



Rain

by Joanna Barratt

I don't remember being in my mummy's tummy, but the earliest memories I do have are of lying in my pram on rainy days.

The rain would loudly, yet so comfortingly, pound away on my pram hood as I lay snuggled under my blankets.

I listened to its pitter-patter for what seemed like a life time.

I don't ever remember being rocked to sleep by the pulling and pushing movement of the pram, but I do remember the noise the rain made ...



I remember looking out of the windows on rainy days.

Little streams of water fell endlessly from the skies.

They hit the glass and ran down in tiny furrows, making little puddles on the window sills and splashing upwards and outwards as the rain drops hit them.

The windows would steam up and become misty, the watery furrows made my vision all bleary so that I couldn't see clearly anymore.

Yes, I do remember the rain ...



I remember walking through the streets on rainy days. I held my umbrella above my head and listened to the pitte-patter of the rain drops on the fabric. Sometimes the pitter-patter would be slow, more often it would be fast.

Sometimes it hit my umbrella so hard I had to hold on tight to the handle. It was even more fun when the wind tried to whisk the umbrella from my grip. On those days I would pull the broolly really close to my face as I battled to shield myself from the wind.

I could only see my feet walking one in front of the other every step I took. But it was fun, I loved the rain ...



I remember the warm, rainy days when I used to put on my lovely, shiny, red wellington boots and jump in and out of the puddles after the rain had stoped falling.

The water would splash up onto my legs, sometimes running into my wellington boots.

When I walked it made a squishy sound and my toes would feel all slimy and squiggly.

It was such fun ...



I can even remember the time it rained so very hard that it made the river swell and overflow causing a flood in the valley I lived in.

The water seeped in through the front door into the lounge and kitchen, and my mummy & daddy had to move all the furniture into our bedrooms upstairs so that they wouldn't be damaged. The water kept rising and rising and went part way up our stairs to the bedrooms.

Some people made rafts out of old doors & big pieces of wood so that they could get their food from the shops. Mummy & Daddy were quite worried, but we children thought it was wonderful. We all got dressed in our swimming costumes and went outside to play & swim in the streets.



I can remember another flood that happened years and years ago when the people who lived on the earth were so wicked that God couldn't stand them any longer.

He said he would send a great big flood which would cover the whole earth and mountains so that every living thing was drowned.

He told Noah, a very godly man, to build a huge boat which he called an Ark. So Noah and his 3 sons, Ham, Shem, & Japheth, did what God told them to do.

It took 100 years to build it, and Noah preached to people telling them to get ready for the flood and come inside the Ark when it was built, but people laughed and didn't believe him.



When the Ark was completely finished God sent at least 2 of every living creature to go inside the Ark so that they could survive the flood.

When they were all inside God shut tight the door so that they were all safe, and then it began to rain.

The people who had laughed and ignored what Noah told them now began to hammer with their fists on the sides of the big Ark.

But there was no way they could get inside as God had shut tight the door and Noah couldn't open it. He could hear them screaming and crying outside, but couldn't help them.

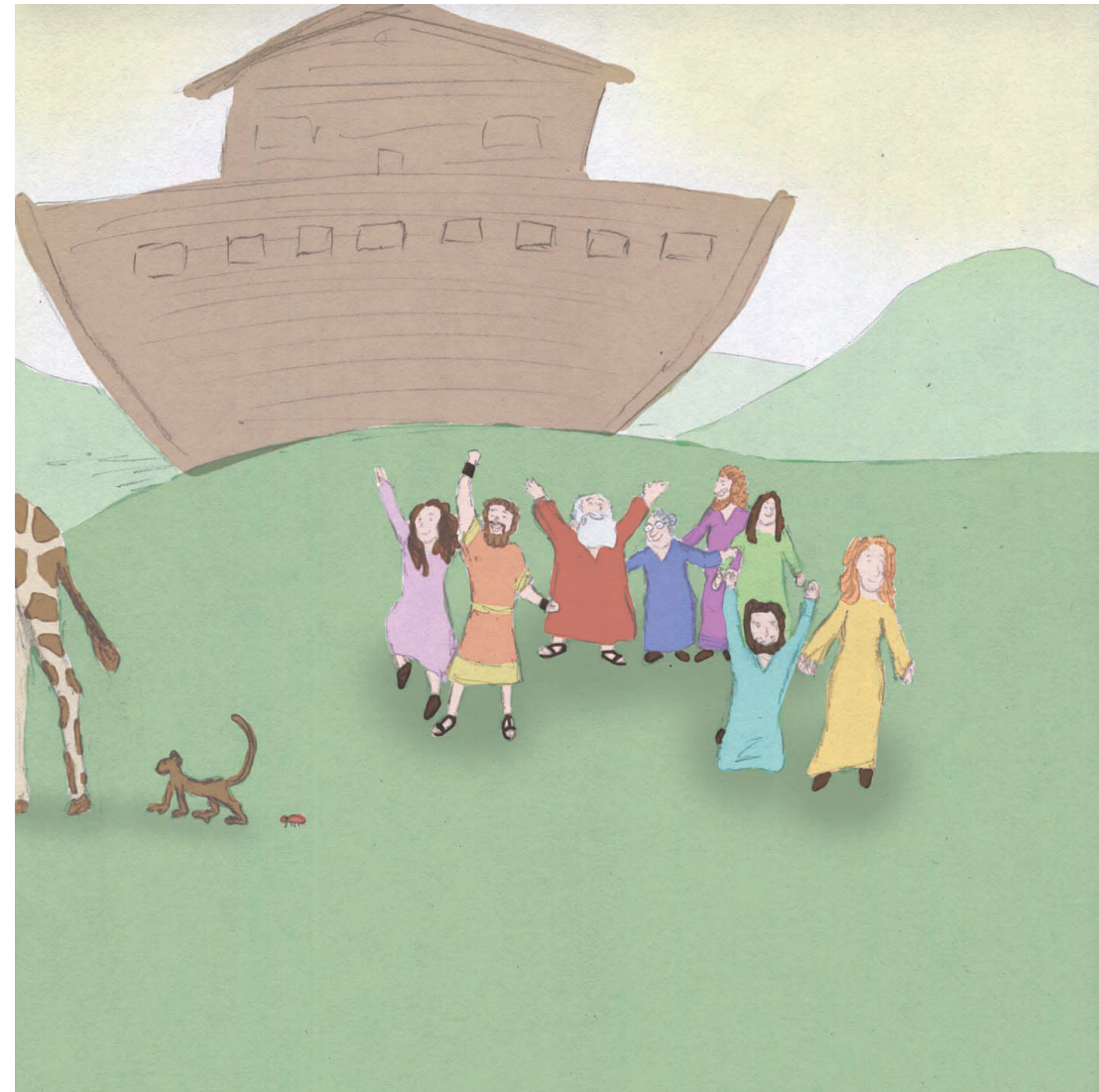


It rained, and rained, and rained until the whole earth was covered in water and there wasn't even a tiny bit of earth to be seen.

Then it stopped raining and Noah & his wife, his 3 sons and their wives, all waited until the waters had gone into the ground.

The earth was dry again before God opened the door of the Ark and allowed them to walk outside.

The earth was now clean & fresh, with no wicked people anywhere to be seen. Noah and his family were the only people on the whole earth.





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God had been really upset at destroying the whole earth.

He gave Noah a wonderful promise, and told him that he would never send a flood that would cover the whole earth again.

To prove to Noah that he would keep his promise he put a beautiful rainbow in the sky.

He told Noah that whenever it was raining really hard and they looked up and saw the rainbow, they could relax and remember that God would always keep his promise.

The sun would come out, the waters would dry up, and they wouldn't have to fear for their lives.

