



by Yael

# Ruchie Rabbit Has a Problem

“Oh Ruchie,” said Raizy, “Just when will you stop?  
If you put your paw down you’ll be able to hop,  
Only babies still suck on their paws while awake,  
I’m afraid that you’re making an awful mistake.”

Ruchie cried as she listened to Raizy’s mean jeers.  
“I’m not a baby!” she said through her tears.  
“I know lots of bunnies that suck on their thumbs.  
I’ll stop when I’m ready. Yes! When the time comes.”

Ruchie ran to her mother and sat on her lap.  
Said Ruchie, “I feel like I’m stuck in a trap.  
I know that it’s babyish, sucking my paw,  
But I feel like I always need something to gnaw.”

So Mother and Ruchie, they secretly planned,  
They bought some white gloves and they covered her hand,  
She told all her siblings her hands were quite cold,  
But really her hands needed something to hold.

And the gloves did the trick, she did not suck her paw,  
Well, at least for six hours her thumb wasn’t raw,  
But then she just couldn’t hold out anymore,  
So she ripped off those gloves, threw them down on the floor.

And she sucked while pretending that she didn’t care,  
That her siblings were teasing, and it wasn’t fair.  
For she wanted to stop but she couldn’t hold out,  
She’d be sucking when she was near twenty no doubt!



“You know,” Mother said, in her wise mother way,  
“If you tell them the truth things might turn out okay.  
Tell your siblings it’s hard, and you might be surprised  
That they’ll help you with some of the plans they’ve devised.”

With much trepidation Ruchie trudged back inside,  
“I don’t want to suck anymore,” she cried.  
“Let me help!” Raizy said, “For that’s just what I meant;  
We’re all right behind you one hundred percent.”

Raizy put bad-tasting stuff on Ruchie’s paw,  
But Ruchie just washed it off and continued to gnaw.  
Raizy wrapped Ruchie’s hand with a bandage of gauze,  
But she ripped it right off of her poor aching paws.

And then Raizy thought of a winner for sure,  
She hopped down the road, and she brought home her cure,  
A basket of carrots from old farmer Joe,  
Famed for their taste and their bright orange glow.

And Ruchie, well clearly she couldn’t resist;  
She chomped them all day and her thumb wasn’t missed.  
One day became two; she felt so big and proud  
That she soon told herself, “My thumb isn’t allowed.”

But the thing that helped most was her sister’s support:  
Raizy waited each day for the “thumb-sucking report.”  
And Ruchie was so very glad that she’d shared,  
Giving Raizy her chance to show Ruchie she cared. 😊

