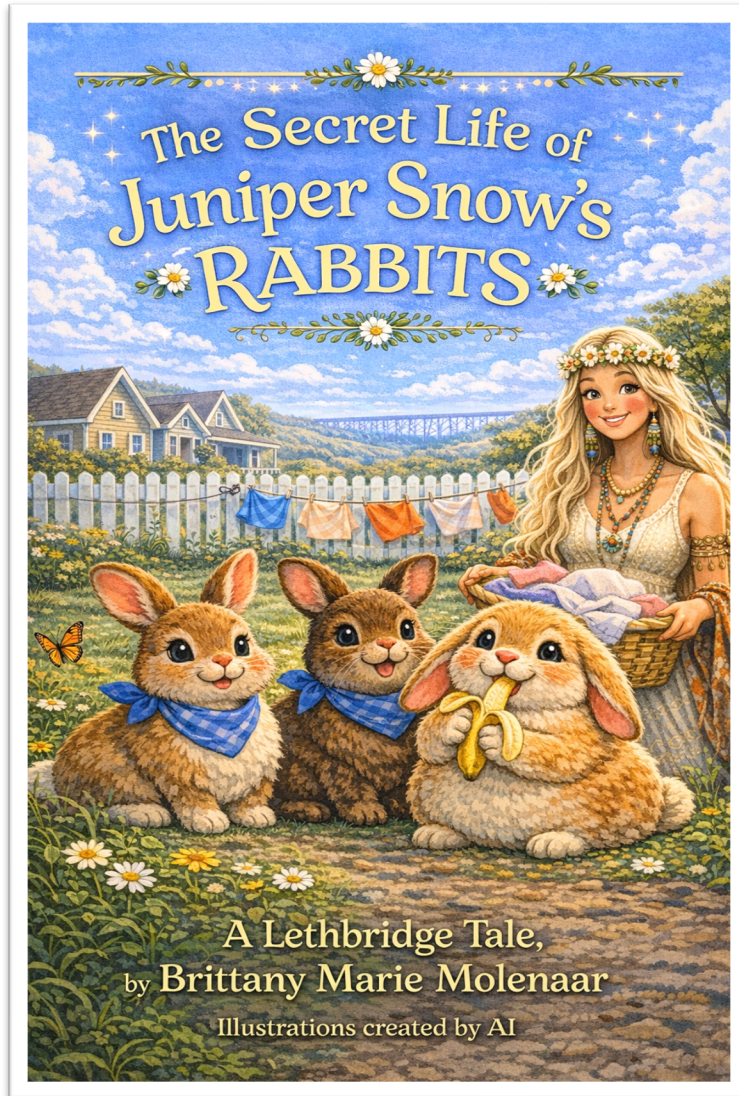


The Secret Life of Juniper Snow's Rabbits

Episode 4, Part 2: Mopsy and the Prairie Pack

A Night of Narrow Escapes



An Easy Reader

Grade 1

Beginning Reader

The Secret Life of Juniper Snow's Rabbits

Episode 4, Part 2: Mopsy and the Prairie Pack: A Night of Narrow Escapes

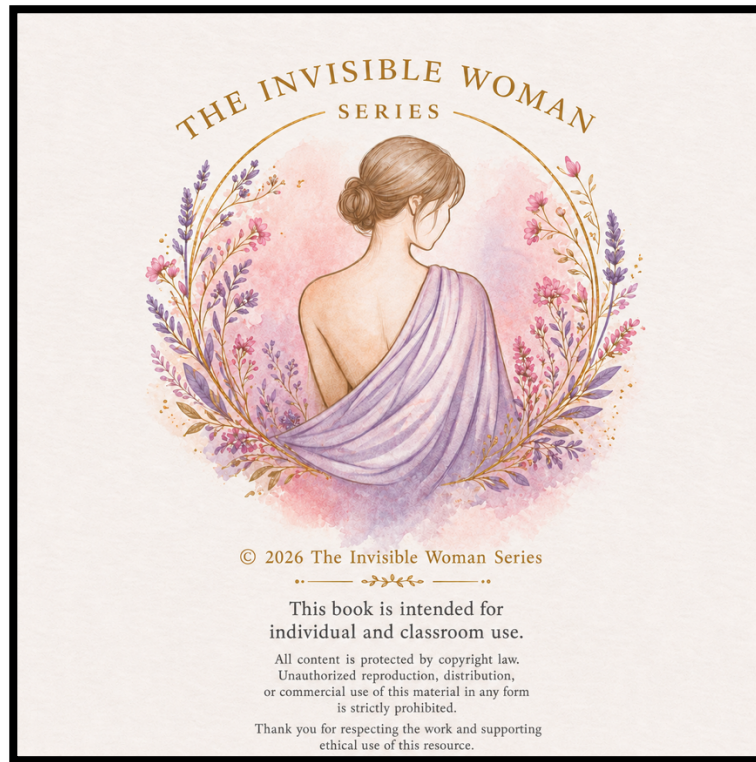
Story and characters by Brittany Marie Molenaar

"A Lethbridge Tale"

Illustrations created with AI

Easy Reader Edition — Grade 1 (Beginning Reader)

First Easy Reader edition, 2026



© 2026 Brittany Marie Molenaar. All rights reserved.

This Easy Reader is an adaptation of the original story, simplified for the listed grade level and aligned with the Alberta English Language Arts and Literature curriculum (Kindergarten–Grade 6). The storyline and illustrations follow the original work.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form without the written permission of the copyright holder, except for non-commercial classroom and educational use.

Printed for educational use in Alberta, Canada.



It was dark on the prairie. A pack of hungry coyotes came up to Mopsy. Their leader had a red scarf. Mopsy was scared.



But Mopsy was clever. “Wait! There is a bigger rabbit over the hill!” she said. The silly coyotes ran off to look.



One coyote did not run. His name was Snaggle-tooth Steve. He had one big tooth, and he watched Mopsy.



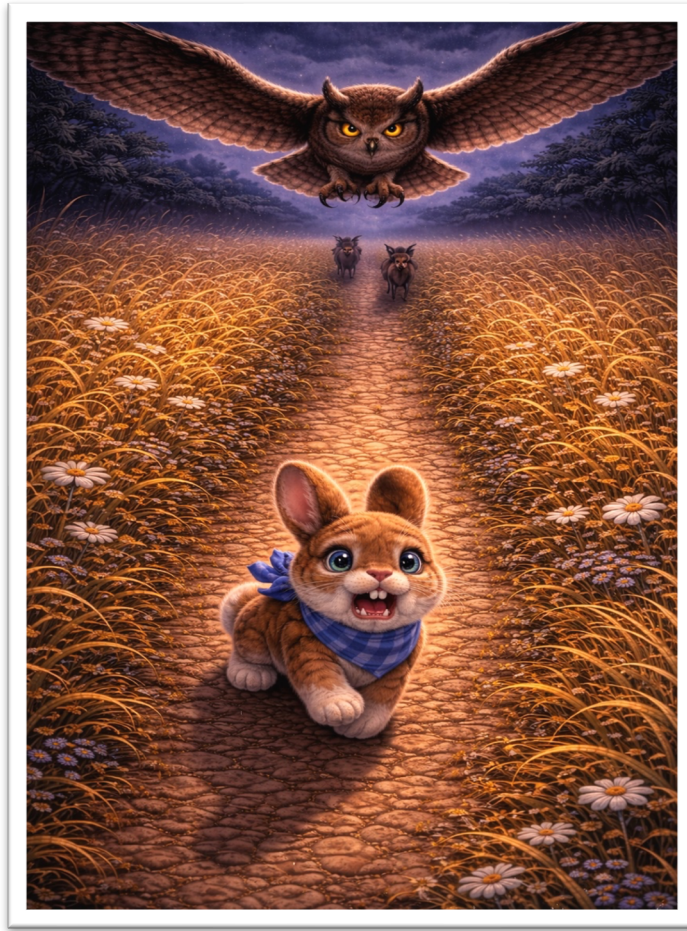
Steve was big, and he drooled. He came closer and closer.
Mopsy got ready to run.



So Mopsy ran! She went zig-zag. Steve tripped and fell. He could not keep up. Mopsy got away!



“I did it!” said Mopsy. Just then, a big owl flew over her. “Oh no!” she cried.



Mopsy ran into a wheat field. The owl was up high. The coyotes were back too! Now she had to get away from both.



Mopsy saw an old milk pail. She hid under it. BANG! A loud sound came. The coyotes ran off to look.



The coyotes came back. They looked and looked in the wheat.
They were mad. They had lost the rabbit.



Near the barn, some goats watched hockey. “We will get the goats after the game,” said the coyotes.



Mopsy was lost. Then the owl came back. But this owl was kind. “I will not hurt you,” he said. “I will help.”



The owl showed Mopsy the way. She walked and walked. At last she saw her farm! The owl said, “Being brave means coming home.”



Mopsy was safe! She did it. She was brave after all. Hooray for Mopsy!



But the coyotes were still out there. Mopsy heard their plan. She was scared, but she would help the goats.

To be continued...

Teacher & Family Guide

Reading level: Grade 1 — Beginning Reader.

Curriculum focus: Phonics (grapheme–phoneme correspondences, blends, digraphs), decoding, and high-frequency words (Alberta ELA & Literature — Grade 1).

Themes: Courage and growing up • Cleverness over strength • Friendship in unexpected places • Home as a place of safety • Doing the right thing even when afraid.

Key Words

Vocabulary from the story, chosen to match what readers at this level are learning to read and understand.

- **prairie** — wide, flat, grassy land
- **pack** — a group of animals that stay together
- **clever** — smart and quick-thinking
- **wheat** — a tall, golden plant grown on farms
- **scared** — feeling afraid
- **plan** — an idea about what to do

Let's Talk About It — Questions

Comprehension questions for this grade, using Alberta's before/during/after reading strategies (recall, inferencing, predicting, visualizing, connecting, and analyzing).

1. What did the coyotes want to do to Mopsy? (recall)
2. How did Mopsy get the coyotes to run away? (recall)
3. How did Mopsy escape from Steve? (sequencing)
4. Was the owl an enemy or a friend? How do you know? (inference)
5. Tell about a time you felt brave, like Mopsy. (text-to-self connection)

Sound Play — Phonemic Awareness

Short-sound activities that build phonological and phonemic awareness using words from the story.

Digraphs (two letters, one sound)

- **wh** — wheat, what, whispered
- **th** — the, that, with
- **sh** — shadow, shriek

Beginning blends

- **gr** — grin, grass
- **sn** — snaggletooth, sneak
- **st** — Steve, still, stalk
- **tr** — trick, tripped

Word families

- **-ack**: pack, back, snack, track
- **-ide**: hide, ride, wide, slide

Segment & blend

- Stretch then blend: /f/ /ie/ /l/ /d/ → field; /r/ /u/ /n/ → run.