STARBOUND SNUGGLE STORIES

Nova and the Snail's Umbrella



STARBOUND READING

READING TAKES YOU PLACES.

BOOK 02



Tip, tap, tip. Rain was falling in the garden. Nova stood beneath a tall flower. Beside her, Tilly the fairy shook a drop from one wing. “My wings are getting wet,” said Tilly. “My nose too,” said Nova. Tip, tap, tip.

Along the path came Suki Snail. Above her shell was a wide green leaf. “Room under here!” she called. Tilly hurried under the leaf. Nova crouched beside her. It was a very good umbrella. Except that one of Nova’s ears stuck out. Tip! A drop landed on it.



“We need a little more room,” said Nova. Suki looked at the leaf. Then she looked at Nova. “I usually travel alone.” Nova spotted a fallen twig beside the flower. “Could this help?” Together, they lifted the middle of the leaf onto the twig. Now it made a little roof. Nova tucked both ears underneath. “Perfect.” Then someone sneezed. It was a beetle standing outside.



“Room for one more?” asked Beetle. Tilly moved closer to Suki. Nova lifted the edge of the leaf. “In you come.” Beetle shook his feet, one at a time. Everyone waited. Beetles have rather a lot of feet.

Above them, the rain made music. Tip, tap, tip. Tilly tapped one finger on her knee. Nova listened with both dry ears. Suki smiled. “My umbrella has become a house.”



They watched the raindrops slide from the leaf. At last, the tapping slowed. Tip. Tap. Then nothing. A gold patch of evening light touched the path.

Everyone came out. Tilly's wings were dry. Nova's nose was dry. Beetle's many feet were dry too. "Thank you," they said to Suki. Nova helped her lower the leaf. Now it was a snail-sized umbrella again.

Suki slid slowly home. Behind her, Nova waved. A small leaf had made a cosy place for four friends. And there had even been room for all their feet.

The end

One more sound before sleep?

Tap your knee softly for “tip, tap, tip”. Offer one turn to join in.