



Munch's Moo-sic

Once upon a Munch Time, there was a cow called Munch, and like all cows, Munch had a talent.

You may not know it, but cows can have many talents! Some cows like to paint beautiful pictures with their hoof-prints. Other cows like to do clever gymnastics. Some like to grow wonderful gardens of buttercups and cow-slips.

Munch loved to sing. She loved to sing more than anything in the world! She could sing marvellous melodies and lovely lyrics. Munch would sing whenever she could. And even when she dreamt, she would dream about music.

But Munch only sang in secret. Only her best friend, Buckle the Horse knew about Munch's talent. Munch was the only cow in the whole of Munchton who loved to sing, and she was scared that people might laugh at her for it. **"Cows cannot hold a tune"**, she had been told, **"only birds can sing in Munchton."**

Munch tried to find a new talent, one better suited to a cow. She tried to become a painter, but it was too sloppy! She tried to do gymnastics, but it was too scary! She tried to become a gardener, but it was too muddy! What she really loved – the only thing she loved - was music. So Buckle came-up with a plan...

During one sunny and windy Saturday, the residents of Munchton held a Talent Show. All the animals gathered together in the field to have fun. Scruffy the Badger set up some games, and Ginger the Fox had baked her yummy cakes. In the middle of the field was a stage for people to display their talents.

Buckle and Munch gathered many old feathers from Old Pecky the Hen, and stuck them all over Munch's body. They made a yellow beak and some birdy feet out of cardboard, and Munch got dressed up. Suddenly, she didn't look like a cow anymore. She looked like a giant feathery bird!

"You look brilliant!", said Buckle, **"I almost don't recognise you."**

Munch was nervous. **"Are you sure this will work?"** she murmured quietly.

"Of course it will work" said Buckle, **"you want to sing don't you?"**

"More than anything" said Munch, feeling more confident.

Buckle smiled at his friend and said **"Then go and be the best singer Munchton has ever seen!"** and he gave Munch a big hug, being careful not to ruin her feathers.

After a few people had shown-off their talents, Munch lumbered onto the stage in her costume. She looked straight ahead, beyond the crowd, and tried to steady her nerves. Taking a deep breath, she started singing her favourite song.



The judges instantly smiled and took notes, impressed with Munch's talent. The whole crowd started cheering and whooping for this mysterious large bird singing to them so beautifully. But suddenly, the wind got stronger. The tablecloth of the cake-stall flapped about and the judges notebooks blew all around, and so did Munch's feathers! She had tried to keep a hold of them, but they just wouldn't stay. Before she could stop them, they had blown right off her, and flown across the field.

"Oh no!" Buckle shouted.

Munch was no longer in her bird costume. The whole crowd gasped in shock. **"A singing cow? Impossible!"**

For a few moments, everyone was silent, and Munch wanted to run, run, run away and hide. But then one judge started clapping. And then the others joined in. Soon everyone was clapping, cheering, and smiling at Munch.

"Three cheers for the Munch, the musical cow!" shouted Whippy the Rabbit, **"Hip hip, hooray! Hip hip, hooray! HIP HIP HOORAY!"**

Munch had never been so happy in all her life! One of the judges handed her a large blue ribbon, and said **"Thank you Munch, for sharing your wonderful music."**

"It is not music" Munch said grinning, **"it is moo-sic!"**

From that point on, Munch was the most musical cow in Munchton. She sang more than she ever had done before, for anyone who would listen. She could even out sing the birds! And the residents of Munchton learnt to appreciate their talents, no matter what they were, whether they were a painter, a gardener, or a marvellous musical cow!