

START

NANNA Will you just look at all this mess. It's quite a mystery to me how one little boy can make sp much work for his old Nanna.

NANNA Well, what are you waiting for? An invitation?

The Boy reluctantly starts tidying away his toys.

NANNA What about this castle?

BOY Where are the soliders going to live?

NANNA The soliders can live in the toy cupboard.

BOY But what about the –

NANNA To the toy cupboard.

BOY It'll be too –

NANNA To the toy cupboard.

BOY Can't I keep –

NANNA To the toy cupboard.

BOY Just one?

NANNA CUPBOARD!

The Boy and Nanna start to march the soldiers to their barracks. Once Nanna is satisfied the nursery is tidy, she and the Boy prepare for bedtime. But... the Rabbit has been forgotten.

Music: #5 The Velveteen Rabbit (Reprise)

Realising he has been left on the floor, the Rabbit bravely and helpfully tidies himself away into a cupboard.

Nanna gets the Boy ready for bed.

BOY Why is it always bedtime?

NANNA All little boys need their sleep.

BOY And Nannas too?

NANNA And Nannas too.

BOY What story shall we have tonight?

NANNA Not tonight, now. There's company downstairs and I've promised Cook I'll help her out. But if you go to sleep nicely tonight, then there will be a reward in the morning.

BOY What kind of reward?

NANNA What would you like?

BOY Can we go to the lake and sail my boat?

NANNA Well now, what an excellent idea. If you go to sleep nicely tonight, then tomorrow we shall go to the lake just as you say.

The Boy snuggles down to sleep.

BOY Wait! What about China Dog?

NANNA Ah yes, China Dog. *(mutters as she looks)* China Dog, China Dog – where can China Dog be hiding...

BOY *(becoming sleepy)* I can't get to sleep without him.

NANNA I know, I know. *(grumbling)* Heavens, I have time for this tonight. What will Cook say.

Nanna gives up

NANNA I can't find him.

She happens upon the Rabbit

NANNA Here! Take your old bunny. He'll do to sleep with.

She flings the Rabbit into the bed, turns out the light and goes.

NARRATOR That night, and for many nights after, the Velveteen Rabbit slept in the Boy's bed.

END

Music: #6 Going to Bed

The Rabbit and the Boy awkwardly learn to share the bed. The Narrator watches as they figure it out.

NARRATOR At first he found it rather uncomfortable, for the Boy hugged him very tight, and sometimes he rolled over on him, and sometimes he pushed him so far under the pillow that the Rabbit could scarcely breathe.

The bed sequence continues.

And sometimes he missed the long moonlight hours in the nursery, when all the house was silent, and his talks with the Skin Horse.

They become easier bedfellows

But soon ... he grew to like it and when morning came, he found that wherever the boy went, the rabbit went too.

He goes