The New Friend in the Wood

A FatesFables Story

FatesFables

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Meet the friends of Whispering Wood



Tilly · Dash · Pip · Bruno · Kiki · Grandma Hoot



One morning, a little hedgehog named Hattie moved into a cosy log at the edge of Whispering Wood. She was new, and she didn't know anyone at all.



Over in the sunny meadow, the friends were playing a game of catch with a big red ball. Throw, catch, giggle! Throw, catch, giggle!



Hattie watched from behind a tree. She wanted to play too. But she was too shy to ask.



“Who's that over there? She's all spiky! What if she pops our ball?” said Dash.



“Hmm, let Bruno think about that. Maybe we should just keep playing,” said Bruno.



Hattie's spines drooped. She turned around to walk home, all on her own.



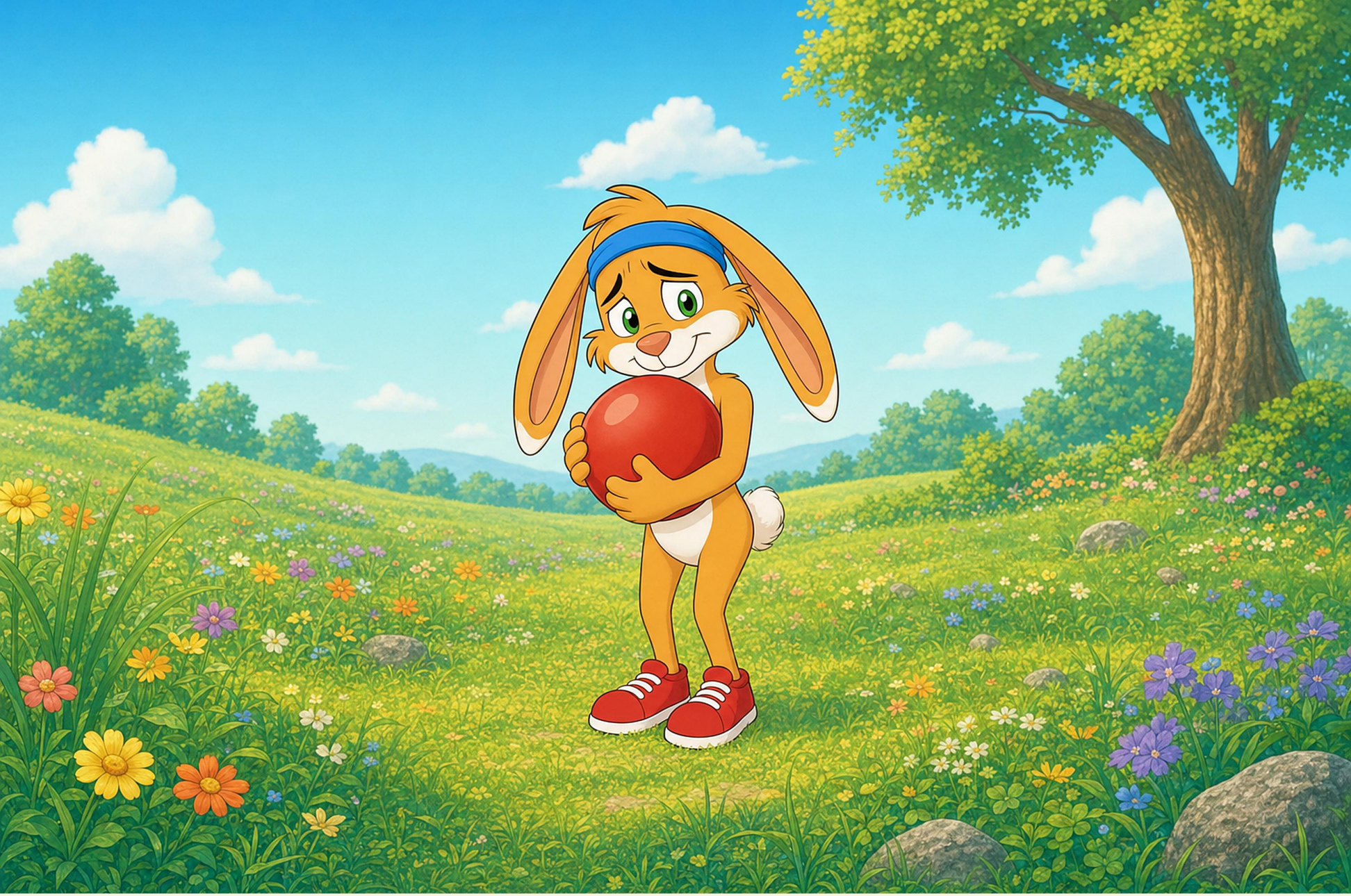
Pip saw her go. His heart went thump, thump, thump. It's a little bit scary to be the only one who says something different.



“Wait, everyone. She isn't scary. She's just new. And being new is lonely,” said Pip.



“Pip's right. Remember when I was new, and you all asked me to play?” said Tilly.



“Oh. I'm sorry. I was being silly about the spikes,” said Dash.



So Pip ran down the path as fast as his little legs could go, past the mushrooms, over the roots, and round the bend.



“Hello! I'm Pip. Would you like to come and play with us?” said Pip.



Hattie smiled the biggest smile. And she nodded, yes please!



And guess what? Hattie was the best catcher of all. The ball just bounced off her soft round back, boing, boing!



“Ooh! Hattie, you're amazing! Do it again!” said Kiki.



“Gather round, little ones. Pip did something very brave today. It isn't always easy to speak up when everyone else is quiet. But being brave and kind together, that is the best kind of brave,” said Grandma Hoot.



And from that day on, Whispering Wood had one more friend. And whenever someone new came to the wood, the friends always remembered to say hello.

The End

Be brave enough to be kind.

Let's talk about it

How do you think Hattie felt when no one asked her to play?

What brave thing did Pip do?

How can you help someone new feel welcome?

About FatesFables

FatesFables tells gentle stories with a lesson inside, starring Tilly, Dash, Pip, Bruno, Kiki and Grandma Hoot of Whispering Wood. Every book is also a cartoon you can watch together.

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