

BADGER Would you like us to tell you the story, Moley?

MOLE Oh, yes please!

RATTY As it happens, I have the storybook to hand ... *(he reaches into the wings and brings out an unlikely-sized storybook from which he and Badger begin to read.)*

SONG/VERSE: CAPTAIN BEAKY (Ratty, Badger, Mole)

(Spoken in time)

The bravest animals in the land
Are Captain Beaky and his band:
That's Timid Toad, Reckless Rat,
Artful Owl and Batty Bat.
They march through the woodlands singing songs
That tell how they have righted wrongs.

(instrumental – 4 bars)

Once Hissing Sid, an evil snake,
Kept the woodland folk awake
In fear and trembling every night
In case he gave someone a bite.
Said Artful Owl, 'We'll lie in wait
And one of us will be the bait.'
Said Timid Toad, "I like your plan."
"Good luck," said Owl, "For you're the man!"

So Timid Toad, his eyes a-popping,
Into the woodland night went hopping.
Captain Beaky waved his hand,
Followed by his trusty band:
That's Artful Owl and Reckless Rat,
And above the trees flew Batty Bat.

(instrumental – 4 bars)

"Stop!" said Beaky, "I hear squeaking!"
"It's Batty Bat" said Owl, "He's speaking!"

He says 'can clearly see the road,
Hissing Sid has captured Toad!"

Then into sight the snake came hopping,
Right past his hole, no sign of stopping
Said Reckless Rat, "That's rather funny,
"There's something jumping in his tummy.
Said Captain Beaky, "Well I'm blown!
Hissing Sid has swallowed Toad!"

At last they found him, tired and dizzy
And pulled out Toad, who said, "Where is he?
For, left alone, I felt quite sick,
And hopped into a hollow stick."
Said Owl, "A clever step to take!
You jumped into that slippery snake."

Said Captain Beaky to his men
We'll not see Hissing Sid again
And as they marched off down the road,
They sang in praise of Timid Toad.

(instrumental coda)