

## The Languedoc bagpipe

Once upon a time there was a shepherd who played the Languedoc bagpipe called "bodega". One evening he went to have a rest by the river.

He was so busy looking at the first star that he did not see his instrument slide and stop against a rock.

Attracted by the music a tiny fairy appeared. When the shepherd was asleep, she came near the bagpipe.

- What is this? Is there anyone there?
- Since there was no one there she moved in into the instrument.

« Ribbitt, ribbitt, ribbitt » croaked a frog who jumped on the rock.

- What is this? Is there anyone there?

- I am all alone. Come in.

And the frog lept inside.

« Hee haw, Hee haw, Hee haw » a little donkey came to drink at the river.

- What is this? Is there anyone there?

- Yes, there are two of us, the fairy and the frog. Come in.

The donkey also came in.

« Aroo! aroo! aroo! » A wolf came about.

- What is this? Is there anyone there?

- Yes, there are three of us, the fairy, the frog and the donkey.

- Move over or I'll eat you!

- Ok, ok, ok! Try to come in!

And the wolf went into the bagpipe.

« Hee, hee, hee » A witch landed on the bagpipe.  
- What is this? Is there anyone there?  
- Yes, there are four of us, the fairy, the frog, the donkey and the wolf.  
- Make room for me or I'll turn you into dust!  
- Oh no! Not that! Let's make space! Come in.  
The witch slithered in.

« Bang, bang, bang » The Drac introduced himself.  
- What is this? Is there anyone there?  
- Yes, there are five of us, the fairy, the frog, the donkey, the wolf and the witch.  
- Make room for me or I'll drag you down in the water.  
- Ok, ok, let's squeeze and make a little more space; come in.  
The Drac wiggled inside.

« Cri, cri, cri » An ant came near.  
- What is this? Is there anyone there?  
- Yes, there are six of us, the fairy, the frog, the donkey, the wolf, the witch and the Drac. You are so small you will surely find somewhere to stay.  
And the ant joined in.

Suddenly the shepherd woke up and saw that his bagpipe was gone. He noticed it by the water. It had become huge. He picked it up with great difficulty, took a long breath and blew. You could hear shouts ...

The shepherd saw the ant, the Drac, the witch, the wolf, the donkey, the frog and the little fairy all come out of the bagpipe.

- Don't be afraid, he said, come and dance!

The shepherd played the bagpipe and his seven new friends danced until early morning.

And ever since that day the sound of the bagpipe brings all the animals together.