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**GREAT ILLUSTRATED CLASSICS**

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**THE WIND  
IN THE WILLOWS**

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**BARONET  
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Brooms and Dusters and Whitewash

## CHAPTER 1

### River Bank Friends

Mole had been working very hard all morning doing spring cleaning in his little home beneath a large meadow. He had been working with brooms and dusters and a pail of whitewash. When his aching back and weary arms couldn't lift the whitewash brush one more time, he flung it down and shouted out, "That's it! Hang spring-cleaning!"

He rushed out his little door into the steep tunnel, scratching and scraping with his paws until his snout reached the bright sunlight in the meadow.

## THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

The warm breezes and the happy songs of the birds welcomed him as he ran along on all fours. "I'm free!" he cried. "No more work for me! Let the birds work building their nests. Let the flowers work making buds. Not me! It's time for me to have fun!"

Mole's happy wanderings took him to the edge of a gurgling, flowing river, the first he'd ever seen. "What a strange animal this is!" he said. "It grips things and carries them along, only to fling them aside and catch something else, all while it's sparkling and chattering and bubbling."

He ran alongside the river until he had tired himself out. Then he sat down on the bank and listened to the babbling stories the river seemed to be telling him.

"And what's that?" he wondered as he spotted a dark hole just above the water on the opposite side of the river. "It looks like a perfect home for any animal who enjoys peaceful waterfront property!"



“I’m Free!” He Cried.