



★ **A Better Best Friend**

Olivier Tallec

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This humorous story demonstrates the value of a best friend—or two. A squirrel out for a summer walk stumbles on a shy mushroom, Pock; he decides Pock will be the best friend he’s always wanted. “You can have lots of friends. But a BEST friend is different,” asserts the squirrel. “With them you have your very best times.” When a bug, Moo, arrives in the spring, the squirrel is conflicted over who his “better best friend” is; a fourth arrival brings a wholesome solution.

DANIELLE BALLANTYNE (March / April 2024)

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