

A SPECIAL CELEBRATION FOR MOTHER'S DAY

To Mom's everywhere you are truly thanked for everything you do and have done. We hope our reader's will give their Mothers or Grandmothers a special day this year!

By Lorraine Payette



Special decorations for a Mother's Day cake

Finding the perfect Mother's Day gift can be a hard thing to do when you are an 8-year-old boy living on a farm in the middle of nowhere. The task can be even harder when you only have one parent. You can't go to the other one for a ride, or a cash loan, or even great ideas. And you certainly can't ask your mum for help – that would spoil everything.

However, creative thinking will win the day. So, a plan was developed, the right pieces came

into place, and my son decided to give me the most special Mother's Day celebration ever.

"Mum, I want to take you for a ride and give you a big bouquet of flowers," he said. "Then we can have a special dinner."

I could see he was deadly serious, so I thanked him and followed him outside.

There waiting for me was his little red wagon. It had been freshly washed and had a big pink bow tied on it.

"You need to get in," he said. "And be careful not to fall out."

I climbed into the wagon and waited for him to discover I was too heavy and he couldn't possibly pull me around. But he was a lot stronger than he looked, and off we went on that special ride.

He pulled me out to the laneway, and then made a sharp right past the lilac bushes and into the easternmost field. It was a gorgeous spring day, and all of the wildflowers were in their most perfect early bloom. The variety of colours and scents was incredible, and seeing them from the height of the wagon bed put them into a whole new perspective.

"Which ones do you like?" he said. "We want to pick the best ones."

He carefully pulled the wagon through the entire field, stopping every few feet to check for a perfect clover, whether red, white, yellow or sweet an ideal buttercup; some beautiful vetch in purple or gold; dandelions and cinquefoil and all kinds of delightful blooms I might never have paid much attention to while just walking by. When he had exhausted the fields, he went to the garden to see what other delights might be in store. Radishes gone to flower, turnips, even the occasional self-seeded pea added to the beauty of the collection.

We finished the ride at the kitchen door, where he handed me out of the wagon before helping to select the perfect onion soup bowl in which to place this precious bouquet.

While I admired my gift, he brought out another surprise for me. I had baked a cake the day before so we could have a little something for dessert. Unknown to me, he had got up very early and decorated it specially, using all the candies he could find to liven up the icing. Every colour of the rainbow was there, carefully placed in a design crafted by loving hands. To be on the safe side he had added a few candles – and the final cake was all the more tasty for it.

I believe this will always be my favourite Mother's Day memory, stored away to bring out again and again. May every mother out there receive an equally special gift to cherish and keep in her heart forever. **LH**