



# Pip the Fox and the Tricky Wolf

Mu Ryan



Pip, a small, bright-eyed fox, is happily playing hide-and-seek among the tall, green trees of Whispering Woods. Sunlight filters through the leaves, dappling the forest floor as he playfully pounces on a butterfly. He loves his peaceful home and all its little wonders.





Deep within the same woods, a giant, scowling Big Bad Wolf lurks, his eyes scanning for a tasty snack. His fur is shaggy and his teeth are sharp, casting a long, intimidating shadow. He grumbles to himself, "I'm so hungry!"



Suddenly, the Wolf spots Pip's bushy tail peeking from behind a mushroom. With a hungry growl, he leaps forward, chasing the startled little fox through the winding paths. Pip's heart thumps like a drum as he races away.





Pip darts towards an old, rickety wooden bridge that spans a wide, gurgling river. The bridge looks very unstable, with missing planks and wobbly railings. He knows it's a risky path, but the wolf is close behind.



An idea sparks in Pip's clever mind. He stops just before the bridge, pretending to trip and sprain his ankle, letting out a convincing whimper. He looks back at the approaching wolf with wide, innocent eyes, hoping his act will work.





"Oh dear, Mr. Wolf!" Pip cries, pointing with his paw to a shimmering, impossible-to-reach berry bush on the far bank. "I was just trying to get those super-sweet Sparkle Berries for my grandma, but this bridge is too weak for me now."



The greedy Wolf, seeing the imagined glistening berries and thinking of a delicious treat, snarls, "Weak? Nonsense! A big, strong wolf like me can cross any bridge!" He confidently steps onto the first creaky plank, eager for the prize.





With a loud CRACK and a SPLASH, the rotten bridge collapses under the Wolf's heavy weight! He tumbles into the cold, fast-flowing river, flailing his arms and legs, soaked and sputtering. His angry growls turn into surprised yelps.



Pip watches from the safe side of the bank, giggling as the Big Bad Wolf struggles to paddle to shore, completely defeated and looking very silly. The berries, of course, were just ordinary, dull berries, but the Wolf's greed had blinded him.





Pip trots happily back to his cozy burrow, where his family greets him with warm hugs and praise. He tells them all about his clever trick, proving that a little bit of smart thinking can always outwit a big, grumpy bully.