Berry Beary Kind



Winter Time and Christmas



In a very kind town called,
"Berry Beary Town"
Lived a very kind Bear called,
"Berry Beary Kind"

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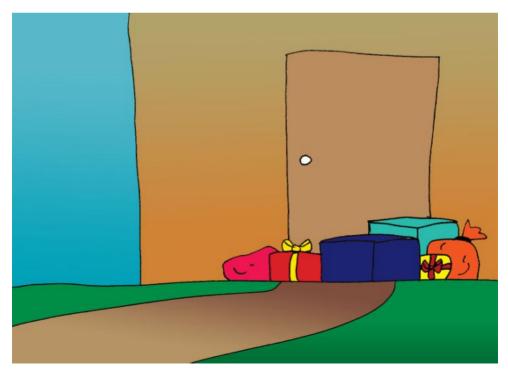
The Christmas 'Capade

Diary

Day 1: Put boxes of clothes, food and toys secretly outside of people's houses, those who can't afford to do much for Christmas, to make things special for them.

Day 2: Went skiing with Berry Beary Fit. Sprained my ankle. Can't go out for awhile. Sniff. I think I'll catch up on letter writing. That way I can be visiting those in faraway places, that I can't go and see. I'll write notes to encourage them.

Day 3: Feeling a bit better, but still need to not walk much. I invited some neighbours for tea and to read the Christmas story. We talked about ideas of ways to spread joy and cheer at this time of the year.



Day 4: I could walk with the help of crutches. I went to the shopping mall entrance to play carols with some friends. We used an accordion, guitar and flute. Many people smiled at us, some even sang with us.

Day 5: Passed out smiley faces with ideas of things to be thankful for, reminding me to smile, and think on the good side of things, which makes even more things to be happy about happen.

Day 6: Went to sleep early, foot was hurting. Had extra time to pray for others who were in worse situations.

Day 7: Woke with a new idea. I printed out invitation cards. A friend Berry Beary Helpful came by to help me give them out. I invited anyone who was going to be alone on Christmas Eve and also on Christmas Day, to come to my house. We could talk and have snacks or sing together.

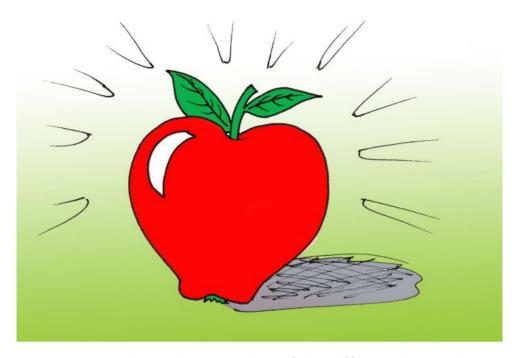




Day 8: Started learning to play a new song. Perhaps when I know it, I can then teach it to the children who visit me sometimes. If we all learn it and other songs, we can go carolling.

Day 9: I opened my door and to my surprise a very big box was at my door step. What could it be? It was lots of snow suits, of all sizes. I wonder why. Then I found a note in the box: "These are for when your visitors come on Christmas. After they have time to snack and talk, I can take them for a fun day to play in the snowy park. Merry Christmas, BB Fit."

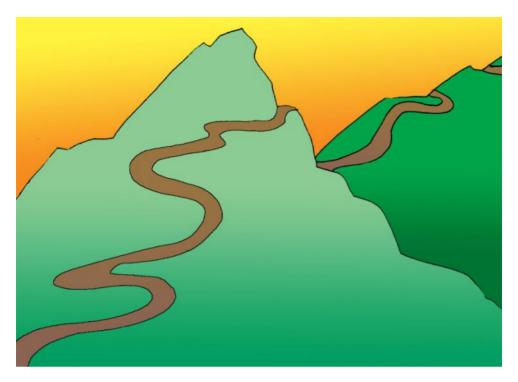
Day 10: Foot feels better. It's a miracle. I can walk, and even dance a bit. I better be careful and take it slowly. I went for a short walk, and smiled at as many people as I can. Christmas joy is here!



Berry Bear Kind was keeping a log of the different things that were happening to him over the Christmas season. He was having a good time, even though things weren't only as he thought they would be. But he was having fun anyway, and cheering up all those that he could.

One day he heard a knock on the door. It was the Christmas Kindness Clowns, coming to surprise him with a song and an apple. Ah, they looked so full of joy it would have been hard not to smile. They brought special Christmas cheer wherever they went.

Berry Bear Kind gave each of them a hug and a bag filled with treats. He wiped a tear of joy from his eyes. Usually he was the one that helped to cheer up others, but now someone was helping to do something for him. It was such a great day. He'd remember it for a long time!



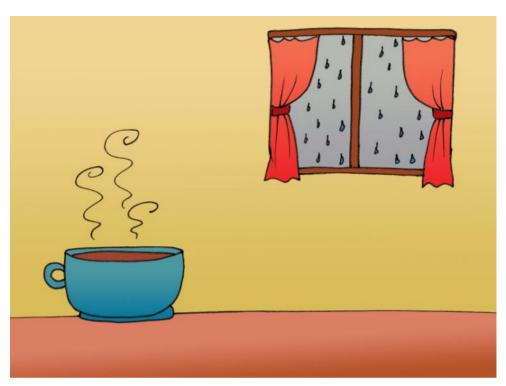
Berry Mountain

It was a fresh and invigorating spring morning. The Wonderbears were off on a new love-filled adventure.

"We get to help the people of 'Berry Mountain' today. We're so excited!" they were saying to those who asked them where they were going.

It was quite a sight! They had their wagons all loaded up and hooked up to their van. There were three wagons all attached, almost like a train. And they were driving slowly and carefully up the windy mountain trail.

At the entrance to the mountain village, stood Berry Beary Kind, in the now pouring rain. He was holding some newspaper to help shield him from the rain. He was helping to wave them in and park their long loaded vehicle.



"It's so great you could all come!" he said, showing them into a building where they could be out of the rain for a bit and make their plans of how to distribute their gifts and supplies to the people there.

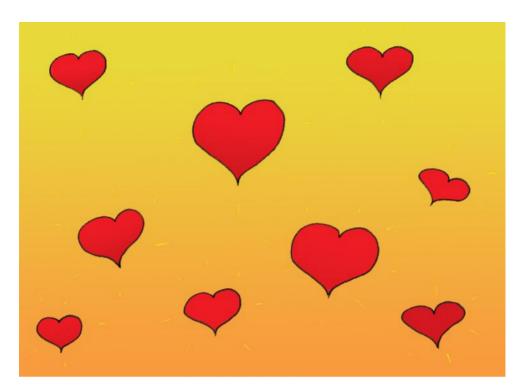
After a warm cup of soup, made by Berry Beary Kind's sister, Berry Bella, they began discussing how to go about it in the best way.

After prayer and presenting ideas, it was decided that they would have each family come in to the building, one family at a time, and give them all the things they needed.

This way, each family could choose what they needed, and would be able to get some encouragement more personally, rather than just a group of people all trying to get what they needed, in a confusing way.

- Wonder Beary Helpful would bring in supplies from the wagons, into the building, along with Berry Beary Kind to help him.
- Wonder Beary Giving would pass out the supplies to the family members.
- Wonder Beary Healthy would see if they needed any medical attention.
- Wonder Beary Funny would do some clown acts to cheer them up.
- Wonder Beary Loving would give hugs and words of encouragement.
- Berry Bella would give a warm cup of soup to each one.





Everyone had their part to do, and it all was a success, and the village, Berry Mountain, was a happier place. As the Wonderbears drove down the mountain again, they heard the laughter of children playing together happily.

The love they'd shown had rubbed off, and made others happy and kind. Everyone that was around waved to the Wonderbears as they left. There was an atmosphere of giving and kindness now. That is what was most needed.

"We'll come back again another time," the Wonderbears called out to those around. Everyone smiled and looked forward to their next visit. And until then, they'd use the supplies for not only their families, but also those in need, helping to spread the love and kindness that the Wonderbears had shown to them.

The Workman's Fun-Place Building Team

Berry Beary Kind's cousin Berry Beary Workman was visiting him. He lived in a village not too far away. He was here for three weeks to help construct the new building that was for "rainy day fun".

It was a place for parents and children, uncles and aunts, Grandmas and Granddads to meet when it was too cold or rainy to play outside.

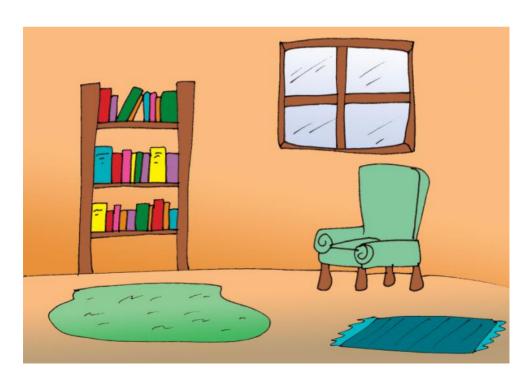
It would have large windows, to let in as much light and sights of nature as possible. There would be speakers to play fun music, or soft music, according to the mood and nature of the activities going on that day.

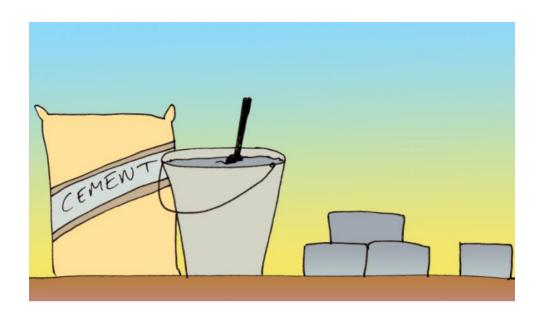


There was a snack corner, an indoor basketball court, a tennis court, a trampoline, an indoor swimming pool. There was even a room with beds for those who wanted to rest.

Tables would be set up for playing board games or doing arts and crafts type of activities. A library and reading corner was to be set up with books and rugs and soft cozy chairs and good lighting. A room for climbing tricks and gymnastics would be there too.

But before all that could be added, the structure and building had to be in place. And that is what Berry Beary Workman was here for. They had a team of 12 working to get the job done. Each one knew well how to build, and each one had their special talents too.



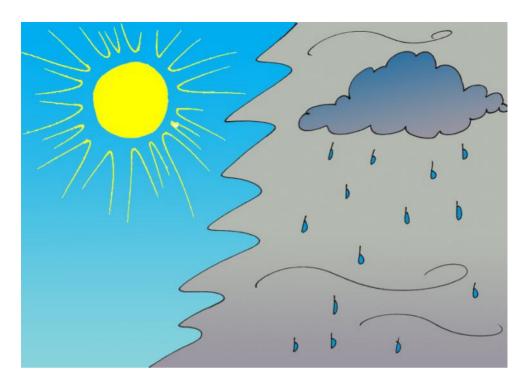


They would each help to oversee the part of the building job that they were best at. Cement mixing and laying, frame building, walls, roofing, glass and windows, electrical wiring, painting, and more.

Then there was the set up inside of the furniture, light fixtures, supplies and so forth. It was a big job, but they were all looking forward to the final product—a place of fun to take their families to.

At last the job was done! It seemed like nearly the whole town came to the opening day celebration. Berry Beary Workman gave the opening speech:

"We are glad to present to you the 'Rainy day Fun' building! We hope it provides just that. And remember—fresh air and sunshine are best.



"Never settle for an indoor activity, if the weather is good. That really is the best. But should it be too rainy or cold, then you can still have fun and get good exercise. And here is a great place to do it. We hope you all enjoy it. Play it safe!"

Berry Beary Workman ended his speech, and everyone clapped and cheered, and began the celebrations.

There were snacks served, games played indoors and outdoors, and even a dance party held that night. The townspeople knew that it was going to be a place of fun. But they remembered Berry Beary Workman's wise words to them:

"Outdoor play is best!" and "Play it safe!"

Those words would help them stay happy and healthy!

Snow Snow Everywhere!

He was snowed in. This hadn't happened in quite awhile. The snow was so thick around Berry Beary Kind's house, that he could hardly open the front door. Just shovelling the driveway would take a very long time, and be pretty cold.

He sat by his warm fire place, looking at the glowing flames while sipping his tea. "I wonder what I can do today? I'm sure there are others like me, who are stuck inside."

Berry Beary Kind turned on the TV to see the news and how things were going around in the area. "Oh, my!" he exclaimed. "A large tree has fallen across the main road and is stopping traffic. Well, I certainly hope not too many people are out driving around on those dangerous slippery roads. But I guess there are some people that have to—like doctors and nurses who need to go and help people."



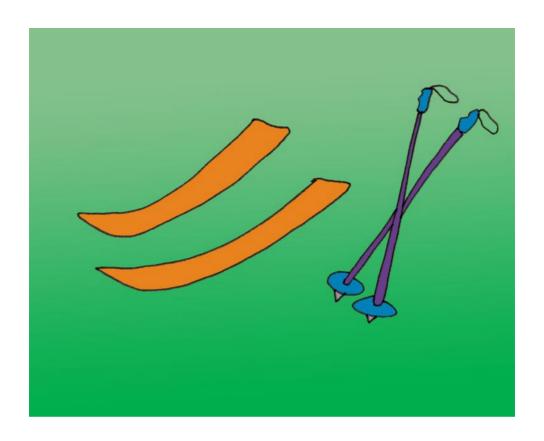


Then an idea came to him. His skis! The road wasn't too far from his house, if he took the trail through the large park. He could pack up some warm drinks and snacks in a big back pack, and ski to the area. Those waiting in their cars for the workmen to clear the way would probably appreciate it. He'd go there to check things out, and offer help to whoever needed it.

"Good thing I got all my gear ready yesterday. It's here all set to use!" Berry Beary Kind thought. He had been planning on a skiing trip with Berry Beary Fit in a day or two.

After packing his bag with all he thought would be a help on such a day, he began to get all suited up.

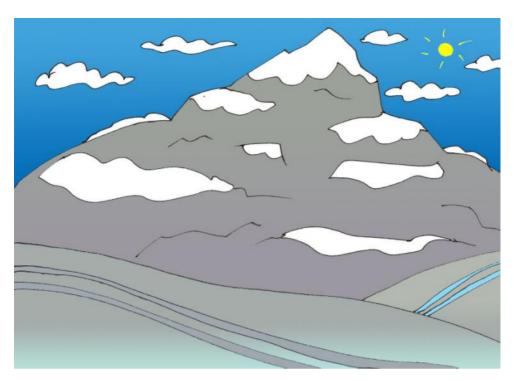
Someone looking at him would hardly be able to tell who it was. He had on a hat, ski mask, scarf, snowsuit, gloves, and a big smile, of course. With the pack on his back he headed out the door. On went his skis, and with the poles in his hands off he went.



"Whee! This is fun!" said Berry Beary Kind. Zoom! He passed houses, and started down the pathway that would meet up with the road.

When he saw the line of cars waiting to pass, he was glad that he faced the cold to be a help. Maybe he couldn't move the large tree for them, but he'd found out that no matter what the situation, that kindness always found a way to help, if not in a big way, then in whatever small way was possible.

The grateful folks waiting to go were sipping the warm drinks and nibbling on snacks. This gave them something to do, and warmed them up a bit too.



They felt warm in body, and in heart. Someone coming to encourage them when they were stuck and didn't know what to do, cheered their day. And someday they'd pass on that bit of kindness to someone else. Maybe today, maybe tomorrow. And who knows? Maybe one day it would be Berry Beary Kind that was in need, and they would be there to help.

When Berry Beary Kind got back to his house he felt great. The exercise was fun, and warmed him too. And the smiles on folks faces made him know it was worth the effort. He hung up his suit to dry out, so it would be ready when he went to the mountain soon.

"Well, that was a good way to practice before my trip anyway!" Berry Beary Kind laughed, and sat down again by his fireplace to read an interesting book.

Papa's Pudding and Pie Party

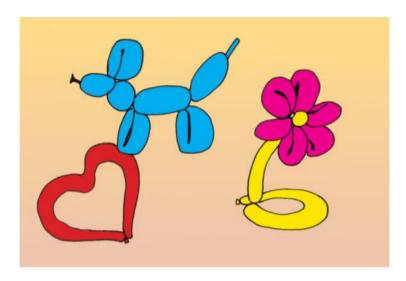
"Rinnnnggg" the phone rang. "Hello? Oh, Dad! Great to hear from you. What's going on? A pie party?"

Berry Beary Kind's father was hosting a pie party at his house in the mountains. It was going to be for children who needed some extra cheering up. Different ones were selected for different reasons. Some were recovering from an accident, others lived far away and didn't have many friends, or others who couldn't walk, or had some disability.

"I was wondering if you knew of any good pie bakers who would like to contribute to the party and bring a few pies? There are going to be balloons, games, and even a mini-circus type of show put on by the Wonderbears. The kids will love this!"

"Hmm. Let me think a while. It sounds great. I'll let you know how many I come up with." Berry Beary Kind finished talking.





"Pies... Oh, I know...!" And he started making a list of who he could ask. There were 10 different excellent cooks who he asked.

And the party was all set, ready for the children to arrive.

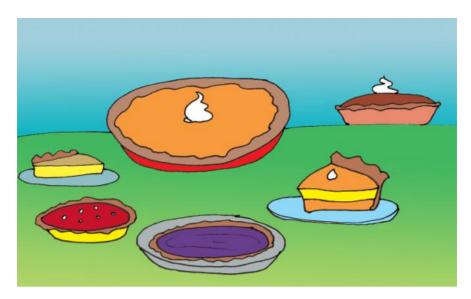
"I wonder if there is something else I can do?" he thought. And just then an idea came to him. But he'd keep it a secret. Quickly he slipped away out to his car.

"Ah, there we go, just the thing!" he said with satisfaction. He found his balloon and pump set that he kept handy, and liked to use to practice balloon sculpturing. He made "Entry Prizes" to give to the children.

He then stood at the door and gave away the "Entry prizes" to each of the children as they arrived.

A great time was had by all. And it ended in a pie feast!

"Well, even though I can't eat pie," thought Berry Beary Kind, "I still enjoyed today. Helping to make others happy was as good as the best snack I wish I could eat!



"Tasting something is nice for a minute. But the feeling and memory of peoples smiles and the joy I helped to give them will last me for much longer."

"Would you like some pie?" He heard someone offering to him, and was about to decline, since it was made with all the kind of stuff he had to avoid eating.

"Pie n apple! Ha, ha!" He was his friend Berry Beary Fit who came just then to help clean things up." It was fun to laugh, and they enjoyed a nice sweet slice of pineapple, and a handful of pine nuts for each.

"I can't eat the pie either," said his friend. "But I really don't mind. There is so much else I can do that these children can't. We each have things that we can do that look like so much fun to others who perhaps aren't able to do them. If we are each happy with what we can do, and look less on what others get, we'll have a great time no matter what."

"Yes, I agree," said Berry Beary Kind, as they helped to clean up and say good bye to the children.

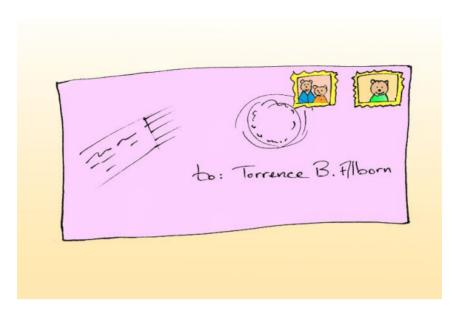
Berry Fast Postie

As Berry Fast Postie got out of bed it was still dark outside. It was the time to get up and start work. There were many letters to sort and then to be delivered. He put on a warm sweater, as well as his bright coloured jacket with reflectors on it. That was to help other motorists and people notice him as he zoomed around on his motorbike delivering mail.

Since it was nearly Christmas time, there were extra letters to deliver, as it was a time of the year when many people sent greetings and cards to family, loved ones, and friends.

"Hmm, this one doesn't have a full address written on it," pondered Berry Fast Postie. "It makes it hard to sort the mail when addresses aren't written just right. But let me see, maybe I'll be able to figure it out by the name on it."





He thought, trying to remember anyone in the town by the name of Torrence B. Alborn. "Oh, yes! I remember now. I usually deliver mail with that name to house number 14, on Rosebloom Avenue."

With the mail then all sorted Berry Fast Postie said a prayer for protection and accuracy. In his job it was very important to pay attention to the smallest of details. He wouldn't want to mix letters up and have folks not get what they were waiting for.

When he arrived at the house number 14 on Rosebloom Avenue, he was happy to find that a man was just walking out the door.

"Mr. Alborn?" Berry Fast Postie questioned, wanting to see if he had remembered correctly.

"Ah, no, that's my uncle. He lives here and I was just visiting. Is there a letter for him?" the young man asked.

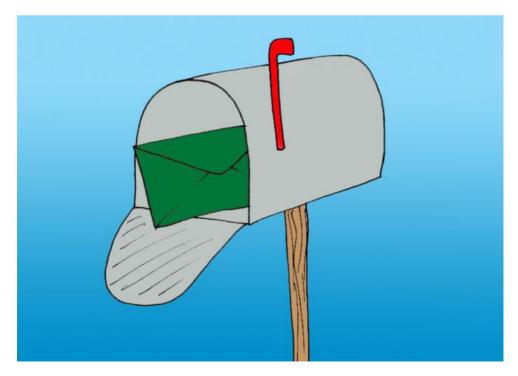
"Yes, there is," Berry Fast Postie replied and put it into the mailbox. He waved good-bye and was off in a flash.

"Thanks!" the young man called out.

"Now, my next stop is to house number... uh oh, what's going on," Berry Fast Postie said, as it seemed his motorbike slowed to a halt.

"I'm certain that I put enough fuel in the tank, and everything seemed to be working alright so far. I wonder why it just stopped driving."

Berry Fast Postie sat there wondering what to do, and then said a prayer. He had lots of letters still to deliver, and he'd need to get around fairly quickly. What should he do?



Before too long Berry Beary Kind drove past in his pick-up truck, and spotted a puzzled-looking Berry Fast Postie.

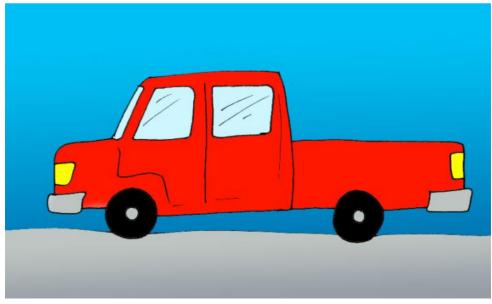
"What's up?" Berry Beary Kind asked.

"I don't really know, actually. My motorbike just stopped working. I have so many letters to deliver..." Berry Fast Postie's voice trailed off, as he didn't know what else to say.

"Hop in!" said Berry Beary Kind.

"I've got the time—well, I'll make the time! You can just tell me where you need to go, and I'll get you there as quickly and as safely as I can!" Berry Beary Kind offered.

Almost guessing what Berry Fast Postie was going to say next, Berry Beary Kind added, "We can ask Berry Beary Enough Stuff if he would mind keeping your motorbike in his back yard until you can get someone to take a look at it. He lives just next door here."



Berry Beary Enough Stuff was still home, as it was earlier than he usually left to open his corner store, and without too much trouble, the motorbike was rolled and parked in his back yard.

"Thanks a heap!" Berry Fast Postie said.

"No, problem! It's only a little thing to show you our thanks for all you do. Receiving letters—especially cards at this time of year, can bring smiles to a lot of folks!" Berry Beary Enough Stuff commented.

Berry Beary Kind and Berry Fast Postie were off for the morning to deliver the mail. They had a good chat and Berry Beary Kind shared a cup of tea from his extra big thermos that he had in the pickup truck that day.



"Do you always bring so much tea?" Berry Fast Postie asked Berry Beary Kind.

"Actually, I don't. But today, as is my custom, I paused to pray before leaving the house on my routine drive through town to check on things. When I did, I felt the urge to bring extra, because there would be a special job that I needed to help with. Then when I saw you, I just knew that it was what I was supposed to do," Berry Beary Kind explained.

"Well, I very much appreciate the time and the lift," said Berry Fast Postie. "And the tea too!" he added. "I was getting rather cold today driving around out in the open on the motorbike."

"Quick! Stop!" Berry Fast Postie said, just as Berry Beary Kind noticed the same and came to a halt. There seemed to be something in the road. Berry Fast Postie got out to check it out.

It was a bag or pouch of some kind.



"Hmm, I wonder who it belongs to..." thought Berry Fast Postie as he brought it into the pickup truck to figure things out.

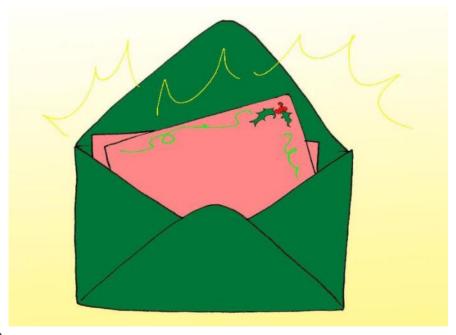
Thankfully there was a name and address written on a card. "Miss Belinda Jones, 25 Acorn Street."

"Oh!" said Berry Fast Postie, "that was just going to be our next stop! It's right around this corner. It must have fallen when she was walking home last night. The strap seems to be broken. She must not have noticed, as she was probably carrying lots of other shopping bags."

"Ding-dong!" The door bell rung, and a very relieved Miss Belinda opened the door, when she saw her bag was being returned.

"Thank you so very much!" Miss Belinda said enthusiastically.

"And here's a letter for you as well, Miss," Berry Fast Postie said and handed her the envelope.



"I wonder who it's from!" Miss Belinda said, opening it right away.

The note said: "As my Christmas gift to you, I'm enclosing in here two tickets to the concert next week—the orchestra will be playing all kinds of traditional carols, as well as a few newly written compositions!"

"Wait, don't go yet!" Miss Belinda called out to Berry Fast Postie.

"Here! This is for you. I want to thank you for returning my bag to me—and so soon too. Here is a ticket to a concert that I have been invited to. There was an extra one included in the letter. I want to give it to you in appreciation."

Berry Fast Postie was surprised, but took it and thanked her.

"I guess I'll be seeing you then! Thank you very much!" Berry Fast Postie said. "I best be on my way, but I'm looking forward to the event!"



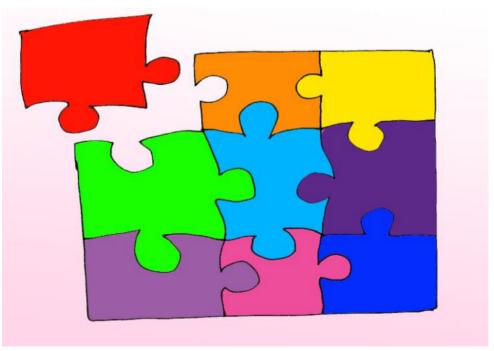
Berry Fast Postie felt glad for all that had happened that day now. Things had worked out well.

After the day's work, Berry Beary Kind and Berry Fast Postie drove to Berry Beary Enough Stuff's house to check on the motorbike.

They were met by Berry Beary Fix-it, who was great with fixing all kinds of motors. Beary Enough Stuff had asked him to please come and check it, and he had kindly done so.

"It looks like it was just a problem with some of the wires, and it's good to go!" he said.

Berry Fast Postie was happily surprised for the third time that day—first the ride, then the ticket to the concert, and now with a fixed and up-and-running motorbike. He wasn't sure what to say, it just felt like a very special day.



Living in Berry Beary Town sure brought many wonderful moments and joys to those living there, as each one did their best to make those living there happy. It was like a puzzle—as they each helped each other, they each received help in return—and it made things in their town real pleasant. Like the pieces of a puzzle, all fit together to make a nice picture.

"Why don't you stop over at my place for dinner tonight. My sister is here for a visit and she's got something good cooking!" Berry Fast Postie said to Berry Beary Fix-it.

"I'd love to!" Berry Beary Fix-it exclaimed. I was just wondering what to do, as my stove stopped working just this morning, and I haven't had a chance to look at it. I figured that getting your motorbike up and running before your day's work tomorrow was more important."

The two shook hands, and would meet for supper later on.

Berry Fast Postie smiled as he got on his motorbike and drove on home. What a great day it had been.

