

**BEATRIX  
POTTER**

THE TALE OF  
PETER RABBIT

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*The Tale of Peter Rabbit:*

# Beatrix Potter

## The Tale of Peter Rabbit

Once upon a time there were four little Rabbits, and their names were—

Flopsy,

Mopsy,

Cotton-tail,

and Peter.



They lived with their Mother in a sand-bank, underneath the root of a very big fir-tree.



'Now my dears,' said old Mrs. Rabbit one morning, 'you may go into the fields or down the lane, but don't go into Mr.

McGregor's garden: your Father had an accident there; he was put in a pie by Mrs. McGregor.'



'Now run along, and don't get into mischief. I am going out.'



Then old Mrs. Rabbit took a basket and her umbrella, and went through the wood to the baker's. She bought a loaf of brown bread and five currant buns.

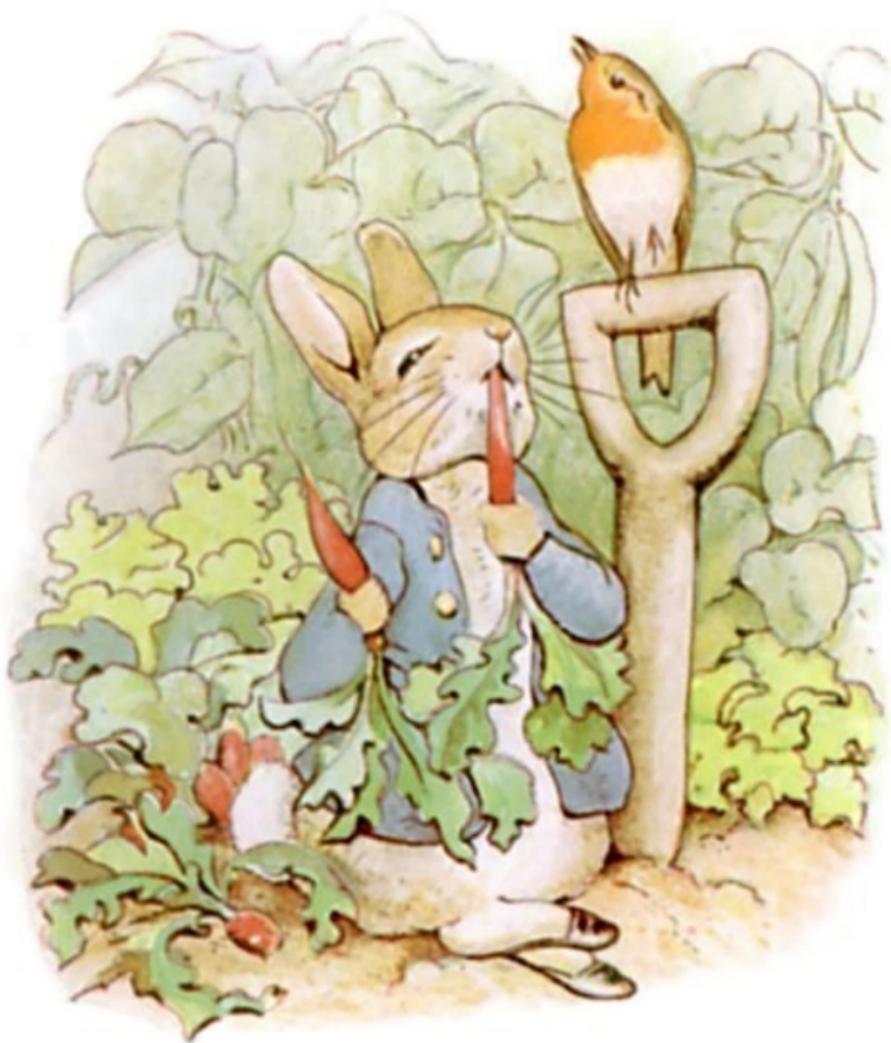


Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail, who were good little bunnies,

went down the lane to gather blackberries:



But Peter, who was very naughty, ran straight away to Mr. McGregor's garden, and squeezed under the gate!



First he ate some lettuces and some French beans; and then

he ate some radishes;



And then, feeling rather sick, he went to look for some parsley.



But round the end of a cucumber frame, whom should he meet but Mr. McGregor!



Mr. McGregor was on his hands and knees planting out young cabbages, but he jumped up and ran after Peter, waving a rake and calling out, 'Stop thief!'



Peter was most dreadfully frightened; he rushed all over the garden, for he had forgotten the way back to the gate.

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