously studied. He dreamt of attending Tomsk Seminary University, but was rejected. [2]

Instead, he worked as a teacher of the Russian language and Literature, first in Yekaterinburg, then in Kamyshlov. From 1907 to 1914 Bazhov worked at the Women's Diocesan College teaching Russian language. During this time he met and married Valentina Ivanitskaya, a graduate from the Diocesan School. She was his muse for many of his poems about love and happiness. There were seven children in their family [3].

From 1923 to 1929 he lived in Yekaterinburg and worked in the editorial board of the Krestianskaya (Peasants) Newspaper. In 1924 Bazhov published his first book, Urals Tales (Уральские были) on the images of life in the Urals during the 1880-1890s. It was also during this period that he wrote over forty tales on themes of Ural factory folklore that contributed to his collection, The Malachite Box. Publication of Bazhov's most famous work (the collection of fairy tales) earned Bazhov the State Prize. Later on Bazhov supplemented the book with new tales.

During the Second World War Bazhov lived and worked in Yekaterinburg. After the war his eyesight started weakening dramatically, but he went on his editing work, as well as collecting and creatively adapting local folklore.

Bazhov died in 1950 in Moscow. He was buried in Yekaterinburg.

Our class visited Sysert Museum of P. Bazhov [Appendix 1]. It is one of the main town's tourist attractions. P. Bazhov lived there in 1879-1880, 1885-1990. As P. Bazhov wrote, his childhood memories had a great impact on his works. Many of the characters of his tales were from his life in Sysert. Pavel Petrovich Bazhov wrote many fairy-tales dedicated to the Urals and local craftsmen. The museum holds many unique objects of Russian people daily life of the 19th and early 20th centuries. The exhibits include works made by gifted local artists and also kitchen utensils, spinning wheels, weaving loom, Russian sledges and other objects created by anonymous folk craftsmen. The residents of Sysert (among them many children) and tourists often visit Bazhov's museum.

P. Bazhov's life was very difficult, but his tales are full of goodness and belief in justice.

II. HIS TALES ARE FULL OF LIFE!

Pavel Bazhov is best known for his collection of fairy tales "The Malachite Box", based on Ural folklore and published in the Soviet Union in 1939. In 1944, the translation of the collection into English was published in New York City and London. Later Sergey Prokofiev created the ballet "The Tale of the Stone Flower" based on one of the tales.

We made a list of the stories in P. Bazhov's collection "The Malachite Box". The first edition (1939), consisted of 14 stories. After the initial publication, the author added new stories to the collection [Appendix 2].

"The Malachite Casket" is considered to be one of the best stories in the collection. The story was translated from Russian into English by Alan Moray Williams in 1944, and by Eve Manning in the 1950s [4].

The language of the tales is unusual and unique, so it is difficult to translate them into the foreign language.

Eve Manning wrote: "Perhaps the most heartbreaking thing in translating a work of this kind is the inevitable loss of vivid local colour. "The Malachite Casket" is written dialect, dynamic and rhythmical, as rich in association as the singsong of the Scottish Highlands, the "broad" speech of Yorkshire or the drawl of Kentucky. Although I have made every effort to recapture the spirit of the original, in returning to the Russian text I am conscious that it is still but a pale copy. I offer it therefore with apologies." [4]

We read some P. Bazhov's tales in English. It was cool!

Here is the excerpt from the P. Bazhov's tale "Silver Hoof" [4]:

... It was a light night with a full moon. Daryonka looked round and there was the cat, quite close, sitting in the glade with the goat in front of her. Pussy was nodding her head and so was the goat, as if they were having a talk. Then they

began running about on the snow.

The goat ran here and ran there, then he stopped and stamped. They ran about the glade for a long time, and disappeared in the distance. Then they came right up to the hut again. The goat jumped up on the roof and began stamping with his silver hoof. And precious stones flashed out like sparks – red, green, light blue, dark blue – every kind and colour.

It was then that Kokovanya returned. But he did not know his hut. It was covered with precious stones, sparkling and winking in all colours. And there stood the goat on top, stamping and stamping with his silver hoof, and the stones kept rolling and rolling down.

(from "Silver Hoof")

All P. Bazhov's tales have realistic basis. They are full of life. Their heroes have the Urals character and Urals language. They love their native land and try to do all their best to find and show its beauty [2].

Some of our favourite characters from P. Bazhov's tales and their traits we described in this table:

| Characters | Characters' traits |
|---|---|
| The Mistress of the Copper Mountain | magnificent, magical, powerful, wise, cunning, fair |
| The factory worker Stepan (from "The Mistress of the Copper Mountain") | hard-working, smart and bright, quick-witted people |
| Danilo the Craftsman (from "The Stone Flower") | |
| Daryonka (from "Silver Hoof") | kind and just, merry, trustful |

| | |
|---|--|
| Timokha Maloruchko (from "That Spark of Life") | creative, initiative, great interest in something |
| Yermak, Alyonushka (from "Yermak's Swans") | love and faithfulness |
| Lukeria, Ilia (from "The Blue Crone's Spring") | wise hard-working, kind |

III. WELCOME TO THE FAIRY-TALE!

The pupils of our school like drawing and painting. We organized the exhibition of pupils' art works [Appendix 3]. Our schoolmates, their parents and teachers visited it.

We held the school concert "Welcome to the fairy-tale!" [Appendix 4]. Pupils from the 3-5 classes took part in it. Young spectators and their parents met the characters from P. Bazhov's tales. Everyone could see magnificent Mistress of the Copper Mountain, cheerful Daryonka, quick-witted Timokha Maloruchko, wise Lukeria and other characters. All the pupils wore beautiful costumes. The performance was very interesting and had a great success!

Some information from the project was published in our school magazine ["Friendship"](#) [Appendix 5].

CONCLUSIONS

The aim of our project is achieved: our schoolmates read many P. Bazhov's tales. They took an active part in school festivals and exhibitions devoted to our famous countryman.

We did all the tasks of our paper.

We proved that every reader could find much interesting, charming and instructive in Bazhov's tales.

We worked on the project with great pleasure!

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<http://uchportfolio.ru/elenavatoropina/?page=38076> .

Museum of P. Bazhov in Sysert





List of the stories in P. Bazhov's collection "The Malachite Box"

| English Title | Russian Title | Year of publication |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| "That Dear Name" | "Дорогое имячко" | 1936 |
| "The Great Serpent" | "Про Великого Полоза" | 1936 |
| "The Mistress of the Copper Mountain" | "Медной горы хозяйка" | 1936 |
| "The Bailiff's Bootsoles" | "Приказчиковы подошвы" | 1936 |
| "Sochen's Gems" | "Сочневы камешки" | 1937 |
| "Mark's Stone" | "Марков камень" | 1937 |
| "The Flower of Stone" | "Каменный цветок" | 1938 |
| "The Malachite Casket" | "Малахитовая шкатулка" | 1938 |
| "Silver Hoof" | "Серебряное копытце" | 1938 |
| "The Mountain Craftsman" | "Горный мастер" | 1939 |
| "The Blue Crone's Spring" | "Синюшкин колодец" | 1939 |
| "Yermak's Swans" | "Ермаковы лебеди" | 1940 |
| "The Key to the Earth" | "Ключ земли" | 1940 |
| "The Dancing Fire Maid" | "Огневушка-поскакушка" | 1940 |
| "A Fragile Twig" | "Хрупкая веточка" | 1940 |
| "Tayutka's Mirror" | "Таюткино зеркальце" | 1941 |
| "The Sunstone" | "Солнечный камень" | 1942 |
| "Zhelezko's Covers" | "Железковы покрышки" | 1942 |

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------|
| "Veselukha's Meadow" | "Веселухин ложок" | 1943 |
| "That Spark of Life" | "Живинка в деле" | 1943 |
| "The Bogatyr's Glove" | "Богатырёва рукавица" | 1944 |
| "The Eagle's Feather" | "Орлиное перо" | 1945 |
| "The Blue Snake" | "Голубая змейка" | 1945 |
| "Vasya's Mountain" | "Васина гора" | 1946 |
| "A Piece of The Dear Land" | "Дорогой земли виток" | 1948 |
| "Zhabrei's Path" | "Жабреев ходок" | 1951 |

Pupils' art works



The Mistress of the Copper Mountain
by Nasya Guseva



**The Malachite
Casket**
by Polina Voloskova



Silver Hoof
by Nastya Volkova



The Great Serpent
by *Misha Alekseev*

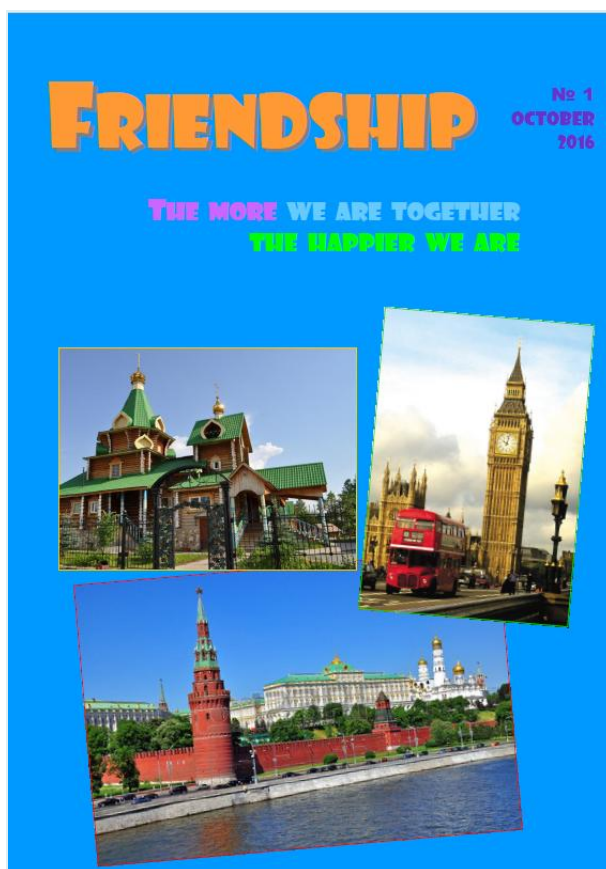


The Flower of Stone
by *Vika Azanova*

School festival "Welcome to the fairy-tale!"





School magazine "Friendship"

*Magazine for young learners
who love English and want to know it*

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My native land

Sysert

(named after the river Sysert) is situated 30 km south from the city Ekaterinburg. It spreads on steep slopes covered with coniferous forest of the deep valley of the river Sysert, and on the banks of ponds at the foot of Mt. Besenkovaya.

This mountain and Sysertskii pond are the main sights of the local landscape - from the upper part of the mountain a spectacular panorama of the city and the river valley opens before us. Mt. Besenkovaya is the highest peak in the area. At its base the first buildings of the Sysert metallurgical factory were built. On the peak and slopes, signs of primitive men were found - among them bronze bird idols - similar to those found on the top of Mt. Azov near the town Polevskoi, arrow-heads and stone boomerangs.

The first settlement was based here in 1732, in connection with construction the metallurgical factory on the river Sysert. The raw material (iron ore) for the factory was sent from the deposit, discovered by peasants from the village Aramilskaia Sloboda in 1680. The factory's location was chosen directly by William de Gennin - an engineer and artillery general. He found this convenient

place for a future factory at the confluence of the rivers Sysert and Chemaya in 1731.

For a long time Sysert was the central administrative department of the Sysert mountain district, including the following metallurgical factories - Sysertskii, Polevskoi, Severskii, Verkhnesysertskii, and Ilinskii. Sysert was originally planned and built by Alexey Turchaninov (famous salt producer and merchant in the Urals) in 1778 - a monument of the architecture of the 18th century.

Two notable buildings - the Church of Saint Simeon and Anne and Turchaninov's house are located in the factory square on the bank of the Sysertskii pond, where different holidays are often celebrated.

Sysert is "washed" by lakes - Big Sysert from the south and southwest, Small Sysert and Ilinskii from the east. Big Sysert is located within the town limits and includes three gulfs: in the north, Chernovskoi (named after the river Chemaya), in the south, the longest Verkhnesysertskii and the shortest gulf in the northeast. The river Sysert flows from the last gulf. In the lake several species of fish are found - perch, nuff, crucian, small fry, bream (freshwater) and pike. On the northern bank of the lake Mt. Bolshoi Ugol ("Big Hill") rises, and along the western bank stretches Mt. Chernovskoi Uval (named after the river Chernaya) - covered with mixed (pines, birches) forest. Also on the northern bank is the natural monument - the rock "Sivka-Burka" (named after the hero of a Russian fairy-tale).



In the first quarter of the 19th century Sysert's metallurgical factory was one of the largest enterprises in the Urals. Sysert was known as the administrative centre of the rich mountain district, including Severskii and Polevskoi metallurgical factories, iron mines, gold mines and many subsidiary manufacturing enterprises and services. Sysert's factory smelted cast iron and manufactured iron articles. At various exhibitions the factory received many awards for the excellent quality of its production, on which the brand - the image of a heron, was put.

In the beginning of the 20th century Sysert was a typical Urals settlement - founded at the factory. Located here were schools - including the higher national school, a children's shelter with school, a small hospital, post office, telegraph office, meteorological station and some churches.

Sysert received "town status" in 1946 and it still maintains the aspect of a typical old Urals town, where wooden architecture prevails. The inhabitants number is about 30 thousand.



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It is worth visiting!



One of the sights in the region is Lake Tailovoye Lomien - located in a westerly direction 4 - 5 km from the town centre near Mt. Chernovskoi Uval. The lake has an artificial origin - it is an old abandoned talc mine, which was flooded by subterranean waters. Talc schist was mined here by hand in the last decades of the 19th century and was used as a fire retardant material in the metallurgical factories of the former Sysert mountain district.



The town's main tourist attraction is Bazhov's house. Pavel Petrovich Bazhov (1879-1950) is one of the most



famous Russian writers. He is widely popular because he wrote many fairy-tales dedicated to the Urals and local craftsmen. The house holds many unique objects of Russian people daily life of the 19th and early 20th centuries. The exhibits include works made by gifted local artists and also kitchen utensils, spinning wheels, weaving loom, Russian sledges and other objects created by anonymous folk craftsmen.

The "Sysertiv Farfor" Porcelain Factory, which now produces porcelain tableware and sculpture, was founded on the basis of «Promcooperator» Guild, existed since 1942. First the Guild manufactured earthenware, but from the late 40-ies it came close to renovation of porcelain industry, which had definite traditions in Sysert - a small porcelain manufacture existed there as far back as the late 19th - the early 20th century.



At present the enterprise produces decorative sculpture on subjects of folk fairy-tales of the Urals. Russian narrative poems and ballads; tea- and coffee-sets, decorative vases. Usually the articles are decorated with underglaze painting, but sometimes overglaze painting is applied. Soft brownish-grey and light blue tones are mostly used in painting. Ornamental concepts are often found in the landscapes of the Urals.



Collections of Sysert artworks are represented in many museums of the Russian Federation. These articles are rewarded with diplomas of different exhibitions.

Elena V. Vatoropina

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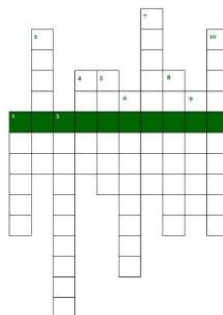
OUR FAMOUS COMPATRIOT

Pavel Bazhov is best known for his collection of fairy tales *The Malachite Box*, based on Ural folklore and published in the Soviet Union in 1939. In 1944, the translation of the collection into English was published in New York City and London. Later Sergei Prokofiev created the ballet *The Tale of the Stone Flower* based on one of the tales. Bazhov was also the author of several books on the Russian Revolution and the Civil War.

List of stories within *The Malachite Box*

This is a list of the stories in Pavel Bazhov's collection *The Malachite Box*. The first edition, released on 28 January 1939, consisted of 14 stories, based on the oral lore of the miners and gold prospectors. After the initial publication, the author continuously added new stories to the collection.

| English Title | Russian Title | Year of publication |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| "That Dear Name" | "Дорогое имяшко" | 1936 |
| "The Great Serpent" | "Про Великого Попова" | 1936 |
| "The Mistress of the Copper Mountain" | "Медной горы хозяйка" | 1936 |
| "The Bailiff's Bootsoles" | "Приказчиков подошвы" | 1936 |
| "Sochen's Gems" | "Соченьы камешки" | 1937 |
| "Mark's Stone" | "Марков камень" | 1937 |
| "The Flower of Stone" | "Каменный цветок" | 1938 |
| "The Malachite Casket" | "Малахитовая шкатулка" | 1938 |
| "Silver Hoof" | "Серебряное копытце" | 1938 |
| "The Mountain Craftsmen" | "Горный мастер" | 1939 |
| "The Blue Crow's Spring" | "Синюшкин колодезь" | 1939 |
| "Yermak's Swans" | "Ермаковы лебеди" | 1940 |
| "The Key to the Earth" | "Ключ земли" | 1940 |
| "The Dancing Fire Maid" | "Огневуха-поскатушка" | 1940 |
| "A Fragile Twig" | "Хрупкая веточка" | 1940 |
| "Tayutka's Mirror" | "Тайуткино зеркальце" | 1941 |
| "The Sunstone" | "Солнечный камень" | 1942 |
| "Zhalezko's Covers" | "Железовы покрывала" | 1942 |
| "Veshukha's Meadow" | "Веселухин лужок" | 1943 |
| "That Spunk of Life" | "Жизнька в деле" | 1943 |
| "The Bogaty's Glove" | "Богатыря рукавица" | 1944 |
| "The Eagle's Feather" | "Орлиное перо" | 1945 |
| "The Blue Snake" | "Голубая змея" | 1945 |
| "Vasya's Mountain" | "Васяна гора" | 1946 |
| "A Piece of The Dear Land" | "Дорогой земли виток" | 1948 |
| "Zhabrei's Path" | "Жабреев ходок" | 1951 |



Silver Hoof
by Maxim Odnoshevin

Across
1 - One of the most popular tales of P. Bazhov

Down
1 - Bazhov's place of birth
2, 3 - Bazhov was a school teacher of
4 - How many children were there in Bazhov's family?

CROSSWORD



The Flower of Stone
by Yika Azanova

5 - P. Bazhov began working at school at the age of ...
6 - Author of a ballet "The Flower of Stone" (Moscow, 1954)
7 - The mineral was given this name due to its resemblance to the leaves of the malow plant.
8 - One who loves to read, admire and collect books.
9 - P. Bazhov was born in the family of a
10 - P. Bazhov was buried in, in 1950.



The Dancing Fire Maid
by Arina Prosvirina



Silver Hoof
by Nastya Volkova

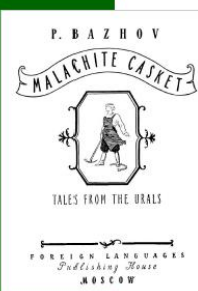
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The Great Serpent
by Mishka Alekseev



The Malachite Casket
by Katya Shabalina



The Malachite Casket
by Polina Voloshkova, 4C

"The Malachite Casket" is considered to be one of the best stories in the collection. The story was translated from Russian into English by Alan Moray Williams in 1944, and by Eve Manning in the 1950s. The heroes of Bazhov's tales are hard-working, smart and bright, quick-witted people. They have the Urals character and Urals language. They love their native land and try to do all their best to find and show its beauty.

All his tales have realistic basis. They are full of life. The language of the tales is unusual and unique, so it is difficult to translate them into the foreign language.

Eve Manning wrote: "Perhaps the most heartbreaking thing in translating a work of this kind is the inevitable loss of vivid local colour. 'The Malachite Casket' is written dialect, dynamic and rhythmic, as rich in association as the singing of the Scottish Highlands, the 'broad' speech of Yorkshire or the drawl of Kentucky. Although I have made every effort to recapture the spirit of the original, in returning to the Russian text I am conscious that it is still but a pale copy. I offer it therefore with apologies."



THE MALACHITE CASKET

Nastasya, Stepan's widow, was left the malachite casket with every kind of women's ornaments in it. These were rings and earrings and all before he married.

Nastasya had given up an orphan, she wasn't used to such rich things, and she didn't like making a lot of show either. At last, when Stepan was there, she'd put on a ring, you'd say I find just right, neither too tight nor too loose, but when she'd go to church in it or to visit friends, her fingers would start aching as if it was pinched and the end would even burn quite.

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Bazhov's tales are read with a great interest both by adults and children. Every reader can find in his tales something unusual and engaging, charming and instructive, informative and picturesque.



SILVER HOOF

There was an old man used to live in our village called Kokovanya. He'd none of his own family left, so he thought he'd take some orphan into his hut to be a child to him.

He asked the neighbours if they knew of anyone, and they told him: "Grigory Potapov's children were left orphans on Clinka not long ago. The bailiff sent the older girls to the master sewing-room, but there's a little girl of six nobody wanted. That would be the child for you."

But Kokovanya said: "I'd be unhappy-like w' a maid. A lad 'ud be better. I'd teach him my trade and he'd help me, too, when he got bigger. But what use I do w' a maid? What can I teach her?"

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... It was a light night with a full moon. Daryonka looked round and there was the cat, quite close, sitting in the glade with the goat in front of her. Pussy was nodding her head and so was the goat, as if they were having a talk. Then they began running about on the snow.

The goat ran here and ran there, then he stopped and stamped. They ran about the glade for a long time, and disappeared in the distance. Then they came right up to the hut again. The goat jumped up on the roof and began stamping with his silver hoof. And precious stones flashed out like sparks - red, green, light blue, dark blue - every kind and colour.

(from "Silver Hoof")

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The Mistress of the Copper Mountain
by Nastya Guseva, 5B