

Little Brown Bulb

Start with just the silk and your lap clear of characters. Hide your little puppets under the silk. Then gently focus all your attention on yourself as you carefully bring Little Brown Bulb out cupped in your hands and lay him down on your lap.

Little Brown Bulb was sleepy. He had been sleeping all through the winter and he was still very sleepy. He lay deep in the earth, resting, and dreaming Little Brown Bulb dreams.

One day along came Lady Spring.

Here she comes out from under the silk. Hold her waist with your thumb under one arm and your middle finger under the other arm. Use the pointer to move her body to bend over. Tuck the other two fingers behind her so your body is as unobtrusive as possible. You want the children to be looking at her, not so conscious of you.

"Little Bulb, Little Bulb, wake up. Spring is coming! Spring is coming and it's time for all the little bulbs to wake up and put on their new gowns."

She bends over and looks at him, gently shakes him.

Then Lady Spring went away to wake up other little bulbs and get them into their new spring gowns. But Little Brown Bulb did not want to wake up. He just rolled over and went back to sleep.

Roll him over with your hand. Then bring Ladybug scurrying out from under the silk.

Along came Ladybug, hurrying, scurrying, getting ready for Spring. He was so busy that he walked right over Little Brown Bulb.

Little Brown Bulb wakes up. Hold him and the Ladybug just pinched between your thumb and first finger, again, to keep your hands from being in the front of the characters and the focus of attention.

"Oh," says Little Brown Bulb. "You just stepped on me."

"I'm so sorry, Little Brown Bulb. I didn't see you there. I was in such a hurry. Don't you know it's Spring? Look at me! I got a bath and a new gown. Don't I look fine? All clean and shiny and new. I must hurry. Spring is such an exciting time." And Ladybug scurried off.

Little Brown Bulb is awake now and looking around.

"Spring? What is Spring? How can I get ready for Spring if I don't even know what Spring is?"

Here comes Lady Spring again.

"Oh, Little Brown Bulb. Good, you are awake! Are you ready for your new Spring gown?"

She picks him up in her arms. Use the pointer to manipulate this and the thumb and middle finger to slightly pinch Little Brown Bulb and hold him firmly in her arms. She carries him off stage and back under your silk. Then with nothing on your lap but the silk narrate how he got all cleaned up and ready for spring and then he grew and grew and grew [this is where he comes out from behind the silk] and looked out over the world. Make him turn and look all around.

"Oh," said Little Brown Bulb. "I love Spring!"