

# Bruin, the old teddy bear

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Bruin was feeling very sad. He did not know why this was. He lived in a pretty house, and although he was getting very old, he was always warm and comfortable on the shelf in the toy cupboard. Each day was quiet and peaceful. He was only disturbed occasionally when Mrs Pimm, the cleaner, dusted his shelf.



He did remember one terrible day, when Mrs Pimm had said he was getting too dusty. She lifted him up and used a horrible noisy machine with a long pipe to suck all the dust away. It was very annoying for Bruin, especially when his nose and ears were sucked up into the pipe!

Apart from that, Bruin could not remember very much. The days were all the same and toy bears do not have very good memories. Why was he so sad, he wondered?

Then, one day, Bruin heard a familiar sound. It was children's voices and feet running up and down the stairs. Light poured in as the door of the toy cupboard opened. Suddenly, Bruin was being lifted off his shelf by familiar hands.

"He's still here!" exclaimed the voice he knew so well. Now Bruin could see the face too – it was his old childhood playmate, William, who looked different somehow. "Maybe he is older too, like me," thought Bruin.

William handed Bruin to a little boy, who looked very like him.

"Here's my old favourite teddy bear. He was my grandfather's teddy, a long time ago. He's yours to play with now. Make sure you look after him well, as I did," said William.

Bruin was elated. At last he remembered happier days and now they would begin all over again. Bruin was a happy teddy bear again at last.