

Porcupine uncurled himself from the prickly ball he had made. Pelican lifted his head from beneath his wing, and Wallaby sat up and joined in the excited chatter of all the Day Creatures.

Possum hoped Bandicoot and Wombat could help. He knew that if the Rain Flower did bring rain there would be plenty of food and plenty of water. More importantly, the weather would be cooler and the Day Creatures wouldn't stay under his tree all day.

'I still have a couple of hours before sunset, so I'll get some rest for tonight,' said Possum, scampering back into the hollow of his home.

Knowing that Possum had work to do after the sun went down, the animals and birds spoke to each other very softly so that he could get some sleep.

'HOOT! HOOT! HOOT!'

Possum woke with a start. 'Goodness, that's Owl,' he muttered, 'I must have overslept!'

He scrambled out of his home in such a rush that he almost knocked Owl out of the tree.

'Gracious me! What's your hurry, Possum?' asked Owl, flapping his wings to regain his balance. 'I thought you were gone.'



'Sorry, Owl, but I'm in a hurry to catch the Night Creatures. We must have a meeting at once.' Possum explained what had happened that afternoon.

'Curlew has the loudest voice. I will ask her to call the Night Creatures together,' suggested Owl. 'We can meet near the old dead tree where Goanna lives.'

Bandicoot was scratching around for something to eat when he found a vine of nice ripe wandamas. He was still enjoying his meal when Possum found him. Possum politely declined Bandicoot's invitation to join him. Wandamas reminded him of the mistletoe growing on his tree, and he hated mistletoe.

'Have you ever heard of the Rain Flower?' he asked Bandicoot.

'I've seen a lot of flowers and eaten many of them, but I don't know the Rain Flower,' replied Bandicoot.

Possum told Bandicoot about the Day Creatures' meeting. Together the two friends made their way to the dead tree to meet with the other Night Creatures. They looked out for Wombat along the way.



Wombat usually made such a noise that Dingo could hear him from the other ridge. All the animals were afraid of Dingo. It was a good thing she had left the district for a while. They had enough to worry about without a hungry, wild dog like Dingo being around.

Just as the friends were nearing the tree where Goanna lived, they heard Curlew's piercing scream calling the Night Creatures to the meeting. Owl and Wombat were already there when Possum and Bandicoot arrived at the tree.

It was decided that Owl, being the wisest, should conduct the meeting. Owl reminded them about the waterhole drying up and told them about the Rain Flower.

Possum explained that he had seen the flower described by Cockatoo, but he could not remember exactly where. Wombat thought he had seen a similar flower growing in the gully between the ridge where they were gathered and the next ridge where Dingo lived.