

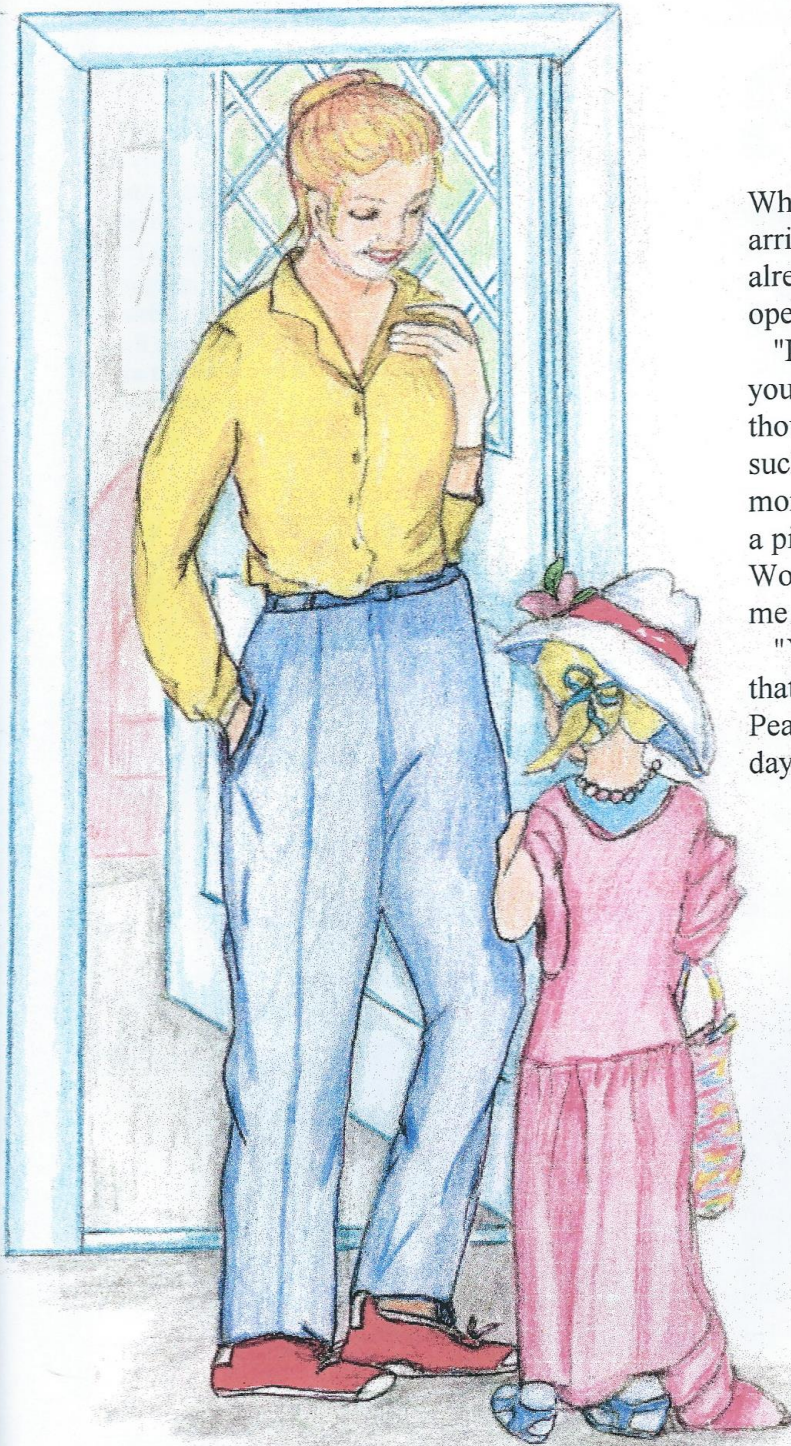
# THE PICNIC

*A Mrs. Peabody Adventure*



Story and Illustrations  
by  
Elaine J. Roark

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When Mrs. Peabody arrived Mommy was already standing at the open door.

"I've been waiting for you, Mrs. Peabody, I thought that since it is such a lovely spring morning, we would have a picnic in the garden. Would you like to help me make sandwiches?"

"Yes, I would like that," smiled Mrs. Peabody. "It is a lovely day for a picnic."

"What kind of sandwiches would you like?" asked Mother.  
"I think peanut butter and jelly would be tasty," smiled Mrs. Peabody.  
They made the sandwiches and sliced an apple.

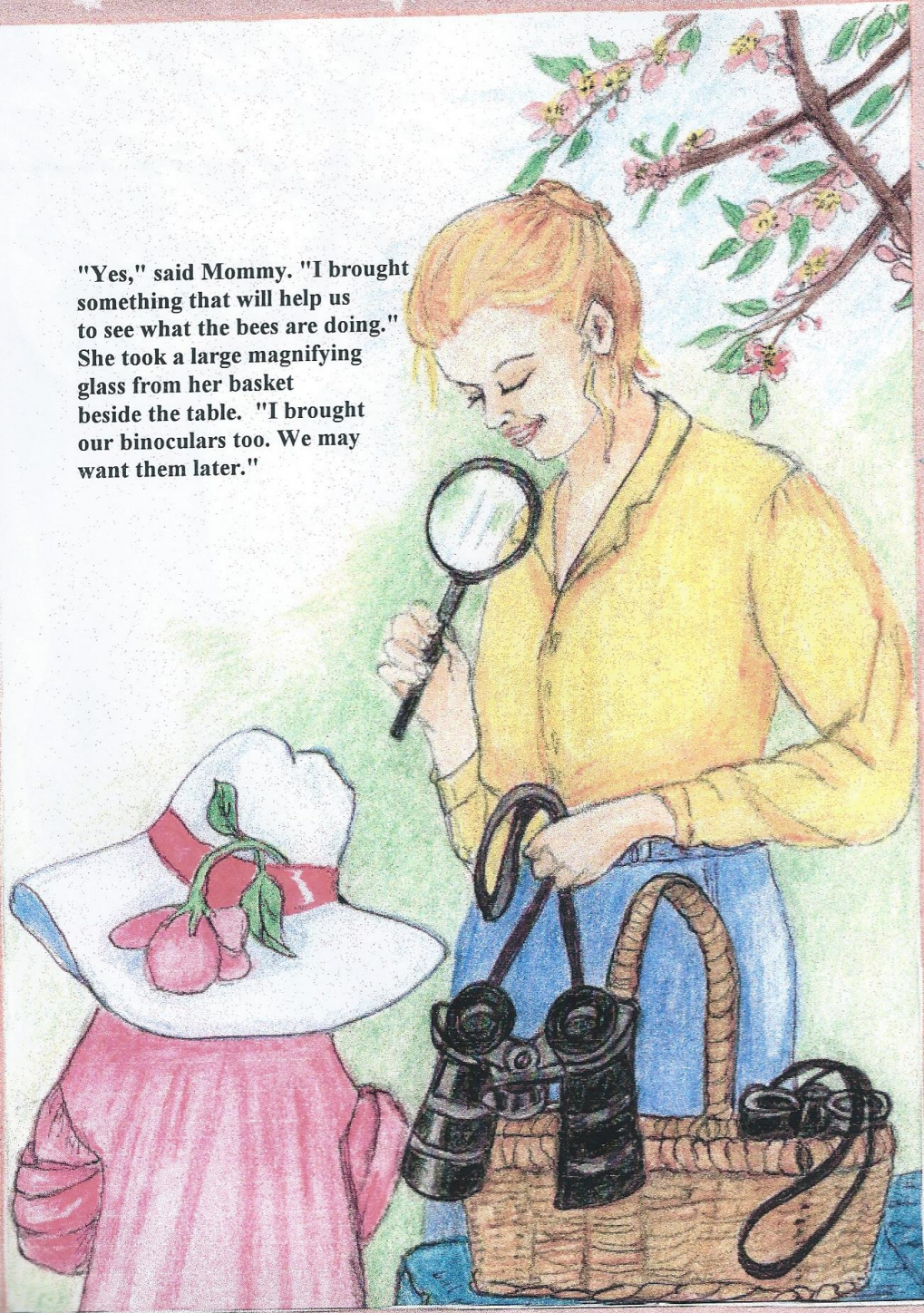


They placed the food on a tray and covered it with a cloth. Mother filled the teapot with juice and carried it to the garden. Mrs. Peabody carried the tray of food.

"I think the garden is so beautiful in the spring," said Mrs. Peabody. "I love sitting under the apple tree when it is all covered with blossoms. Listen to the bees humming. They are very busy this morning."

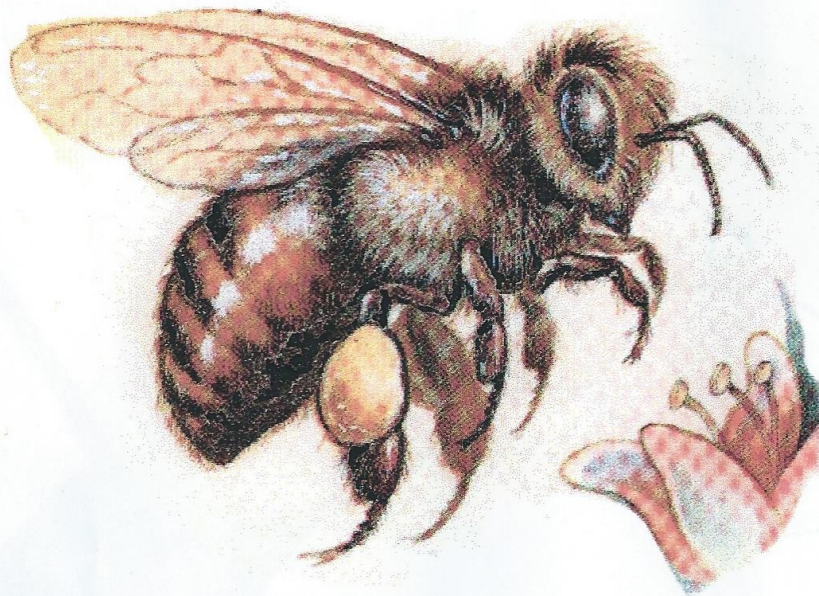


**"Yes," said Mommy. "I brought something that will help us to see what the bees are doing." She took a large magnifying glass from her basket beside the table. "I brought our binoculars too. We may want them later."**



**Mommy and Mrs. Peabody watched  
as a worker bee sucked sweet nectar  
from the flowers and filled its tiny  
pouches with yellow pollen.**





**They saw some bees flying away with both of their back leg pouches full of pollen. "Wow, it must be hard to fly with their little legs so heavy with pollen!" said Mrs. Peabody.**



**"Don't move!" said Mommy. "One of the bees is investigating the flower on your hat! There, it is gone now. It did not take the bee too long to know the flower was not real."**



**Mommy and Mrs. Peabody sat in the swing and watched as a robin hunted for food. She did not mind getting wet from the garden sprinkler. When the robin flew up to the tree with food in her beak, Mommy and Mrs. Peabody looked through their binoculars.**





**"Oh look!"** whispered Mrs. Peabody. **"I see the nest! She is feeding her babies. They have big mouths!"**  
**"Yes, I see them too,"** laughed Mommy.



Next, Mommy and Mrs. Peabody used their binoculars to watch a butterfly sip nectar from the flowers.



**A beautiful waxwing visited the apple tree. They could see the lovely bands of color on his wings and the tuft of feathers on his head.**





**Mommy pointed and whispered, "Look over there by the oak tree. Our baby squirrel has come to visit us too."**



**Then they sat quietly as a baby rabbit hopped about nibbling the tender new grass. Soon Mrs. Peabody said, "I'm hungry!"**

**They ate their peanut  
butter and jelly sandwiches  
and apple slices and  
drank juice.**



When tea time was over, they gathered a bouquet of tulips from the flower garden. Then Mrs. Peabody said it was time for her to be going now.





"It has been a lovely tea time," said Mommy.  
"I am sorry to see you go, but you will  
come back tomorrow, won't you?"  
"Of course I will, I love you, Mommy!"  
said Mrs. Peabody, kissing Mommy  
on the cheek.

