

**BEATRIX  
POTTER**

THE TALE OF  
BENJAMIN  
BUNNY

Беатрис Поттер

**The Tale of Benjamin Bunny**

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# Beatrix Potter

## The Tale of Benjamin Bunny



**FOR THE CHILDREN OF SAWREY**

**FROM**

**OLD MR. BUNNY**



One morning a little rabbit sat on a bank.  
He pricked his ears and listened to the trit-trot, trit-trot of a pony.  
A gig was coming along the road; it was driven by Mr. McGregor, and beside him sat Mrs. McGregor in her best bonnet.



As soon as they had passed, little Benjamin Bunny slid down into the road, and set off—with a hop, skip, and a jump—to call upon his relations, who lived in the wood at the back of Mr. McGregor's garden.



That wood was full of rabbit holes; and in the neatest, sandiest hole of all lived Benjamin's aunt and his cousins—Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail, and Peter.

Old Mrs. Rabbit was a widow; she earned her living by knitting rabbit-wool mittens and muffatees (I once bought a pair at a bazaar). She also sold herbs, and rosemary tea, and rabbit-tobacco (which is what we call lavender).



Little Benjamin did not very much want to see his Aunt.  
He came round the back of the fir-tree, and nearly tumbled upon the top of his Cousin Peter.



Peter was sitting by himself. He looked poorly, and was dressed in a red cotton pocket-handkerchief.



"Peter," said little Benjamin, in a whisper, "who has got your clothes?"

Peter replied, "The scarecrow in Mr. McGregor's garden," and described how he had been chased about the garden, and had dropped his shoes and coat.

Little Benjamin sat down beside his cousin and assured him that Mr. McGregor had gone out in a gig, and Mrs. McGregor also; and certainly for the day, because she was wearing her best bonnet.

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