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The Magic Bear

By Jennie Short

Chapter 1 – The cave in the woods

Harrison lived with his mummy and daddy in a little village. At the back of the village, at the top of the hill, was a wood full of oak and ash trees.

One day mummy and Harrison went for a walk in the woods. Harrison was running after a butterfly when he came across a little cave.

“Mum, can we take a look inside?” asked Harrison.

“Come on then, take my hand” replied mummy.

Mummy reached inside her bag for their torch and turned it on as they entered the cold, dark cave.

Harrison gripped mum’s had as they walked deeper into the cave. The torch light skimming the wall and floor, lighting their way.

They reached the back of the cave.

In the middle of the floor was a big pile of sticks with feathers and leaves on top.

“What is it mummy?” asked Harrison.

“It looks like a bit like a nest, it could be a bed. What animal do you think lives here?” replied mum.

“Maybe it’s a dinosaur!” shouted Harrison excitedly.

Mum laughed, “Not a dinosaur, but perhaps a big bird.”

“Or a tiger?!” asked Harrison.

“I hope not. He’d be far away from home,” replied mum.

“Mmmmmm, I know mummy, it’s a bear!”

“Maybe Harrison, maybe! If it is, I don’t want to be here when it gets home. Do you?”

“Can I leave it some of my lunch mummy?”

“Go on then,” said mum.

Harrison opened his bag and took out some grapes and a cheese sandwich. He left them by the bed of sticks, then stood up and took his mummy’s hand.

“Come on mum, let’s go and finish exploring in the woods.”

Chapter 2 – The bear

The bear crouched behind a big oak tree and watched as the little boy and his mummy entered his cave.

He waited for them to come back out. He didn’t want to scare them. He hoped they hadn’t messed up his comfy bed.

After ten minutes, the little boy and his mummy walked out of the cave. The little boy ran ahead of his mummy, he seemed very happy to be running in the woods.

The bear heard the mum call after the boy, “Harrison, slow down and wait for mummy.”

The bear waited for them to disappear from view and then walked over to his cave.

He took a big sniff to check all was well in his cave and went in to have a sleep. He was very tired after his walk.

When he reached his bed, he was very surprised to see that Harrison and his mummy had left him a present.

Grapes and a cheese sandwich, “yummy” thought the bear. He would eat them after his nap.

Chapter 3 – The bear and the wisp

The bear couldn’t stop thinking about the little boy who’d left him some food. The present had made him very happy.

The bear was very shy and hadn’t made friends with any of the other animals in the woods. Many of them ran away when he tried to talk to them.

How he wished he had a friend to talk to and have fun with.

Suddenly there was a little glowing blue light in the corner of the cave. Bear walked slowly towards it.

It was a wisp, a little friendly willo the wisp.

“I heard your wish,” the wisp said. “Would you like me to help you make it come true?”

“How?” asked the bear. “No one wants to be friends with a big scary looking bear.”

“I can give you a magicial power,” replied the wisp. “I can give you magic to enter one child’s dreams, for them to see you as the fluffy friendly bear you are.”

The bear was very excited but worried, “are you sure they wouldn’t be scared of me?”

“I promise,” said the wisp. “You’ll be a friendly bear to have great adventures with.”

“Okay,” said bear, “I want a friend more than anything else in the whole world. Can it be Harrison, the little boy I saw earlier?”

“It can,” replied the wisp as he rose into the air and started to swirl around the bear, getting faster and faster, saying some magical words, “fun and fluffy, no need to cry, this bear is a friend who just wants to play as you fall to sleep and dream the night-away.”

“Bear, you must wait until night-time and once Harrison is asleep, you will be able to enter into his dreams by saying these magic words ‘poodle-pumps and stinky-trumps’. Any questions?”

“Oh thank you wisp, I look forward to trying out my new magic power tonight. I can’t wait to make friends with Harrison.”

Chapter 4 – The marshmallow adventure

That night the bear waited until 10 o’clock, he was sure Harrison would be fast asleep by then. He took a deep breath and said to himself “let’s do this.”

He stepped out of his cave and breather in the night air and looked up at the sparkling stars and then spoke the magic words given to him by the wisp, “poodle-pumps and stinky-trumps”. He waited …

A few seconds passed and then the bear found himself in Harrison’s bedroom with the boy awake sitting up in his bed.

“Hello Harrison, my name is Ziggy Bear. I came to thank you for leaving me your cheese sandwich.”

“Oh wow, it was your cave me and mummy found today. I’m glad you liked your present,” Harrison paused and pulled a confused face, “are you really here and talking to me, am I dreaming?”

Billy Bear explained about the wisp and the wish he’d been granted.

“That’s cooler than a bag of peas in the freezer,” replied Harrison excitedly.

“I really hope we can be friends and go on some great adventures together,” said Ziggy Bear. “Do you like marshmallows?” he asked.

“I love marshmallows, they’re yummy-licious,” said Harrison licking his lips.

“Would you like to make some?” asked Ziggy Bear.

“Oh yes please,” said Harrison.

Ziggy Bear and Harrison took a trip to the shops and bought all the ingredients they needed for home-made marshmallows.

Gelatin

Sugar

Vanilla

Sunflower oil

Icing sugar

Corn flour

They returned to Harrison’s house, it was time to get messy in the kitchen!

Ziggy Bear and Harrison put on their apron’s, got out bowls, wooden spoons, a jug and the weighing scales. They prepared all the ingredients and gave the mixture a good stir. They were both a little dusty from the icing sugar and flour.

Then they had to wait for the marshmallowifcation to happen. While they waited they played “I Spy” asked each other questions, like “what’s your favourite colour?”, “which super-hero would you be?”, “do you like dinosaurs?”.

When the marshmallows were ready they each took one and looked at each other, “on three” said Ziggy Bear. “One, two … three,” and they both popped the fluffy squares into their mouths.

“Yummy-tastic!” squeeled Harrison. “They are amazing.”

“They are very tasty,” said Billy Bear. “We made top-banana marshmallows!”

They made two mugs of frothy hot chocolate and added two marshmallows to each mug. Then sat down to drink them.

“Mmm delicious,” they said at the same time and licked the chocolate froth from their lips.

Chapter 5 – Goodbye and see you soon

Ziggy Bear realised that it would soon be morning and Harrison would need to wake up and get ready for school.

“I must be going home now Harrison,” said Ziggy, “you’ll be waking up soon.”

“Are you going back to your cave? Will you be lonely?” asked Harrison.

“I won’t be lonely any more Harrison, for I now have you as a friend and I can come and see you every night in your dreams and we can have lots of adventures,” replied Ziggy Bear.

“Thank you for choosing me to be your friend, it feels like we’ve been friends forever.”

“There’s a famous muppeteer called Jim Henson,” Ziggy Bear said. “He was known to say,

‘There’s not a word yet, for old friends who’ve just met.’

“I think that’s us,old friends who’ve just met,” Ziggy said smiling. “What adventure shall we have tomorrow night?”

“Oh we could search for the dinosaurs in the woods, or pretend to be pirates and follow a treasure map, or may we could build an aeroplane and fly around the world,” Harrison replied jumping up and down with excitement.

“They all sound like brilliant adventures,” said Ziggy. “It’s time for me to go Harrison.”

Harrison and Ziggy had a big bear hug, then Harrison climbed back into bed and settled down, ready to wake up from his dream land. He had a beaming smile on his face, “what an awesome new friend I have” he thought.

Ziggy Bear tucked Harrison’s duvet around him and said “goodbye and see you soon for our next adventure.”

The end.

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