

Pipkin’s Shadow Garden

An original MimoMango story



Pipkin planted his feet beside a sunflower and stretched his arms wide. His shadow stretched too, reaching halfway across the garden. 'I have grown enormous!' he announced.



Aunt May smiled from the doorway. 'Have you?' Pipkin checked the fence. His ears still reached the same knot in the wood. Only his shadow was enormous.



He made shadow antlers with his fingers. He made a shadow mountain with his elbows. Then he decided his shadow needed a little garden of its own.



Aunt May brought pavement chalk. Pipkin drew flowers around his shadow's feet and a winding path beside its tail. He added one magnificent, lopsided chalk sunflower.



After breakfast, he came back to admire it. But the shadow had moved. It stood outside the flowers as though it had gone for a morning walk.



'Stay here,' Pipkin told it, moving into place. The shadow moved with him. He stepped left. It stepped left. It was a remarkably stubborn little shadow.



Aunt May set a small flowerpot on the path. Pipkin drew a chalk line around its shadow. 'Let us see what this one does,' she suggested.

They watered the beans and picked ripe peas together. When they returned, the pot had not moved, but its shadow had slipped beyond the chalk line.



'The light comes from a different direction as the day passes,' Aunt May explained. Pipkin looked at the changing shade beneath the sunflower, then back at the pot.



By midday, Pipkin's shadow was much shorter. He drew tiny flowers around its feet. His enormous shadow garden now had a very small neighbour beside it.



Later, his shadow stretched long again, pointing the other way. Pipkin added a third garden. The path filled with flowers for morning, noon, and late afternoon.

That evening, Pipkin had not grown taller. But his garden had grown wonderfully. Tomorrow, he would draw a path and see which shadows came to visit.

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Which part made you smile?

How did our friend feel at the end?

What do you think might happen next?

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All story scenes feature individually created illustrations.