

BEATRIX POTTER

THE TALE OF
JEMIMA
PUDDLE-DUCK

Беатрис Поттер

The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck

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Beatrix Potter

The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck

A FARMYARD TALE

FOR

RALPH AND BETSY



What a funny sight it is to see a brood of ducklings with a hen!

–Listen to the story of Jemima Puddle-duck, who was annoyed because the farmer's wife would not let her hatch her own eggs.



Her sister-in-law, Mrs. Rebecca Puddle-duck, was perfectly willing to leave the hatching to some one else—"I have not the patience to sit on a nest for twenty-eight days; and no more have you, Jemima. You would let them go cold; you know you would!"

"I wish to hatch my own eggs; I will hatch them all by myself," quacked Jemima Puddle-duck.



She tried to hide her eggs; but they were always found and carried off.

Jemima Puddle-duck became quite desperate. She determined to make a nest right away from the farm.



She set off on a fine spring afternoon along the cart-road that leads over the hill.
She was wearing a shawl and a poke bonnet.



When she reached the top of the hill, she saw a wood in the distance.
She thought that it looked a safe quiet spot.



Jemima Puddle-duck was not much in the habit of flying. She ran downhill a few yards flapping her shawl, and then she jumped off into the air.



She flew beautifully when she had got a good start.

She skimmed along over the tree-tops until she saw an open place in the middle of the wood, where the trees and brushwood had been cleared.



Jemima alighted rather heavily, and began to waddle about in search of a convenient dry nesting-place. She rather fancied a tree-stump amongst some tall fox-gloves.

But—seated upon the stump, she was startled to find an elegantly dressed gentleman reading a newspaper.

He had black prick ears and sandy coloured whiskers.

"Quack?" said Jemima Puddle-duck, with her head and her bonnet on one side—"Quack?"

Конец ознакомительного фрагмента.

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