

# JULY

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# Wee Wisdom

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## The Little Pine Tree

DID I hear someone say, "Whew, but it's hot!"? July days are hot, but would we want them otherwise? Someone on the spur of the moment may say, "Yes, I do," as he mops perspiration, but if he thinks for a moment he will not want to rob the trees and plants of the warmth they need in their work of growing.

Perhaps you haven't thought of green growing things as working; but they do work, and in their way they work just as hard as we do in ours. Did you watch the garden last spring and see the tender bean shoots crack the soil and push their heads up, all in a row, to receive the help of the sunshine and fresh air in their work of growing strong and bearing a crop? If you did you found it interesting.

While on a vacation in Colorado one summer I climbed a steep, rocky trail to get a better view of the valley below. From the edge of the trail skirting the mountainside I saw, perhaps sixty feet below me, a sturdy pine tree apparently growing right out of a rock. A seed had fallen in a tiny crevice in the rock and had found enough soil and moisture there to sprout it. You could have crushed that first tiny sprout between your finger and thumb, and certainly you would not have thought it could ever grow to be a sturdy tree in that stony place.

Was the pine discouraged when it found that it had sprouted in a handful of soil in the crevice of a rock? Not at all. It stretched toward the sun and began working and growing, and little by little its swelling trunk cracked the rock and made a place for itself. Often when I have had something to do that I thought was hard I have thanked that little pine tree for the lesson in courage that it gave me.

I sometimes like to think of you WEE WISDOM readers as little pine trees, strong and sturdy. You are not discouraged when you are called upon to run errands, work in the garden, mow the lawn, do the dishes, or take care of the baby. Even if the task seems hard and you would rather lie in the shade and read, you turn your face to the sun as did the little pine tree and laugh as you go about the tasks that help you grow in patience and kindness.

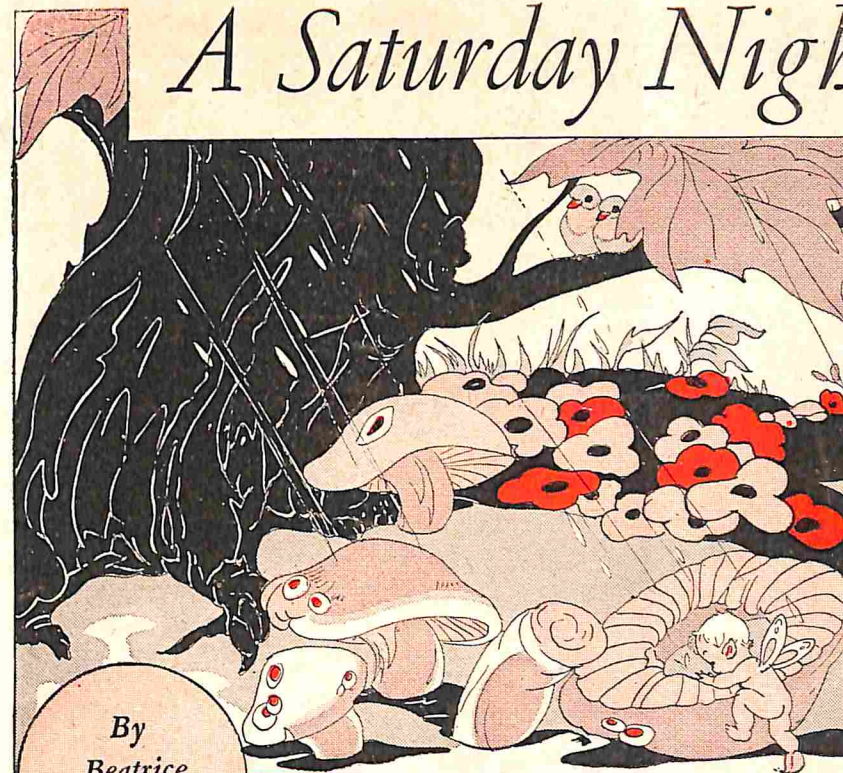
*Jane Palmer*  
Editor.



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# A Saturday Night

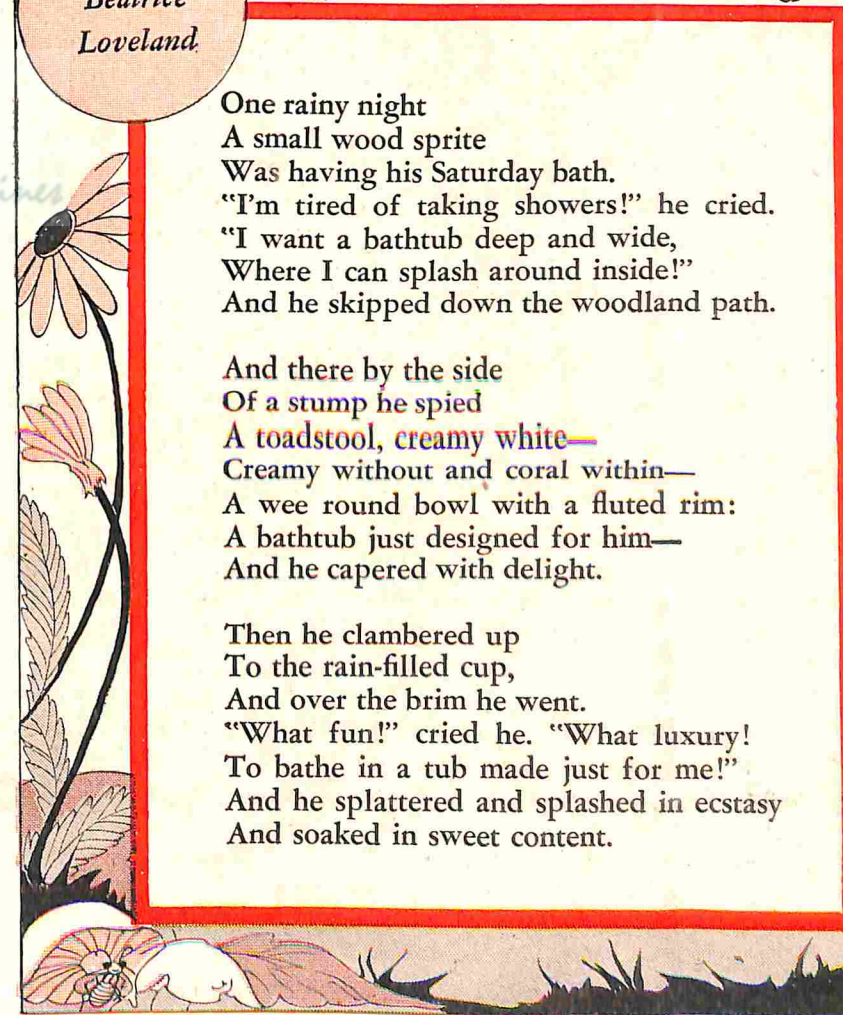


By  
*Beatrice Loveland*

One rainy night  
A small wood sprite  
Was having his Saturday bath.  
"I'm tired of taking showers!" he cried.  
"I want a bathtub deep and wide,  
Where I can splash around inside!"  
And he skipped down the woodland path.

And there by the side  
Of a stump he spied  
A toadstool, creamy white—  
Creamy without and coral within—  
A wee round bowl with a fluted rim:  
A bathtub just designed for him—  
And he capered with delight.

Then he clambered up  
To the rain-filled cup,  
And over the brim he went.  
"What fun!" cried he. "What luxury!  
To bathe in a tub made just for me!"  
And he splattered and splashed in ecstasy  
And soaked in sweet content.





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