



Rose's Big Dance



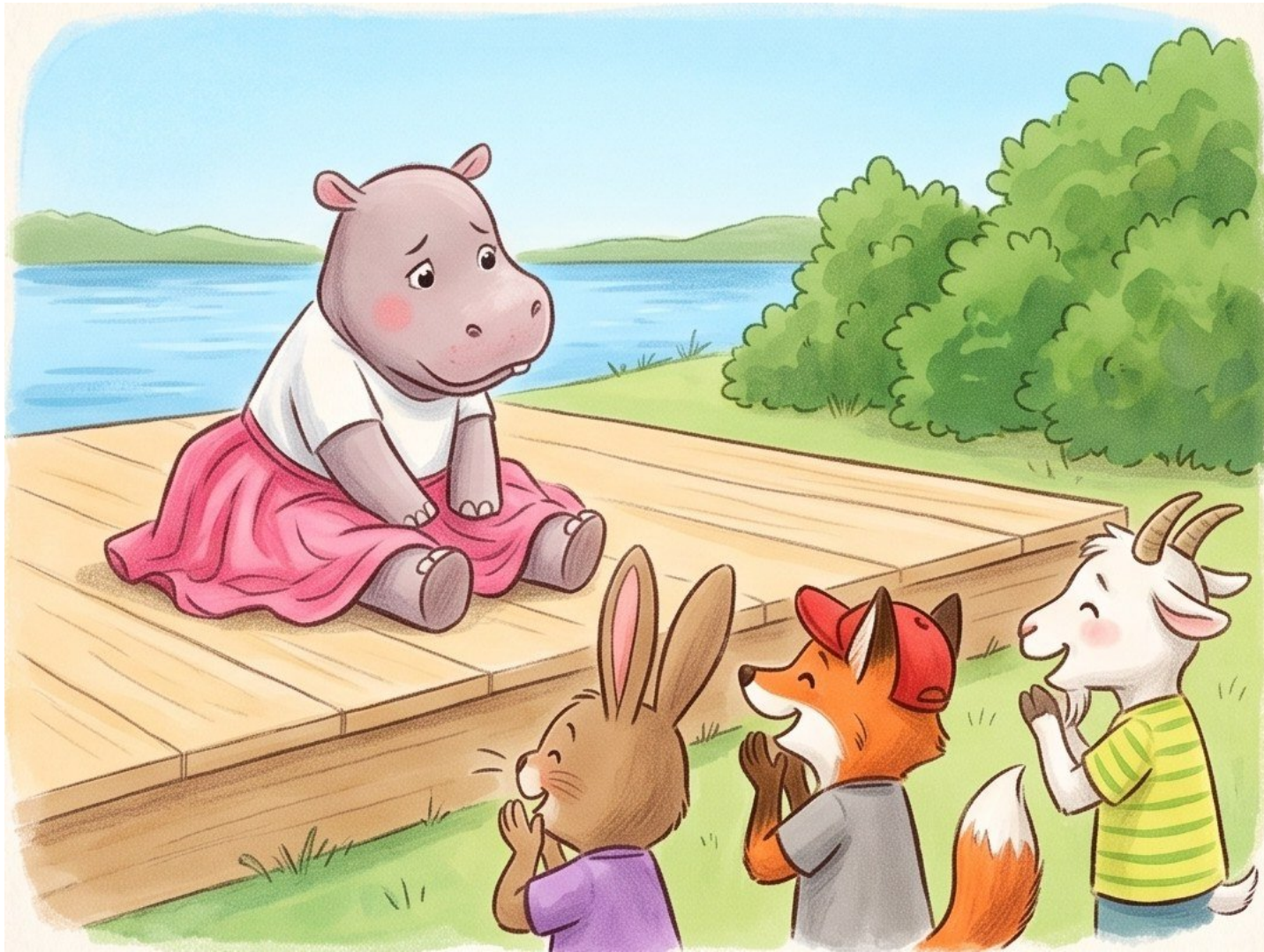
Rose stood on the wooden stage by the lake. Today was the day of the big dance contest. The sunny sky was bright and clear. Rose wore a pink skirt. Her pink skirt was big and full, so it would swirl and swish. Her good pal Jay sat on a bench nearby to watch the show.



He had a big smile on his face and waved at her. Rose was ready to show off her best steps. The loud music began to play. Rose took a deep breath and started to dance. Her first step was a quick hop to the side.



Then she did a slow, smooth, perfect spin. She wanted to make a grand statement with her next step. She planned to do a very high jump and then a fast run. Rose jumped up high for her biggest movement yet. But as she landed, her foot hit a bump on the stage.



She slipped and crashed down hard on the wood. A few people in the crowd began to giggle at her mistake. Rose felt a deep wave of sadness wash over her. Suddenly, a feeling of weakness made her want to run away and hide in the bushes.



She felt like crying. Rose sat on the wood for a moment. She thought about giving up and going home. But then she looked at Jay. He did not laugh at all. He just gave her a kind nod and a warm smile.



That sweet kindness gave Rose a flash of boldness. She would not let a simple trip stop her fun. This was a good time to make up a new move! Instead of getting up slowly, Rose spun around on the floor. She rolled and kicked her legs in time with the beat of the song.



It was a silly, playful trick. Jay jumped up and yelled. "That is the way to do it!" he called. "Keep going, Rose!" He began to clap his hands and tap his feet to the fast music. Soon, the whole crowd stopped giggling. They started clapping and shouting too.



They loved her funny floor spin. Rose stood up and finished her dance with a big bow. A huge rush of happiness filled her chest.

She did not win the top prize that day, but she was glad anyway. Turning a bad fall into a grand dance was her best achievement of all.