

Whither the Crumbsnatcher?



Lenny was a tinker and a good* one. He had invented all sorts of labor-saving devices around the house, such as the combo washer-dryer, which really did wash and dry clothes at the same time. (Not really.) He even figured out a way to upgrade his wife, Midge, so that her culinary skills matched those of a real chef. (*Very not true.*) But his proudest achievement yet was his Bunny-Betty experiment, so called because he had successfully turned his pet rabbit into a precocious nine-year old crumbsnatcher! Oh, it wasn't perfect. There was still an issue with the head, which displayed both human and cottontail characteristics. Plus "Betty" produced piles and piles of cecotropes, a quandary for anyone who liked to walk barefoot around the house during the night. Like Lenny. Otherwise, Betty was a perfectly normal nine-year-old – as long as your definition of "perfectly normal" includes paroxysms of foot thumping, a more or less constant urge to graze on grass, forbs, and the superfluous parts of Midge that Lenny had disconnected, and a puzzling ability to turn into an elm tree when alarmed. Which is why, Lenny is quick to point out, Bunny-Betty is still an *experiment*.

* a euphemism