

The Garden of Fire

Scene one: The Circle of Friends

Deep in the forest, in a clearing under the pine trees Bear, Dragonfly, Deer, Fox, Turtle and Eagle all huddled together to get warm. It has been the coldest winter any of them could remember.

Bear growled: It is so cold my ears almost fell off today.

Deer sighed : My breath has turned into icicles.

Turtle said: I want to go into my shell and never come out.

Eagle exclaimed: My nest is like an iceberg in the North Pole.

Fox shivered: I am so cold I have to do the warm dance every day and go around a hundred times in circles.

Bear said: I have an idea let's work together and make something to keep us warm.

“Where shall we go? What shall we do?” asked fox.

“We can follow the Trail of Ideas it leads to The Path of The Imagination. “, said Dragonfly.

“Okay!” they all said “Let’s go!”

So they all started out on their journey... Well, little did they know but The Path of The Imagination led to a little house on the edge of the forest and there in this house lived a girl named Pauline. She was sleeping, but suddenly woke up when she heard a loud “CRACK” of a tree branch falling outside her house. “Whoa! What was that!” she exclaimed.

Scene two: Seeds of Light

It was cold in her house and Pauline wrapped her blanket tight around herself. Then she remembered and said out loud, “I just had a wonderful dream!” But then, she had another surprise... peering in her window were Bear, Fox, Eagle, Turtle and Dragonfly... Slowly Pauline climbed out of bed, walked to the door, and opened it a tiny crack.

The animals all said together,
“We are cold! May we come in?”

“Sure”, said Pauline, “come inside.”

They all sat in a circle on the floor of the house.

From under her bed Pauline pulled out a clay jar. She handed each animal a little seed.

“I want to tell you my dream,” she said, “The amazing thing is, you were all in it! I dreamt I had a jar with seeds of light and when you planted them a *Garden of Fire* sprouted, blossomed and grew”

“*Garden of Fire?*” they all said.

“It’s like a *Garden of Fire*,” said Pauline, “when all the shiny vegetables and bright flowers glisten in the sun, and when the fireflies flicker around the garden at night it looks like sparks.”

Then each one of them looked at the tiny seeds they had been given...

“Mine will grow into a shiny green pepper,” said Turtle.

“Mine will grow into a bright tomato,” exclaimed Fox

“Mine will blossom into a sunflower, ” said Dragonfly.

“Mine into an ear of corn as yellow as the sun!” said Deer

Then Eagle said, “When we plant the seeds of our imaginations they can also grow into a *“Garden of Fire .”*

They each looked at their seeds again...

“My seed of the imagination will grow into MUSIC and drums that will beat out the rhythm and help things grow!” said Fox.

“My seed of the imagination will grow into POETRY and words that will ring out and help things blossom,” said Turtle.

“My seed of the imagination will grow into paintings on flags that will flutter with rainbows of color in the wind and encourage the STRENGTH of the garden!” said Dragonfly.

Suddenly Bear began to cry. (pause) “What is wrong?” asked Eagle.

“I know what will happen,” said Bear, “we will plant this beautiful garden and then winter will come again and everything will die.” Everyone was quiet for a moment. Then Turtle said, “That is true, but we can help each other through the winter with stories and songs and help each other through the hard times.” (pause)

“And then in the spring we can plant a new garden again with the seeds we have saved from the harvest this fall ,” said Fox.

“Yes,” said Deer, “and all the memories of all the gardens before will live in the layers of the earth and we will never forget them.”

Scene 3: Shaping the Earth

Spring came and Pauline and the animals gathered together.

“Let's get the garden ready!” said Deer.

“But first,” said Pauline, “I have an idea! The ground is soft from the spring rains and I know a place where we can dig out clay. It's just over there if you follow the *Path of The Imagination*.

“I see something,” said Eagle. “What do you see?” asked Bear.

“I see something with my inner eye.”

“You have an inner eye?” asked Dragonfly.

“My inner eye can see my inner thoughts,” said Eagle “my thought is to gather the clay and make beautiful bowls almost like nests to hold the vegetables that we will grow.”

“We can form them and decorate them with the patterns and shapes and designs we see in the vegetables and flowers,” said Turtle. So Bear, Eagle, Dragonfly, Deer, Turtle and Pauline all set off to scoop out clay from the earth and shaped it into wonderful bowls. They set them out to dry in the sun and then followed the *Path of The Imagination* back to the part of the ground that they would dig and turn and work and form into their glistening *Garden of Fire*.

Now YOU will grow and harvest your own Garden of Fire