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We help older performers fulfill their theatrical dreams!

ArtAge Publications

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THE FAIRY RING

By

Linda LaRocque

CAST

NARRATOR: Male or female

OLD LEAF: Male or female

LITTLE CATERPILLAR: Male or female

Place

Deep in the forest

Time

Long ago

NARRATOR: In a very special tree nestled deep within a very special forest, Little Caterpillar lived happily with his friend Old Leaf. They had known each other for as long as Little Caterpillar could recall so Old Leaf knew his friend well.

OLD LEAF: I know you are young, my little friend, and afraid of much, but do you know there are many wonderful and exciting things waiting for you out there? My wish is that someday you will leave this place and venture far into the forest, beyond the great pine and the clearing, to the Fairy Ring.

NARRATOR: And so they talked of what it could be like to go beyond the pine and the clearing to that mystical, magical place, the Fairy Ring. You see, all woodland creatures wanted to go to the Fairy Ring, but it was only those who were not afraid that could go. The Fairy Ring was a special place.

LITTLE CATERPILLAR: Please, Old Leaf, tell me more. Do the fairies really sing and dance there every night?

OLD LEAF: Of course, and if you listen carefully you may hear them late some evening yourself when the wind is just right. I am sure their beautiful fairy music can be heard even here and should you hear it, a spell will be cast upon you. It is mysterious.

LITTLE CATERPILLAR: And how will I know if this spell has been cast upon me?

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OLD LEAF: You will know, Little Caterpillar, because you won't be afraid any more. And then you will go to wonderful places. And there will not be a fear big enough to stop my Little Caterpillar.

LITTLE CATERPILLAR: But I am afraid of many things, and I don't want to go anywhere. I want to stay here with you where I am safe.

OLD LEAF: But what about the Fairy Ring? You mustn't let your fears keep you from going to wonderful places.

NARRATOR: And so, like bookends sitting high on a shelf, the two propped each other up as dear friends often do. Little Caterpillar, all tight in his cocoon, content to remain a caterpillar, dreaming his Little Caterpillar dreams and thinking his Little Caterpillar thoughts with Old Leaf always close by. And it was good, but alas, all things do change.

LITTLE CATERPILLAR: Old Leaf, I must tell you something. I feel strange. I no longer understand myself. I have a great confusion inside of me.

OLD LEAF: Do you know what this confusion is?

LITTLE CATERPILLAR: Well, when we talk it makes me think. I have been thinking that sometimes I do want to go places, but because I am afraid, I can't. See how confused I have become?

NARRATOR: Since Old Leaf was wise he listened with his heart, and he knew things Little Caterpillar did not. He wished for Little Caterpillar to listen with his heart also.

OLD LEAF: What do you wish Little Caterpillar?

LITTLE CATERPILLAR: I wish to hear the beautiful music from the Fairy Ring, but I haven't.

OLD LEAF: And how do you know you've not heard?

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