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Opening extract from **Fuzzypeg the Hedgehog**

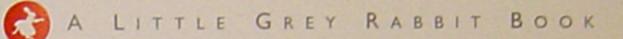
Written by Alison Uttley

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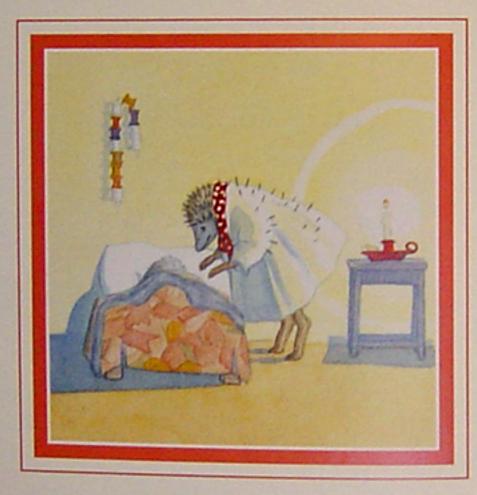


THE STORY OF FUZZYPEG THE HEDGEHOG



By Alison Uttley Pictures by Margaret Tempest





E ARLY ONE SUMMER MORNING, when the white mist lay over the fields like a soft blanket, old Milkman Hedgehog uncurled himself and rolled out of bed.

"Don't wake Fuzzypeg," called Mrs Hedgehog, as he struggled with a sheet that was all mixed up in his prickles.

He stooped over Fuzzypeg, who lay curled up in bed, a small ball of spikes. "He'll be a grand fellow when he is grown up," he said to his wife.

* 3 %



Hedgehog went downstairs with his prickles lowered, lest they should brush the whitewash off the ceiling, and walked into the kitchen. Mrs Hedgehog polished him up with a duster and gave him a clean brown handkerchief.

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He opened the door and took down from a branch a small wooden yoke, which he slung across his shoulders. From it he hung two little wooden pails, then he started off to get the milk.

"Don't be late," called Mrs Hedgehog. "Breakfast is at six o'clock today. It is Fuzzypeg's birthday."

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