

Kiri and the Acorn Library

A little collection becomes a shared discovery.



Kiri loved collecting acorns. She found round ones, narrow ones and one with a wonderfully crooked cap. She put them in a basket beneath her oak tree.



One morning, Bo the badger peered inside. 'May I look?' he asked. Kiri hugged her basket. What if her favourite acorn never came back?



Bo went away. The basket was safe, but the morning felt rather quiet. Kiri rolled the crooked acorn between her paws and thought about his disappointed face.



She carried three ordinary acorns to a flat stone. 'You may borrow these,' she told Bo. 'Please bring them back before the evening birds begin singing.'



Bo studied their caps through his round magnifying glass. Then he returned all three, along with a drawing of the tiny patterns he had discovered.



Kiri had never noticed those patterns. She fetched her crooked acorn. Together, they saw that its cap looked like a little roof made of overlapping tiles.



'Could other neighbours borrow things too?' asked Bo. Kiri imagined her basket travelling everywhere. Her stomach fluttered. 'Perhaps one thing at a time,' she said.



They placed a smooth pebble beside each borrowed treasure. A leaf drawing showed who had it. Suddenly, remembering felt much easier than worrying all afternoon.



Rabbit borrowed a pine cone. Mouse borrowed a striped feather. Kiri kept her crooked acorn beside her while she explained how their little collection worked.



That afternoon, Mouse came back without the feather. 'It blew beneath a root,' she said. Kiri felt cross. Mouse looked worried. 'Will you help me find it?'



They searched together and lifted the feather out with a twig. Kiri brushed away the earth. 'Next time, let's carry it in a box,' she said.



At sunset, every treasure was home. Kiri added the crooked acorn to the borrowing stone. Her favourite collection had grown: it now included stories from her friends.

The End

A little story. A moment to share.

What did you notice?

Which moment would you like to talk about?



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