

## Story 2 : The Lion and the Mouse

One day, a Mouse accidentally bumped into a sleeping Lion in the forest. Quick as a flash the Lion grabbed the little Mouse in his paws.

‘What are you doing?’ said the Lion.

‘Nothing, I am just...’ said the little Mouse.

‘Quiet,’ said the Lion. ‘I’m going to eat you.’

‘Don’t you think that’s not a good idea,’ said the Mouse.

‘Why’s that?’ said the Lion.

‘Because...’

‘Because what?’ said the Lion.

‘Because...’ And suddenly an idea flashed into the Mouse’s tiny head.

‘Because one day I could help you.’

The Lion roared with laughter. ‘You? How could a tiny Mouse help a huge Lion like me..?’

‘Maybe I could...’ said the Mouse.

‘Yes?’ said the Lion.

The Mouse shut his eyes and waited to be eaten. But the Lion didn’t eat the Mouse. He just laughed and gently put the Mouse down on the ground.

‘That’s the funniest thing I’ve ever heard,’ said the Lion. ‘A tiny mouse can help a huge lion like me? Well, I’m not going to eat you after all, little Mouse. You’re too funny to eat. I’m going to let you go.’

‘Oh, thank you,’ said the Mouse. ‘I will help you one day, Mr Lion.’ The Mouse ran away feeling very lucky.

The very next day the Mouse was running through the forest when he heard some roaring. It was a roar of pain and fear. The Mouse crept closer to the terrible sound and saw the same Lion all tangled up in a hunter's net. The more the Lion struggled, the more tangled up he became.

The Mouse remembered how the Lion could have eaten him but let him go. The Mouse was biting and gnawing on the ropes as fast as he could. His teeth were tiny but razor sharp and soon he made a hole on the net large enough for the Lion to get out.

The Mouse looked at the Lion. The Lion looked at the Mouse.

'Little Mouse, you are a very brave little Mouse. Thank you for saving me.'

'That's alright,' said the Mouse. 'If you get into trouble again, just give me a shout, OK?'

'OK,' said the Lion.

The Mouse and the Lion looked at each other. They smiled for their real friendship.