

## Thumper Beats Up Ronno

Thumper bounded through the forest as per usual. He was feeling a bit peckish, and was hoping to find something tasty to eat. His nose twitched as an appetizing scent revealed itself, and he skidded to a halt and turned to see a big leafy carrot plant.

Thrilled by his find, Thumper licked his lips and hopped over to the plant. He then dug around it until he was able to pull the orange root vegetable up out of the ground. Thumper smiled and dusted the carrot off, his eyes big as he admired it.

Normally, bunnies did not eat the orange part and instead would only eat the green leaves. The root was very sweet and fattening to little bunnies. However, Thumper had a slightly bigger appetite now, and he was craving something sweet.

"Just one carrot won't hurt me!" Thumper declared to himself as his attention was captivated by the carrot in his paws.

The world around Thumper seemed to vanish as he focused on the long orange beauty of nature. The sweet crunchy vegetable in his grasp. Closing his eyes, Thumper lifted the carrot to his open mouth. However, right before he bit down, the carrot was yanked right out of his paws.

Snapping back to reality, Thumper opened his eyes and saw that he'd been so captivated by the carrot that he hadn't even noticed Ronno sneaking up to him. Now the young bully deer stood smirking, the carrot dangling from his teeth by the green leaves.

Shocked at first, Thumper sat up on his haunches and tapped his right foot impatiently as he demanded, "Give me back my carrot, Ronno!"

Ronno just rolled his eyes and laughed, then he tossed his head back to send the carrot right into his mouth. Thumper watched in horror as Ronno chewed with a smile as he said, "Mmm Mmm! So good! Best carrot ever!"

Thumper's ears drooped sadly as he whined, "That's not fair!"

Ronno smirked again and said, "Oh yeah? Well what are you gonna do about it, *Dumper?*"

Thumper's eyes widened, and at that moment, something happened deep inside the bunny's mind. His mind went back to all the mean and horrible things Ronno had done. All the boasting. All the insults. All the acts of physical bullying he subjected his best friend Bambi to. All of these thoughts, combined with the loss of his carrot and the rude name he'd just been called, caused Thumper to finally snap.

Thumper's eyes narrowed, and his ears swung backward. Then, after bending his knees, Thumper gave a yell and jumped up while backflipping.

"HIIIIII-YAH!!!"

Thumper's right foot shot out and kicked Ronno right under his chin. Stumbling back a step or two, Ronno's eyes were wide as he found himself looking straight up at the blue sky through the tree canopy due to his head being knocked upward. Ronno then lowered his head back down and glared at Thumper, who was now down low on all fours.

Now angry, Ronno scowled and said, "Did you just kick me in-?!"

Before Ronno could finish his thought, let alone his sentence, Thumper suddenly sprang forward with his head lowered. The bunny was like a small furry missile as he headbutted Ronno right in his upper chest.

Ronno gasped as he stumbled backwards even further, nearly all the air knocked out of him by the bunny's attack. After Thumper rebounded off of him, Ronno breathed in and out deeply and then said in a threatening manner, "*Gasp*! Why you little...!"

Ronno leapt forward with the intention of stomping Thumper down into the dirt. However, the bunny quickly rolled out of the way of Ronno's pounce. Ronno turned and spun around on his hooves as he stomped the ground wildly, trying to catch the bunny as he ran circles around his skinny legs.

"Stand still and let me step on you, you stupid rabbit!" Ronno demanded as he went on his stomping spree.

Thumper drifted on his hind legs after leaping away from Ronno's front hooves, turning back to face him so he could dash right between the deer's legs and underneath him. When Thumper reached Ronno's tail area, he went onto his front paws and kicked up and behind him with his feet, kicking Ronno right in the crotch.

Ronno let out a loud infantile squeal as his front legs buckled. Ronno knelt in pain for a few seconds, breathing heavily with tears in his eyes. Then, he clenched his teeth as hate filled his eyes. "That's it! No more mister nice deer!" he declared. Then he got back up, turned around fast, lowered his head, and charged right at Thumper with his short antlers at the ready.

Thumper smiled and thumped his right foot patiently as he watched Ronno approach. "Wait for it... Waaaaait," he said to himself. Then, at the last moment, Thumper jumped up and landed right on Ronno's head.

"Get off of ME!" Ronno shouted as he stopped in his tracks and swung his head around.



Ronno was suddenly kicked right on the nose by a powerful thrust of Thumper's right foot.

Ronno stumbled backward, totally caught off guard by the sucker kick. Ronno shook his head to clear the dizziness and looked to see that Thumper was now smiling and had one eye open, which he used to wink at him.

Realizing that Thumper was just playing dead to fool him, Ronno growled and charged at the bunny once again.

Thumper planted his feet flat on the ground, and then sprang upward as the angry deer approached.

Time seemed to slow down as Thumper rose up into the air. The bunny raised his paws as he twisted his body so that he twirled as he ascended. He then swung out and extended his left foot as he twirled to his right.

"HU-WAAAAAAAAHHHHHHH!" Thumper cried out as he spun and kicked.

Thumper's timing was impeccable as Ronno charged right into the path of his foot. Thumper's twirling kick smacked right into the right side of Ronno's face. As the bunny's foot slammed onto the deer's right cheek, spittle went flying from his mouth as he went cross eyed from the blow.

Ronno stumbled sideways, and he shook off the pain and looked again at Thumper, who had landed back on the ground and was now standing with his forelegs folded. The bunny frowned and thumped his right foot at the deer in a threatening manner.

Now furious beyond words, Ronno said through clenched teeth, "I am *going to kill* you!"

Thumper just humphed and turned his back on Ronno, wiggling his fluffy tail at him as he walked away.

Ronno charged again, and Thumper nodded before backflipping upwards and landing right on top of Ronno's head.

"GET OFF OF MY HEAD!" Ronno shouted as he took off into the woods, running between trees.

Thumper hung onto Ronno's horns, and he could see that the deer was headed towards some low hanging branches. Thumper continued to hold on with his paws, and then leaned back as far as he could, avoiding being knocked off. Thumper then started rapidly kicking Ronno on the back of the head.

"KNOCK IT OFF!" Ronno shouted as he lowered his head.

Tightening his grip on Ronno's horns, Thumper pulled himself forward and threw his feet out in front of him. He then slapped his feet right over Ronno's eyes.

"Hey! Stop that! I can't see!" Ronno shouted as he continued to run through the woods.

Thumper held on tight as Ronno ran, leaning forward and steering him by tugging his antlers left and right. Thumper grinned when he saw a big solid oak tree next to a short ledge above a mud hole.

Thumper steered Ronno towards the tree and pushed his antlers down. The deer picked up speed and sprinted towards the tree. "And a one. . . and a two. . . and a **three!**" Thumper said, and he jumped off of Ronno.

Ronno's eyes widened when he saw the tree, and he tried to stop, but it was too late.

***WHAM!***

Ronno's tail twitched as he stood with his face pressed against the big oak tree. Then he stumbled backwards, his eyes rolling and a dumb smile on his face.

"Huh huh huh! Yeah Faline, I know I'm the most handsome deer around! I'm waaaaay better than Bambi! Huh huh huh!" Ronno slurred as he staggered sideways towards the short ledge.

Ronno eventually ended up with his left legs on the very edge with his right legs raised up. He teetered precariously on the edge as Thumper hopped over to him. The bunny slowly lifted his right foot and lightly tapped Ronno's front right leg.

***Ding!***

The dizzy and dazed deer then lost his balance and fell down about 1 or 2 feet right into the mud hole, landing with a sticky, gooey splash.

***Splat!***

Ronno lay on his side in the thick mud for a moment, still dazed and half aware. Then he blinked his eyes as sense returned to them, and they widened as he realized the total humiliation he was being subjected to. He had run right into a tree and then fell in the mud, all because of Thumper.

"Hey Ronno! Over heeeeeerrrrreeee!" sang Thumper's voice.

From where he lay in the mud, Ronno looked up to see Thumper standing on a thin, whippy branch of a nearby tree. Then, Thumper hopped on the branch once, then twice, then a third time.

Ronno watched in confusion as Thumper kept hopping up and down on the branch. He also noticed that with every hop, the branch bent down more and more, bending lower and lower.

Then, after hopping for the umpteenth time, Thumper grabbed onto the bent branch with his paws as it bent down so low that it nearly touched the ground. Then, after the bunny gave Ronno a cheeky wink, the branch suddenly whipped back up faster than the blink of an eye. The branch catapulted Thumper straight up into the air, much to Ronno's utter shock.

Thumper shot up into the air, his head up and his back straight as he flew. When he felt himself begin to slow down, he quickly curled up into a ball as he reached the apex of his ascent. Then, he unrolled his body, tucked his fore paws in close, and extended his right foot out as he fell back towards the Earth.

Back down in the mud hole, Ronno stared up at the bunny, utterly dumbfounded by Thumper's actions. "What is he doing?!" he asked aloud. Then, when he noticed the round shadow being cast upon his forehead, as well as the way Thumper was falling with his foot pointing downward, the bunny's intentions became crystal clear to the unfortunate bully.

"Oh no. Oh no no no no no..." Ronno whimpered fearfully. He made an attempt to get up, only to discover that he had been lying on his side in the mud for so long, his legs had all sunk into it and were stuck.

As Thumper fell, he felt himself gain speed. He kept his foot extended as he yelled, "Hiiiiiiiiiiiiii...."

Panic rising within him, Ronno frantically jerked his hind legs until they finally popped out of the mud. Once they were free, he immediately planted his rear hooves down into the mud as he focused on his front half. He chanced a glance upward and saw that now Thumper was spinning around as he fell towards him, foot still outstretched.

"Yi-yi-yi-yi-yi-yi-yi-yi-yi..." Thumper shouted as he spun down towards his target.

Ronno bleated out in terror, and with all his might wrenched his upper body upwards. His neck and forelegs popped out of the mud and Ronno was standing on all four hooves. Ronno let out a laugh of relief, but one last glance upward told him that the moment used for that laugh would have been better spent getting out of the way.

"YAAAAAAAAAAH!" Thumper shrieked right at the moment of impact.

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Some distance away, the Great Prince of the Forest was drinking from the crisp, clean river.

*Boom....*

The sound caught the Prince's attention, and he raised his head and looked towards the source of the sound. He spat out the water in his mouth at the sight of the large mushroom shaped cloud of dust rising above the tree canopy.

The Prince could only stare in shock as he beheld the sight. At first he feared it to be the work of **Man**, but he could neither smell nor sense **Man's** presence, so he could only conclude that some beast of the Forest was responsible for it.

*"What powerful, mighty creature is responsible for such a display of incredible power?"* the Prince thought to himself.

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When the dust settled, Thumper was standing perfectly balanced on his right foot, his forelegs extended out to either side of him. What his foot was balanced on was none other than Ronno's forehead. The force of the impact had not only knocked the bully deer unconscious, but also drove his head and neck down into the mud. Ronno was standing in an awkward position, still up on all four hooves but with the front third of his body, head and neck, bent down and pressed into the mud.

Thumper chuckled and he lowered his left foot onto Ronno on the nose and thumped a few times, before cheekily saying, "And that's why they call me Thumper."

The bunny then hopped off of the deer's head and into the mud. He attempted another hop, only for the mud to instantly suck his feet down into it, completely hiding his feet from view. Annoyed, Thumper tried to pull his feet out of the mud, but to no avail.

Suddenly, a loud pop could be heard from behind him, and Thumper nervously turned to see that Ronno was awake, and had pulled his head and neck out of the mud. The deer scowled furiously at the bunny, hatred in his eyes.

Thumper blinked, and nervously chuckled while cutely putting his forepaws behind his back.

Ronno lunged forward, and Thumper quickly covered his eyes with his forepaws and trembled in fear. When nothing happened, Thumper uncovered his eyes to see Ronno desperately stretching his neck out to try and reach him, growling and gnashing his teeth at him. Thumper

realized that Ronno's feet, hooves rather, were stuck in the mud as well, meaning that the mad deer couldn't reach him.

At first, Thumper let out a small sigh of relief, then his ears perked up as a new sound came to him, this one from the ground. He could hear the mud they were stuck in bubble and gurgle, revealing itself to be soft and unstable down below. Thumper scanned the ground with his eyes and ears until eventually his focus fell upon Ronno's hind legs.

Gasping, Thumper looked Ronno in the eyes and said, "Ronno! Please! Whatever you do, DO NOT WIGGLE YOUR BUTT!"

Ronno stared back at Thumper in stunned silence. Then, with a smug look, Ronno held his head up high and gave his butt three exaggerated shakes.

"Of course he did," Thumper said with a sour expression.

There was a loud squelching burp-like sound, and the bunny and deer began to quickly sink deeper into the mud hole.

Ronno's eyes widened in horror as he tried to wiggle out. "Mo-, Mo-, Mo-, MOMMY!" he cried out as he quickly sank down into the mud.

Within seconds, Thumper and Ronno had both nearly completely disappeared under the mud. Both had pointed their faces upward in desperation, so when they stopped sinking, only their noses and mouths were exposed.

Up above, the tree Ronno had run into early began dripping water from its leaves. The droplets fell one at a time into the bunny and deer's open mouths. This would keep them from dying of thirst, meaning they would be kept alive with 99% of their bodies hidden for a long time with no escape. Unable to see or speak and with no escape or release. For this reason, when they were finally discovered and rescued a month later, the Great Prince of the Forest himself insisted that they be treated well after their harrowing experience.

**The End**