



## Poppy's Perfect Picnic

by Sarah Beaman



Poppy the badger awoke with a sunny smile. Today was the day! She was planning a perfect picnic in the Whispering Woods, and she could hardly contain her excitement. First, she needed to gather her favorite treats.



Poppy packed a basket with juicy red berries, crunchy carrots, and a big, round loaf of freshly baked bread. She hummed a happy tune as she added a checkered blanket and a bottle of sparkling water. Everything looked absolutely delicious and ready for an exciting day.



As Poppy skipped through the woods, she met Barnaby Bear, who looked rather sad. Barnaby had lost his favorite honey pot. Poppy, always kind, offered to share her berries, which brightened his day considerably.



Next, she encountered Finley Fox, who was struggling to reach a ripe apple high in a tree. Poppy offered Finley a carrot stick to nibble on while she boosted him up so he could get the apple. They laughed and played a while.



Poppy, Barnaby, and Finley gathered together and spread out the picnic blanket. They shared their food, telling stories, and enjoying the warm sunshine. The picnic had become even better than Poppy imagined, with all her new friends.



As the sun began to set, casting long shadows through the trees, Poppy, Barnaby, and Finley waved goodbye, promising to have another picnic soon. Poppy smiled. The best picnic was one shared with friends, and the woods felt warmer than ever before.