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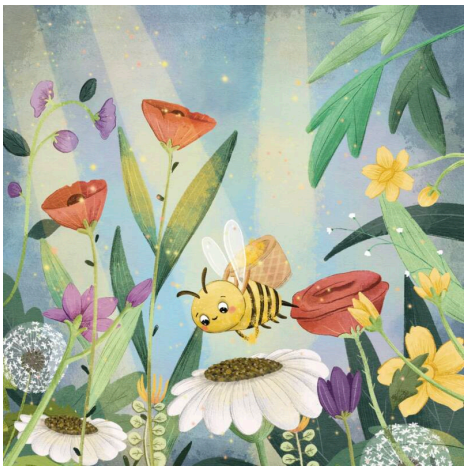
The Bee And The Child

William Holmes McGuffey



Once upon a time, in a beautiful garden filled with colorful flowers, there lived a curious little girl named Lucy. One sunny day, she noticed a pretty bee buzzing around, flying from flower to flower. The bee seemed to be working very hard, collecting nectar all day long without stopping to rest.

Lucy wondered why the bee was so busy, so she decided to ask, "Pretty bee, can you tell me why you fly from flower to flower all day, collecting nectar and never stopping to play?"



The bee, delighted by the little girl's curiosity, decided to share its wisdom with her. "Little child, I'll tell you why I visit each flower nearby. Let my story be a guide, as you grow and learn beside. You see, summer flowers won't last long, winter comes, and they'll be gone. The sunniest days will fade away, and even the brightest sun must set one day."

Lucy listened carefully to the bee's words and nodded thoughtfully. "So, you're saying I should enjoy the beauty around me while it lasts?"

"Yes, little one," the bee replied. "And there's more to learn, indeed. Let your youth be filled with seeds - of knowledge, love, and good deeds. When winter's age approaches near, you'll find your harvest rich and clear."

The little girl pondered the bee's message, understanding that her childhood was like the summer's flowers, and she should use this time to learn and grow. When she grew older, like the winter's arrival, she would carry the lessons and memories of her youth with her.

And so, Lucy continued to dance through the garden, cherishing every moment and every flower. As the days went by, she learned from the world around her and planted seeds of kindness, knowledge, and love. As she grew older, her heart blossomed with the wisdom the bee had shared, and she carried a bountiful harvest of joy and warmth that lasted her entire life.



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