

Stella J Jones

The VERY Grumpy Day

Alison Edgson



For Neil, who is *never* grumpy . . .

- S J

For Ronald and Peggy – I've never known
them to have a grumpy day, ever!

- A E

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“What a perfect day!” smiled Mouse,
looking out at the sunshine.

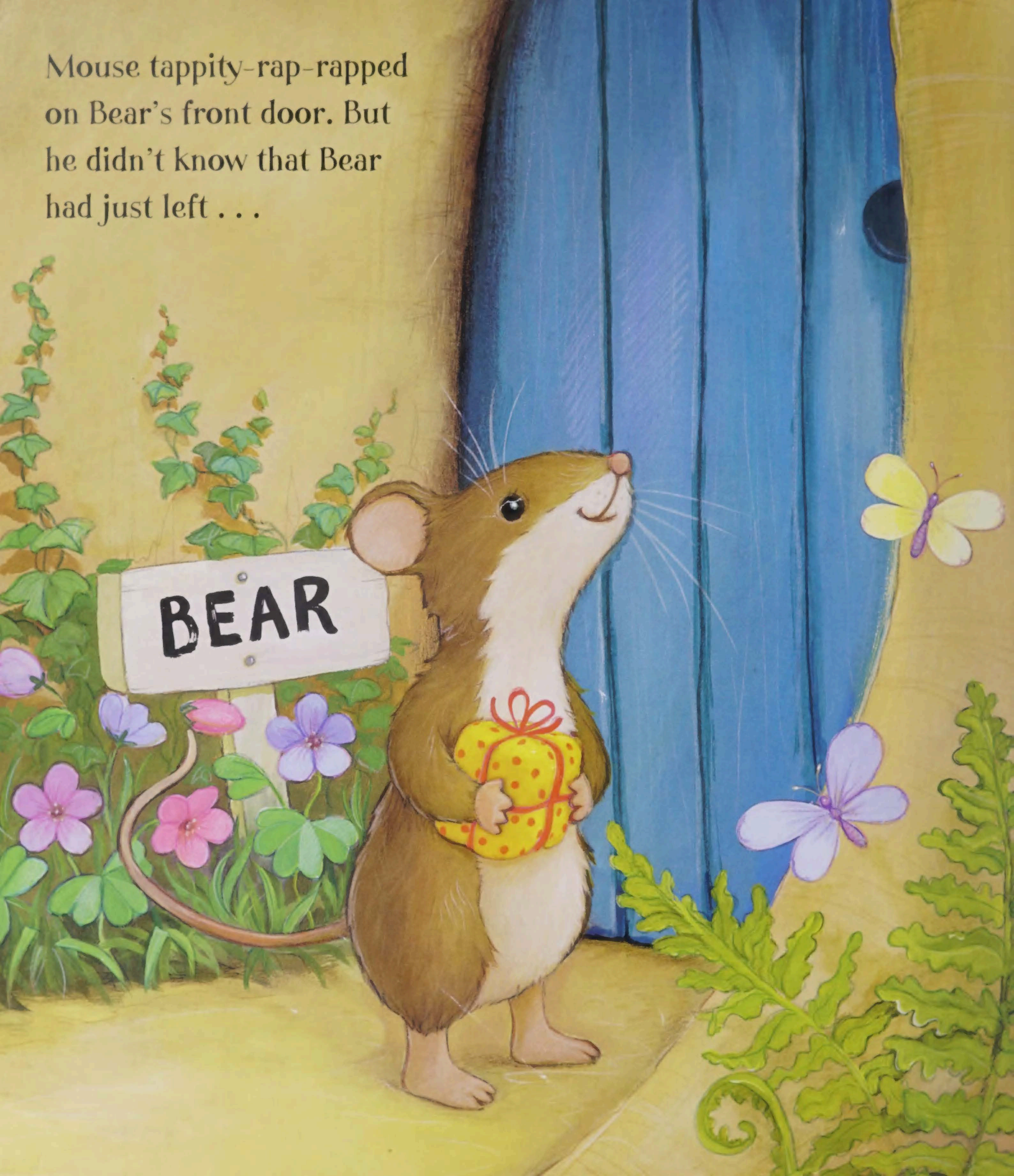
And goodness, wasn’t he right!
The birds trilled sweetly and the
bees buzzed merrily.

“I’ll take one of these cupcakes
round to Bear,” Mouse thought.
“He loves a sweet treat.”





Mouse tappity-rap-rapped
on Bear's front door. But
he didn't know that Bear
had just left . . .





... in a VERY bad mood.

“Oh harrumph!” grumped Bear.
“Bother these boots! They are just
TOO BIG!”

Bear stomped along so heavily
that the ground shivered and
shook beneath his feet.



STOMP!

STOMP!

STOMP!



“Oi!” cried Mole angrily, popping up from his mole hole. “Your stomping has collapsed my tunnel. I shall have to start all over again!”

He flung down his shovel and had just disappeared into his hole when . . .





... **“Aaaaaaaaarrrrrrrghhhhhhhh!”**

Hedgehog tripped over the shovel
with a bump.

“Who left THAT there?” he cried.



He roly-polied across
the clearing . . .



... straight into Fox's bottom.

"0000000000WWWWW!" Fox yelped.

"Watch where you're poking your prickles, Hedgehog!" he jumped in shock and his bag flew high into the air.





The shopping tumbled out . . .

... and plopped all over the squirrel family!

SQUASH went
the bag of flour!

SPLOSH went the milk!

And **SPLAT** went the eggs
all over the baby squirrels!



He threw an
egg at me!

It wasn't me,
it was him!

The fluff
has gone out
of my tail!

“Be quiet down there!”
squawked Daddy Owl.
“You’ll wake my chicks!”



BICKER!

SQUABBLE!



Now everyone in the clearing
was in a **BIG BAD** mood.

QUARREL!



Up above, the sky turned
grey and grizzly. A roll of
thunder shook the wood
and the rain began to fall.



What a dreadful day!



Stop
pushing
me!



Quick!



“Oh bother!” grumped Bear.
“There’s a hole in my brolly
and my ears are getting wet.”

Bear’s bad mood lasted all the
way home. Then suddenly, he
spotted something.



“It’s a present! For me!”

Bear picked it up and read
the note. “Oh, how kind!”
he sniffed.

And for the very first time
that day, Bear smiled.





A sweet treat
for Bear.

With love from
Mouse xx

As Bear munched happily on his cake,
the sky turned blue once more and the
snowdrops bobbed in the breeze.

“Mole would love those flowers,” thought
Bear. “I’ll take them round to apologise
for stomping on his tunnel.”



“I’m sorry, Mole,” said Bear,
giving the present to his friend.

“That’s OK,” said Mole.

And for the first time that
day, Mole smiled too.



“I should say sorry to Hedgehog for
leaving my shovel in his way,”
said Mole. He trotted over to
his friend’s house and gave
him a huge hug.



Sorry, Fox!

That's OK!



The smiles and happiness spread like rays of spring sunshine all through the afternoon.

Sorry!

Thank you!





When Mouse looked out of his window,
the whole wood was ringing with
birdsong and laughter.

“Such a perfect day,” he beamed,
racing out to join his friends.

And it was!





There's a **big bad mood**
spreading through the wood!

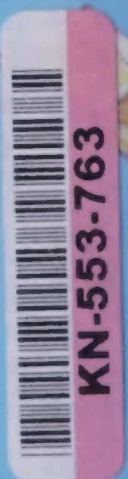
It starts with Bear,
who **upsets** Mole . . .



. . . who **snaps** at Hedgehog,
who's **prickly** with Fox.



Soon Bear's bad mood
has made everyone **grumpy!**
Can a little bit of **love** make
them **happy** again?



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