

THE ADVENTURES
OF
BUNNY BOB-TAIL



RUTH IRMA LOW



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BUNNY THOUGHT IT WAS VERY SMART FOR A PERSON TO WALK ON A ROPE
AND NOT FALL.

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

BY

RUTH IRMA LOW

||

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY

LES STOUT ✓



BOSTON

LOTHROP, LEE AND SHEPARD COMPANY

1935

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TO MY NEPHEWS,
FRANCIS AND TEDDY

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THE ADVENTURES
OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

HOW BUNNY BOB-TAIL WAS NAMED

When he was a very tiny rabbit, his grandmother said, "This bunny has an unusually short tail. In fact, I think it is a bob-tail."

The baby bunny's father, who had been thinking hard to find a suitable name for his son, exclaimed, "Now that is a splendid name for our new baby rabbit! Bunny Bob-tail! It just suits him!" So Bunny Bob-tail he was called.

Mrs. Rabbit thought there never was such a clever little bunny in all Bunnyville, and as for his grandma, who lived on the other side of the hill, she never could pet him enough.

Bunny Bob-tail grew every day. His very best

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL
friend was Johnny Rabbit, who lived next door.
What happy times the two bunnies had together!
Sometimes they were naughty, as we shall see, but
almost always they tried to be good, obedient rabbits.

As Mother Rabbit said to Mrs. Black Rabbit,
Johnny's mamma, "I feel that I can trust our two
bunnies together, but there are some rabbits who live
in the white house far up the road and I have for-
bidden Bunny Bob-tail to play with them, as they
are naughty rabbits."

"And I never allow the Pinky rabbits in my
yard," replied Mrs. Black Rabbit. "Do you know
that last summer when I took Johnny to visit his
cousins in the village next to Bunnyville, the Pinky
rabbits came into my garden and stole most of my
lettuce and carrots? Only for the postman, we should
have had nothing left.

"Just as he arrived those bad rabbits scampered
out through the gate. I wonder they didn't die from
eating so much."

HOW BUNNY BOB-TAIL WAS NAMED

But I'm glad to say there were many good rabbits in Bunnyville, of whom we shall hear more in these stories.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL FINDS SOMETHING

“Let’s go out in the woods and play to-day,” said Bunny Bob-tail to his friend Johnny Rabbit one afternoon in summer.

“I’ll be glad to,” said Johnny Rabbit. “Do you suppose we’ll find any strawberries?”

“Maybe,” answered Bunny Bob-tail.

So after lunch they started for the woods. They found some pretty flowers and some strawberries.

“I love strawberries,” said Johnny Rabbit.

“Don’t talk when you have something in your mouth,” said Bunny Bob-tail. “It’s very bad manners.”

“I know it,” said the other bunny, “but I forgot just that once.”

Then the two little friends wandered on through the woods.

Suddenly Johnny Rabbit stood still. “Listen!” he whispered.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL FINDS SOMETHING

Both rabbits listened. "Tap-tap-tippy-tap!" was what they heard.

"Oh, Bunny Bob-tail, I'm so scared!" said Johnny Rabbit. "Will you come home with me?"

"Nonsense," said the other. "That's only a woodpecker, and he won't harm you."

"Oh, I'm not afraid of birds," said Johnny Rabbit. "Only I didn't know who could be making that funny noise."

"Just ask me if you want to know anything about birds," said Bunny Bob-tail, proudly. "I can tell you about the meadow lark and the blue jay and the oriole and many others."

Just then they came to an open place in the woods. In front of them was a hill. They climbed it, and on the top was a queer-looking object. It was small and had three wheels.

"What do you suppose that is?" asked Bunny Bob-tail, who saw the object first.

"I'm sure I don't know," replied Johnny Rabbit.

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“Now I don’t know the name of it, but I am very sure I have seen boys riding on one near my house,” said Bunny.

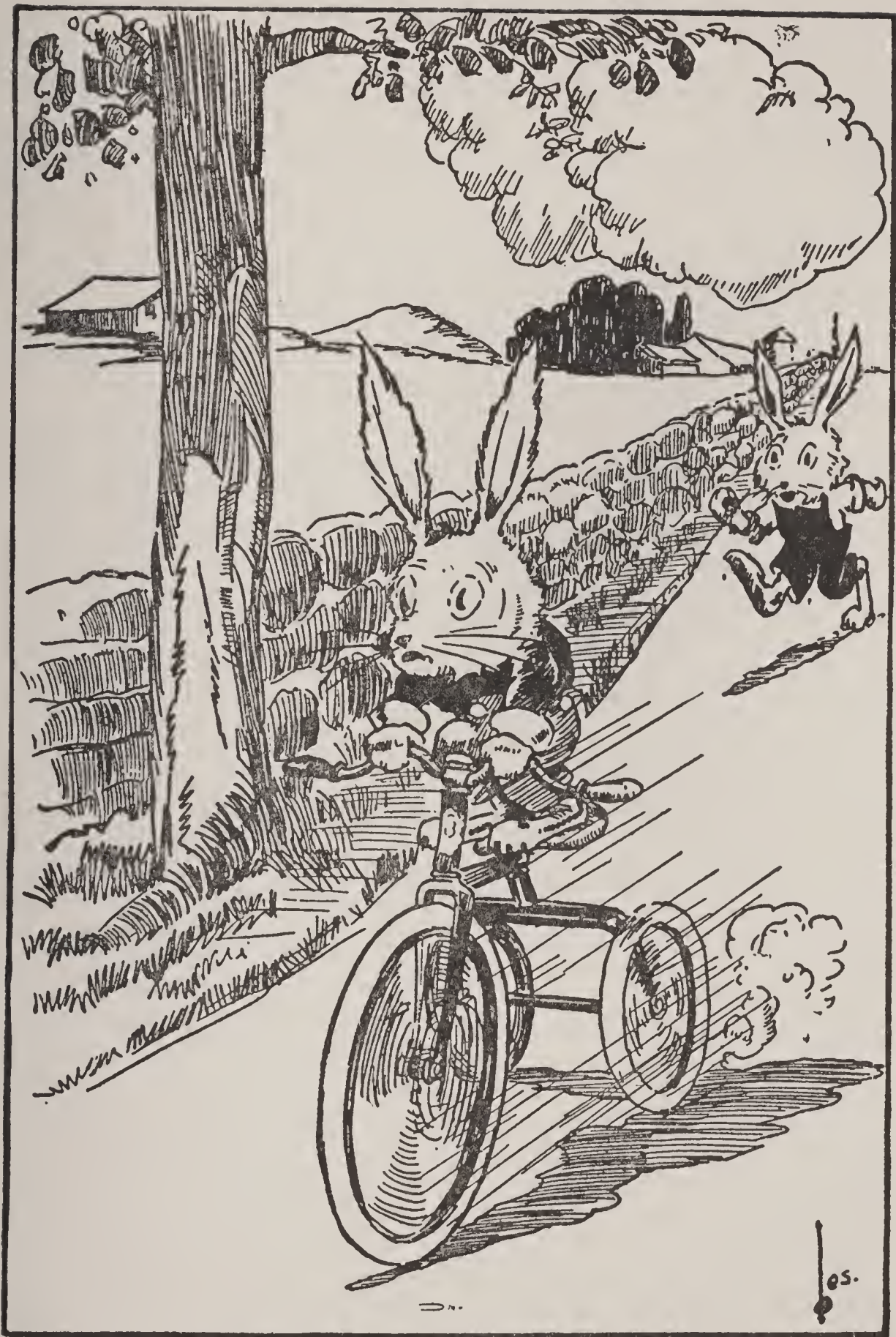
Then he looked at the wheels and decided to have a ride. “You hold it while I jump on,” said Bunny Bob-tail.

Johnny Rabbit held it. But suddenly the wheels began to move, and before Bunny Bob-tail could jump he was riding down the hill!

“Oh!” shrieked Johnny Rabbit. “You will get hurt, Bunny Bob-tail. Hold on very tight!”

Bunny Bob-tail did hold on, but rabbits are not naturally good tricycle riders, and so he went down the hill a little too fast.

He was very much frightened, and when he finally reached the bottom of the hill, all would have gone well if Bunny could have steered into the tall grass. But since he could not steer, the tricycle and Bunny Bob-tail went right into a barberry bush, and it was not a nice, soft place to land, you may be sure.



BEFORE BUNNY BOB-TAIL COULD JUMP HE WAS RIDING DOWN THE HILL!

BUNNY BOB-TAIL FINDS SOMETHING

He picked himself up and found many scratches and bruises which had not been there when he left home.

Johnny Rabbit helped him to walk, and after a long time Bunny Bob-tail limped into his yard.

“Oh, Bunny Bob-tail!” said his mother, when she heard what had happened. “If only you would learn to keep away from things which don’t belong to you! But I do hope you have had your first and last tricycle ride.”

TWO RABBITS AND A PIE

Mrs. Black Rabbit and Bunny Bob-tail's mother had gone to the city to shop, and they had warned the bunnies to be very good while they were away.

"You will find some raisin cookies in the cooky box," Mrs. Rabbit had said, "but don't eat too many or you'll get sick."

Bunny Bob-tail and Johnny Rabbit played school and took turns at being teacher. They had great fun. Once when Johnny Rabbit was the pupil he ran away, and what a merry chase he led his teacher all over the garden and yard!

"Don't you think it's time to have some cookies?" asked Bunny. "Let's go and get some and then we'll play again."

The two bunnies helped themselves to raisin cookies. They were all ready to go out of the pantry when

TWO RABBITS AND A PIE

Bunny Bob-tail saw something on one of the upper shelves. It was a nice pie all covered with sticky white frosting.

“See what we’re going to have for supper, Johnny,” cried Bunny. “It’s a cream pie!”

Johnny Rabbit said he had never tasted cream pie, but that he liked the looks of that one.

“Dear me!” exclaimed Bunny Bob-tail, who couldn’t imagine what it could be like not to have tasted anything so delicious. “I’ll give you a teeny, weeny taste of this one,” said Bunny Bob-tail. Then he cut a teeny, weeny piece of cream pie.

“It’s just the nicest thing I ever tasted,” said Johnny Rabbit.

Bunny Bob-tail cut off another piece and handed it to Johnny. After that he helped himself to some.

All this time Bunny Bob-tail was standing on a chair. He had taken the cream pie down to cut it more easily. Just as he was putting back what was left, the plate slipped and crashed to the floor.

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

“Oh, Johnny Rabbit, look at that pie! What will Mother say?” he cried.

Just then Mother Rabbit came in and saw two tearful little bunnies viewing half a cream pie and a broken plate on the pantry floor.

She told Bunny Bob-tail what a naughty rabbit he had been to take what was not his. Then she sent him to bed, to think over what he had done. You may be sure he did not climb the pantry shelf for cream pie again.

HOW A LITTLE BUNNY TOOK A BATH

“Please, Mrs. Black Rabbit, may Johnny go for a walk with me?” asked Bunny Bob-tail from over the fence one morning.

“Yes, he may go with you,” replied Mrs. Black Rabbit from the pantry where she was making blueberry pies for dinner.

The two little friends went through the fields, sometimes stopping to gather flowers or berries. Soon they came to a road they had never seen before.

“I think some little boys live there,” said Johnny, “because I see a cart and a rocking-horse in the yard. Let’s go in and look around.”

In they went and they saw many toys out under the trees, but no little boys were in sight.

“There is a tub full of water,” cried Johnny, suddenly, and the two bunnies went nearer. They saw a pretty little boat sailing about in the tub of water.

“It doesn’t go fast enough,” said Bunny Bob-tail,

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

and he jumped up and pushed the boat so as to make it sail better.

But into the tub that bunny fell, splash! splash! splash! He was very much scared. Johnny Rabbit screamed, and two little boys came running out of a barn near by.

“What a cute bunny!” one boy exclaimed. Then he saw Bunny Bob-tail floundering around in the water. He quickly took him out and told him to sit on the grass and let the sun dry his wet clothes.

Then the boys talked kindly to the rabbits and the older one said it was always best for bunnies not to meddle with things which did not belong to them.

“My mother has told me that many times,” confessed Bunny Bob-tail, quite ashamed.

“The best bunnies in the whole world are those who always obey their mothers,” the boy also said.

By and by the boys found out where Bunny Bob-tail and Johnny Rabbit lived and rode them all the way home in their cart.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL HAS A QUARREL

Johnny Rabbit and his friend Bunny Bob-tail were playing in a field one day, when they found a ball.

They happened to see it exactly at the same time. It was a very pretty ball. It had red, white and blue stripes. Johnny Rabbit and Bunny Bob-tail were delighted with it. They played for a long time.

Finally Bunny Bob-tail said, "It is time to go home. I am very hungry and I am sure it is time for supper."

So the two rabbits started to go home.

On the way Bunny Bob-tail said, "Johnny, give me the ball. It might not be safe in your tent, so I'll keep it up on the shelf in my kitchen."

"Perhaps it would roll off the shelf," said Johnny Rabbit. "I really think that my tent is the place for it."

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

Then they quarreled.

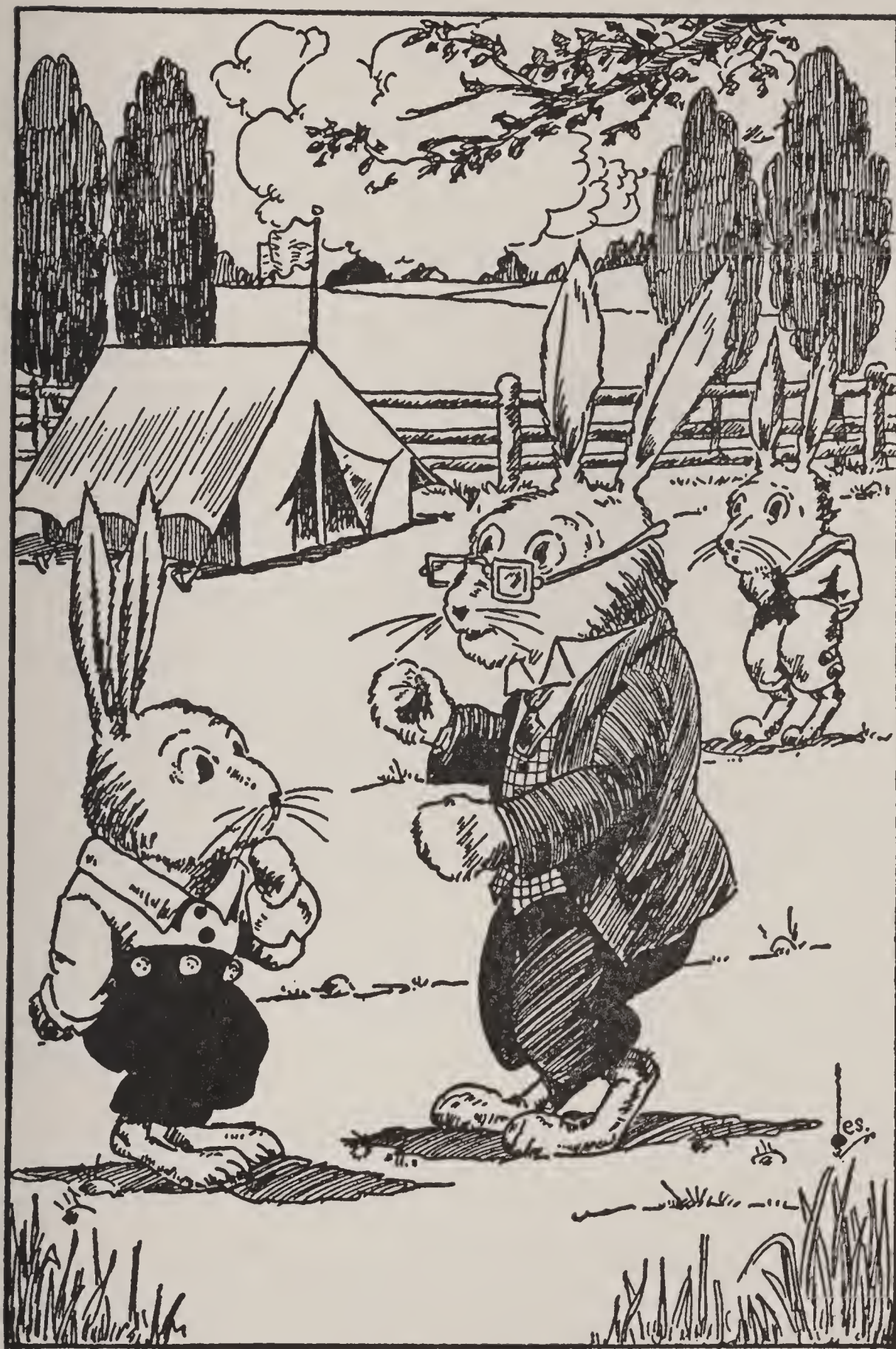
“You can’t have that ball,” said Johnny Rabbit, growing angrier every minute.

“I’m going to get the ball,” cried Bunny Bob-tail, just as angry now as the other.

Then the two friends said many naughty things to each other, and called each other names. By and by the quarrel grew very much more serious, and I am sorry to say that Bunny Bob-tail and Johnny Rabbit lost their tempers, just as people sometimes do when they quarrel. And of course that, as you know, is a very bad thing to let happen.

Those two rabbits were soon really fighting. Bunny Bob-tail hit Johnny Rabbit right in the face. Johnny hit him back. Then such a contest as followed! In the middle of it Bunny Bob-tail’s father came along.

He could not believe his eyes. There was his own son fighting. “What is this all about?” he asked when he had separated the two bunnies.



IN THE MIDDLE OF IT BUNNY BOB-TAIL'S FATHER CAME ALONG.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL HAS A QUARREL

“Johnny stole the ball, and so I told him to give it back,” said Bunny Bob-tail, very much ashamed.

“Whose ball is it?” asked Bunny’s father.

“It’s mine,” said the rabbits together.

“Now that can’t be,” said Mr. Rabbit. “Where did you get the ball?”

Then Johnny Rabbit told about finding it and having such fun playing. “But I guess we found it just at the same time. Bunny wanted to keep it and I wanted to keep it,” Johnny said.

“Well, well,” exclaimed Mr. Rabbit. “I thought that two bunnies who were such good friends knew better than to quarrel over a ball. Couldn’t you compromise?” he asked.

“We don’t know what ‘compromise’ is,” said Bunny Bob-tail.

“It means to settle things without quarreling,” answered Mr. Rabbit. “Now Johnny Rabbit could keep the ball for a week, and then Bunny Bob-tail could keep it for the next week, and so on.”

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

“I guess we’ll always try to compromise hereafter,” said Bunny Bob-tail and Johnny Rabbit at the same time.

And they said good-by and ran home, just as good friends as ever.

MR. FOX GOES CALLING

Mrs. Rabbit had gone calling one fine day and Bunny Bob-tail said it would be a splendid time for him and Johnny Rabbit to have a good game of hopscotch.

The two bunnies never could play hopscotch without making a great deal of noise, and Bunny's mother said she could not hear herself think when the rabbits acted that way.

They were having a grand time, and Bunny Bob-tail was winning most of the games, when they heard a pleasant voice at the gate.

"Bunny Bob-tail, do let me in, and I'll show you a brand-new way to play hopscotch," was what the stranger said.

Johnny Rabbit whispered, "It's Mr. Fox, and I'm afraid, aren't you?"

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

But Bunny was not scared, so he said, "No, indeed, and I'm simply crazy to learn a new way to play hopscotch." Down to the gate he went and unfastened it so that the visitor could enter.

"What a fine garden you have!" began Mr. Fox in his flattering way.

"We have lots of fun here," replied Bunny Bob-tail. "But please show us the brand-new way to play hopscotch."

"Well, you stand in the first square," said the fox, "and instead of hopping into the second, you turn a somersault in the air and try to come down in the second square, like this." And he showed them the way.

Both bunnies were delighted. That was an extremely difficult thing to do, and try as they would neither one could do it. Of course they thought the fox was wonderful.

"But I have stayed longer than I expected," said Mr. Fox, "and I must be on my way now. Why don't you bunnies come over to my home in the woods for

MR. FOX GOES CALLING

a time? I can show you many more good tricks.”

“We’d love to!” exclaimed the two rabbits, and so all three started down the road on the way to the fox’s home.

Before long they saw Bunny Bob-tail’s father coming toward them. Sly Mr. Fox saw him, too, and ran pell-mell across the meadow.

“Oh, you foolish little rabbits, to be led away by a fox!” said Bunny’s father. And he told them that Mr. Fox meant to play a mean trick on them, and also that bunnies made a very good dinner for a fox.

Bunny Bob-tail learned a lesson, and so did Johnny Rabbit, but they kept on trying to play hopscotch by turning a somersault in the air.

MRS. RABBIT LOSES SOMETHING

“Bunny Bob-tail,” called out Mrs. Rabbit one morning from the garden, “run into the house and find my scissors. They are in the work basket in my room.”

Bunny Bob-tail scampered in. He was gone an unusually long time.

“I can’t find them, Mother,” he said, when he finally came out, “and I have really hunted in your work basket and everywhere.”

Mrs. Rabbit could not understand it. “I had them yesterday, I am positive,” she said. “Now think hard, Bunny Bob-tail. Did you take my scissors to cut the flowers with last night just after supper?”

“Yes, Mother, but I’m sure I put them back where I found them,” Bunny replied.

“Let us look over in the garden,” said Mrs. Rabbit.

MRS. RABBIT LOSES SOMETHING

“Sometimes, you know, little bunnies are very forgetful, although they don’t mean to be.”

Then Bunny Bob-tail and his mother searched through every nook and corner of the garden.

“Oh, Mother,” cried Bunny, “here are your scissors right under the yellow rosebush. But they are very funny-looking and are all rusty-like.”

“Of course they are rusty,” said Mother Rabbit. “They were left out all night, and you remember it rained hard during most of the night. You see, my son,” continued Mrs. Rabbit, “careless people make lots of work for others. If you had put the scissors back last night, instead of leaving them outdoors, they would be as good as new to-day.”

Bunny Bob-tail said he was sorry and made up his mind to be more careful in the future. Then he ran over to play jackstones with Johnny Rabbit, who was waiting for him with two delicious lollipops which Mr. Black Rabbit had brought home from town.

BUNNY TAKES A TUMBLE

In the next town to Bunnyville there was to be a circus, and on many fences and barns large pictures were shown of wonderful things which could be seen there.

There was a woman standing up on horseback, a man going up in a balloon, and another man walking a tight rope high up in the air.

All the boys and girls stopped to look at the pictures, and of course they planned to go to the circus.

Bunny Bob-tail and Johnny Rabbit admired the clever things done by the circus men and women. Bunny thought it was very smart for a person to walk on a rope and not fall.

“Johnny Rabbit, I think I could walk across the fence in the meadow,” said Bunny.

“Oh, dear me, you’d fall and scratch your pink nose,” exclaimed his friend.

“You just watch me,” returned courageous Bunny

BUNNY TAKES A TUMBLE

Bob-tail, as the two rabbits scampered through the meadow.

Now it is hard enough to walk on the top of any fence, but the one in the meadow was very narrow. Johnny helped Bunny Bob-tail to climb up.

At first Bunny walked very slowly. It was great fun! Johnny Rabbit stood near by cheering his playmate. "Don't go too fast," he warned, when Bunny Bob-tail quickened his pace.

But Bunny Bob-tail did go too fast, and over the fence he fell on a big rock. Johnny hastened to the place where he had fallen.

"Oh, my nose!" cried Bunny Bob-tail.

"There's a long scratch on it," said Johnny Rabbit.

Then the two bunnies went home, and Mrs. Rabbit poured something out of a bottle and put it on the scratched pink nose. All the rest of the week Bunny Bob-tail wore a piece of court-plaster over the scratch, and you may be sure that he did not play circus for a long, long time.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL TELLS A LIE

Bunny Bob-tail was taking his turn at keeping the ball which he and Johnny Rabbit had found. Each one kept it a week at a time. Bunny Bob-tail had kept it three days when Johnny Rabbit came over one morning.

“Oh, Bunny Bob-tail!” cried Johnny. “I wonder if you’ll let me take the ball over in my yard to-day. You see my father and mother have gone away for the day and I’ll have to stay at home and play all alone. The next week you may keep it two extra days.”

“Can’t you come over here and play with me?” inquired Bunny Bob-tail.

“No, I wish I could,” said Johnny Rabbit. “But mother said to stay in the yard. She said I might run over and ask you for the ball but to come right back.”

“That’s too bad,” said Bunny. Then he did a very

BUNNY BOB-TAIL TELLS A LIE

naughty thing. He told a lie. "I've lost the ball," he said.

"Oh, what a shame!" exclaimed Johnny Rabbit. "But when did you lose it and how did it happen?"

"Well, you see, last night, right after supper, my father and I were out in the yard, playing with the ball. My father said to me, 'Bunny Bob-tail, you are a wonderful ball player. In fact, I think if you should try, you could easily hit the roof of that big house over there.'

"Then I threw the ball up high, with all my might, to see if I really could touch the roof. And I did! But what do you think, Johnny Rabbit? That ball didn't come back! And although I got up early and hunted all through the field, I didn't find the ball."

"I'm very sorry," said Johnny Rabbit, "but I'm sure the ball is over in the field somewhere. Now you just wait and I'll get over the fence and find it before very long."

Of course Bunny Bob-tail was telling a wrong

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

story, for the ball was in the corner of the box where he kept it.

But Johnny Rabbit climbed the fence and was going to jump down on the other side in the nice, soft grass—when he fell!

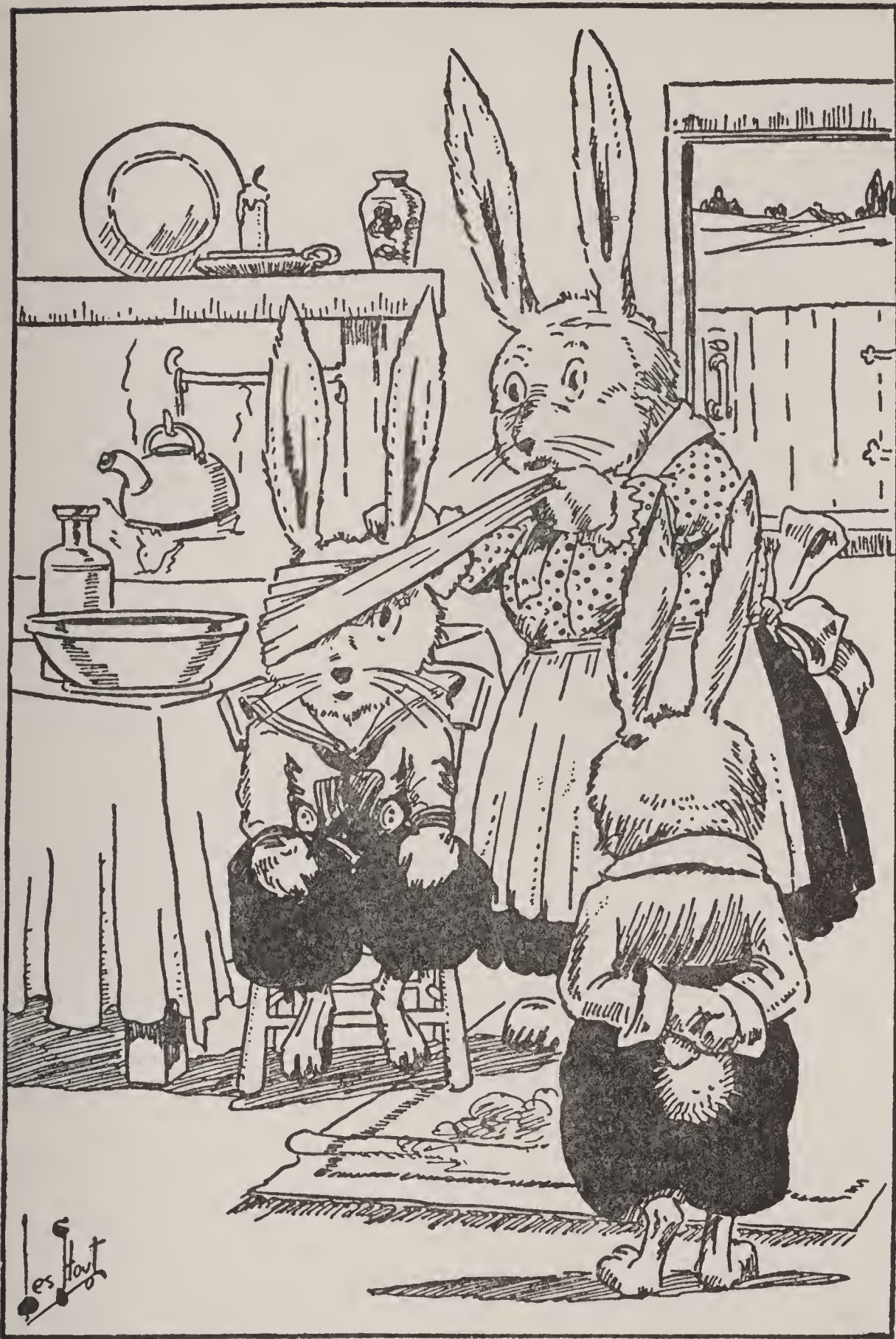
He cried very hard.

“What’s the matter, Johnny Rabbit, and what are you crying for?” asked Bunny Bob-tail, very much frightened.

“Oh, I’ve scratched my face on a big rock,” said the other.

Just then Bunny Bob-tail’s mother ran out and picked Johnny up and carried him into the house. Then she bathed his face and put a bandage over the scratch.

“Oh, Johnny Rabbit,” cried Bunny, very sorry now, “I told a wrong story. The ball is in my box now. I never threw it up and hit the roof. And if I hadn’t told you that, you never would have jumped up on the fence and fallen off and cut your face.”



THEN SHE BATHED HIS FACE AND PUT A BANDAGE OVER THE SCRATCH.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL TELLS A LIE

“I’m very much ashamed of you for telling a wrong story,” said Bunny Bob-tail’s mother. “I hope you will never tell another.”

“I never will, Mother,” promised Bunny Bob-tail. “And Johnny Rabbit, you may have the ball for the rest of the summer.”

AUNT SARAH RABBIT COMES TO BUNNYVILLE

“Come and put on your best white suit, Bunny dear,” said Mrs. Rabbit early one morning, “because we are going to the station to meet Aunt Sarah, who will spend a few days with us here in Bunnyville.”

“Oh, I am so glad,” exclaimed the little rabbit, “for my Aunt Sarah can tell stories better than any one in the world!”

“Better than Grandma?” asked his mother.

“Oh, I think so,” replied Bunny, “because Grandma’s stories aren’t very long, but Aunt Sarah tells me stories that last ever so long.”

Mother Rabbit dressed her son in his very best white suit, and soon they were on their way to the Bunnyville station.

It was not very long before the train drew in, and

AUNT SARAH COMES TO BUNNYVILLE

there with her bag and baggage was Aunt Sarah. She kissed Bunny Bob-tail and his mother, and then said, "Oh, my dear little Bunny, you can never guess what I have brought you!"

Bunny Bob-tail guessed everything from a box of candy to a parrot, but he was wrong every single time. So at last Aunt Sarah had to tell him.

She had brought him a jump-rope! Not a plain piece of jump-rope such as some of the boys and girls in Bunnyville played with, but a smooth piece of rope with splendid, shiny handles.

Bunny Bob-tail was delighted, and could hardly wait until he was home and could open the precious bundle.

Right away he ran out and called his friend Johnny over to see his new plaything. But Bunny Bob-tail was not used to jumping rope, and at the very first jump he tripped and over he went right into the middle of a puddle.

Of course his best white suit got covered with mud,

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and it was indeed a sorry sight. But after he had put
on some overalls, he went out once more, and he and
Johnny jumped rope to their hearts' content.

THE STORY OF A FOOLISH BUNNY

“Please tell me a long, long story, Auntie,” coaxed Bunny Bob-tail the very first night of his aunt’s visit.

“Now I wonder what kind of a story you’d like to hear,” his aunt replied.

“I think I should like to hear about a bunny,” said the little rabbit.

So Aunt Sarah began the story, and here it is:

“One day a rabbit said to himself, ‘I am tired of living in this lonesome spot. I do not like the company of rabbits, anyway, so I will hunt for a home where there won’t be a bunny in sight. I am far too good to associate with rabbits.’

“Then that rabbit went through the woods until he came to a queer-looking house. He walked in, as the door was open, and soon settled himself in a comfortable-looking chair.

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“ ‘Now this will make a most delightful home, and I’m sure no rabbits will disturb me here,’ he told himself.

“Then the bunny dozed off to sleep and dreamed that he was a king. When he awoke, he heard someone rapping at the door, which the bunny had locked.

“ ‘Who is there?’ demanded the rabbit.

“ ‘It is I, Mr. Fox, and I should like to know who you are to be in my house, while I am locked out,’ was the answer.

“ ‘Dear me,’ replied the rabbit, who was not yet fully awake, ‘I am a king, and this is my castle. But I shall be pleased to have you for a visitor.’

“ ‘Then unlock the door, dear King,’ the sly fox said, ‘and let us have a feast, as I have brought plenty of food with me.’

“So the rabbit opened the door, and he and the fox had a grand feast. But all the time the fox was planning to make the rabbit fall asleep so that he could make a meal of him.

THE STORY OF A FOOLISH BUNNY

“By and by he said, ‘King Rabbit, do you hear the horses galloping through the forest?’

“And the rabbit replied, ‘I hear nothing but the rustling of the leaves overhead.’

“‘Ah, then, you should shut your eyes tight, as I am doing, and then you will hear much better,’ said Mr. Fox.

“The foolish rabbit did shut his eyes, and before he knew where he was, the fox had pounced upon him and eaten him up for the rest of his supper. And that was the end of the foolish bunny.”

“He was a proud rabbit because he thought himself better than his friends,” said Bunny Bob-tail, and he thanked his aunt for telling him the story.

Then he fell asleep thinking of the fun he and Johnny Rabbit would have the next day.

BUNNY HEARS ABOUT BABY BUTTERCUP

“What shall it be to-night, Bunny Bob-tail, a story about a fox or a bear?” asked Aunt Sarah Rabbit one night just before the bunny’s bedtime.

“I’d like to hear a story about some flowers,” replied Bunny Bob-tail.

So his aunt told him a story called “Baby Buttercup.”

“Out on the very edge of a field where the grass was greenest, there grew some lovely buttercups, as yellow as yellow could be. Apart from the larger flowers grew one little buttercup which seemed paler and less beautiful than her sister flowers.

“Now the larger buttercups were very proud of themselves, and stood up straight and tall. But they weren’t very kind to the Baby Buttercup. ‘You will never grow to be beautiful, and look as we do,’ they said. ‘Nobody ever notices you, you pale little blossom.’

BUNNY HEARS ABOUT BABY BUTTERCUP

“One day some children walking through the field stopped to admire the buttercups. ‘What beautiful flowers! They are the color of gold,’ said the tallest girl.

“ ‘Here is a pale little blossom,’ said another. ‘She does not seem to grow. She is so tiny I think she must be the Baby Buttercup.’ Then the children were gone.

“ ‘What did I tell you?’ asked one of the buttercups of the tiny blossom. ‘You will never grow. You are a pale, sickly flower. “Baby Buttercup” is indeed a fine name for you!’ And the taller buttercups laughed at the poor little flower.

“A few days later the children came through the field again. This time the oldest girl carried a flower-pot filled with earth, and she had a knife in her hand.

“ ‘What will become of us?’ the buttercups asked one another. But the children did not notice the buttercups this time. They were watching to see what the tallest girl was doing.

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“She dug the Baby Buttercup up by the roots and planted her in the little flowerpot. Then the girl carried the flowerpot home and placed it on the window sill.

“Baby Buttercup grew tall and yellow, and everybody said, ‘What a handsome plant! And how yellow the blossom!’ This pleased the flower as she had never been pleased before. Every day the tallest girl watered the plant.

“The sunbeams, too, came in the morning to play with her. One day the tallest girl came into the room with a vase of flowers. She placed them on the window sill just next to Baby Buttercup.

“Then she held up the flowerpot and said, ‘Oh, my dear Baby Buttercup! You are no longer a baby blossom, but the tallest and fairest flower of all!’ And she kissed the yellow blossom and then set the flowerpot down and went out.

“The buttercups in the vase looked at each other in dismay, for they had never dreamed that this won-

BUNNY HEARS ABOUT BABY BUTTERCUP

derful plant could be pale, sickly little Baby Buttercup.

“And they said to one another, ‘To think that we must wither in a few days and then die, while that Baby Buttercup who looked as if she would never grow up is here, root and all, and will be here all summer long.’

“Then one wise old buttercup said, ‘But such is the way of the world, and of what use is it to complain?’ ”

GRANDMA RABBIT GIVES A PARTY

Very early one morning during Aunt Sarah's visit, Grandma Rabbit came over to Bunny Bob-tail's house.

"I wonder if a little bunny I know would like to visit me to-morrow and have a party?" asked Grandma.

Bunny Bob-tail jumped around in great glee. "Oh, what a nice grandma I have!" he exclaimed. "And may I ask Johnny Rabbit?" he inquired eagerly.

"Indeed you may, and eight other little bunnies, so that there will be ten in all," Grandma replied.

Then Bunny Bob-tail scampered off to invite his friends to the party. Johnny Rabbit and all the others accepted.

It seemed that to-morrow would never arrive, but when at last it did come, Bunny Bob-tail was up

GRANDMA RABBIT GIVES A PARTY

bright and early and asked his mother when the party was to begin.

“Not until two o’clock this afternoon,” his mother told him.

Then he and Johnny Rabbit played store until it was time to change their clothes. At two o’clock all the little rabbits had arrived at Grandma’s, and such a merry time as they had!

First they played ball, then farmer in the dell and other good games. Johnny Rabbit was “it” ten times for tag. When they played hide and seek, Little Gray Rabbit, one of the visitors, hid in a haystack and could not be found for a very long time.

After they had finished with the games, Aunt Sarah Rabbit called the bunnies over to the table, which was spread out on the lawn. What a variety of good things those little bunnies saw! There was everything that they could wish for.

Johnny Rabbit liked the lettuce sandwiches best, but Bunny Bob-tail’s favorites were chocolate cake

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and strawberry ice cream. How he did eat that ice
cream! I am sure he had four whole dishes of it.

The bunnies played some more games and, after
thanking Grandma Rabbit for the splendid party,
they all set out for home.

That night Bunny Bob-tail did not sleep well.
“Mother,” he called in a very weak voice, “I feel
very queer. I shouldn’t wonder if I had eaten too
much ice cream.”

Mother Rabbit was sure that was just the trouble,
and soon she brought some bitter-tasting medicine
for Bunny Bob-tail to take. He did not like it one bit.

“When rabbits eat as much as elephants, they
must expect to be sick,” was what Mother Rabbit
said to her son.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL HEARS A NEW STORY

One night Bunny Bob-tail begged his Aunt Sarah Rabbit to tell him a new story about a king, and so his aunt began: "There once lived a king who liked very much to wander through the forest all alone. He would disguise himself as a peasant and spend the whole day walking through the deep, dark woods.

"It happened one day that he was lost in the forest. Whichever way he turned, it seemed that he went farther and farther away from his palace.

"Finally, when night came on, the king said, 'I will lie on this soft moss and sleep, and to-morrow at daybreak I will try again to find the right path.'

"Just then he heard voices. They seemed to come nearer and nearer to him.

"Soon the king saw by the light of a lantern, which

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they carried, two dwarfs. They, too, decided to pass the night where the king was already resting.

“Then one of the dwarfs spoke, ‘Ah, we are not alone in the woods. May we ask who you are?’

“ ‘Certainly,’ replied the king, ‘I am but a poor peasant who is lost in the great forest. I was about to go to sleep when I heard your voices and saw your lantern.’

“The dwarfs were evidently satisfied that the stranger was an honest man, for they blew out their lantern and lay down to sleep beside him.

“Suddenly from the distance they heard the tramping of horses’ hoofs and a long, low whistle. One of the dwarfs was awake in an instant.

“ ‘Follow me as quickly as you can,’ he whispered to the king, ‘or we shall be lost.’

“The king arose quietly, knowing that danger must be near, and followed the dwarf.

“In a very few minutes the king found himself in a large, hollow tree, and both the dwarfs were with

BUNNY BOB-TAIL HEARS A NEW STORY

him. They had no sooner concealed themselves in the tree than the horses were heard tramping along the path directly in front of them.

“The men on horseback were talking. One of them said, ‘The king must be in this forest, for he was seen here this afternoon. Now is the time to seize him and put him in prison. He can’t be very far from here.’

“The king, not knowing that he had any enemies in the world, was greatly amazed at these words.

“When the men and their horses were far away from the hollow tree, one of the dwarfs said, ‘That was a narrow escape for us. That band of robbers were looking for the king to take him to prison, but I have heard that they take any one they find.’

“‘But I am the king,’ said the man who was dressed as a peasant.

“Of course the two dwarfs were astonished at this news. Then the king told them about his going into the forest and losing his way.

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“The dwarf who had told him about the robbers said, ‘To-morrow these bad men will again scour the woods for you. I know the paths of the forest well, so it would be wise for us to start back to the palace at once.’

“The second dwarf wished to go, too; so the three started at once for the palace, walking as cautiously as they could. The dwarf who knew the way walked ahead carrying the lantern. It was morning when they arrived at the palace gate. The dwarfs would have said good-by to the king there, but he insisted on their going into the palace and having breakfast.

“Then after breakfast, the king himself showed the dwarfs a wonderful suite of rooms and, turning to the little men said, ‘This is to be your home for all time, if you wish to have it so. For you were kind to both the peasant and the king and, when you could easily have fled in time of danger, you saved the life of one whom you thought to be

BUNNY BOB-TAIL HEARS A NEW STORY

a peasant. Then, again, you risked your lives to conduct me to the palace.'

"The dwarfs were overjoyed to think that such good fortune had befallen them, and from that day lived happily in the great palace.

"The king's soldiers found the band of robbers the very next day, and they were put in prison and so never again troubled the inhabitants of that country."

Aunt Sarah looked at Bunny Bob-tail a few minutes after she had finished, and what do you suppose? Bunny Bob-tail was fast asleep!

AUNT SARAH TELLS ANOTHER STORY

"I'd love to hear one of your very best stories, Aunt Sarah," said Bunny Bob-tail one very rainy afternoon. Then he curled up on the sofa beside his aunt and she told him one of her very best stories.

"It all happened long ago when there were only brown rabbits in the world," began Aunt Sarah.

"Was it before I was born?" inquired Bunny Bob-tail.

"Oh, dear, yes," his aunt answered. "It was hundreds of years ago. In a great dark forest there lived a witch and she was sometimes friendly to the animals of the forest, but at other times she was harsh and cruel to them.

"One day a brown rabbit came to the witch's house and asked for food, for he could find none in the woods.

"If you will live here and be my servant, I will

AUNT SARAH TELLS ANOTHER STORY

give you food,' said the witch, 'otherwise you must starve.'

"Now of course the rabbit didn't wish to starve, and so he promised to live in the witch's house and be her servant.

"But she was a hard mistress, and made the poor creature work all day, so that he could never go out of doors and play in the fresh air.

"One day the little brown rabbit grew tired of it all and made up his mind to run away. He waited until the witch was asleep, then he ran quietly out of the house and on his way through the forest.

"But the witch was only pretending to sleep and ran after the bunny, caught him and brought him back to the house.

" 'So you would leave me after I saved your life,' she said angrily.

"The poor creature was so scared he could say nothing. Then the witch went on, 'Hereafter I mean to tie you, so that you shall not escape.'

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“Then she tied the brown rabbit so that he could not escape. He was very unhappy.

“After many days a kind fairy came to the witch’s house. This fairy could not be seen or heard by the witch.

“She said to the rabbit, ‘I am a fairy and will be your friend. The queen of the fairies protects all the forest creatures, and has sent me to rescue you.’

“‘When I tap with my wand three times,’ she continued, ‘you must stand very still. You will see a great white cloud in the room, and it will cover you over. But do not fear, for all will be well.’

“The fairy tapped three times with her wand and the brown rabbit saw the great white cloud fill the room.

“In a few moments the air was cleared, and the witch was sound asleep. The rabbit escaped then, but some of the great white cloud had covered him, and always afterward he was a white bunny. And that is how there happened to be white rabbits.”

A STORY ABOUT A LION

"I'd like to hear a story about a lion, and a wolf and a fox," said Bunny Bob-tail to his auntie, the last night of her visit.

Aunt Sarah thought for a long time, then she told the rabbit this story:

"One day a fox sat wondering who was the king of the animals, for it happened that he had never heard any one say just who was king.

"Soon a wolf came by and the fox said, 'Mr. Wolf, who is king of the animals?'

"Now Mr. Wolf hadn't the slightest idea, so he answered, 'I'm sure I don't know: But Mr. Beaver is down at the water's edge. Let's go and ask him.'

"So off they went and asked the beaver who the king of the animals was. Mr. Beaver didn't know but he thought that Mr. Squirrel ought to be able to tell, for he had traveled all over the woods.

A STORY ABOUT A LION

“When they arrived at Mr. Squirrel’s house, they asked all together, ‘Who is king of the animals?’

“And Mr. Squirrel answered, ‘Oh, I can’t tell you that. You should ask Mr. Owl, who is so wise. He knows everything.’

“Then they went to see Mr. Owl, who was so wise, and Mr. Owl, after hearing what was wanted, said, ‘Is it possible that you creatures have lived in the forest all your lives, and don’t know who is the king of the animals? The lion is the king of the animals, and here he comes down the path now. I’d advise you not to be around when he comes, for he is apt to be hungry.’

“Of course all the creatures scampered off in different directions, and they always remembered who the king of the animals was.”

MRS. BLACK RABBIT'S SUNFLOWER

It was a warm, sunny day in summer, and Mrs. Black Rabbit had taken Johnny to the beach. Bunny Bob-tail's mother had gone to spend the day with a sick friend, and had left the bunny to take care of himself.

"I should like very much to take you with me," she had said, "but I fear you would be noisy, and you would disturb Miss White Rabbit, as she is quite ill.

"So, Bunny Bob-tail, I shall depend upon you to take very good care of yourself all day. I think I can trust you not to leave the yard, and please do nothing of which I shall be ashamed.

"Father Rabbit will be home to lunch and I have left some cup custards on the ice for you both."

Bunny Bob-tail was extremely fond of cup custards

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and wished that lunch would be in a jiffy. Then he told his mother that he would jump rope and read his new story book and play jackstones.

“After that I’ll bounce my ball against the fence,” said the bunny. So Mrs. Rabbit went away, feeling glad that she had such a good son.

Bunny Bob-tail played all the morning, and when his father came to lunch they ate the cup custards. Bunny told his father about all the things he had done.

When his father went to work in the afternoon, Bunny Bob-tail was rather lonesome. “I’m tired of all my games,” he said to himself. “I wish I could find something to do.”

Just then he looked over the fence between his house and Johnny Rabbit’s. “I wonder if I could hit that big sunflower right in the middle of its face,” he said out loud.

He threw the ball, and it hit the sunflower squarely in the face. Not only that, but the stem of

MRS. BLACK RABBIT'S SUNFLOWER

the flower broke and the sunflower drooped sadly.

That night Mrs. Black Rabbit said, "Bunny Bobtail, did you see any bad boys in my garden while I was away? My sunflower is broken, you see."

"Oh, Mrs. Black Rabbit," cried Bunny, "it wasn't a bad boy, but a bad rabbit. It was I who tried to see if I could hit the middle of your big sunflower with my ball. I'm very sorry." Then he ran into his house and upstairs, where he cried for a long time.

His mother found him asleep when she returned, and the next morning she heard from Bunny Bobtail the story of the sunflower. But he had learned a lesson, and he never threw his ball at Mrs. Black Rabbit's flowers again.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL PLAYS A TRICK

One fine day Mr. Rabbit, Bunny Bob-tail's father, and Mrs. Rabbit, Bunny's mother, went visiting in the city.

They left Bunny Bob-tail at home, warning him to stay right in his own yard, and to invite Johnny Rabbit over to play with him.

When they had gone, Bunny Bob-tail said, "Yes, I really am going to be the very best bunny in the whole town. I'll not leave my yard for one instant."

And Bunny Bob-tail did as he said. All the morning he and Johnny Rabbit played in the tent in Bunny Bob-tail's yard.

First they played circus. What a splendid time they had! Bunny Bob-tail was the clown. He danced and jumped and sang songs. Next he was a great lion shut up in a cage. He roared and made believe he was trying to escape.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL PLAYS A TRICK

Johnny Rabbit was the man who took the tickets. Of course there wasn't anybody to give tickets to him, but he made believe the people were crowding and pushing to get in and see the wonderful show.

Then Bunny Bob-tail found an old dishpan. He beat it with a stick. It sounded very much like a drum. Johnny Rabbit ran home to get his horn. Then the two made fine music.

The circus lasted until noontime. Then Bunny Bob-tail said, "Johnny, wouldn't you like to stay to lunch with me? Guess what we have? There are sandwiches and oranges and chocolate pudding."

"Oh, I'd love to!" exclaimed Johnny Rabbit. "But first I must run home and ask my mother. Wait just three minutes, and I'll come back and tell you what she says."

Bunny Bob-tail waited, and sure enough, Johnny Rabbit came back in three minutes, saying that his mother had given him permission to stay. She had also given him a very delicious-looking squash pie.

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How those two little bunnies did eat! It was so warm out of doors that Bunny Bob-tail set a table in his tent.

“Shall we play circus this afternoon?” asked Johnny Rabbit.

“No, I think we’ll have something different,” said Bunny Bob-tail. But he didn’t say what it was.

When the table was cleared and the dishes washed and wiped and put away, Bunny Bob-tail said, “Let us play school. I’ll be the teacher, and you’ll be the pupils.”

“How can I be more than one pupil?” inquired Johnny Rabbit.

“Well, I took more than one part in the circus. Can’t you do the same?” asked Bunny.

So they played school, and I’m sorry to say that Johnny Rabbit was such an unruly pupil that his teacher had to scold him often.

He wouldn’t study hard, and his writing was very poor. So Bunny Bob-tail said, “I shall have to see



THE NAUGHTY BUNNY BOB-TAIL HID HIMSELF IN A CLOTHES BASKET.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL PLAYS A TRICK

your father, Master Rabbit, and tell him that you are wasting your time in school.”

After that school was dismissed, and the rabbits played ball and tag and many other games. Then they had supper, and Johnny Rabbit said he must go home as it was growing dark.

When Bunny Bob-tail was left alone, he said, “I’m sure that I have been a very good rabbit all day. Surely my father and mother should be proud of me. In fact, I’ve been so good all day that I will be naughty now. I’ll play a trick on my father and mother.”

Then the naughty Bunny Bob-tail hid himself in a clothes basket out near the tent. He covered himself all up so that even the tips of his ears didn’t show.

By and by Mr. and Mrs. Rabbit came home. They went into the house and called, “Bunny Bob-tail! Bunny Bob-tail!” But no matter where they looked the bunny could not be found.

Then Mr. Rabbit went over to Johnny Rabbit’s

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house, but Johnny Rabbit was safe in bed and hadn't seen Bunny Bob-tail since suppertime.

After a long time, the naughty little rabbit heard his mother crying because she thought her son was lost. Then he stole softly into the house. He told his mother about the trick he had played.

Just then Mr. Rabbit came in, and after he had heard the story, he said, "Bunny Bob-tail, it is time you learned not to play tricks." And Bunny Bob-tail didn't play any more tricks for a long, long time.

THE BUNNIES PLAY SEESAW

“I think we ought to go for a nice, long walk this afternoon,” said Bunny Bob-tail as he ran into Johnny Rabbit’s yard one day. “Ask your mother if you may go with me.”

Mrs. Black Rabbit gave her permission, and the two little friends wandered off down the road. They saw many interesting things on the way. Far along the road was a farm house with a big yard. Just over the low wall Bunny Bob-tail saw something which attracted his attention.

“Oh, Johnny, look over there! I see something nice. It is a seesaw, I do believe. Let’s jump over the wall and have just one ride on it.” That was what Bunny Bob-tail said.

“But I’m afraid,” said Johnny.

“Nonsense,” returned Bunny Bob-tail. “There isn’t anything to be afraid of. Come on and I’ll show

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you how to have a ride.” Then the two bunnies jumped over the wall and were soon on the seesaw having a thrilling time.

At first they didn't go up very far, and they didn't go down very far, but soon they grew braver, and while Bunny Bob-tail was shrieking from his end of the seesaw, high up in the air, Johnny Rabbit laughed from his end of the seesaw down on the ground. Then Johnny went up and Bunny went down.

“This is the very best fun I've had for a long time,” cried Bunny Bob-tail. “I wonder if my father will make a seasaw for me. I'll ask him this very day when I go home. Let's go faster.”

So they started to go very fast, but alas for the two bunnies! Both of them were thrown to the ground, and there was not much soft grass where they fell.

For several moments neither one spoke. “Are you hurt, Johnny?” asked Bunny Bob-tail at last.

THE BUNNIES PLAY SEESAW

“I’ve bumped my head and scratched my ear,” sobbed poor little Johnny Rabbit in a very feeble voice.

“I’ll help you home, and don’t cry,” said Bunny Bob-tail. And he helped his playmate over the wall and down the road toward home.

“Seesaws are for children, and not for bunnies, I do believe,” Bunny Bob-tail remarked when he and Johnny reached home at last.

SOME QUEER LITTLE LIGHTS

“It is such a warm evening,” said Bunny Bob-tail’s mother one summer night, “that you may stay out and play with Johnny Rabbit until it is dark.”

“Oh, Mother,” begged Bunny, “may we go over and play ball in the field? It is such a fine, big place, and there is so much more room than in our yard. Please let us go.”

“I think that you have been such a good bunny all day that you may play ball in the field,” replied his mother. “Will you remember to start for home when it begins to get dark?”

“Yes, indeed, Mother,” said Bunny Bob-tail, and in a short time he and his chum were on their way to the field with a bat and ball.

They had a wonderful game. They ran and caught

SOME QUEER LITTLE LIGHTS

very high balls and jumped just like some little boys I have seen play that game.

It was very exciting for the two bunnies to be alone in the field. But they played so long they didn't realize it was growing dark.

Suddenly Johnny Rabbit cried, "Oh, Bunny Bob-tail, you never can catch this ball. Look, I'll bat one way up that will whizz right up into the clouds!"

And Johnny did bat a ball that went up—very far up—and didn't come down, at least where the bunnies could find it.

"Oh, dear me, Johnny Rabbit, my red, white and blue ball is lost. I'm sorry to lose it."

"Cheer up, Bunny Bob-tail, I'm sure we'll find it," said his friend.

Just then they saw something queer. They looked like funny little creatures with lanterns.

"Johnny Rabbit, let us run quickly. I think these are hobgoblins," said Bunny Bob-tail.

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“I wish we had gone home before dark as Mother Rabbit warned us to,” said Bunny, now terribly scared.

Then those two bunnies scampered through the field, and when they reached home, breathlessly told their mothers about the queer little creatures carrying lanterns.

Mr. Black Rabbit and Bunny Bob-tail's father were smoking on the front piazza. “Those were fireflies, not hobgoblins,” said Mr. Black Rabbit. “I'm sure they wouldn't harm you, but if you had come home early you wouldn't have been scared, because fireflies never come out until it is dark.”

That night two little bunnies fell asleep and dreamed about queer little creatures who flitted through the air like sparks of fire. But Bunny didn't find his ball for a whole week.

THE PINKY RABBITS CALL ON BUNNY BOB-TAIL

Mrs. Rabbit had not gone to town for a long time, and one morning she started off bright and early.

“Well, I suppose I must play all alone to-day,” said Bunny Bob-tail, “because Johnny Rabbit has an earache and must stay in bed.”

So he went into the yard and played for a while. By and by he heard a noise in the road. Four funny little rabbits were looking over the fence at him.

“Good morning, Bunny Bob-tail,” they said all together. “May we come in and use your swing? We are very good rabbits. Please let us come in.”

Bunny Bob-tail was very lonesome, and so he opened the gate. “We like you, Bunny Bob-tail,” said the four funny little rabbits.

“But I don’t know who you are,” said Bunny.

“We are the Pinky Rabbits,” said the oldest one

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of the four grandly. "Our mother is very careful about the friends we choose, although she doesn't object in the least to you." It made Bunny Bob-tail feel quite proud to hear that he was well thought of by the Pinkys' mother.

"Why do they call you the Pinky Rabbits?" inquired Bunny Bob-tail, wonderingly.

"Because our eyes are so very pink—pinker than those of any other rabbits," said the second oldest rabbit. "And each of us has a pink spot on his nose, which shows that Grandfather was a king in his day," he continued.

Bunny Bob-tail was much impressed. Then he played with his new friends, and found them to be excellent companions.

After a time the oldest one asked, "I wonder if I may have a drink of water?"

"Certainly," answered Bunny, wishing to be very polite to his guests, "in just a jiffy I'll run in and get a glass for you."

THE PINKY RABBITS CALL ON BOB-TAIL

“Oh, don’t trouble,” replied the oldest of the Pinky rabbits. “I’m sure I can find a glass on your shelf. Now you stay right out here and I’ll help myself to a glass of nice, cool water, because I surely am thirsty.”

Into the house the Pinky Rabbit ran. The others played at jumping rope and hopscotch. It was great fun! By and by he returned. Bunny Bob-tail was having so much fun he did not notice how long the new rabbit had been gone.

Late in the afternoon the rabbits said they had stayed long enough and must go. They told Bunny Bob-tail that they had had a delightful time.

Mother Rabbit returned in time for supper. She saw the opened ice chest and stood back in surprise.

“Bunny, was any one near the ice chest to-day?” she asked.

“No, Mother, nobody was there,” answered her son.

Mrs. Rabbit was puzzled. “But where is the

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vegetable salad I put on the ice?" she asked. "There isn't anything left but the dish."

"I had some visitors—the Pinky Rabbits," said Bunny Bob-tail after a few minutes.

"Did they go inside?" asked his mother.

"Only the oldest Pinky Rabbit. He was thirsty and went in for a drink of water," said Bunny.

"That explains everything," said Bunny's mother.

Then she told the bunny about the importance of keeping good company, and warned him to play only with good rabbits in the future.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL GOES VISITING

Bunny Bob-tail's aunt, Mrs. White Rabbit, came to see Bunny's mother one day. She thought Bunny Bob-tail a very well behaved little rabbit, so she said, "Bunny, I wonder if you would like to come home with me to-morrow morning.

"You could run around in the fields all day, and at night Mr. White Rabbit could take you home."

"Oh, I'd just love to go with you!" cried Bunny Bob-tail eagerly. "I'll ask Mother Rabbit if I may go, and if she lets me, I'll be a very good bunny."

Then he scampered off to find his mother, and to ask her if he might go home with his aunt to spend the day.

"Are you sure that you will behave well all day long?" inquired Mrs. Rabbit, for she remembered

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a few of her son's adventures when she wasn't near by to watch him.

"I'll be the best bunny in the whole town, if you'll just let me go," said Bunny Bob-tail. So the matter was settled then and there.

Early the next morning, I think before the sun was up, one little rabbit was wide-awake, thinking of the delightful time he would have at the home of the White Rabbits.

He could hardly wait for his mother to dress him, he was so anxious to start. He wore a handsome new suit of white linen with a red tie. Mrs. Rabbit looked proudly at Bunny Bob-tail.

It was time to go, after many minutes of waiting, so Bunny Bob-tail kissed his mother and father good-by and started for his aunt's house.

He was a very good bunny all the way, at least so Mrs. White Rabbit said, and she could tell a good bunny when she saw one.

After a while they arrived at Mrs. White Rabbit's



DOWN WENT BUNNY BOB-TAIL, CHAIR, JAM AND ALL.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL GOES VISITING

house. Little White Bunny was at the gate to meet them. Bunny Bob-tail was very glad to see his little cousin, and they ran off into the fields and played for a long time.

There were many things to be seen. There was an old barn and a swing. There was a playhouse. And best of all, there was a wonderful tent with a box of sand. The bunnies shoveled the sand and made believe they were at the beach.

"This is a fine place!" exclaimed Bunny Bob-tail. He was enjoying every minute of his visit.

"I wonder if it is nearly time for dinner," said little White Bunny. "I'm awfully hungry."

"So am I," said Bunny Bob-tail. "Let's go into the house and see if your mother wants us. Maybe she called us and we didn't hear her."

So into the house they went. Mrs. White Rabbit was nowhere to be seen. "I guess she has gone up the road to the store," said little White Bunny.

Bunny Bob-tail looked all around the kitchen.

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Then he went into the pantry. Little White Bunny had run outdoors again and was in the swing.

There was something very nice in a glass jar on the pantry shelf. "It looks like jam," thought Bunny Bob-tail. Then he found a nice piece of bread and before long he was spreading jam, thick, raspberry jam, on the slice of bread.

"I do love jam," he said, helping himself to another spoonful. "I'd like to live in a country where there were jam houses, and jam trees, and jam everything. Then I'd be very happy."

Bunny Bob-tail was standing on a chair while he was eating the jam and telling himself what he would like.

Suddenly the chair tipped over. Down went Bunny Bob-tail, chair, jam and all. Just then Mrs. White Rabbit arrived home from the store.

When she saw the naughty bunny she said, "I have brought some ice cream from the store. But now that you've eaten the jam, I'm afraid the ice

BUNNY BOB-TAIL GOES VISITING

cream would make you sick. But dear, dear! go right upstairs and put on one of Little White Rabbit's suits. Your own is a sight!"

Bunny Bob-tail went upstairs and changed his clothes. He was covered with jam, from head to foot. He was greatly ashamed. And his aunt had not scolded him a bit.

He ran downstairs and told Mrs. White Rabbit that he was very sorry. That night when he went home, he told his mother what had happened. "Bunny Bob-tail," said Mrs. Rabbit, "I hope this will teach you a lesson. Never take what belongs to somebody else." And Bunny Bob-tail remembered that lesson for many days.

WHAT HAPPENED TO A DISH OF CANDY

“I know what one little bunny is fond of,” said Mrs. Rabbit one rainy afternoon, when there was nothing to do but stay indoors.

“Apple pie!” cried Bunny Bob-tail.

“Guess again,” his mother said.

“Peanut taffy,” guessed Bunny.

“Right this time, and if you’ll get me my little blue and white apron from the drawer, I’ll make some of it right now,” said Mrs. Rabbit.

Bunny Bob-tail was delighted, and ran quickly to find the apron. In a short time the peanut taffy was ready and Mrs. Rabbit poured it into a dish. “It will cool more quickly if I put it on the back porch,” she told her son.

So out on the porch the dish of candy was set. Bunny Bob-tail could hardly wait until it was time to eat it. He kept watching the clock. His mother had said it would be cool in ten minutes.

WHAT HAPPENED TO A DISH OF CANDY

“Sixty seconds make a minute,” observed Bunny. “Three minutes have passed, now five, seven, nine, ten!” Then he jumped up and ran out for his candy. He could not see it anywhere.

“Oh, Mother Rabbit,” he cried, more disappointed than you can imagine, “my candy is gone, every bit of it, dish and all!”

Mrs. Rabbit looked all around. Out in the yard under a lilac bush was a strange dog, eating the candy as if it were the first food he had tasted for days.

“The dog was very hungry,” said Bunny Bob-tail, after watching the peanut taffy disappear. “I’m sorry for the poor dog, and I’ll give him a bone, even though he did take my candy.”

Then he found a nice bone for the poor hungry dog, who enjoyed the most wonderful feast he had had for a long time. Soon Mrs. Rabbit found a box of delicious peppermints for Bunny Bob-tail, and he ate as many as were good for a bunny of his age.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL AT THE POND

“Mother, may I go down in the field with Johnny Rabbit and play?” asked Bunny Bob-tail one afternoon.

“Yes, you may, if you’ll stay in the field,” replied his mother. For she knew well how hard it was for Bunny Bob-tail to stay very long in one place.

So off scampered Bunny and Johnny Rabbit, and soon they were down in the big field playing. At first they played ball, but they soon got tired of that. Then they played keeping store, and they had great fun taking turns at being the storeman. The grocer measured out the sugar and salt and spices. Of course the bunnies used plain dirt for the things they sold, and for money they used pebbles. They played this for more than an hour.

Then Johnny Rabbit said, “Oh, let’s go down to



SPLASH! DOWN INTO THE DEEP WATER HE WENT.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL AT THE POND

the pond and watch the boys swim. They have lots of fun diving off a big rock.”

“But my mother told me to stay in the field,” answered Bunny Bob-tail, remembering his mother’s warning.

“Well, if you want to stay in the field you may, but I’m going down to the pond and have some fun,” said Johnny Rabbit.

“I guess Mother won’t mind if I go just this once,” said Bunny Bob-tail, and off he ran with his playmate. That was always the way with Bunny Bob-tail. He thought that his mother would not care if he minded himself instead of her. Of course this was a very naughty thing to do.

When they arrived at the pond, sure enough, there were at least a dozen boys swimming and splashing about in the water. Some were diving off the high rock, as Johnny Rabbit had said.

Bunny Bob-tail was delighted. He had never seen boys swimming before. “Let’s go up on that rock and

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watch the boys from there," he said to Johnny. "I'm sure that we can see them much better there than from here at the edge of the pond."

Johnny Rabbit didn't need to be coaxed, and soon those two rabbits had climbed up to the very tiptop of the rock.

"You little bunnies ought to stay off this rock," said one of the boys. "You know the water is deep around here, and if you ever fell in, you might not come out again."

Bunny Bob-tail moved back a little. So did Johnny Rabbit.

Just a few minutes later a boy called out, "Watch me dive; this is going to be a good one."

Then that little Bunny Bob-tail forgot and ran to the edge of the high rock, and splash! down into the deep water he went.

One of the boys who was swimming caught the rabbit just in time when the bunny's ears appeared above the water. The boy carried him to the shore.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL AT THE POND

Poor Bunny Bob-tail was terribly scared. And besides, his clothes were just as wet as could be.

Two of the boys carried him home, and his mother was very much frightened when she heard what had happened. "Are you ever going to learn to obey your mother?" she asked, and she sent him straight to bed.

WHY BUNNY BOB-TAIL DIDN'T GET SOME TOYS

One fine day Mr. Rabbit announced to his family that he was going to the city to do some shopping.

When Mrs. Rabbit heard this she said, "Oh, do go and visit Aunt Sarah Rabbit, who lives a few miles outside the city."

So Mr. Rabbit, wishing to be obliging, promised to visit Aunt Sarah.

He started quite early, and before noontime he was in the stores shopping, and buying everything which his wife had written in the list of things to be bought.

When he had bought everything, he saw some wonderful toys which he knew Bunny Bob-tail would be delighted to have.

There was a tiny bear which could do tricks on a swing, and a dancing monkey, and a clown who could jump high up in the air if you wound him up.

WHY BUNNY BOB-TAIL DIDN'T GET TOYS

Mr. Rabbit bought these toys, and then, with more bundles than he could comfortably carry, he set out to find Miss Sarah Rabbit's house.

He followed the directions which his wife had given him and, toward the middle of the afternoon, he saw a little white house where Aunt Sarah lived.

Mr. Rabbit thought it would be best to leave all his bundles on the porch while he went inside to pay his respects to Aunt Sarah.

At four o'clock Aunt Sarah served tea and marmalade and some delicious spice cakes, of which Mr. Rabbit was very fond.

But while Miss Sarah Rabbit and Mr. Rabbit were chattering over the teacups, and having a most delightful time, what do you think was going on just outside on the porch?

Some very mischievous boys were going down the road and, seeing all the bundles on Miss Sarah Rabbit's porch, they became curious to know just what

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was inside of those bundles. You will agree with me that they were all very naughty boys, when I tell you what they did.

After opening each bundle, they emptied some of the contents into the brook by the side of the road, and filled the papers and boxes with sand or pebbles or moss. The bear on the swing, the dancing monkey and the clown who could jump so high, were all kept by the bad boys.

They tied the bundles and boxes up again so neatly that no one would ever know they had been opened.

Finally it came time for Mr. Rabbit to start for home; so, after telling Miss Rabbit that he had spent an enjoyable afternoon, and inviting her to visit his family, he was on his way home with his bundles and boxes.

Although it was after dark when Mr. Rabbit arrived at home, Bunny Bob-tail was waiting for his father.

WHY BUNNY BOB-TAIL DIDN'T GET TOYS

“See what I have brought home from the city for you!” said Mr. Rabbit giving Bunny Bob-tail three little boxes. Bunny opened the first box. There was a piece of moss inside! The second and third boxes had pebbles!

“I’m sure that I saw the man in the store put those toys in the boxes, when he handed them to me!” exclaimed Mr. Rabbit in great surprise.

“This is the funniest sugar I ever saw,” said Mrs. Rabbit, who was opening her bundles.

“It isn’t sugar at all. It’s sand!” she continued. “And instead of butter, I have some green moss. I think the next time I’ll do the shopping.”

“It must be that some bad boys saw me leave those bundles on Miss Sarah Rabbit’s porch,” said Mr. Rabbit.

“Oh, I understand it all now,” said his wife. “And I’d advise you to take your bundles inside hereafter when you go visiting.”

And Mr. Rabbit always remembered to do that,

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for he had learned a lesson. Little Bunny Bob-tail
had to wait for his new toys until Mr. Rabbit went
to the city again.

THE BUNNIES PLAY "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK"

Johnny Rabbit and Bunny Bob-tail had gone to Bunny's grandma's to spend the day, and Grandma had told them the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. The bunnies thought it the most exciting story they had ever heard.

After lunch Grandma Rabbit took a nap and she told the little rabbits to stay in the yard and not to make too much noise. The bunnies were careful to do as she had asked.

"I think it would be wonderful to play 'Jack and the Beanstalk,' " said Bunny Bob-tail.

"So it would," cried Johnny Rabbit, eagerly. "Are you going to be Jack?"

"Oh, no," replied Bunny Bob-tail, "I want to be the great big giant and live in the castle."

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“What can we have for a beanstalk?” asked Bunny. But he had hardly uttered the words when he spied a ladder leaning against a big apple tree in Grandma’s yard.

“What could be better?” he asked. Then he continued, “Now, Johnny, we’ll begin at the place where you climb the beanstalk. Get up on the ladder.”

Johnny Rabbit got up on the ladder and found a comfortable branch to sit on. He thought it the most wonderful game they had ever played. “Oh, it’s just grand way up here, Bunny Bob-tail,” he called down. “Come on up.”

“Of course I’ll come up,” answered Bunny Bob-tail, “because I’m the giant and my castle will have to be over on the other side of the apple tree.” He climbed the ladder quickly and soon had picked out a nice spot for his castle.

No sooner had Bunny Bob-tail found his place in the tree than something dreadful happened. The

PLAYING "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK"

ladder fell to the ground. The bunnies looked at each other in dismay.

"However shall we get down?" asked Johnny Rabbit, quite scared.

"I'm sure I don't know," said Bunny, who was also beginning to worry a little.

However, they went on with the game, and what fun they had when Bunny Bob-tail roared like the giant! After they had finished playing, they both decided that they were very hungry.

"Dear me," cried Bunny Bob-tail, "I do wish that Grandma Rabbit would hurry up and finish her nap. She has been sleeping for a very long time."

"How awful it would be if we had to spend the night here!" Johnny Rabbit said. "We might fall from the tree and hurt ourselves."

Just then Grandma Rabbit's voice was heard calling loudly, "Bunny Bob-tail! Johnny Rabbit! Where are you? Have you gone home?"

"Here we are," shouted the two bunnies joyfully.

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“We are up in the apple tree and the ladder has fallen down.”

“Whatever in the world made you get up there?” asked Grandma Rabbit, in amazement.

“Well, you see, we were playing ‘Jack and the Beanstalk’,” explained Bunny Bob-tail, “and the ladder was our beanstalk. I guess the wind must have blown it over, and we had to stay here until you came.”

The bunnies were soon on the ground again, and then Grandma Rabbit asked them into the house to have some creamed chicken and coffee jelly, of which they were both fond. After supper, Grandma Rabbit went home with the bunnies and invited them to call on her again soon.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL AND THE BEE

One morning when Bunny Bob-tail had gone to the store to buy some butter for his mother, he saw a beautiful rosebush in a garden. There was a fence around the garden.

“That is a lovely rosebush,” said Bunny to himself. “How pleased my mother would be to have one of those roses!” Then he saw a large pink rose which was sticking out through the fence. It seemed as if it had been placed there just for the little rabbit.

Bunny Bob-tail looked at it for several moments and then made up his mind that he would pick it. “The lady who owns the garden has so many that I am sure she would be glad to give me just one,” he said aloud.

As he was breaking off the stem, he felt a very sharp pain near one of his ears. “Dear me,” he cried,

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“that is a thorn. I didn’t know that thorns could hurt so much.”

Then he heard a funny little voice which said, “Oh, no, I am not a thorn. I am a bee, and I saw a naughty little bunny coming along the road looking at the rosebush where I live. I was sure that he meant to steal one of the roses.

“I said to myself that I ought to teach that bunny a lesson and so I stung you right near your pink ear.”

Bunny Bob-tail was very much ashamed. “I am sorry,” he said to the bee. “I thought the lady who owned the roses wouldn’t mind giving me just one, she has so many.”

“She might have given you one, but you should have asked for it, and not stolen it,” replied the little bee.

Bunny Bob-tail went on his way thinking over the lesson the bee had taught him.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL GETS A SCARE

One morning Bunny Bob-tail's mother said to him, "Bunny, I must send you over to the store for some groceries. Run over and ask Johnny Rabbit if he will go with you.

"Perhaps he will help you carry the bundles, for there are several things to buy. I need sugar, and butter, and some tea."

"You forgot to say frosted cookies, didn't you, Mother Rabbit?" asked Bunny Bob-tail.

"Well, you may get some frosted cookies, if you like," said his mother.

Then Bunny Bob-tail went over to ask Johnny Rabbit if he would ask his mother to let him go to the store.

"Yes, you may go, but be careful when you cross the road," said Johnny's mother. "I have seen not only rabbits but boys playing right in the middle of

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the road. When automobiles come along, I'm sure I don't see how those rabbits and boys escape being run over."

Then Bunny Bob-tail and Johnny Rabbit started down the road in the direction of the store.

When it was time for them to cross the street, they looked carefully both ways; then when they were all ready to go across, they heard an automobile horn down the road.

Do you think they ran to get across? Oh, no, they stayed near the side of the road until the auto had passed.

"Those were careful bunnies," they heard the man who was driving say. "I wish some children would learn a lesson from them."

Soon the two rabbits were hurrying across the broad fields. They saw many pretty flowers. By and by they came to a cornfield. They had to pass by it to go to the store. Bunny Bob-tail suddenly screamed.



THEN THESE TWO LITTLE BUNNIES RAN HOME.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL GETS A SCARE

“What’s the matter?” asked Johnny.

“Oh, Johnny Rabbit, look over in the cornfield. There is a funny-looking man over here. I am afraid to go by him.”

“I see him,” said Johnny Rabbit in a whisper.

“Let’s go home, Johnny,” said Bunny Bob-tail, now very much frightened.

“Yes, I think we’d better,” replied Johnny.

Then these two little bunnies ran home, and Bunny Bob-tail’s mother was surprised to see them both come into the yard.

“Where are my bundles?” asked Mrs. Rabbit.

“Oh, Mother, we didn’t go to the store at all. We were on our way, and when we came to the cornfield, a bad man shook his arms at us and tried to catch us,” said Bunny Bob-tail.

“That seems strange,” said his mother. “But I will go with you and I’ll see who the bad man is.”

So they went through the fields, and when they came to the place where the man was, Bunny Bob-

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tail said, "There he is, Mother; don't go near him."

Mrs. Rabbit looked and then she laughed. "Oh, Bunny Bob-tail!" she cried. "I'm ashamed of you for being so timid. That isn't a man at all, but a scarecrow. Now you run on to the store with Johnny Rabbit and don't be so silly in the future."

HOW BUNNY DID AN ERRAND

“Put on your sweater and cap, Bunny Bob-tail, and go to the store for a quart of vinegar,” said Mrs. Rabbit early one morning. “Try to hurry, for I expect company to lunch, and I must make some salad dressing.”

Bunny Bob-tail was ready in a jiffy and ran down the road toward the village store. When he was half-way there, he saw the Pinky Rabbits out playing. They had not washed their faces and they looked very untidy.

“Oh, good morning, Bunny Bob-tail,” they said all together. “Is that a molasses jug you have?”

“No, it is a vinegar jug, and I must hurry to the store for my mother,” replied Bunny.

“Vinegar?” asked the littlest of the Pinky Rabbits. “And what is that?”

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“Come and smell of the jug, while I take off the stopper,” said Bunny, trying to be agreeable.

All the Pinky Rabbits came to smell of the jug, and Bunny Bob-tail suddenly wondered what his mother would think if she saw the dirty pink noses whiffing from her jug.

The oldest Pinky Rabbit suddenly had an idea. Turning to the littlest Pinky, she said, “I’ll turn the jug over on its side and you hold on tight and you’ll have a nice ride down this hill.”

The littlest Pinky Rabbit sat on the jug, and over and over he rolled. Soon Pinky received a toss which did not hurt him at all, although he cried. The jug, however, went all the way down the hill, and at the bottom it struck a rock, and broke into many pieces.

“Oh, dear,” sobbed Bunny Bob-tail, “now I’ll have to go home and get another jug.”

When he told his mother what had happened, she said, “I have told you many times not to play with

HOW BUNNY DID AN ERRAND

the Pinky Rabbits, for no good ever comes of doing so.”

Then she gave Bunny another jug, and this time he really came home with a quart of vinegar.

THE BUNNIES PLAY INDIAN

“Let’s play Indian to-day,” said Bunny Bob-tail one afternoon when the little Gray Rabbits and Johnny Rabbit had come to play with him.

“How do you play Indian?” asked the others all at the same time.

“Well,” said Bunny Bob-tail, always glad to give information to the other rabbits, “I heard my Aunt Sarah say once that when the Indians lived here long ago, they used to capture the white men.”

“What does ‘capture’ mean?” inquired one of the little Gray Rabbits.

“It means that they caught a white man and wouldn’t let him go,” explained Bunny Bob-tail, proudly.

“I’d like to be the white man and have you capture me,” said the oldest of the three little Gray Rabbits, trying to show how brave he was.

THE BUNNIES PLAY INDIAN

“Oh, that will be splendid,” said Johnny Rabbit, excitedly, and he hopped around because he could not wait to play Indian.

Then the oldest of the three little Gray Rabbits wandered off alone and the other bunnies surrounded him with loud cries. “He is our prisoner!” yelled Bunny Bob-tail at the top of his voice. “And now we’ll take him down to the orchard and tie him to a tree.”

So they marched the rabbit down to the orchard and tied him to a tree. Then they went back to the yard and played some more games. They forgot all about the oldest of the three little Gray Rabbits.

After a long time Johnny Rabbit said, “Listen, I hear some one calling us. Who can it be? Let us go down to the orchard and find out.”

Down to the orchard scampered all those bunnies, and there was the prisoner, Gray Rabbit, still tied to the tree, and very much tired out.

“I don’t believe I care to play Indian very often,”

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he said, when the others had untied the rope. "How long were you going to keep me there?"

"We honestly forgot you," said Bunny Bob-tail. "But you know the Indians really kept their prisoners for months and months."

"I'm glad I wasn't a real prisoner, then," said little Gray Rabbit, and home he ran.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL DOES SOME PAINTING

One afternoon Mrs. Rabbit decided that she would clean out the attic, and she told Bunny Bob-tail to go out and play. Johnny Rabbit had gone away with his mother, and Bunny found it rather lonesome playing all alone. After a time he went into the cellar and looked around.

There in the corner was a pail with something white and sticky in it. "I do believe that is paint," said the rabbit. "Now if I can find a brush, I'll paint the fence, because I heard my father say the other day that he would paint it when he got time."

This seemed like a very pleasant way to spend an afternoon, and Bunny Bob-tail ran around peeking into boxes and barrels until he found a brush. Then he began to paint the fence.

"My father will be glad when he sees what a good

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piece of work I've done," said Bunny to himself, and he painted all the harder.

After he had worked for a long time, his supply of paint suddenly gave out. "Dear me!" exclaimed Bunny Bob-tail, "this is a shame! There is only half the fence finished and not a drop of paint left in the pail. What shall I do?"

He looked all around the cellar but there was no more paint to be found.

At suppertime Mr. Rabbit came into the yard. He stopped suddenly when he saw the fence.

"Isn't it good, Father?" asked Bunny Bob-tail. "If you'll get me some more paint, I'll have it all finished to-morrow. I thought I'd help you."

Mr. Rabbit saw the places in the fence that Bunny had not painted. Then he said, "I suppose if you had two pails of paint you'd have begun on the house, Bunny Bob-tail."

"Oh, I'd love to paint the house if I could reach up to the high places," replied his son.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL DOES SOME PAINTING

“I think little rabbits would do well to play ball and let painters take care of houses and fences,” said Mr. Rabbit.

Then Bunny ran into the house to show his mother what a fine piece of work he had done.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL RUNS AWAY

Very early one bright, sunshiny morning, before any one in the house was awake, Bunny Bob-tail did a very naughty thing.

He ran away. Now he did not mean, of course, to go far away and stay forever, but he said to himself, "I'm a big rabbit and why should I always ask, 'Mother, may I go to play?' or, 'Mother, may I go down in the field?'"

"I'm very well able to take care of myself, and so I'm just going to run out into the woods without asking any one."

So Bunny Bob-tail hurried out of the house, after helping himself to some breakfast, and before you could count ten he was on his way to the woods.

The little sunbeams danced in and out, and Bunny Bob-tail tried to catch them, but every one of them

BUNNY BOB-TAIL RUNS AWAY

got away from him. I'm sure they must have known what a naughty bunny he was.

By and by he found some wild strawberries. "These are delicious," he said to himself. He found a great many, and he saved some for his lunch.

"Oh, how wonderful it is to be in these beautiful woods all alone on such a fine day!" Bunny Bob-tail exclaimed.

"I think I'll come here again to-morrow, that is, if it doesn't rain." Then he walked on, listening to the birds singing and the crickets chirping.

The afternoon passed and Bunny Bob-tail lay down in the shade of a blueberry bush. He was very tired. In fact he was so tired after his long journey that he fell sound asleep.

Meanwhile Bunny's mother and father had missed him.

"Perhaps he's over in Johnny Rabbit's yard," said his father.

But no, he was not there. His mother called and

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called, but no Bunny Bob-tail answered. "I'm sure that something dreadful has happened to that bunny," said Mrs. Rabbit.

They searched for a long time. Nobody had even seen Bunny Bob-tail. Night came, and no little bunny came home for his supper. Mr. and Mrs. Rabbit were more alarmed than before.

Soon Mr. Rabbit and Johnny Rabbit's father went out with lanterns into the woods. They walked for a long time, peering under each tree and bush. At last they spied Bunny Bob-tail, lying fast asleep under a blueberry bush.

He did not even wake up when Mr. Rabbit picked him up and carried him home. Mrs. Rabbit was so glad to see her own little bunny safe and sound once more that she cried for joy. Then she tucked him in bed.

The next morning Bunny Bob-tail woke up, and thought he had had a strange dream. Then his mother brought a nice hot breakfast to him and



AT LAST THEY SPIED BUNNY BOB-TAIL, LYING FAST ASLEEP UNDER A BLUEBERRY BUSH.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL RUNS AWAY

kissed him many times. "Promise me you will never run away again, Bunny Bob-tail," she said.

"Oh, then I really did run away?" asked the bunny. "I thought it was a dream, but I like home best, anyhow."

A VISIT TO GRANDMA'S

One afternoon Bunny Bob-tail's mother asked him to go to his grandmother's house on an errand. "You may stay until six o'clock," said Mrs. Rabbit, "and then Grandma will come home with you."

Grandma Rabbit lived just over the hill, in a cozy little gray house. In back of the house was a barn, and what fun Bunny Bob-tail used to have playing there!

When he reached Grandma Rabbit's house, he was rather hungry, and there in the cupboard was a crock full of delicious molasses cookies. Bunny Bob-tail ate three.

Then he played in the barn for a long time. Up in the loft there was a pile of nice fragrant hay. "That looks like a good place to take a nap," he said to himself, and he lay down.

A VISIT TO GRANDMA'S

When little bunnies are very tired, they sleep almost as long a time as little boys. Bunny Bob-tail fell sound asleep and, of course, he could not hear his grandma when she called him.

Mr. Jack Rabbit, the hired man, locked the barn door and went home to his supper. He did not even think of looking up in the loft, because he thought the bunny was playing down in the garden.

Finally Bunny Bob-tail awoke. "Wherever am I?" he said aloud, for he had forgotten about the trip to Grandma's. Then he looked all around and remembered that this was Grandma Rabbit's barn. "Surely it must be time to go home," he said, and down the steps he hurried.

The barn door was closed and locked. "Grandma Rabbit!" he called as loudly as ever he could. "Where are you? Come and let me out, please!"

Grandma Rabbit came running down the walk, three steps at a time and unlocked the barn door. "Oh, my goodness, little Bunny Bob-tail," she cried,

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“in another minute I’d be on my way to your house! I thought you must have grown tired of waiting and had run home.”

Bunny told Grandma Rabbit about the nice soft bed in the hay, and how he had fallen sound asleep.

“It’s always wise to tell Grandma what you plan to do when you visit her,” she told him, “for what a scared little bunny you’d have been, if I hadn’t been here to get you out!”

THE STORY OF A SAND PILE

“Bunny Bob-tail,” said Johnny Rabbit one fine day, “I know where there is a dandy big pile of sand. It’s so big that it looks like a big hill. I think it would be great fun to play in it. What do you say?”

“Where is it?” asked Bunny anxiously, always glad to hear of something which might mean a new adventure.

“Well, it’s over in Mr. Smith’s yard,” replied Johnny Rabbit. “I saw the men putting it there to-day when I went over to Mr. Smith’s for some milk. I said the minute I saw it that it would be a grand place for us to play. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have gone away for a few days and we ought to go over there and have some fun.”

Over to Mr. Smith’s yard ran the two bunnies, and soon they were having a good time in the nice, clean

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sand. Of course it was a naughty thing for two little bunnies to do, because they had no right to be in the sand pile.

They made believe they were at the beach and spread out the sand so that they could build some houses.

“This is a wonderful discovery you made,” cried Bunny Bob-tail in glee.

“I haven’t had so much fun for a long time,” said Johnny Rabbit.

Then Bunny Bob-tail had an idea. “Will you let me bury you ’way down deep in the sand pile, Johnny Rabbit?” he asked.

“Yes, if you’ll be sure to dig me out again,” answered Johnny, always willing to do as his friend wished him to do.

Bunny Bob-tail dug away a great deal of sand, and then said, “Now Johnny Rabbit, make believe that you are Little Boy Blue asleep in the haystack. Of course you needn’t really fall asleep. Then after a

THE STORY OF A SAND PILE

little while I'll dig you out and you can bury me."

This sounded like a very nice game to Johnny Rabbit, and so he lay down in the sand. "Close your eyes, so the sand won't get in them," warned Bunny Bob-tail as he began to cover up his little chum.

The bunny worked for a long time covering up Johnny Rabbit. Then he ran over to the pump to get a drink of nice, cool water. When he got back, he thought it was time to dig out Johnny Rabbit, and so he started to throw the sand off.

But the more he dug the farther he seemed from getting at the place where Johnny was buried. Bunny grew very much alarmed. Soon he saw a man passing by, and he ran to ask him if he would please come and help him, as there was a little bunny buried far down in the bottom of the big pile of sand.

The man started to dig at once, and before long he found the little rabbit, half scared to death. "Oh, Bunny Bob-tail," cried Johnny, "I thought you would never find me! I was never so scared in all my life."

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Poor Bunny Bob-tail was just as much scared, and he could hardly say a single word. The man who had dug out the bunny said, "In the future I think it would be just as well for little bunnies to keep away from other people's yards, and sand piles, too." Then he walked away without saying another word.

Johnny Rabbit and Bunny Bob-tail went home slowly and quietly, and their mothers thought they must be tired out from playing so hard, because both those bunnies went to bed at six o'clock that night.

BUNNY BOB-TAIL DISOBEYS

“Go find the market basket, for I want you to buy some things for me at the store, Bunny Bob-tail,” said his mother, early one morning.

“Very well, Mother,” replied Bunny Bob-tail. He was always glad to go to market, for he usually saw many interesting things on the way.

“Shall I go across the fields?” he asked. He liked that way much better than straight down the road.

“No, I want you to hurry, because the meat must be roasted for dinner,” replied Mrs. Rabbit. “The road is the shorter way, so you may go and come back that way.”

Then Mrs. Rabbit gave Bunny Bob-tail a purse and a list of things which she wished him to buy. He carried the market basket and ran out on to the road.

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL

Just out in front of his house he saw the most beautiful butterfly he had ever seen.

It was yellow, with little black speckles. Now Bunny Bob-tail never caught butterflies, but he loved to run races with them. "I wonder if you're going to the store, too," said Bunny Bob-tail to the speckled yellow butterfly.

But little Miss Butterfly flew across the road and into the field. Bunny Bob-tail looked around to see if his mother were watching. She was not in sight.

"Now I must run a race with that yellow butterfly," said the naughty rabbit. "And anyhow, I can hurry across the field and get there just as soon. It does seem to me that my mother always asks me to do just what I don't want to do." Then he hurried across to the field.

The yellow butterfly was nowhere to be seen. "Where have you gone, pretty butterfly?" asked Bunny Bob-tail.

Soon he saw her. She was swinging to and fro on

BUNNY BOB-TAIL DISOBEYS

a daisy. Just as Bunny Bob-tail came up to the daisy, Miss Butterfly flew away. I'm sure she must have known that Bunny Bob-tail had disobeyed his mother.

The butterfly flew on and on, and Bunny Bob-tail ran after her. Once they came to a very muddy place in the field. "Dear me," cried the bunny, "I'm stuck in the mud."

Then he had to struggle to get out. When he had finally reached a dry place, he could not find his mother's purse.

"I can't buy meat and things without money," he said, and home he ran, crying.

When Mrs. Rabbit heard her son's story she said, "It all comes of your being a disobedient rabbit, Bunny Bob-tail. I told you distinctly not to go by way of the field."

"I saw a butterfly and I was only running a race with it," sobbed Bunny Bob-tail.

Then Mrs. Rabbit and Bunny Bob-tail went across

THE ADVENTURES OF BUNNY BOB-TAIL
the field hunting for the lost purse. At last Mrs. Rabbit found it in the mud where Bunny Bob-tail had got stuck.

She went to the market herself, after sending Bunny to bed. It was a dreadful thing to have to stay in bed on such a fine afternoon. About two o'clock Bunny Bob-tail heard his friend, Johnny Rabbit, come into the yard.

"Can Bunny Bob-tail come over to my birthday party at four o'clock?" asked Johnny.

"I'm afraid not," replied Mrs. Rabbit. "You see Bunny Bob-tail didn't mind very well to-day, so I've sent him to bed."

Poor Bunny Bob-tail! He had a long time to think about things.

"It is very wrong to disobey," he said to himself that night. "And to think that I couldn't go to Johnny Rabbit's party! Oh, dear!" And he made up his mind to try hard to be an obedient bunny in the future.

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