

A Rabbit's Tale

A rabbit was walking by a well,
When out jumped a frog,
It landed on the rabbit's head,
And turned into a dog.

The frog-turned dog had a funny yelp,
Between a croak and an awful bark,
And before I knew , the good old rabbit
Had began to sing like a lark.

Now if that wasn't funny ,
And didn't make you laugh,
What followed was hilarious,
'Cos the frog was in half.

Half a frog or half a dog?
I confess I was bemused,
Wouldn't you if I told you that
Some frogs have three claws-
Confused?

But that is true I promise you,
How many stories can I make?
Now, you won't believe when I tell you,
The story of the dancing snake.

The clawed frog lives in Brazil,
And this is gospel truth,
You have a believe what I say,
Now now, I see your smiley tooth.

The snake lived by the same well,
From which the frog jumped out,
In a patch of grass he lolled around,
He hissed but never a shout.

For he was a gentleman snake,
And they should be well- behaved,
He'd heard this from his granny,
So he hissed for water when he shaved.

The dancing, shaving, hissing snake,
Was friendly as friendly can be,
And he and the frog were the best of mates,
Till the frog turned dog you see.

The snake had a problem with the little cur,
For he was a dancer too,
The ugly face of envy now,
Had one running to the loo.

The snake prayed hard,
While the dog was away,
For the dog to go back to frog,
But that wasn't to be so he thought of a plan,
To get rid of the dirty dog.

But he couldn't do that
For the dog was a frog,
And the frog he liked very much,
So he dropped his plan.
And like a gentle man,
He hissed the word ' Hutch.

So Hutch now was the dogs' new name,
And he was happy about it.
For we all like to hear our names,
Slowly pronounced, bit by bit.

Now ' Hutch', the snake and the little bunny,
Were soon to make amends,
For you will learn as we go along,
That you cannot do without friends.

The three of them became a Triad,
That you could not separate,
Always together till the time to sleep,
And good-byes were a terrible hate.

The bunny got lost in the forest one day,
Midst the denseness of the trees,
And try as he might there was nothing he could do,
To get back to his friends, if you please.

Hutch and the snake were besides themselves,
Searching for their little friend,
Till night fell and they went home,
And the search then came to an end.

That night was a dreadful plight for all,
The bunny just scared stiff,
For Hutch and the snake 'twas worrying time,
They wished they knew whom to biff.

They almost did that to each other,
Until they soon realized,
You need to stay together,
Or else you could be surprised.

The Sun shone brightly on a dreary day,
For Hutch and the snake, his mate,
As they set out again to look for the bunny,
Thinking of destiny and fate.

The bunny by now came out of a burrow,
Trembling with fear for he was alone,
And the night sleeplessly spent,
Without his mobile phone.

I forgot to tell you that this story kids,
Relates to a hundred years hence,
When money will be just coins,
And pounds less value than pence.

He heard the roar of the lion,
And screeching of the baboon,
The bunny hoped and prayed, all night,
That his friends would come but soon.

He wondered when he found the burrow,
Who lived in that little hole,
Could only be a another rabbit,
But where was that kindred soul?

Another, perhaps, like himself,
A babe lost in the woods,
What great fun if he could find,
The thought was tonic for the mind.

What would they do the two of them,
And what if she was a girl,
She couldn't be a boy that he knew,
For in the burrow he saw a curl.

He was happy now his heart alight,
Until a tusker he saw,
Scampering back into the hole,
He barely missed the paw.

A Tusker is not just an elephant,
It's also a wild boar,
For the little bunn rabbit though,
The paw mattered no more.

For back in the burrow,
And a borrowed one at that,
The bunny was surprised to see,
The visions of a lovely cat.

The more the merrier thought Bunny,
And the cat had a tale of its own,
Not the one that wags,
But this one was cast in stone,

'No exaggeration' , said the cat,
I'm also not from here,
But I know these parts well,
So you needn't have any fear.

I'm the cat of the palace,
And they're all aware of this,
So I can roam the forests,
In a state of total bliss.

The king is an angry man,
And his anger knows no bounds,
The animals are fully aware,
For he lets loose the royal hounds.

And even though you maybe a Tiger,
The hounds you have to respect,
For the king and all his retinue,
That's the least they would expect.

'Thank heavens', said the bunny,
In barely disguised glee,
Until the cat announced slyly,
I am really from there you see.

Now a heavenly cat by his lonely side,
And all was well with his world,
What good luck that I got lost,
The bunny thought and curled.

Snooping, slithering the other two,
Were now at the edge of the forest,
Stealth was always important,
Grandma had said and she was honest.

The bunny now had an unhappy thought,
When he thought of his doggy friend,
How would Hutch and the cat get along,
When cats hate dogs no end.

Maybe ' heavenly ' cats are different,
So she and Hutch would be all right,
But that could wait till re-union,
He thought with a little fright.

The cat by now had understood,
That bunny was a stranger in town,
He seemed in distress and needed help,
She could tell from his crooked frown.

Because she was a cat from heaven,
Magical powers she possessed,
She could fly that is true,
For she was truly blessed.

But now would she carry the bunny
For he seemed a little over-weight,
If only he were a mouse,
She take care for his little fate.

Hutch and the snake were now making inroads,
Into hostile terrain,
Until the frog-dog hot hit,
And howled in horrible pain.

A monkey sitting on a tree,
Had marked the advent of the two,
And to warn them of greater dangers,
Had flung a worn - out shoe.

'Cos monkeys in this forest,
Were used to wearing shoes,
For they found the ground hard,
And had really nothing to lose,
Except the shoes.

Imagine the surprise of the duo,
Wondering what to expect next,
Hit by a monkey's shoes,
A monkey with an sms text?

The monkey heard their story,
And felt naturally sorry for them,
For monkeys are also afraid ,
And that is their problem.

He told them to stay in the burrow,
While he went looking for the two,
Swinging freely from tree to tree,
For that's what monkeys do.

With eyes sharp and spring in the legs,
He soon covered the forest,
And sure enough he spotted the 'friends',
But the safety of the trees was the best.

While the dog was okay by him,
A snake he would never trust,
So he asked them to keep looking up
For lead them to safety he must.

The snake followed 'Hutch' 'cos he couldn't look up,
So he went by the wagging tail,
But when a tigers paw he saw ,
He went deathless pale.

But the paw was a foot print,
Of a tiger that had just gone by,
And while the dog was busy looking up,
The snake was praying to the sky.

As night fell and it got dark,
The monkey needed rest,
The snake climbed up the nearest tree,
And 'Hutch' faced a lonely test.

A night alone in the jungle,
Is nobody's cup of tea,
But what could be do, the poor chap,
For he couldn't climb the tree.

So he took matters in his pa-ws,
As men do with both hands,
And trembling as you might imagine,
He dreamt of beaches and sands.

He remembered the days when he was a pet,
Of a rich and famous baroness,
Until she vanished one afternoon,
And then things were in a mess.

Lost in his state of blissful reverie,
'Hutch' was now rudely awakened
By the morning sun and the heat of it all,
But when he looked up he was stunned.

The snake wrapped around the monkey's belly,
While the monkey was fast asleep,
He'd never seen anything like this before,
And to see better he took a leap.

The monkey awoke when he heard the crash,
And looked at the funny black rope,
Around his middle all coiled up,
Was that lousy snake bloke.

So he shook him off and threw him down,
And the snake fell on 'Hutch',
Now all this really, he thought,
Was just getting too much.

So he warned the two to be careful,
In the steps that they hence take,
For he could make life miserable,
For his fangs were real not fake.

Calm and sanity now restored,
They covered many a mile,
And can you believe when they got to the burrow,
There were no reasons to smile.

For bunny and the cat were now not there,
And these three hadn't a clue,
Where could they have gone was the quizzical look,
As the monkey into a rage flew.

I have done all this for the two of you,
'Cos I saw you were in distress ,
But that you're friends would simply vanish,
Puts me under a lot of stress.

Now I'll have to find them for you,
I will , and never mind what,
Because the two of you,
Are now the best pals I've got.

Imagine the look of pure surprise,
On the faces of the snake and Hutch,
For they had never thought,
The monkey cared so much.

On a journey again the three of them,
Through nights and days toiled,
Until they saw their friends again,
The bunny and Hutch looked soiled.

Their story told in voices hushed,
They bade the forest good-bye,
The monkey decided to go with them,
Their guide the stars and the sky.

**Now, you see, dear children,
How magical the world can be,
How wonderful and funny it really is,
If fun you learn to see.**