

The Bear and the Echo



Mara the bear climbed the hill to pick blackberries. “What a lovely day!” she called. From the rocks came a soft reply: “Lovely day!”

Mara looked around. She could not see anyone. “Where are you?” she asked. “Are you?” answered the hill. Mara followed the voice past a pine tree and a patch of heather.

At the top, she called once more and heard her own words return. It was an echo! Mara laughed so loudly that the hill laughed with her.

On her way down, she heard a little goat bleating somewhere below. The path split in two, and Mara could not see him. She called his name. His answer bounced off the rocks, showing her which way to go.

Mara found the goat beside a stream. Together they carried the berries home, and the hill wished them a cheerful goodbye.



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