The boy said to the priest:

**BOY:** *(With a sweet voice)*

- Master, I want to eat the chestnuts, can I go to pick some, please?

**MAN:** *(Speaking slowly)*:

- No, you can’t, there is a witch living there.

**BOY:** *(Begging)*

- Please, let me go.

**MAN:**

- Well, you can go, but take this three paper charms. Use them if you meet the witch.

*(CHANGING TO NEXT CARD, SHOWING THE THREE PAPERS)*
The boy was picking up chestnuts when he heard a voice behind him.

WITCH:

- Good afternoon, little boy. Why don't you come to my house? I'll cook the chestnuts for you.

The boy agreed and followed the witch. It was getting dark.

(CHANGING TO NEXT CARD)
The boy and the old woman ate the chestnuts and, soon after, he fell asleep.

In the middle of the night, a strange noise woke up the boy. He peeped into the room and saw the witch sharpening a big knife.

**BOY**: *(Screaming)*

- Aaaaaaahh !!!

  *(CHANGING TO NEXT CARD, SLOWLY, SHOWING THE KNIFE)*
WITCH: *(Witch’s voice)*:
- I'm going to eat you!

BOY: *(Nervously)*
- Please, can I go to the toilet first?

WITCH:
- All right, but don't be late.

The boy went to the toilet, put one of the charms next to the door and escape through the window.

(CHANGING TO NEXT CARD)
The witch was chasing the boy. He took out the second charm.

**BOY:**

- Lucky charm, please, make a river appear behind me.

But the witch swallowed the river.

(CHANGING TO NEXT CARD)
The witch was near the boy. He took out the third charm.

BOY:
- Now make a sea of fire, please!

The witch blew out the river putting out the fire.

The boy arrived to the temple.

(CHANGING TO NEXT CARD)
BOY: *(Gasp ing):*

- Master, please, help me, the mountain witch is chasing me!

The witch got into the temple.

WITCH: *(Screaming, very angry):*

- Where is the boy? I'm going to eat you!

(ChANGING TO NEXT CARD)
9

**MAN:** *(Calmly, peaceful voice):*

- So, you are the mountain witch. Let's see what can you do...
  Can you make yourself as big as a mountain?

**WITCH:**

- Of course! Look!

And she made herself as big as a mountain.

*(CHANGING TO NEXT CARD)*
MAN: *(Showing surprise)*:
- That's fantastic! Now, can you make yourself as small as a bean?

WITCH:
- That's easy for me, look!

Suddenly, she was small, like a little bean.

MAN:
- Very impressive! Now is my turn.

He picked up the little bean and ate it down!
THE THREE CHARMS AND
THE MOUNTAIN WITCH *

1

Once upon the time, there was a boy who lived in a temple.
One Autumn day, the boy saw chestnuts trees in the mountains.
The chestnuts looked very delicious.

(CHANGING TO NEXT CARD)

* http://web-japan.org/kidsweb/folk/