

## Chasing the Sunset

Blair the bird was afraid of the dark. The immensity of the blackness made her fearful of everything that could be so close to her. Every day when the sun set, she felt this pang of fear that she was in danger. Then one day, Blair had a brilliant idea. "I don't ever have to say goodbye to the sun! I will just catch it!" So Blair packed her things and went on a journey.

Blair flew and flew until she reached the desert. She saw a snake slithering along and went to go ask him if he knew how to catch the sun. "My name issss Ssssseth," the snake called Seth said. "Why do you want to catch the ssssun? It issss sssso hot all the time, it'sss nice to get a break! Pleassee don't catch the sssun! I love the nighttime." Blair knew Seth was not going to help her, so she took her things and flew away.

Blair flew high and low, until she came across the majestic ocean. She saw a dolphin swimming in the waves and flew over to him. "Hi! I am trying to catch the sun, can you help me?" she asked. "I would love to! I love the sun too! But I live underneath the waves, so I cannot help you in your search. Good luck!" he said. So Blair flew away.

Brady saw a horse drinking water in the fields and went to go ask her if it knew how to catch the sun. "Can you help me catch the sun?" she asked. The horse looked up from the water and said, "No, I will not. I am tired, you see. I have been riding all day and that seems like a lot of work." The horse returned to her water and Blair flew away.

Blair felt herself getting really cold. Then, she saw a figure in the distance and flew closer. It was a penguin! "Can you help me catch the sun?" she asked. "Why would I need to?" he asked. "The sun comes around for a really long time up here. I have a lot of sun here. I doesn't matter anyway, though. It's still freezing up here." Blair was getting very cold, so she decided to fly away.

Blair flew for a long time, until she found a raccoon. "Hi," she said. "Can you help me chase the sun?" The raccoon stared at her with angry eyes. "No," he said. "My only time for food comes when the sun goes down. Chasing the sun is a waste of time." Dejected once more, Brady flittered off into the distance.

Blair found a giraffe some time later. "Hi," she said. "Can you help me catch the sun?" The giraffe turned and blinked at her. "I really want to, but I am too afraid of leaving home. I am afraid of other worlds, and I don't think I will survive." Blair nodded in understanding, and flew away.

It was getting dark, and Blair saw a tree to rest in. However, when she got there, she found that it was already occupied by an owl.

"Can you help me catch the sun?" she asked.

The owl looked at her calmly and said, "The sun is not something you can catch."

Blair looked at him in surprise. "Really?" she asked.

"Yes, the sun is far away and it is beyond our control," the owl said.

Blair started to cry. She hated the darkness, and now there was no solution...

Blair flew some more until she found a monkey.

"Can you help me catch the sun?" she asked.

"I am really good at grabbing things," says the monkey, peeling a banana. "But I can't ever grab the sun. I have tried and tried for years but it isn't possible. I don't think you should waste your time."

Blair felt dejected. Her dreams were dashed...

All of a sudden, she heard a buzzing behind her. She turned to see a firefly coming towards her.

"My name is Frankie," he said. "I heard that you have been trying to catch the sun!"

Blair nodded sadly. "I cannot catch the sun though," she said.

"That's okay, don't be afraid. I'll be your light," he said. His bulb flickered behind him.

Blair smiled. *Finally*, she thought.