



Winter 2013

Wintertime has arrived in Avon and Abigail Fieldmouse, the little brown mouse who dresses in Civil War era clothing and lives under the floor boards of the Pine Grove School House, is off on another adventure. Overnight while Abigail was sleeping, a beautiful snow fell silently over the landscape. When she awoke and peeked out of the doorway, the stillness of the early morning and the beauty of the snow glistening in the sunlight gave her pause. After a moment, she thought – snow day! What would she do to go have some fun? Then she had it - go ice skating! Luckily at the end of Fall, Abigail had saved a couple of twigs which she gnawed with her sharp teeth to the right size to fit her petite little, furry feet and made the twigs pointy on the toes. She fastened them with a length of yarn she had found as mice fortunately are scavengers!

There was a little pond used for watering cattle in the hay field across the road that had frozen over. Perfect! Abigail bundled up with extra petticoats under her long skirt, put on her velvet coat and bonnet and off she went. She had to clear some snow away to make a little circle on the ice so she could skate. She wisely brought her little straw broom for this task. Then she started to skate and had so much fun until something scary happened – her foot got caught in a crack in the ice. It was too deep for her to chew through the yarn to free herself. What would she do? Oh my! It was late afternoon and starting to get dusky. She would surely freeze if she could not get help. But she was alone on the ice with no one around.

But this was her lucky day – her bird friend Candy Cardinal was flying over the field on her way home to roost for the night. Abigail flailed her arms and waved her bonnet and Candy swooped down to help. Seeing the problem, she used her sharp beak to chip away at the ice to free Abigail's foot. HOORAY! Then the two friends flew back to the warmth of the little school house and enjoyed a cup of hot cocoa. Abigail was once again safe under the floor boards having learned a valuable lesson of not to skate alone! After Candy left, Abigail was so tired from her adventure, that she snuggled up in her small feather bed under her quilts and went fast asleep. Tomorrow would be another day and she had many cookies to bake for holiday gifts for her woodland friends...especially Candy Cardinal!