

Klassic Koalas

A Summer Party in Koalaland



by Lee Barwood



San Mateo, California

It was a lazy day in Koalaland—hot and drowsy. The air was still and fragrant with the perfume of eucalyptus and flowering shrubs.





But even though it was early in the morning, one little koala had been very much awake since dawn. "Mommy, Mommy, is today the day?" he asked, waking his mother before she was quite ready. But she loved her little one, and took a deep breath.

Carefully Kadee helped him make his way up to his perch on her back, moving her body so he could climb more easily. It seemed a very long distance to him, but he did it at last—and now he was very proud of himself, as he should be. She was proud of him too.





Today was his first day out of the pouch. There would be so much to see! Mother's back offered a much better view, although her pouch was warm and snuggly. He'd awakened early, begging to make the long climb from pouch to back. Not only that, Baby Dorak had been up late the night before, far too excited to sleep. So Mother Kadee was tired this morning, and once he was safely on her back, she closed her eyes and dozed.

Glossary

Name	Aboriginal Meaning
Allambee	A quiet resting place
Allunga	The sun
Amaroo	Beautiful place
Arramagong	Wombats run into holes
Banjora	Koala
Binnowee	Place of many birds
Bultarro	Black wallaby
Bungobittah	A bird's nest
Bunyip	In Australian folklore, a mythical evil creature or spirit that haunts creeks, swamps, rivers, and billabongs
Burnum	A great warrior
Burrawang	An Australian flowering palm tree
Burrendah	Native koala bear
Burrimul	Emu
Cooinda	Happy place
Daku	Sand
Didane	The name of a koala in an Australian Aboriginal tale
Dorak	Lively
Elouera	From a pleasant place
Gelar	Brother
Gundir	The Great Spirit
Kadee	Mother
Kaleny	Uncle
Kareela	South wind
Kolya	Winter
Koobor	The name of a koala in an Australian Aboriginal tale, it is also part of the Latin name of the koalas that existed five million years ago (koobor notabilis and koobor jimbaratti)

Name	Aboriginal Meaning
Koorine	Daughter
Koorong	Canoe
Kulan	Possum (male)
Kurrookarrook	Koala with young
Leena	Possum (female)
Manya	Small
Marinna	Song
Nappoo	Sleep
Nerang	Little
Parntira	Friend
Pindari	From the high ground
Thutamba	Wallaby
Tuart	A type of eucalypt
Warrigal	Dingo
Willa	Woman or wife
Wingkuru	Noisy
Wundurra	Warrior



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