

The sun-god told her that Pluto had taken her away to his home.

Poor Ceres feared that she would never see her daughter again. She was so sad that she said she would not let the plants grow until Proserpina came back.

The plants did not grow, and the people were unhappy.

Mercury was now sent to Pluto. He said: "King Pluto, Ceres grieves for Proserpina. Will you let her go back to her mother?"

"I am sorry Proserpina must go," said Pluto. "But if her mother is so unhappy that she will not let the plants grow, you may take her."

Pluto's servant had given Proserpina a pomegranate. When she took it in her hand, she grew hungry. She took a bite and swallowed six seeds. Just then Mercury and Pluto came in.

Pluto told Proserpina she might go to her mother.

The little girl said good-bye to Pluto, and set out for home. When she came the grass