

The Tail Wagging Adventures of Patches and Rowdy:

A CURVE IN THE ROAD

By Cindy Taft

It was a beautiful morning, and Patches and Rowdy were doing one of their favorite things – wresting in the cool morning grass. One-minute Patches pinned Rowdy and a quick move later, Rowdy gently tackled Patches.

“That was fun,” said Patches. “Gets my blood pumping and my old bones moving.”

“You’re not old,” said Rowdy. “You’re young at heart!” Patches was Rowdy’s best friend. They did everything together.

“What’s next?” asked Rowdy.

“Let’s go explore.”

Patches and Rowdy headed past the park. Suddenly, a quick movement caught their attention.

“Good morning! How are you today?” said a quiet little voice.

Rowdy explored further and found a little brown bunny hiding behind some daisies.

“Hi! We’re doing great. I’m Rowdy and this is Patches.”

“My name’s Sable. Nice to meet you!”

Rowdy loved to make new friends. “How is your morning going?”

Sable hopped out from behind the flowers. “I’m fine, but I’m a little scared.”

“What are you scared of?” asked Patches.

“My mom wants me to find a new patch of clover for my brothers and sisters. I’ve never hopped down that road before and I don’t know what’s around that curve.”

Sable was staring down a dark path. Shadows seemed to dance with every breeze that blew.

“We’ve never taken this road either,” said Patches. “But everyone must face a curve in a road sometime in their lifetime. You need to take a hop of faith to find out what lies beyond that curve. Life is full of adventures. They can be scary, but they can also be lots of fun. Let’s see where this trail leads us!”

Patches led the way while Rowdy walked slowly by Sable’s side. She was a little afraid of the unknown as she slowly hopped behind Patches, but her new friends gave her the courage she needed to go on.

As they wandered along, Patches walked over near the left side of the trail and looked down below. “Come see,” he called. Rowdy and Sable looked over the side and saw a beautiful little bubbling stream rolling along the rocks.

“Looks like a great place for a cool drink on a hot day!”

Rowdy and Sable agreed.

As they continued down the path, golden light filtered through the leaves and the birds were making glorious music all around them. A woodpecker made his presence known by looking for a few insects in an old maple tree. Squirrels went chasing each other through the bushes.

Finally, they reached the end of the woods. There before them was one of the prettiest fields they had ever seen, and it was filled with clover!

“It’s perfect,” Sable said as she quickly hopped over to the flowers. “Mom’s going to be so happy when she sees this. I can’t thank you guys enough for helping me find it and for helping me face my fear.”

Patches and Rowdy trotted over to Sable. A moment later, they noticed two small rabbits chasing each other across the field, heading right toward them.

“Hi! You must be new around here. My name’s Boomer and this is my sister, Willow. Welcome to Clover Hill!”

“Thank you. My name is Sable, and these are my friends, Patches and Rowdy. My family and I are looking for a new place to live. It’s beautiful here!”

“There’s always room for another family,” said Boomer.

Sable had found what she had been looking for and after a quick goodbye, Patches and Rowdy left Sable with her new friends and they continued down the road in search of their next adventure.
