

Kindness

A story about Rolie the woodlouse



By Hollie Rhodes



**Our story begins with a sad little creature,
Who is curled in a ball, so that no one can see her,
Rolie the woodlouse is sad and alone,
Hiding out in her damp little home.**



**All that she wanted to do was to play,
But all of the other bugs sent her away,
You see Rolie is different from everyone else,
There's not many who want to be friends with a
woodlouse.**



**Rolie is strange and just a little bit smelly,
And this is because of how she fills up her belly.
To her rotten leaves are the dish of the day,
She eats anything rotting, mouldy or starting to decay.**



**So Rolie has become a shy little creature,
A hard shell on her back as a self-defence feature,
At the first sign of trouble, she'll curl up in a ball,
But inside Rolie just feels so sad and so small.**



**Rolie would love to be surrounded by others,
But most of the time she spends inside her cover,
Where she can blend into the background and hide away,
This she repeats day after day.**



**Sometimes she's been brave and asked to join in,
But when the answer is no, it makes her feel grim.
She doesn't know how to make things change,
Rolie is starting to worry that perhaps she is strange.**



**Rolie feels left out and alone,
Wishing she had a friend of her own,
She talks to her mum who tells her to be,
As kind and as caring as she would like a friend to be.**



**Rolie decides she's got nothing to lose,
She'll do anything to get rid of her blues,
And although she is nervous and a little bit scared,
Her mum is wise and she knows that she cares.**



**So Rolie decides to give it a try,
To be friendly and kind to all who go by,
She puts on a smile and waves with good cheer,
She makes sure she says hi to whoever is near.**



**She says please and thank you, and waits patiently in line,
She helps put away the toys at tidy up time,
She looks out for anyone who is all on their own,
Because she knows how sad it feels to be alone.**



**By the end of the week Rolie feels happy and glad,
She hasn't curled away in a ball feeling sad,
She has done her very best to spread kindness and care,
And because of her things are different everywhere.**



**The other bugs are starting to copy her ways,
There hasn't been an argument in so many days,
Everyone is sharing and playing together,
And everyone is smiling no matter the weather.**



**Where once Rolie was lonely and all by herself,
Now everyone is friends with this woodlouse,
Who champions kindness and looks out for all,
When Rolie is around no one ever feels small.**



**So if you ever feel left out and alone,
Wishing you had a friend of your own,
Remember you can choose to be,
As kind and as caring as you would like a friend to be.**



**With kindness as armour and a smile on your face,
You can help make the world a wonderful place,
When you champion kindness and show others care,
You can make a difference anywhere.**