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Opening extract from

# Classic Tales of Rupert Bear

Written by

**Alfred Bestall**

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HERITAGE
EGMONT

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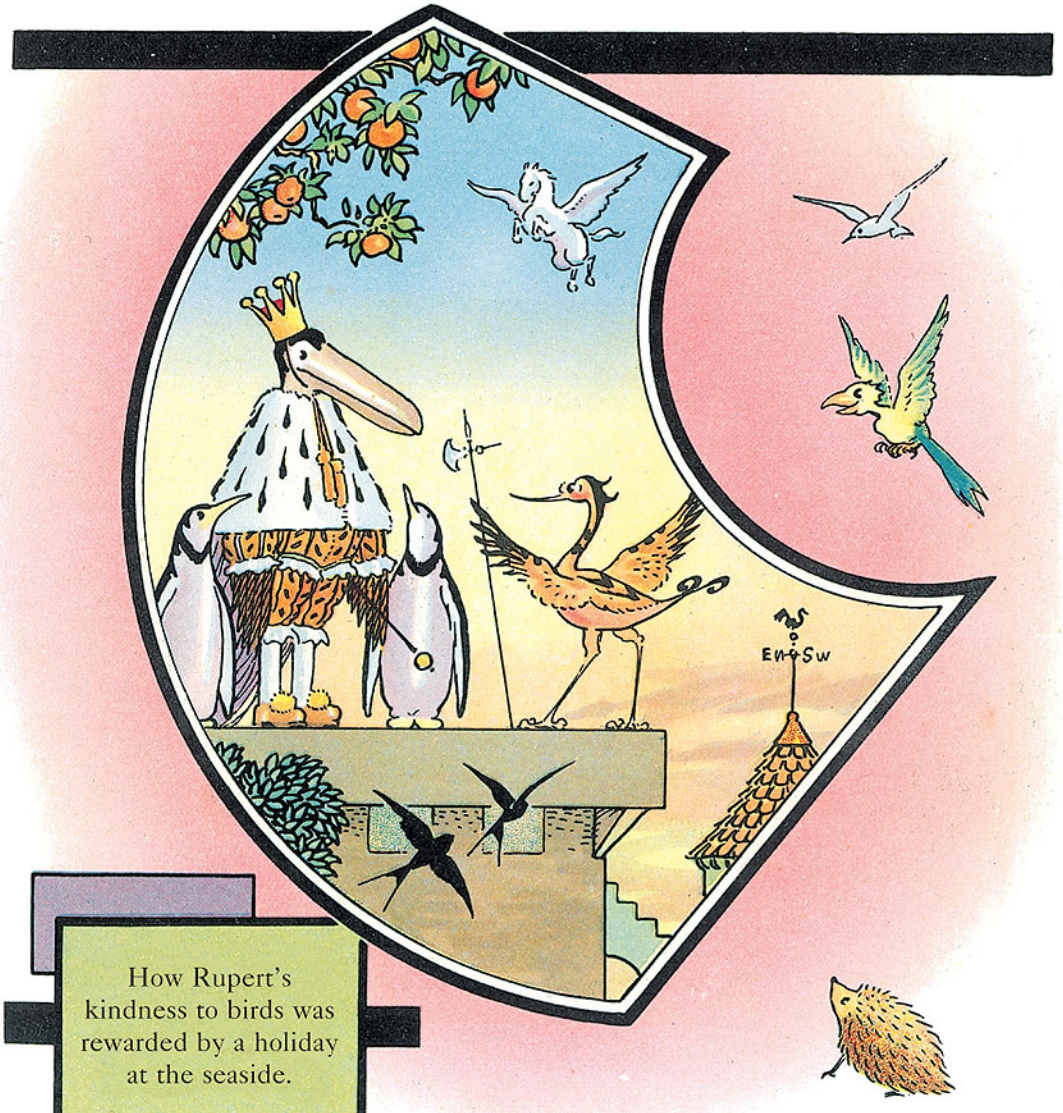
## EGMONT LUCKY COIN

Our story began over a century ago, when seventeen-year-old Egmont Harald Petersen found a coin in the street.

He was on his way to buy a flyswatter, a small hand-operated printing machine that he then set up in his tiny apartment.

The coin brought him such good luck that today Egmont has offices in over 30 countries around the world. And that lucky coin is still kept at the company's head offices in Denmark.

# RUPERT AND THE MARE'S NEST

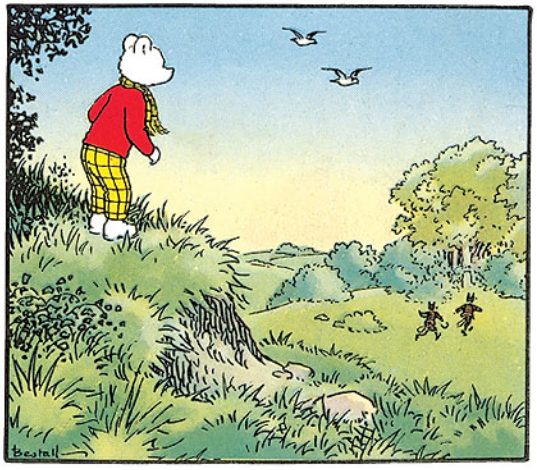



How Rupert's kindness to birds was rewarded by a holiday at the seaside.

*It is a lovely sunny day,*
*And Rupert hurries out to play.*

Summer is beginning and a cool bright day has arrived, the sort of day that makes little bears want to skip about and climb trees, so Rupert, after getting his scarf and asking permission of Mrs. Bear, scampers off in search of adventure.

He hurries in the direction of the Common and soon spies two small figures running towards a stretch of woodland. "I do believe they are Freddy and Ferdy Fox," he murmurs. "What are they up to?"

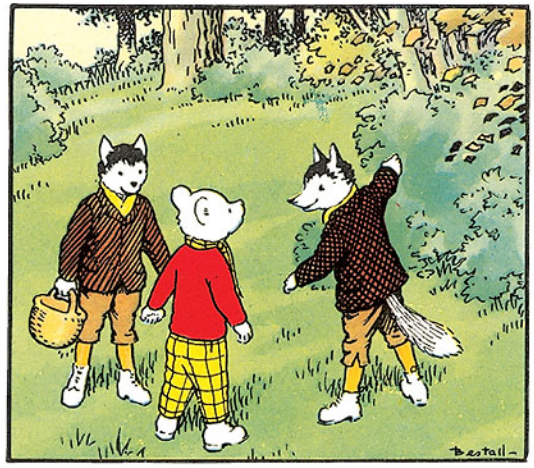


*He meets no friends until, at last,*
*He sees the Foxes, running fast.*

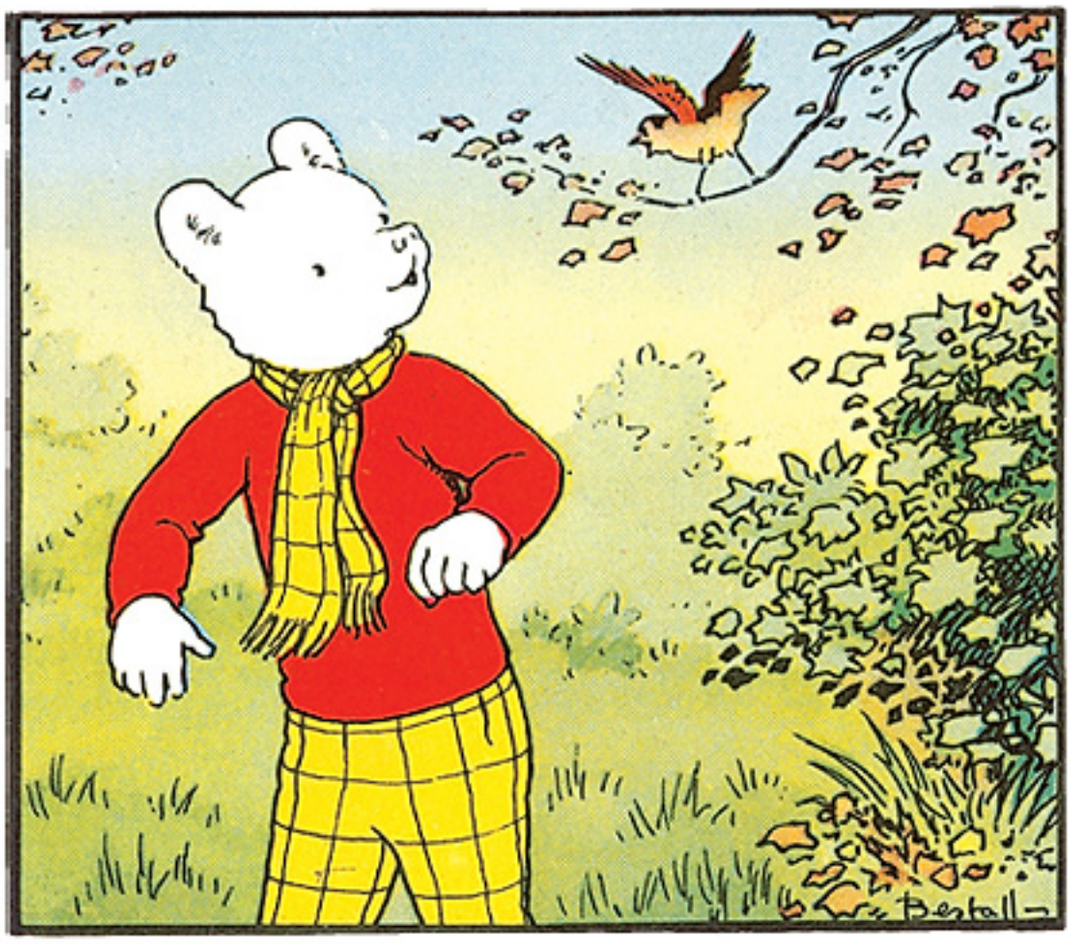
*"Do wait for me," calls Rupert, "please!*
*I want to go and climb some trees."*

Running down the hill and across to the wood, Rupert calls out to them and they wait for him. "It's a topping day," cries the little bear. "Let's climb some trees." "Yes, that's what we're going to do," says Freddy. "Come with us. We're going birds' nesting. Look, we've got a basket to carry home the eggs."

But Rupert steps back. "I love climbing trees," he says. "But why rob the nests? I don't think the birds would care much for that." But the Foxes only laugh at him and move away as if they don't know what he is talking about.



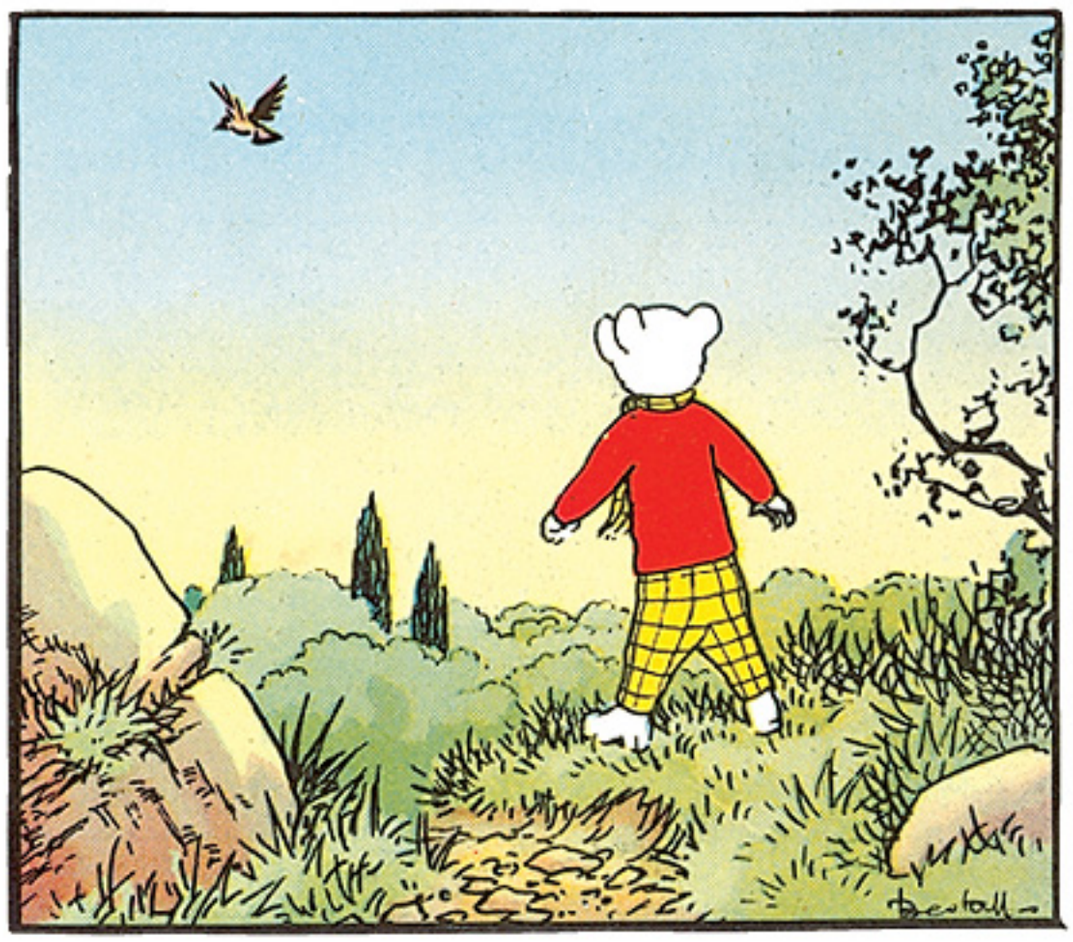
*The Foxes say, "We're going too,*
*But we shall take some birds' eggs too."*



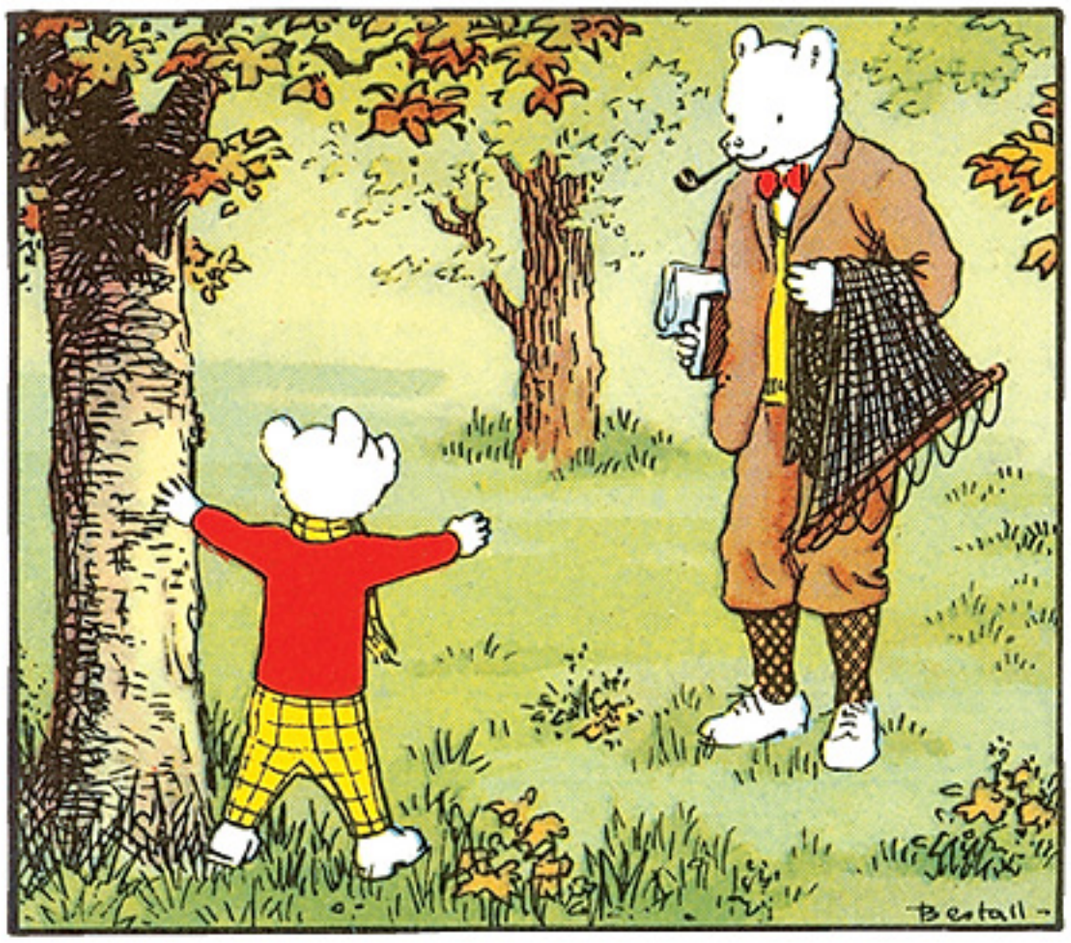
Rupert tries hard to persuade the Foxes to change their plans, but they run into the woods and are soon out of sight. When he turns away he is startled by the shrill little bird perched on a twig.

*A little bird thanks Rupert Bear,*
*For grumbling at that greedy pair.*

"Good for you, Rupert!" it chirrups. "I heard every word you said when you tried to stop those two robbing nests. Perhaps we can do you a good turn one day."



*Now Rupert thinks, "It's strange to me,*
*I wonder where my pals can be?"*



It flies off as quickly as it came and as Rupert can find no other friend on the Common he decides to go home.

*So feeling rather lonely there,*
*He hurries home to Mr. Bear.*

Seeing one of his father's books on the ground he flops down and opens it. "Why are grown-up books so queer?" he thinks. Suddenly he spells out a word and jumps up in excitement.

*They settle down to read and rest,*
*Till Rupert sees the words – "Mare's Nest".*