



The Rosen Rabbits Get Their Shots

by Yael Mermelstein

Mother looked over the charts by the door.
“I’m sorry,” she said. “Raizy needs just one more.”
“Then I won’t go,” said Raizy. “I won’t get a shot!
It pricks and it sticks and hurts quite a lot.”

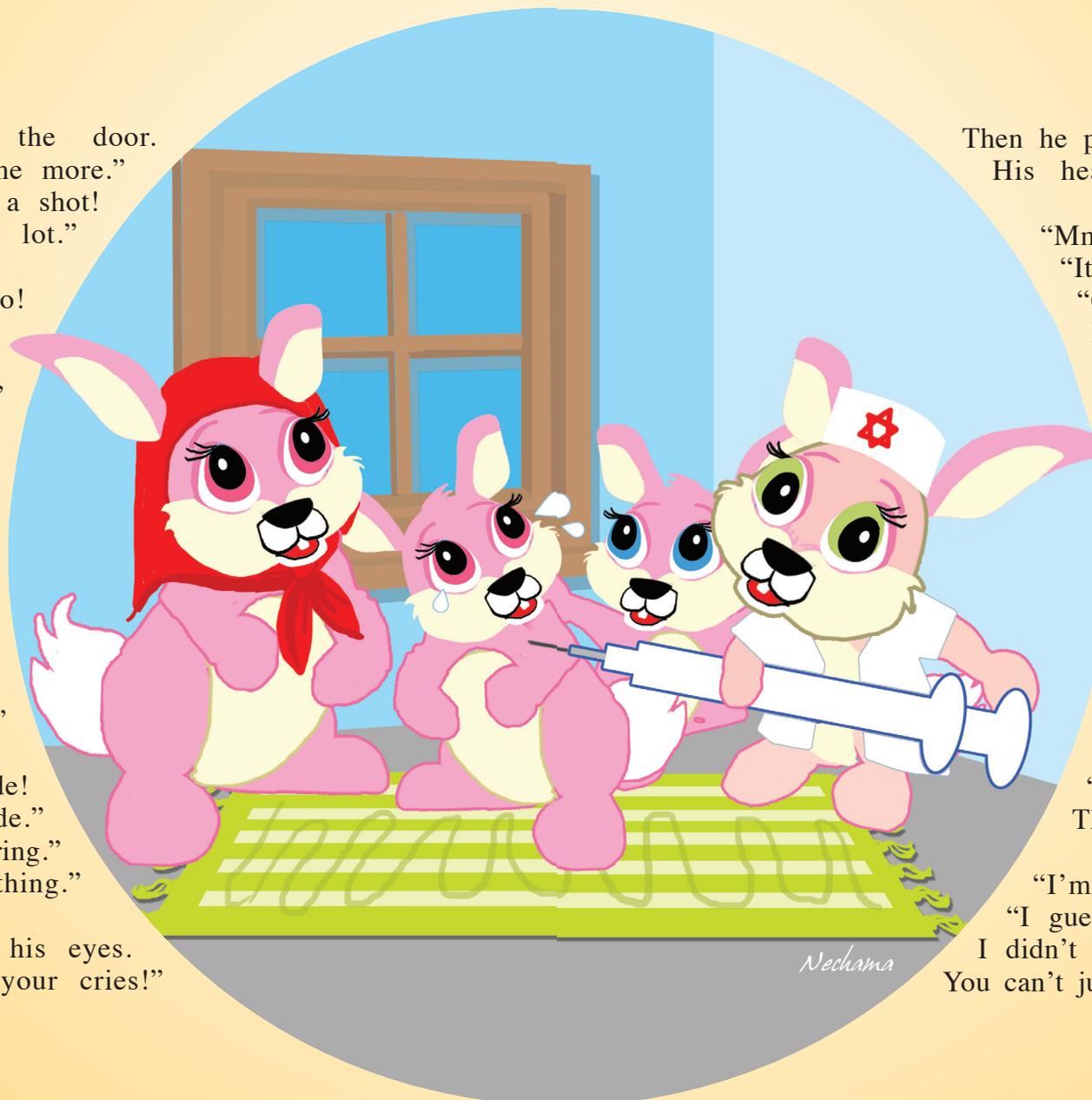
“Oh, Raizy,” said Rami, “it’s one shot, not two!
The shot will be over before you say, ‘Boo.’
So pick up your chin and be brave and be bold.
You shouldn’t be kvetching! You’re now two years old!”

But Raizy just cried as they pulled her along,
“It hurts,” Raizy whined. Rami said, “No, you’re wrong!”
They reached Dr. Hopper and opened the door,
And Raizy near fainted away on the floor.

When Nurse Bushytail filled a needle with stuff,
“I’m leaving!” cried Raizy. “I’ve had quite enough.”
But Mother just held her and Rami just said,
“You’re being so silly! I’d do it instead!”

“Don’t do it!” cried Raizy, “That needle’s so wide!
It’s long and it’s sharp and it won’t fit inside.”
“It’s over,” the nurse said. “Now here’s your prize ring.”
“No way!” Raizy said. “I did not feel a thing.”

“I told you,” said Rami with a roll of his eyes.
“Now don’t you feel silly for all of your cries!”



Then he puffed out his chest so the doctor could hear
His heart with the stethoscope stuck in his ear.

“Mmmm, hmmm,” said the doctor. “I like your fur coat.”
“It’s shiny and healthy. Now let’s see your throat.”
“Good,” said the doc. “That’s all for today.
Now just a quick shot and you’ll be on your way.”

“A shot?” Rami cried. “But, but, how could that be?
I thought I won’t need one until I turn three.”
“No, no,” said the doctor, “You need one right now.
Don’t be scared. Ask your sister and she’ll show you how.”

But Raizy said nothing as poor Rami cried,
‘Cause she knew what it felt like to be scared inside,
And his mother just hugged him as nurse fetched the shot
“Ouch, ouch!” Rami cried. “That prick hurt me a lot!”

“But I didn’t start yet,” said the nurse with concern.
“There,” said the nurse. “Did that hurt? Did that burn?”
“Not a lot,” Rami whimpered, drying his tears
Then he looked at the floor with a bowed back and ears.

“I’m sorry,” he muttered to Raizy at last,
“I guess that I’ve learned not to say things so fast.
I didn’t know how I would feel, though, because ...
You can’t judge your sis till you stand in her paws.” 😊

