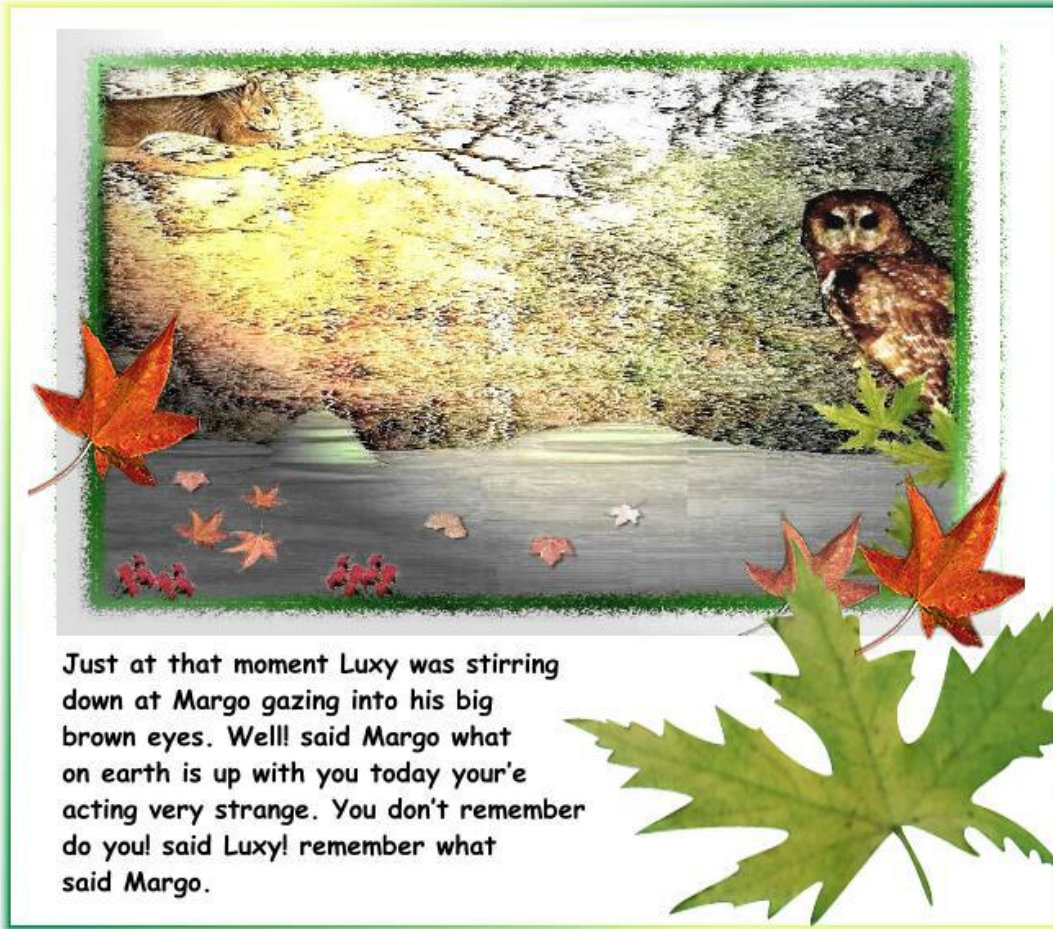


Margo the owl was gazing through the thick branches trying to keep up with Luxy the squirrel who was darting about from branch to branch yelling wake up wake up to the other animals in the forest. what's he up to now thought Margo.





Just at that moment Luxy was stirring down at Margo gazing into his big brown eyes. Well! said Margo what on earth is up with you today your'e acting very strange. You don't remember do you! said Luxy! remember what said Margo.



Your Birthday! my Birthday said Margo!
Yes its your Birthday Margo. really! said
Margo, I completely forgot. Just as well
i've been counting the days said squirrel.
Today you are efficially 5 years of age
he said twitching his nose.





Good gracious said Margo AM I ??,
well Luxy squirrel thankyou for
reminding me' said Margo. Luxy
squirrel looked up at Margo and
and twitching his nose Margo
looked back at Luxy through the
trees scratching his head.
So what do we do now said Luxy
what do you mean Margo answered!





I mean we've got to celebrate you
big old dafty Luxy laughed. This isn't
like any other Birthday you know its a
special birthday grinned Luxy. Today
you are 5 years old that makes
you the oldest animal in the forest.
It does said Margo looking very amazed.





Thats right said Luxy it does now listen carefully
this is what were going to do to celebrate it. Margo
was all ears, I'm listening said Margol Were going
to have a party it will be a party to remember said Luxy.
And everyone's invited' wow said Margo
for me? just for you said Luxy squirrel.





You are the best friend in the whole world said Margo
with that Squirrel darted off again but not before
shouting! oh Margo remember remember wait
under the old oak tree at noon we'll celebrate
you're Birthday there. I'll be there yelled Margo
and with that Margo flew across to the other
side of the forest to see Wolly the mole.

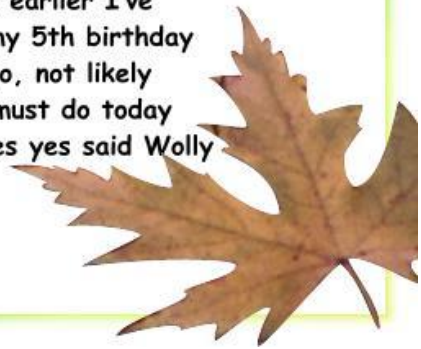


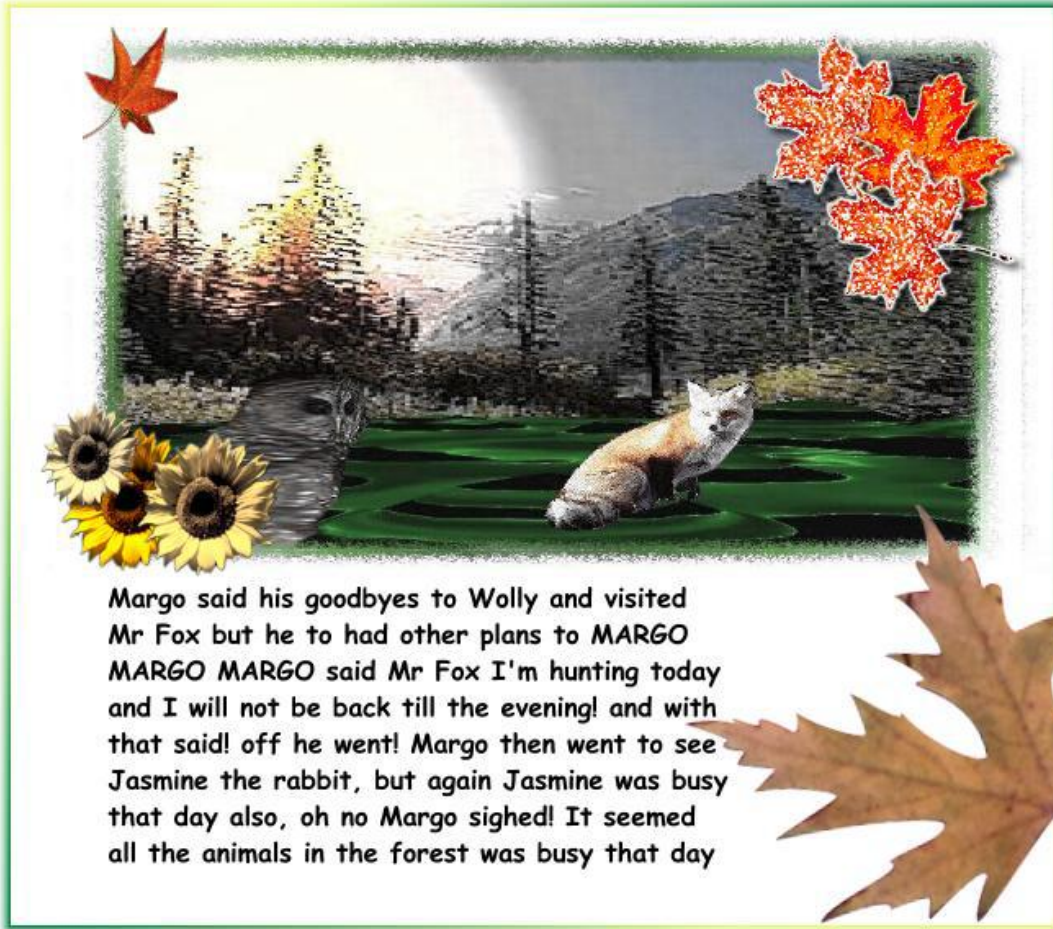
Wolly was just pouring a nice cup of tea when he seen Margo coming, hey Margo my old friend how are you? said Wolly, never better Margo smiled I've got something I would like to ask you Wolly what is it Wolly asked, Margo then told Wolly all about his Birthday! would you ike to come its under the old oak tree at noon today.





Oh my dear Margo I wish I would have known earlier I've already made other plans for today, but its my 5th birthday today can't you cancel your plans sighed Margo, not likely Wolly said I have so many different tasks I must do today never mind sighed Margo maybe next time.,Yes yes said Wolly maybe next time.

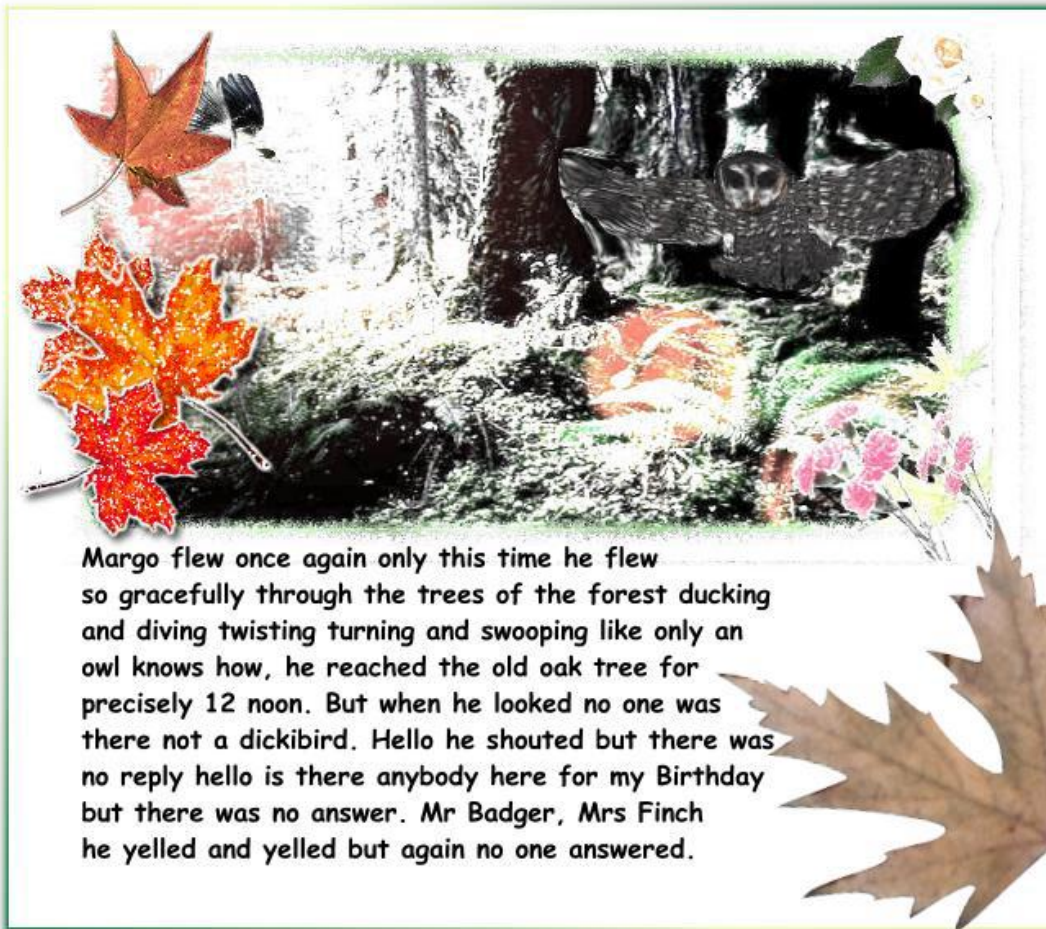




Margo said his goodbyes to Wolly and visited Mr Fox but he to had other plans to MARGO MARGO MARGO said Mr Fox I'm hunting today and I will not be back till the evening! and with that said! off he went! Margo then went to see Jasmine the rabbit, but again Jasmine was busy that day also, oh no Margo sighed! It seemed all the animals in the forest was busy that day



Margo flew and flew all day but to no avail he invited all the other friends he knew, but noone was able to go to his Birthday Party! everyone had other things to do, oh dear he thought I hope Squirrel is having more luck than me ortherwise no one will be coming to my Birthday Party! just then it occured to Margo it was just before noon, he had visited that many animal friends that he'd lost track of the time, I better hurry up or Ill be late for my own Birthday he thought.



Margo flew once again only this time he flew so gracefully through the trees of the forest ducking and diving twisting turning and swooping like only an owl knows how, he reached the old oak tree for precisely 12 noon. But when he looked no one was there not a dickibird. Hello he shouted but there was no reply hello is there anybody here for my Birthday but there was no answer. Mr Badger, Mrs Finch he yelled and yelled but again no one answered.



Just then he heard a voice, hey Margo!
you made it! said a voice from behind
It was Luxy the squirrel' hello said Margo
did you invite anyone asked Margo?
H'mm yes but everyone was busy said Luxy
so no one is coming! said Margo and
Margo got very upset! dont worry Margo
everything will be fine, Margo the owl was just
about to to fly away when all Margo's friends
jumped out from there hiding places and began
to cheer Hip Hip Horay! Hiappy Birthday Margo





He was so surprised he nearly fell off his branch Aha
you lot were here all the time said Margo and he started
to chuckle. Hooray to Margo Hip Hip Hooray they cheered
Happy Birthday Happy Birthday. It was the best Birthday
Margo had ever had. They sang they danced they even
played hide and seek. And guess what Wolly the mole,
Mr Fox and everyone else who Margo asked
to his Birthday were there for his party to
and that was the best surprise of all.



Story & Illustrations
Created By James Mckenna



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