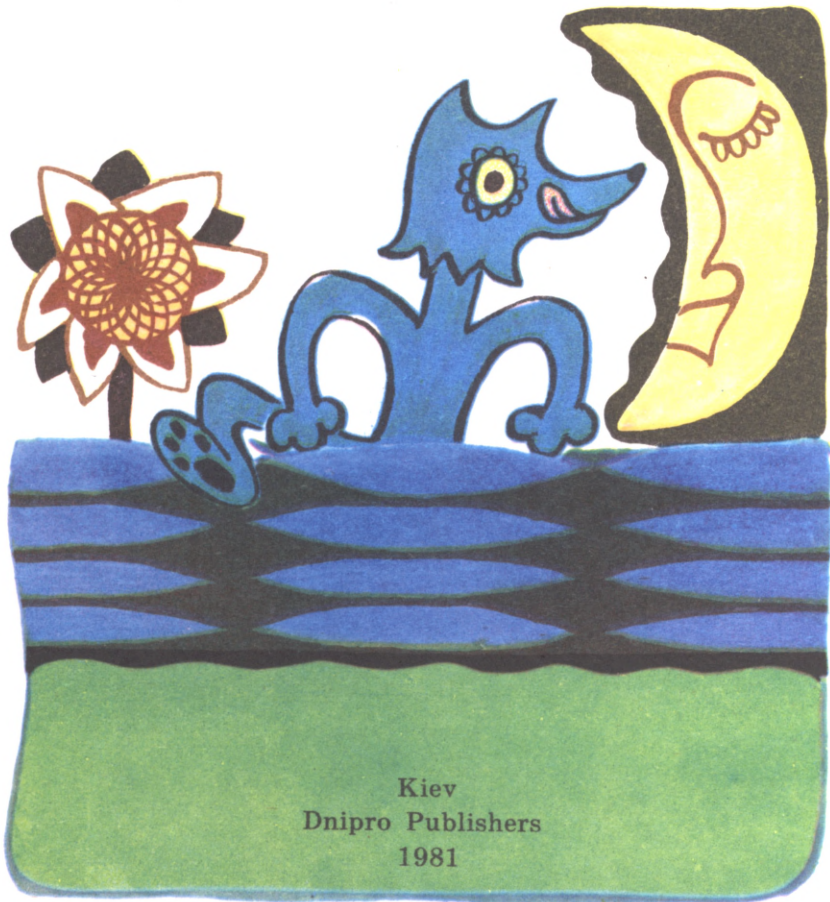




Ivan Franko
THE PAINTED
FOX

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THE PAINTED FOX
A Fable



Kiev
Dnipro Publishers
1981

Translated
from the Ukrainian
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There lived in a certain forest a fox called Mikita who was very sly and cunning. However often the hunters might chase him, send the dogs after him, set traps for him or leave poisoned meat around for him to eat, they were never able to catch him. Fox Mikita made fools of them, evading all hazards and even warning his friends. But when he himself went out hunting, whether to the chicken coop or the granary, there was no bolder, more resourceful or more skillful thief than he. It reached the point where he, more than once, went hunting in broad daylight, and he never returned empty-handed.

This extraordinary luck, and his cleverness, made him very arrogant. He felt that nothing was impossible for him.

“What do you think of this?” he boasted to his friends. “So far I have gone only to the villages, but tomorrow I shall go to the town, in full daylight, and steal a chicken right from the market.”

Иван Яковлевич Франко

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