

FLUFFY RUFFLES

Drawings by Wallace Morgan
Verses by Charles Battell Loomis



TRADDLES TRIES AGAIN.

"Of all the men that I have met," said Fluffy's maiden aunt, Joe Traddles is the human-est. He's awkward, that I grant, But if you gave him half a chance to show what he could do I'm sure he'd risk both life and limb to prove his love for you." Said Fluffy Ruffles with a pout, "Of all the men I've struck That poor Joe Traddles seems to have the very meanest luck And if I were to marry him and be his faithful wife Ill luck would hit us every day throughout our married life."



"But still you'll give him one more chance? Now, won't you, Fluffy, dear?"
"I always give him one more chance. That's why it seems so queer. Some days I think I like him, then he doesn't come to call, And then he calls to see me and—I like him not at all. To-day he isn't coming, and to-day I'm fond of him. Why, who's that coming here on foot? You look, my sight is dim." "It's he, I wonder what he wants." "You wonder. How you talk. Of course he's come to ask you out to take a little walk."



They walked out through the fragrant fields and Traddles with his stick Went whipping at the flowers as the easiest way to pick. He laid them low, then picked them up and handed them to "Her." "Miss Fluffy, I would like to say"—(her heart began to stir). The words he wanted would not come, he fanned the summer air, And cut the turf up with his stick (a form of silent swear). "Miss Fluffy, have you ever thought"— "Oh, yes," said Fluffy, "oft." "I mean, Miss Fluffy, have you thought of me?" Here Joseph coughed.

"I'm thinking of you now," said she. "Do you forget the rest?" His mouth he opened, waved his stick and—hit a hornets' nest. The angry hornets came in droves, they came in swarms as well; They also came in "zizzing" clouds, and on poor Joseph fell. He tore his coat from off his back and covered Fluffy's head, Then, seizing her around the waist, across the fields he sped. His tongue was stung, he could not speak, and Fluffy was alarmed, Yet, though quite dumb, he smiled with joy, for Fluffy was unharmed.



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