

The Woodlands Princess

By Lily

“Sky, could you go into the forest and get some firewood for our stove? I’m freezing, and it’s not even the end of December yet! It’s Wednesday, so it’s your turn.” So, this is pretty much how my weird life goes. I have a very awkward name (Sky), I’m like 1m and 16cm tall, which is really short for a 10 year old, I live with my grandmother in the middle of nowhere in the woods, I don’t go to school, and lastly, we have no electricity, so every winter and fall Wednesday, I have to go out into the forest and get some wood for our stove. “Okay, but you never have to go out? It’s my 11th birthday today, so you should give me a break. ” Grandma quick and swift, perked up from her rocking chair, and nervously said, “Darling, I think it’s finally time to tell you the truth.*Big Gulp of Air* I am not your real grandmother, and you are a magical princess that has the ability to speak to animals once you are eleventh. You have a wondrous 6th sense when you go into any forest with living animals, and it allows you to never get lost.” She said it all really fast, like she was lying or something. “Well, uh, it’s getting late, and you know what happens when the wolfs come out! Gotta run! Bye!” With that, I grabbed my basket, and ran out the door, ignoring my grandmother’s holler, “Wait, I need to tell you more!”



I kept on running for like ten minutes, occasionally stopping when I saw some good, thick, fallen branches for our stove, when I heard a little bunny squeal. I turned around, and under a big oak tree saw a tiny, wriggling, adorable, snow white bunny stuck in a small hole in the snow. I immediately tried to calm it down, whispering, “Everything’s okay, little guy. I’ll save you. Just stop wriggling so I can help you be free.” Immediately, it

stopped wriggling, and suddenly, I felt like it was sending a message to my head! I felt it gushing about how it was ever so thankful that I had saved her (She was a girl), and if it wasn't too much trouble to bring her to her underground tunnel. Wait, did a rabbit just say that? No, no, no, no, no, this cannot be happening! I backed away from the white ball of fluff, my vision starting to blur. The little bunny then said, "Please, don't go away! I'll die here, if you don't bring me home! I'm really small, so anyone could have the advantages to kill me and eat me!" I saw hands reaching forwards to the bunny, and then picking her up, when I suddenly realized, those hands were my hands! *"Whatever. I might as well save a bunny then leave it to die. Plus, this one is especially cute!"* I thought. I told her to lead me to her tunnel, but Snow (She told me that was her name, while I was thinking wild bunnies can have names?), I guess, she didn't have a good sense of direction, and she kept on getting us lost.

Finally, after what seemed like hours, we arrived at Snow's tunnel. Surprisingly, I could manage to shuffle through, without getting any dirt up my nose. Achoo!☺ But once I got through the tunnel, it suddenly expanded into an amazing cave full of indescribable crystals, all shining and sparkling



like they were screaming Shine, Shine, and SHINE! It was a spectacular sight, but all good things end. After I left the whole rabbit family snuggles on their noses, their way of saying good bye and thanks, I left on my way back home. As grandma, no my "step-grandma" or something said, I really did have a sixth sense in the forest; I had some sort of "map" in my mind, so I could never get lost, if I just knew where my destination was. That was probably why Snow had to lead me to her huge cave. I was daydreaming so

much, that I didn't even realize there was a big, growling wolf with huge, blood-stained red eyes standing right in front of me!

Unfortunately for me, I understood what it was saying to me, which made me panic even more! It was saying, or otherwise growling with a sneer, "Hello, little weakling. Don't recognize me, Huh?" Then, everything happened in a flash; I was lying on the snow, being pressed down by the sharp claws of The Wolf. Then I was being covered in drool all over. Suddenly, I heard Snow speaking to me in my head, "*Don't worry, Sky. We know his biggest fear. It's actually quite funny!*" And then, I was back on my feet, with The Wolf howling, "No, no, no!! NOT CARROTS!!" I curiously looked over his shoulder, and saw Snow throwing dozens and dozens of carrots at him. If I wasn't that scared, I would have actually laughed! A terrifying wolf, scared of some harmless **carrots**?! Hilarious!

When The Wolf finally ran away, I thanked Snow, and suddenly an owl swooped down, and placed a crown made out of beautiful leaves, branches, and more onto my head. The owl announced, "Thank you. You are now announced the woodlands princess!", and then disappeared. I did nose snuggles with every rabbit and bunny, and happily skipped home. Once home, I told "step-grandma", what happened, and she replied with a happy grin, "I'm proud of you my girl! Oh, am I ever! Now, it's getting late. Why don't I tuck you into bed tonight?" Step-grandma hadn't tucked me into bed since I was five, so I was also very proud of myself; I had learned a very valuable lesson to keep for a lifetime: If you help someone, they will always return you with things you could never expect!☺ Good Night!
Zzzzzz...