

Motti abhorred this season above all else. Normally gardeners like them need rain. Rain brings plants and plants are needed for their work as a herbalist and florist...

But nothing was ever straight-forward as needed according to Motti. The heavy rains had caused an onslaught of mushrooms, the bane of their lovingly tended garden. The darn things had been popping up everywhere, smothering other plants and causing sheer chaos to Motti's carefully laid out plots.

Checking the herbs? Mushrooms. Observing the flowers? Mushrooms-! No matter where they went...Mushroom, mushroom, mushrooms-!!!

It was to the point all of Motti's dreams turned to nightmares. It was a literal invasion of every aspect of their life. To Motti this was most unacceptable and must be dealt with thusly.

As soon as dawn broke, Motti squeezed into a turquoise raincoat, put on a pair of rosey-pink rain boots and armed themselves with a spade and bucket. They mentally pumped themselves up, needing all the motivation they could muster for this task. Motti then headed out into the downpour and began to purge any and all mushrooms that they could spot.

Hours seemingly passed, the one bucket turning into many others that were swapped out to fill. They honestly had only made a small dent in a vast area and Motti was growing more frustrated with each overflowing bucket of shrooms. They needed another solution in all of this.

They headed back inside and rang up Pekoe, the owner of the Sweetbun Bakery. Pekoe was a very hard-working bun and a frequent customer of Motti's. If anyone could help in this situation, it was most definitely her.

When the phone call connected, Motti pitched the idea of Pekoe taking the mushrooms to use in their desserts. Since she could seemingly make anything delicious, Motti hoped it would entice her to assist. Pekoe mulled over the proposal, then agreed since there technically was recipes that mushrooms could be used for.

With that Motti invited her over and the pair soon got to work clearing as much as they could muster. In total they had nearly a dozen buckets and Motti offered the garden wagon to transport them to the shop. They struggled through the rain, but soon made it to the bakery and brought the haul in via the back.

Pekoe offered for Motti to stay and test out what they came up with, even offering Motti a cup of their favorite jasmine tea. Pekoe got to work, a frenzied flash of mixing bowls and ingredients. After a few hours, Pekoe emerged from the back with a variety of dishes.

One was a tray of honey-soaked mushrooms turned into brownies, candied mushrooms and finally chocolate-covered mushroom cookies. Motti was amazed by the creativity before them.

Just a while ago they were just a plague of mushrooms upon the garden, and now three amazingly scented dishes were before them.

Pekoe sliced the brownies, steam still rolling from the cut. The scent was luscious and Pekoe placed it upon a cute orange blossom-decorated plate. She then added a cookie and a couple caramels in a very delicate fashion. It ended up looking rather lovely overall as it was presented to them.

Motti nibbled upon the portions of each dish and was instantly in love with the texture and tastes. Pekoe raved about how nice the mushrooms growing in Motti's garden were and that surely these would be a hit with the customers. Motti countered that it was merely Pekoe's talent that turned the "unwanted things" into actually delicious ones.

Pekoe chuckled and told Motti if anymore popped up she would be glad to help out again. With that, Motti headed back towards home, pushing their garden wagon back alone. The way home they seemed much more aloof and wondered if Pekoe was correct about the quality of the mushrooms thanks to their garden.

They soon got inside, wriggled out of their raincoat and boots, ready to call it an evening. Soon night turned to morning, the rain still continuing to pour. Motti glanced out the window and suddenly did a double-take.

Seemingly overnight, the entire yard was covered with even more mushrooms. They littered almost every available space and Motti could barely comprehend how this was possible. Motti could only let out a surprised, yet very strained laugh, feeling like they were on the verge of insanity.

They trembled, reaching for their phone and rang up Pekoe. As soon as they received a greeting, Motti rapidly pleaded for their assistance once more. Pekoe assured them they would be over soon and would bring some of the mushroom treats from yesterday to break with between things.

Motti relaxed a bit upon hearing this and remembered the deliciousness they experienced while tasting them. When Pekoe arrived, they both got to work once more and today, things seemed much more enjoyable with a friend from the start.