

There is absolute wonder in a child's heart when the first crocus pops up in the greening grass in spring. It seems to arrive like magic overnight. The bright clean golds and purples make all children feel like Kings and Queens of spring. This early spring story is a loving picture of mother earth's work and heralds the glorious beauty of spring.

Little Brown Bulb

Deep down in the ground, in Mother Earth's land, there lay a little brown bulb wrapped in a brown blanket and fast asleep. Far up above, snow still lay on the ground and King Winter walked the land.

Little brown bulb slept and slept.

Nearby, beetle bug was waking up, cleaning his wings and singing..."spring is coming, spring is coming..."

"Shhh, shhh", said little brown bulb, "I'm trying to sleep. It's not spring yet!"

"Silly bulb," said beetle bug, "you'll see. Spring is coming!"

Little brown bulb wiggled and looked around. "It's too cold to be spring," she said to herself, and she pulled the covers up higher and went back to sleep.

Not long after, five freckled ladybugs came marching by, chatting loudly. "Did you hear? Spring is coming. We have to polish our jackets and be ready!" As they marched by, the smallest ladybug tripped on little brown bulb! "Sorry, sorry," she said and quickly caught up with the others.

Poor little brown bulb was wide awake now, and surely could not get back to sleep. The world of Mother Earth was stirring and bustling. Something was happening, that was for sure!

Little brown bulb looked around and saw all her friends waking up, getting dressed up in fine colorful new clothes, and they were all very excited.

"What's all the fuss about?" asked little brown bulb to her friend, daffodil, who was polishing her golden crown.

"Why spring is coming to town, and we are all invited to the celebration," said daffodil. "You'd better hurry and get dressed. Mother Earth will bring your gown! Hurry, hurry!"

Sure enough, Mother Earth was giving everyone a new gown for the party. "Good morning to you little brown bulb. Here is your new spring gown. Get cleaned up and dressed. Spring is nearly here and the celebration about to begin!"

Little brown bulb looked at the beautiful gown Mother Earth had given her. It was purple like the morning mist, white like a cloud, and golden like the sun. She took off her brown winter pajamas, and put on her new spring gown. How lovely she looked. She felt as elegant as a queen.

Just in time too. Spring was calling, "come little ones, come".

All the creatures of the deep earth started up the pathway to the meadow lands, to the forests, and the gardens. The celebration of spring had started!

Little brown bulb lifted herself higher and higher, until she found herself in a garden by a little cottage. There was a little boy playing nearby. The sun was shining and little bulb heard a bird sing.

"Mommy look!" cried out the boy. Mommy and the little boy came close to little bulb. "Look mommy, our first flower. Is spring here?"

"Yes dear", said mommy. "Our little crocus flower has come to tell us!"

The little boy bent down and ever so gently kissed the little crocus on her new gown.

How happy little bulb was. "I love spring!" she sang out to the world.