

The Tale of the Pie and the Patty Pan

by Beatrix Potter adapted by EveryReader

Adapted to Lexile Level 275





Once there was a cat named Ribby.
She asked her friend, a little dog named
Duchess, to come to tea.



Ribby wrote a letter.
She said, "Come at four-fifteen."



She said she would bake a pie in a pink-rim dish.

She said Duchess could eat the pie.



Ribby would eat muffins.
Duchess read the letter.



She felt worried.



She thought, "What if the pie is mouse pie? I cannot eat mouse pie!"



Duchess had made her own pie at home.
It was veal and ham.



She had put a small tin patty-pan in it to hold up the crust.

Her pie was in a pink and white dish too.



Ribby put her mouse-and-bacon pie in the bottom oven.

Then she went to the shop for tea, sugar, and muffins.



Duchess ran to Ribby's house.
She could not see Ribby's pie anywhere.



She put her own pie in the top oven.
Then she ran home.



Ribby came back.
She checked the bottom oven.



Her pie was hot and brown.
It smelled very good.



At four o'clock, Duchess came with flowers.
They sat down to tea.



Ribby poured tea.
Ribby ate muffins.



Duchess ate the pie.



Duchess ate very fast.
She looked for the patty-pan with her spoon.



She could not find it.
She felt afraid.



She thought, "I swallowed the patty-pan!"



Ribby said, "There was no patty-pan in my pie."

Duchess moaned.



She felt sick all over.
Ribby ran to get the doctor.



While Ribby was gone, Duchess opened the top oven.
She smelled veal and ham.



She saw her own pie.
She saw the little tin patty-pan through a
hole in the crust.



Duchess gasped.
She said, "I ate mouse pie!"



She felt silly.
She put her veal-and-ham pie outside the
back door.



Then she sat by the fire and closed her eyes.



Ribby came back with Dr. Maggotty, the magpie.

He gave Duchess a small bread pill.



Duchess said she felt better.



Duchess went home before dark.
She felt very silly.



Later, Ribby went out to wash the tea things.
She found a pink and white pie-dish, broken
in the yard.
Ribby stared.



She found the tin patty-pan under the pump.
She said, "So there really was a patty-pan!"
She shook her head.

She said, "Next time I have a party, I will
invite Cousin Tabitha instead."