

The Lion And The Mouse Retold

By Ellen Baumwoll

Once a little gray mouse crawled under the great big orange paw of a great big orange, sleeping lion to get warm from a freezing cold, white winter's night.

When the great big orange lion awoke, he roared loudly and the little gray mouse shook with fear.

"Please don't kill me, oh king of beasts," begged the little gray mouse. Your great big orange, warm paw saved me from freezing in the cold white winter night.

"I wouldn't hurt you," said the great big orange lion as he lifted his great big orange paw carefully and let the little gray mouse go free. "I'm glad I could help."

"Some day, I may be able to return your kindness, oh great big orange lion," said the little gray mouse. "How can such a small timid thing like you help me?" asked the great big orange lion, and he laughed and laughed.

But, not long after this, the great big orange lion was caught in a huge blue net by hunters in red shirts, tan pants, and long brown leather boots who had been looking for him in the thick green jungle.

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The more he moved to get free, the tighter the ropes of the huge blue net bound him. He roared and roared in anger and pain.

He called for help but his brother lions were too far away to hear. A yellow and purple butterfly saw what had happened but could do nothing to help. A little black fly saw what had happened but also could do nothing to help.

The little gray mouse did hear his cries. He quietly crept up to the huge blue net and began to gnaw the blue rope.

Soon, he set the great big orange lion free.

"Thank you, little gray mouse," said the great big orange lion. "I am sorry I laughed when you told me that some day you might be able to return my kindness." "I'm glad I could return the favor," said the little gray mouse. "You saved my life and now I have saved yours."

And, after that, the little gray mouse and the great big, orange lion became good friends sharing everything.

The End.