



Pippin's Goodnight Journey

Susan Rodgers



Pippin the little red panda yawns as the sun begins to set over the Whispering Woods. The sky turns a soft shade of pink and orange, signaling that it is almost time for bed.



Before he tucks himself in, Pippin decides to visit his best friend, Barnaby the Bunny. Barnaby is nibbling on a sweet clover snack under a big, leafy green fern.



Goodnight, Barnaby, Pippin whispers with a gentle wave of his paw. Barnaby wiggles his nose and gives Pippin a soft, fuzzy hug before hopping into his cozy underground burrow.



Next, Pippin climbs a sturdy oak tree to find Oliver the Owl. Oliver is just waking up, his big golden eyes shining like little lanterns in the deepening twilight.



Pippin shares a quiet moment with Oliver, watching the very first stars blink into the sky. They share a soft hoot and a goodnight wish before Pippin climbs back down to the forest floor.



Near the sparkling stream, Pippin finds Daisy the Deer drinking the cool, clear water. The forest is becoming very quiet now, filled only with the rhythmic song of the crickets.



Daisy nuzzles Pippin's cheek with her velvet nose, wishing him the sweetest of dreams. Pippin feels a warm glow in his heart as he starts his slow walk back home.



A group of friendly fireflies begins to dance around Pippin, lighting his path with tiny, magical glows. He follows the golden trail through the soft moss and tall, whispering grass.



Pippin finally reaches his cozy hollow at the base of a Great Pine tree. His mama is waiting there with a warm blanket made of soft leaves and wool, reaching out to pull him close.



Curled up in a furry ball, Pippin listens to his mama's steady heartbeat as he slowly drifts off to sleep. The whole forest is quiet and peaceful, wrapped in a blanket of silver starlight.