

#141 Mama Deer and Her Fauns

A mother deer was grazing on Solomon's seal on the bank of a mountain with her two fauns in tow. They lived near a farm. Suddenly, the farmer came out of the barn and told his wife that it looked like there might not be enough corn to feed the animals this year. She expressed that the crop looked to her like it would do just fine. Then, as she went into the sun to pick some lettuce for lunch, he said that the sun was so hot, that he couldn't see how the lettuce leaves weren't burning. As they sat down under a tree for a meal, they discussed the barn. The farmer remarked how the oak posts and beams might give way in the years to come. His wife laughed and agreed ... yet admitted that the oak would probably outlast she and her husband.

All this time the fauns listened and learned. They were trying to learn the language of these strange humans. Just as they thought they were beginning to understand, there appeared new words and phrases to confuse them. So, they ran to their mother and asked, "Mama, the farmer and his wife do not use the same words to describe the same things. It is almost like they are speaking two different languages. Can that be?" Their mother just laughed and replied, "You are very observant. The wife speaks in a way that the husband does not yet understand. It is the language of hope."

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