

Poems & Limericks

By Margaret Welwood

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Author, Margaret Welwood (copyright 2019)

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The **J**ourney



A snake, he went a-**w**inding
down the road **a**lone.

Sad and **l**onely, on he wound,
as cold and gray as stone.

Until he saw a **h**ummingbird—
she **h**overed **o**verhead.

"Why go **a**lone?" the bright bird chirped.

Let's go as two **i**nstead."

So down the **w**inding road they went,
one low and one up high.

The **f**riendly road **b**elow them stretched
beneath the bright blue sky.

Soon much to their **d**elight they saw
a striped and **d**ancing bee.

She buzzed **a**round the snake and bird,
"Won't you please come with me?"

The bird flew high, the bird flew low.

The bee danced **o**verhead.

The snake wound high, the snake wound low.

None **f**ollowed and none led.

Then much to their **s**urprise they saw
a sad and **s**potted cow.

"I'd like to find a friend," she said.

"I've no idea how."

"So join us," said the **d**ancing bee.

"Yes, join us," said the bird.

"Could I? Could I, please?" she asked.

"Of course!" was what she heard.

They **b**arely heard the **t**iny snail.

His voice was sad and low.

"I'll **n**ever have a friend," he moaned.

"They all say I'm too slow."

The **f**riendly cow, she bowed her head
until it reached the ground.

"Climb up," she said, "and take a ride."

He climbed, and looked **a**round.

Along the **f**riendly road, one danced.

Another wound. One flew.

One took a ride. One took a walk.

And how their **f**riendship grew!

Then Snail, as **l**ookout, saw it first—
a **l**ion in the way.

He smacked his lips and growled low.

He thought, "I see my prey!"

And then they heard the **l**ion roar.

The cow said, "I must run!"

But Bee said "Wait!" and Bird said "Stop!"

And Snake said "All for one."

"Now I'm a **missile**," trilled the bird.

"Me too," shrieked Bee. "**Ballistic!**"

Could Lion feast on **Spotted** now?

His mood turned **pessimistic**.

They dive-bombed Lion's nose and ears

enough to make him reel,

while Snake and Snail each claimed a place

at **hungry** Lion's heel.

The **hovercraft** around his nose,

the **buzzing** in his ears,

and Snake and Snail both poised to strike

confirmed the lion's fears.

He shook his head and shook his heel,

and loped **toward** the trees.

None saw his face. None heard him roar.

He **vanished** with the breeze.

That night the sky grew close and dark.

The **autumn** wind blew cold.

"We need to find a place to rest."

"Let's try the leaves of gold."

The cow lay down. The bird and bee
were **nest**led by her side.

The snake curled up. The snail curled in,
quite **tuck**ered from his ride.

Through **winter**'s white and **spring**time wind,
and **summer**'s **flower** show,
five **trav**elled down the **friend**ly road
with **happy** talk and hearts **aglow**.

What **H**appened That Night



One day all the **crea**tures got in a big fight.
It **start**ed at dawn and it **last**ed till night.

"I'm wise!" screeched the owl. "You're not,"
squealed the boar.

"If you keep up this **bo**asting, there's **go**ing to
be war."

The duck sneered, "I fly and you don't," at the bear.

He roared, "I eat birds," and that gave her a scare.

The fox bragged, "I'm **sneaky**, I'm smart, and I'm quick."

The deer hissed, "Be gone, or I'll give you a kick."

What happened that night changed their lives **evermore**—

the birds and the bear, and the fox, deer and boar.

Some **campers** **forgot** to **extinguish** their flames.
The **creatures** **forgot** all their big, **boastful** claims.

As the wind fanned the flames and they reached to the sky,

And the trees turned to ash, **creatures** knew they could die.

"You're **faster** than me," cried the fox to the deer.

She said, "Hop on my back, and I'll run far from here."

"Can you carry my baby way up in the sky?"

The boar begged the owl, who said, "I will try."

The duck told the bear, "I'll be **look**out for you."

The bear said, "I'll **frighten** the next **hunting** crew."

The baby was saved as the owl flew fast,
The duck helped the bear till the **danger** was past.

The deer took the fox. There was **nothing** to fear.

The **wisdom** in **helping** each **other** was clear.

By the time it had rained and the fire was out,
they knew they'd stay friends. There was **never** a doubt.

For what **happened** that night changed their lives
evermore—

the birds and the bear, and the fox, deer and
boar.

There Once Was a **Singer** Named Lil



There once was a **singer** named Lil
Whose voice was so u**tterly** shrill,
It cracked **w**indows and doors,
And it **sh**attered stone floors.
Now that takes **i**ncredible skill!

The **F**armer's **L**ullaby



Snuggle down, **l**ittle one, **s**nuggle down,
for the **r**abbit's in the **h**ay
with her **b**abies soft and **g**ray.
Snuggle down, **l**ittle one, **s**nuggle down.

Close your eyes, **l**ittle one, **c**lose your eyes,
for the **f**lowers are all **c**losing
and the **b**aby calves are **d**ozing.
Close your eyes, **l**ittle one, **c**lose your eyes.

Go to sleep, **little** one, go to sleep,
for the chicks have stopped their **cheep**ing
and the lambs have stopped their **leap**ing.
Go to sleep, **little** one, go to sleep.

Dream sweet dreams, **little** one, dream sweet
dreams,
for the **morning** time will come
with the bright and **shin**ing sun.
Dream sweet dreams, **little** one, dream sweet
dreams.

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