

## The rosebud who wanted to travel

Once there was a little rosebud, a very shy, little rosebud. Although very shy, this little rosebud dreamed of seeing the world. But the rosebud was small, and she was still very attached to her rosebush. She knew that if she left her rosebush that that could be the end of her. A very scary thought. She did not know what to do.

The little rosebud spent a day and a night thinking this over. How could she travel and see the world if she had to remain attached to her rosebush? She was too shy to talk to anyone about it. So, instead, she began to watch all of the other plants in the garden to see if she could find an idea.

First of all, she saw a dandelion fairy puff. It was flying high, high, high in the sky. "How wonderful" she thought. As the dandelion fairy puff flew up and away from her, he sang out "Goodbye! I'm off to see the world". And "puff", they were gone

Next, she saw some yellow and orange autumn leaves. They tumbled and twirled as they danced their way to the ground. "How exciting" she thought.

As they danced, they cried out with delight on their journeys down, "Wheeeee! Yippee! Yahoo! Come and join us". But the little rosebud just watched them whirl away. Still, she didn't know what to do.

Days and nights passed. The sun shone on the little rosebud and the rain watered the little rosebud. And little by little, she grew. Then one day, she heard someone speaking to her from above. It was an old seed pod hanging from a tree branch. She'd never noticed this seed pod before, but there she was.

The old seed pod spoke to the little rosebud, "Hello there little rosebud. I have had my eye on you. I know that you're feeling very shy, but you must be feeling less shy because you're changing. You're growing. I've watched you growing bigger and bigger over the last days and nights, in the sunshine and rain. And I know that you want to travel the world".

For the first time the little rosebud was brave enough to speak. "Oh I do! I do want to travel the world".

The old seed pod replied, "This will happen in good time. When you are ready for it. I am about to travel the world myself. Just watch".

And the old seed pod opened her mouth and all her seeds tumbled out and seed pod herself tumbled down from the tree and landed on the ground with a gentle “kerthump”.

Laughing from the ground the seed pod cried up to the little rosebud, “It’s wonderful fun! Your turn will come!”

Then, something began to happen. The little rosebud stopped feeling so shy. And one by one her petals began to open, and she became a big, beautiful flower. A rose. She wasn’t shy anymore. Not one bit. The bees came to visit and brought her news from all the garden beds nearby. She was very happy. But still she desired to travel.

Then at last, one glorious sunny autumn afternoon, her petals began to fall off. One by one! One by one, each of her petals took off, flying in the wind – just as the dandelion fairy puff had done. Some petals danced and whirled to the ground, just as the autumn leaves had done. Through her petals the little rosebud, now a rose, was finally travelling. She was seeing the world!

Now, with her petals all flown and danced away, off and travelling the world, she had become an old, old rose. But she was so happy. Her wish to see the world had come true – through her petals! The old seed pod was right. The rosebud became a rose, and that’s exactly when she was no longer shy. She travelled the world in her own way, and exactly when she was ready.

And that’s the end of the story.

Original story by Fern and Peter Barlow, Barking Spider Visual Theatre

Barking Spider



VISUAL THEATRE