



“When Wolf Was Still Human”

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Tammerraamat 2019, 119 pp

ISBN 9789949690008

Storybook, fiction

Age: 10+

Can you guess how Ants and Anni met three hedgehogs? Or what the right way is for greeting bears, wolves, hares, and foxes? What should you do when your mum’s favourite mug falls off the table? How did the world become round and what role did Turtle, Hedgehog, and Cosmic Dog play in it? What happens when Bear enters the house of three little girls? What kind of unusual creature is a maned wolf? You’ll find the answers to these and many other essential questions in *When Wolf Was Still Human* – a collection of children’s stories.



Reading sample

Coming Out of Hibernation

Hedgehog came out of hibernation and immediately began making plans. [...]

First of all, he needed to check and see if Star-ling was around. Not that any element of Hedge-hog's existence depended upon it – he simply wondered. You couldn't say the two were friends, exactly, but they were good acquaintances indeed, and kept an eye on each other's activities. Whichever saw the other first, be it Starling seeing Hedgehog or vice-versa, was the winner. Hedgehog liked being the winner. Cautiously, he poked his head out of his winter nest, sniffed the air, listened, and squinted. He could almost seem to make some-thing out; something appeared to be going on, though what it was precisely, he couldn't tell. What's more, the sudden sip of fresh air made the little creature's head spin. [...]

Just then, Hedgehog heard the fluttering of wings and none other than Starling herself landed on the damp soil just a few human footsteps away. Briskly, as usual, Starling cast a few quick glances at her surroundings before hopping around and arranging the twigs on the ground.

"Is she really making her nest already?" Hedgehog marveled. "That means I was slumbering away for quite a long time this y e a r."

"Tup-tup-tup-tup!" he snorted as loudly as he could. The sound was his traditional way to let Starling know she'd been spotted. To tease his playmate even more, he quickly drew back into his nest of leaves, sticks, and pine needles.

Starling looked around with a twig held in her beak. To be honest, she wasn't very fond of Hedgehog's tricks and played along just for the sake of appearances. "Fine, fine – your win," she said. "You can come out now." Then, she continued poking around the ground.

Feeling somewhat disappointed, Hedgehog crawled back out. Yet as luck would have it, the sun emerged from behind a massive cloud at that very moment, flooding the forest floor with dazzling light that made Hedgehog look downright majestic – his quills glistened, and he was filled with self-confidence.

Translated by Adam Cullen

