



# *The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse*



Retold by Sue Arengo  
*Illustrated by Kate Aldous*



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BEGINNER 2



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**T**HIS is Country Mouse's home. One day his friend, Town Mouse, comes to see him.

'Hello, Country Mouse!' says Town Mouse.

'Hello, my friend!' says Country Mouse.



There's a lot to eat. But Town Mouse  
thinks the food is strange.

He doesn't like it very much.

So he only eats a little bit.

'Please have some more,' says Country  
Mouse.

'It's very nice,' says Town Mouse, 'but  
no thank you.'



Country Mouse gives Town Mouse his bed.

'You can have my bed tonight,' he says.

'Thank you,' says Town Mouse.

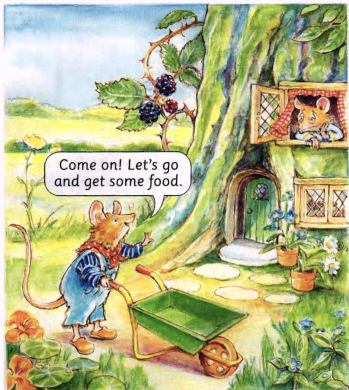


But Country Mouse's bed is strange.

Town Mouse doesn't like it very much.

He can't go to sleep.

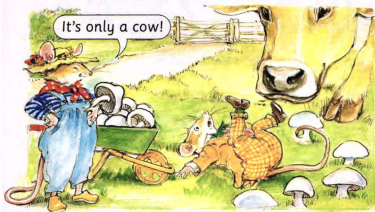
It's very dark and quiet.



In the morning Town Mouse is tired.  
But Country Mouse isn't tired.  
'Come on!' he says. 'Let's go and get  
some food.'



The grass is long and wet.  
 Town Mouse's feet and trousers are wet.  
 He doesn't like the country very much!



There's a cow in the field.  
 'Oh!' cries Town Mouse 'What's that?'  
 'It's only a cow!' laughs Country Mouse.

[12:45]



'Do you like the country?' asks  
Country Mouse.

'It's very strange here,' says Town  
Mouse. 'It's very interesting. It's  
different. [interesting]

But I think I like the town best.'





Life is good in  
the country.

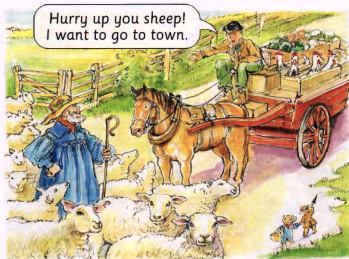
‘Life is good in the country,’ says  
Country Mouse.

‘Yes,’ says Town Mouse. ‘But I like the  
town better. <sup>So, and</sup>

It’s nice and warm and dry in the town.  
It isn’t dark at night and there’s a lot  
to see. It’s very interesting.

And the food! Oh, there’s a lot of food!

Let’s go there. Come with me and see.’



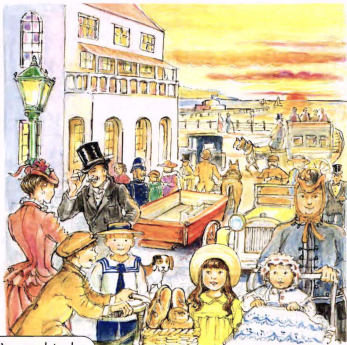
The next day the two mice see a cart.  
It's going to town.

'Hurry up you sheep!' says the man.

'I want to go to town.'

'Listen,' says Town Mouse. 'That cart's  
going to town. Come on.'





It's good to be home again.



Soon Town Mouse is home.  
'Ah!' he says, happily. 'It's  
good to be home again.'  
But Country Mouse thinks:  
'What a lot of noise!  
What a lot of people!'

The house is very big.  
Country Mouse doesn't like it very much.



Suddenly there's a strange noise.  
'Oh! What's that?' he says.  
'It's only the clock,' laughs Town  
Mouse. 'Look! I live there. Let's go  
and eat. Come on!'



There's a lot to eat. But Country  
Mouse thinks the food is strange.  
He doesn't like it very much.  
So he only eats a little bit.  
'Please have some more,' says Town  
Mouse.  
'It's very nice,' says Country Mouse,  
'but no thank you.'



Town Mouse gives Country Mouse his  
bed.

'You can have my bed tonight,' he says.

'Thank you,' says Country Mouse.



But Town Mouse's bed is strange.

Country Mouse doesn't like it very much.

He can't go to sleep.

It isn't dark in the room and the street  
is very noisy.

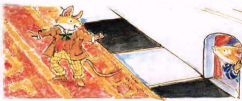
Come on! Let's go  
and get some food.



In the morning Country Mouse is tired.  
But Town Mouse isn't tired.  
'Come on!' he says. 'Let's go and get  
some food.'



But there's a cat and they can't go out.



At last the cat goes away.  
The two mice are very hungry.



Suddenly, Country Mouse  
sees something.  
'Look!' he shouts. 'Cheese!'  
'STOP!' shouts Town Mouse.  
'Don't touch that! It's a trap!'

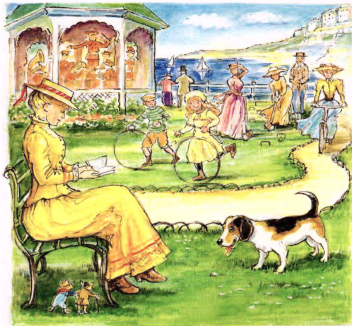






Do you like the town?' asks Town Mouse.

'It's very strange here,' says Country Mouse. 'It's interesting. It's different. But I think I like the country best.'

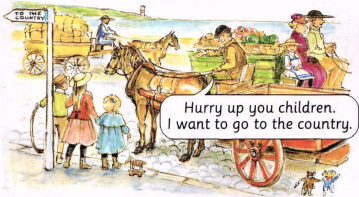


‘Life is good in the town,’ says Town Mouse.

‘Yes,’ says Country Mouse. ‘But I like the country better.

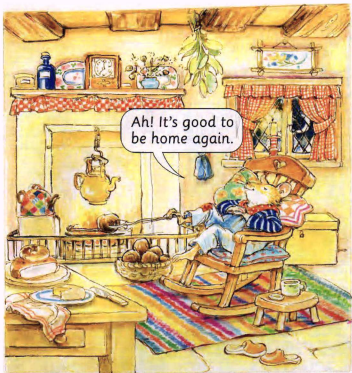
It’s nice and quiet in the country.’

‘I understand,’ says Town Mouse. ‘We like different things.’



The next day they see a cart.  
It's going to the country.  
'Hurry up you children,' says the driver.  
'I want to go to the country.'  
'Listen,' says Country Mouse. 'That  
cart's going to the country.  
Good bye my friend. Thank you.'  
'Write to me,' says Town Mouse.





Soon Country Mouse is home.  
He's in the country.  
He sits by the fire.  
'Ah!' he says happily. 'It's good to be  
home again.'

# Glossary

bed



cow



cheese



feet



clock



field



country



fire



grass



street



home



town



mouse



trap



sheep



trousers



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## CLASSIC TALES

### Beginner 1 [100 headwords]

The Enormous Turnip 0 19 422062 8

The Magic Cooking Pot 0 19 422074 5

The Shoemaker and the Elves 0 19 422073 7

Three Billy-Goats 0 19 422063 6

### Beginner 2 [150 headwords]

The Fisherman and his Wife 0 19 422057 5

The Gingerbread Man 0 19 422022 2

The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse 0 19 422021 4

The Ugly Duckling 0 19 422058 3

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Aladdin 0 19 422536 4

Goldilocks and the Three Bears 0 19 422001 X

The Little Mermaid 0 19 422535 6

Little Red Riding Hood 0 19 422000 1

### Elementary 2 [300 headwords]

Cinderella 0 19 422095 2

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