

THE FIRST EASTER TREE

In Bright Hollow, in the Smokies,
Where lots of Bunnies make their home,
Lived Old Gray Hare, Grandfather Easter,
The "Easter Bunny" as he is known

But his age had slowed him down.
Just last year he was almost caught.
He needed a bunny a whole lot faster;
A new replacement must be sought.

He really liked young Billy Bunny,
'Cause Billy loved all girls and boys.
Billy made great Jelly Beans,
But he couldn't make the chocolate toys.

Billy had long floppy ears.
Perhaps they helped him jump so high.
For when he leaped he was so fast
'Twas just a brown streak in the sky.

Billy went to Bunny School.
Worked hard; made "A's" and "B's"
At Bunny Games he was the best.
Could hide in bushes, jump small trees.

Grandfather Easter sat one day
Beneath a lonely, little tree.
The tree was weeping, oh so softly,
"Dogwoods bloom, so why not me?"

Grandfather said, "We'll decorate,
Like we do at Christmas time.
We'll cover you with Easter eggs,
Tied with ribbons, and bright twine."

And as I watch the decorating
We will play a 'Bunny Game'
The highest ribbon on the tree,
Gets to take my 'Easter' name."

Early Spring the bunnies gathered
They decorated the little tree.
As they jumped and danced, they shouted,
"Please, Grandfather, look at me."

Billy's Mommy, Bonnie Bunny,
Kissed him. Said, "Do good for me."
He thumped his foot and then he jumped
Over the top of the little tree.

By Lex Tinsley

But he forgot to hang his ribbon.
There was no proof that he had won.
Grandfather said, "Perhaps next year.
We'll wait and see how you have done."

The little tree was lovely then
With tiny bows and bits of string
That all would soon become a part
Of the birds' nests in the Spring..

Billy practiced everyday
Next year the winner he would be.
And with a kiss from Mommy Bunny,
He'd jump over the little tree.

With Easter just a week away.
Grandfather Easter caught a cold,
He couldn't carry all the baskets.
There were more than he could hold.

Billy did the basket making.
Other Bunnies pitched in, too.
Bonnie Bunny made candy toys,
The joys of chocolate, that she knew.

Easter Eve the bunnies traveled.
Taking baskets to every one.
Sunday morning boys and girls,
Shared the Easter Bunny fun

'Twas more than just one Easter Bunny,
The bunnies had become a team.
Grandfather Easter knew forever,
There would be an Easter Dream.

And the Easter Tree was blooming then.
It had blossoms after all.
It soon would have sweet apples,
For the bunnies in the fall.

Billy Bunny proved that he
Could lead if they would follow.
He became the Easter Leader
And there was joy in Bunny Hollow.

Copywrite by Lex Tinsley – Nashville, TN