Stolen Pie

Everyone was busy in the home, where Pete and Milly Rabbit lived. Their two sons had only three more days and school would be out. Tommie was in the first grade. He loved to jump rope and play hide and seek.

Busford was in the fourth grade and was excited about playing on the little league baseball team this summer. Cousin Fredrick lived with them and went to school also. He was old enough to work part time at the Pizza Pan.

Today was the local fireman’s picnic at Carrotville. There were lots of games for the children. Balloons and ice cream for everyone. Big baskets of food were brought by each family. Pete Rabbit was the newly elected fire chief. His family was happy for him.

It was late in the morning when Milly Rabbit finished her baking. She sat the last pie on the window sill to cool. The fresh parsley and carrot cream pies smelled delicious.

Busford and his friends, Squeaky the mouse and Willie Rat, were playing outside the kitchen door, making roads in the dirt for their small cars.

Milly heard a noise. She turned from the stove to see what it was. Busford, Squeaky, and Willie had jumped back in the house. Weasle, the rabbit had appeared from nowhere it seemed.

Fredrick had been keeping company with Weasle lately. Milly didn’t think he was a good friend for Fredrick. They were reported for skipping a day of school one week.

Milly was about to ask Weasle what he wanted, when she saw Fredrick running across the yard with a pie. Milly started shouting at Fredrick. Bobby, the blue jay chattered away. Busford started running after Fredrick.

Busford almost caught up with Fredrick, when a small dog appeared and barked loudly. Busford scampered into a bunch of weeds. His heart was beating very fast. He lay still, listening. All was quiet.
Finally he raised up a little and tried to see out. He could not see Fredrick anywhere. Buford lay back. He was scared. The next time he looked up, he could see the little dog eating the pie. He looked the other way and Fredrick running toward home.

Buford slipped softly out of the weeds and started running. He was afraid to look back. Soon he was running close to Fredrick. Fredrick was a sight! He had fresh cream pie all over his face and paws and even some on his back.

They arrived home and sat flat on the ground puffing for breath. Milly was scolding and almost crying at the same time.

She sent Fredrick to get a bath. Buford had to shower too. Tommie was fussing to leave for the picnic.

When Pete Rabbit arrived in their shiny red pick up, everyone was feeling better. Pete and Milly packed the food in the basket. The three boys in the back of the pick up.

What fun it was to ride in the back.

As the warm spring breeze blew against their faces, Fredrick, Buford and Tommie sat snugly together, close to the back of the cab.

by Mary E. West