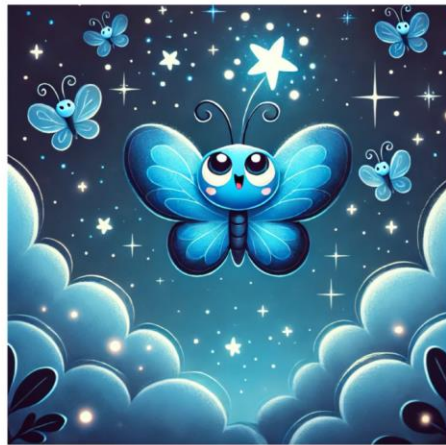


The Flutterbys



The Missing Moon

By Nita Lesley

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MEET THE FLUTTERBYS

The Flutterbys are four friendly Butterflies who live in Flutterby Meadow. They love to explore, play and help their meadow friends. Bringing kindness, curiosity and a sprinkle of fluttery fun to every day.

Bold Red Ruby is full of energy and always ready to take the lead.

Sweet Pink Rosie is full of big ideas and endless excitement.

Thoughtful Bue Benny loves to figure things out.

Playful Orange Ollie, a mischief-maker, keeps everyone laughing with his playful ways.

Together the Flutterbys make the meadow a brighter, happier place, one flutter at a time.





One quiet evening in Flutterby meadow, the air was warm,
the flowers swayed gently, and the stars twinkled overhead.

The Flutterbys zipped and zoomed through the sky, playing
tag under the moon's silver glow.

Until...the glow disappeared.

Rosie came to a halt mid-flap. "Wait...something's wrong."

The others followed her gaze to the sky and gasped.

The moon was gone!

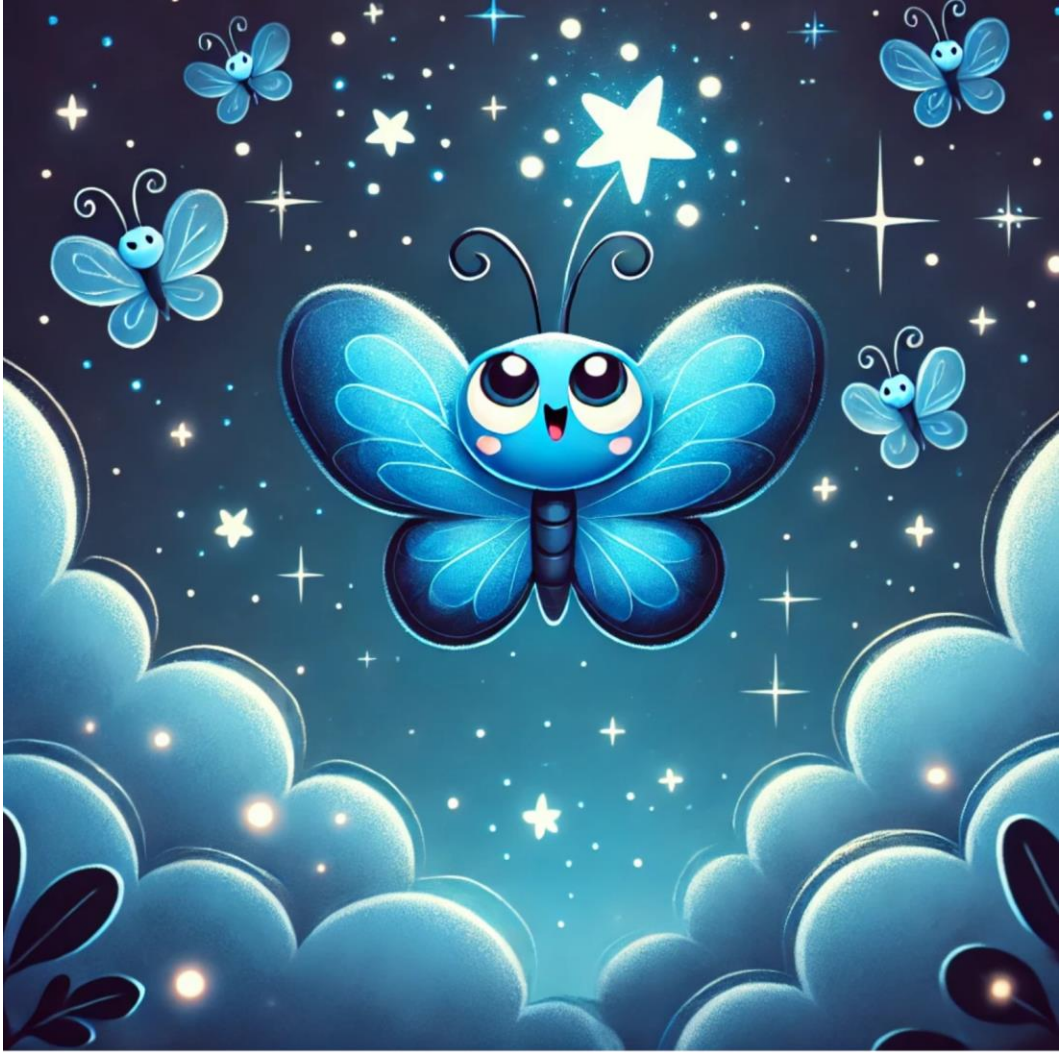


Ruby crossed her wings. "Moons don't just vanish! We need to investigate."

Ollie gasped dramatically. "This sound like... a case for the 'Flutterby Detectives'!"

Benny nodded, deep in thought. "Step one of any good mystery: gather clues."

Rosie twirled in the air. "Then let's get fluttering."
And so, the 'Flutterby Detective Agency' set off to crack the 'Case of the Missing Moon'!



The detectives flew higher, where the twinkling stars flickered like tiny lanterns in the sky.

Benny cleared his throat. "Excuse us, Stars, but we're investigating the case of the missing moon. Have you seen anything suspicious?"

The stars shimmered. "Oh dear! The moon was here earlier, but then it disappeared behind a thick blanket of fog!"

Ruby took out her invisible detective notebook (pretending of course) and nodded. "Interesting. Did you see who put the fog there?"

The stars twinkled mischievously. "We think the nighttime moths had something to do with it."

Ollie gasped. "A lead! Let's go find those moths."



The detectives swooped toward the trees, where a group of fluffy moths were flitting around a glowing mushroom.

Their fuzzy faces looked far too innocent.

Ruby landed first. "Alright moths, we've got some questions for you."

One moth blinked. "Oh! Are you playing detective? We love detective games!"

Rosie nodded. "Then tell us, what do you know about the missing moon?"

The moths giggled. "Not missing...just hiding!"

Ollie nearly fell out of the air. "YOU hid the moon?"



The moths nodded proudly. "We covered it with fog! It was
our turn to play hide-and-seek with it"

Benny sighed. "But the moon isn't supposed to hide, it's
supposed to shine!"

One moth tapped its chin. "Oh. We...didn't think about that."
Ruby crossed her wings. "Detective team, how do we uncover
the moon?"



Benny put on his thinking face. "If fog is covering the moon, maybe we need to reflect its light back into the sky."

Rosie gasped. "Brilliant!"

The Flutterbys and the moths gathered in a circle, their wings shimmering as they flapped together.

The stars twinkled, offering tiny flickers of light.

Slowly, the glow grew brighter and brighter until...

WHOOSH!

The fog swirled away, revealing the big, beautiful moon, shining brighter than ever.



The stars twinkled joyfully. "You did it!"
The moths clapped their tiny wings. "That was the best
detective mission ever!"
Ollie put his wings on his hips. "Detective Ollie always solves
the case!"
Ruby giggled. "WE always solve the case."
Benny yawned. "And now, I think it's time for the detectives
to get some sleep."



The Flutterby Detective Agency flitted back to their favourite flower, stretching their wings and gazing up at the glowing moon.

Rosie smiled sleepily. "Case closed."
And with a final goodnight twinkle, the detectives drifted off to sleep, knowing that the moon would always shine again.

THE END

FUN FACTS about the Moon

- 🌙 The Moon is Earth's only natural satellite—it travels around our planet once every 27 days!
- 🐰 In many cultures, people say you can see a rabbit in the moon—others see a face, a tree, or a sleeping bear!
- 🛌 Some people (and butterflies!) say they sleep better during the new moon and feel more energetic during the full moon.
- 🦉 Owls, fireflies, and other nighttime friends often become more active under moonlight.
- 🌌 Moonlight makes everything look like it's been painted in silver and dreams—some poets call it "night's lantern."
- 🦋 The Flutterbys believe the Moon loves stories and songs—and if you whisper your dreams to it, they just might reach the stars.

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Happy Fluttering

Nita Lesley

