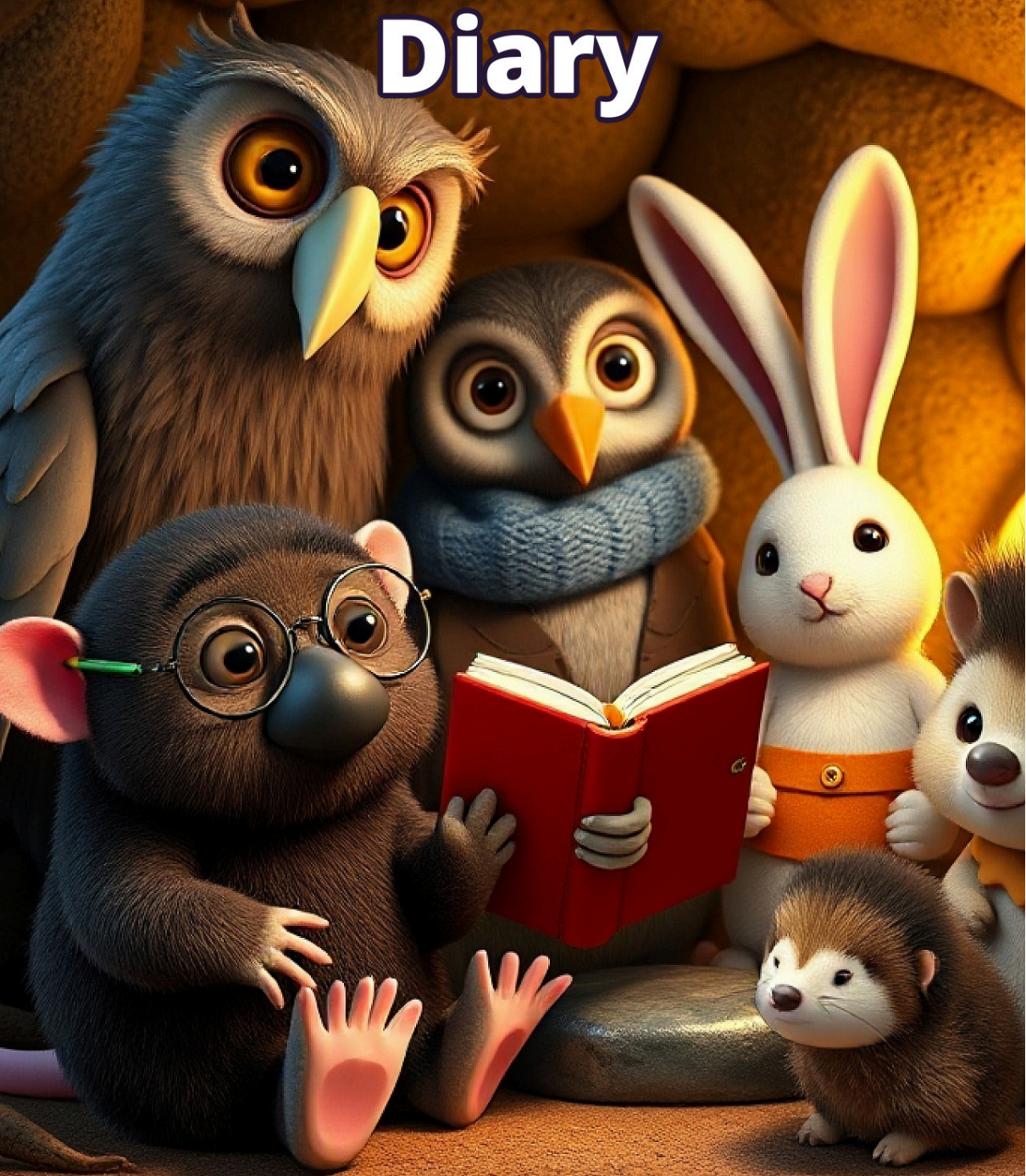


The Little Mole's Diary



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Deep under the ground, where the earth is cool and dark, lived a little mole. He was small and round, about the size of a kitten, with velvety dark brown fur and a soft black nose. His tiny round black eyes could see well in the dim light. He wore small round wire glasses and always carried a small red diary. In it, he wrote about his days.



Every morning, the little mole put on his glasses and took out his tiny green pencil. He wrote in his diary about digging tunnels. His large pink shovel-shaped paws were perfect for pushing through the soil. 'Today I dug a new tunnel that curves like a slide,' he wrote. 'It goes down, down, down, then up, up, up. I wonder where it will lead.'



The little mole loved to explore. He found roots that looked like tangled ropes and stones that sparkled in the dark. He wrote about a root that tasted like sweet carrots. He wrote about a stone that glowed when he touched it. His small pink tail wiggled with joy as he wrote. 'The underground is full of surprises,' he wrote. 'I am lucky to live here.'



One day, while digging, the little mole heard a tiny squeak. He followed the sound and found a lost beetle. 'Don't worry,' said the mole. 'I will help you find your way.' He used his strong paws to dig a path to the beetle's home. The beetle thanked him, and the mole wrote about it in his diary. 'Helping a friend feels good,' he wrote.



Another day, the mole met a worm named Wiggly. Wiggly was sad because he couldn't find his favorite muddy puddle. The mole knew just where it was. He led Wiggly through a tunnel to a cozy spot. Wiggly was so happy! The mole wrote, 'Wiggly said I am a good friend. That made my heart warm.'



The little mole also met a family of ants. They were moving to a new home and needed help carrying their food. The mole used his big paws to carry seeds and crumbs. The ants cheered. 'You are strong!' they said. The mole wrote in his diary, 'Being strong is good, but being kind is better.'



One afternoon, the mole found a shiny pebble. He thought it was a treasure. He wrote, 'I found a treasure today. It is small and smooth and blue like the sky. I will keep it in my tunnel.' He hid the pebble in a special spot and felt rich.



The little mole often wrote about the dark. 'The dark is not scary,' he wrote. 'It is soft and quiet, like a blanket.' He wrote about the sounds he heard: the drip of water, the scurry of tiny feet, the rustle of roots growing. 'The underground has its own music,' he wrote.



One day, the mole dug a tunnel that went up, up, up. Suddenly, his pink paws pushed through the soil and into the open air. He blinked. He had never been above the ground before. It was bright and big. He saw trees and flowers and a blue sky. He was a little scared, so he quickly went back down.



But the mole had dropped his diary when he peeked out. It lay on the grass, its red cover shining in the sun. Just then, Owl flew by. Owl had soft grey-brown feathers, large amber eyes, and a blue knitted scarf. She spotted the diary and picked it up. 'What's this?' she hooted. She opened it and began to read.



Owl read about the mole's tunnels, the roots, the friends, and the treasure. She was delighted. 'These are wonderful stories!' she said. She put the diary in her brown satchel and flew to find her friends. She found Rabbit, who wore a small orange vest, and Hedgehog, who wore a tiny yellow bow tie. 'Listen to this!' Owl said.



Owl read the diary aloud. Rabbit's long ears stood up straight. 'A tunnel that curves like a slide? I want to slide down it!' she exclaimed. Hedgehog smiled shyly. 'The mole helped a beetle,' he said. 'That is kind.' They all agreed the stories were special. 'We must find the mole and tell him,' said Owl.



The next day, Owl, Rabbit, and Hedgehog called down the mole's tunnel. 'Little Mole, come out! We love your stories!' The mole was surprised. He slowly climbed out. His glasses were crooked. Rabbit bounced with excitement. 'Your diary is amazing!' she said. 'Will you read us more?' The mole's heart swelled with happiness.



The mole read his stories to his new friends. He read about the worm and the ants and the shiny pebble. Rabbit laughed. Hedgehog listened quietly. Owl nodded wisely. 'Your underground life is full of adventure,' said Owl. 'You should keep writing.' The mole realized his experiences were special and valuable. 'I will!' he promised.



From that day on, the mole wrote even more. He wrote about his new friends above the ground. He wrote about the sun and the flowers. He wrote about the joy of sharing stories. His diary grew thicker. And every evening, he read a new story to his friends, who gathered around to listen.



The little mole learned that everyone's experiences are valuable, even if they happen in the dark. He kept writing with a happy heart, and his red diary was always by his side. And if you listen closely, you might hear him reading to his friends, deep down in the cozy underground.