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READ ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

Happy Hare

Laura Rountree Smith

*"Oh, Happy Hare, take care, take care!
The Fox will play tricks everywhere,
And if you trust him, some fine day,
He'll play a trick on you, I say.*

The Happy Hare loved to dress up in other people's clothes. One day, he put on a little red jacket with long, trailing sleeves, and a little red cap, and went 'trip, trip, tripping' along through the woods.

He met the Funny Fox, who said,

*'I am out for frolic and for fun,
I'll give you a costume like a nun.'*

The Happy Hare put on a dress over his costume and journeyed on with the Funny Fox, who said,

*'I will teach you a little song.
The tune is easy, the words not long.'*

The Happy Hare was very anxious to learn to sing, so he said the words over and over while the Funny Fox hummed the tune and beat time with a hickory stick.

They sang the words to the tune of 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star,' and they were these:

*'To all animals be kind,
Gently try to make them mind,
We will love you if you think,
To give us some food and drink.'*

The Happy Hare said, 'The Funny Fox is in the best kind of humor today.'

Suddenly, without any warning, a strange thing happened. The Funny Fox sprang at the Happy Hare and tore his dress and took a slice off one ear, if you please, before he could escape!

Bye and bye, when the Happy Hare had recovered from his fright, he said, 'That



was a cute little song. I am glad to learn it, anyway.' He felt somehow that he had better hurry home, for a wise old owl said to him, 'Do not crow until you are out of the woods.'"

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