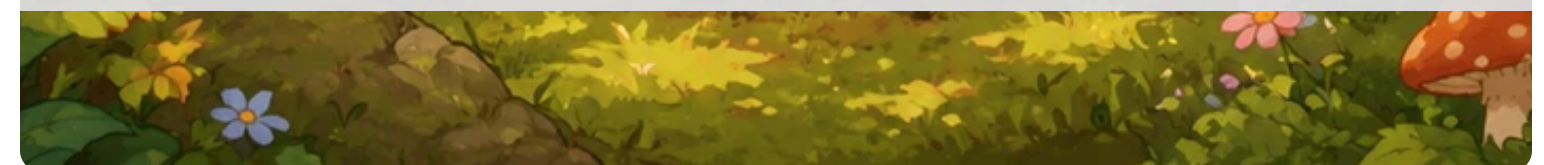




Maya and the Whispering Woods

putut hanggono





Maya lived in a quiet village tucked right beside a grand, ancient forest filled with rustling trees and secrets. She spent her days gazing into the emerald canopy, longing to explore its wonders, but she was never quite brave enough to step beneath the high branches alone.



One sunlit afternoon, while picking golden flowers near the forest edge, Maya caught the sound of a soft, trembling squeak. Curious and concerned, she followed the tiny cry through the tall grass until it led her into the cool shade of the outer woods.



Tiptoeing through the undergrowth, Maya discovered a small rabbit trapped beneath a heavy fallen branch. Working gently so as not to startle him, she lifted the wooden bough and carefully freed the frightened creature, who twitched his nose in warm gratitude.



To Maya's absolute wonder, the little rabbit stood up and spoke, introducing himself as Finn. With a twitch of his ears, Finn proudly introduced her to his closest forest friends: Lumi the gentle Deer, Pip the energetic Squirrel, and Oliver the wise Owl.



The animals eagerly led Maya into their secret forest sanctuary, showing her sights beyond her wildest dreams. Together, they visited a sparkling crystal stream, a vibrant sunlit meadow of wildflowers, and a towering oak tree that stretched all the way into the clouds.



As they walked, a soft hush fell over the group while the animals shared their growing worries. Trash had been left near their pristine stream, delicate petals were crushed underfoot, and birds were struggling to find clean, safe places to build their nests.



Touched by their distress, Maya promised to help protect the woodland world she had come to love. Together, they organized a cleanup effort, with the animals moving twigs and leaves while Maya gathered up the discarded litter.



Seeing Maya and her forest companions working with such care, several children from the village noticed the commotion and walked into the woods to help. Laughter filled the air as everyone joined hands to clean the trails and restore the woodland path.



Before long, the stream sparkled clear once more and the wildflower meadow bloomed with fresh, unmarred radiance. Standing amidst the beauty, Maya realized that true friendship is not only about having fun together, but also about taking care of the places and creatures you love.



From that special afternoon on, Maya visited the vibrant forest nearly every single day. Whenever she strolled beneath the towering branches, a joyful warmth filled her heart, knowing she would never be lonely again.