

The Lost Bear

“Oh, please father, don't go!” Begged Jane, Michael, Elizabeth, and Florence.

“Oh, please don't!” Father looked at their frowning, sad faces. “I must, Jim needs me and besides I haven't been to Hong Kong for ages!” he replied “Children?” asked Anne, their mother, “Yes, they all wept.” “The horse and cart are here, and we must certainly go, or we'll miss our train!” Anne said. Hugging and waving their father goodbye, they closed the jet-black gate of number 19 Kirkwood Road.

“Good morning, Madam, lovely day today, are you going to Limporp train station?” A man called Finley asked.

“YES! We're going to the Lake District to meet our Auntie Georgina and Uncle Richard.” Elizabeth blurted out.

He just smiled,” A bit rude!” Elizabeth murmured “ELIZABETH ROSE SMITH!” Anne yelled, causing spit fly onto Elizabeth's face. Two hours passed of winding, cobblestone roads and a just a little bit of arguing:

“No, well father gave me that banana to eat on the train!” cried Florence.

“20 minutes to go!” Michael exclaimed looking at his pocket watch.

“Be quiet” hissed Jane.

Florence, the youngest, after her argument with Elizabeth, looked out of the carriage's damp, cold and misty window. Looking out, she could see black cows munching on fresh, green grass. Her face went from happy to dull, she hated her father going away, very much.

“Mother, why does father have to go Hong Kong?” Jane asked eagerly.

“Yes, why mother?” interrupted Michael.

“He just does, and we must live with it,” their mother sighed.

After 20 minutes they arrived at Limporp Train Station. “TICKETS, TICKETS PLEASE”, a lady with frizzy, ginger hair shouted. “Wow we are here!” they all exclaimed.

“Jane was only 3 when we last came and Michael was 7,” Anne said.

They all stared at the chartreuse green train, “It's like a mint chocolate chip ice cream,” Michael said excitedly. Anne gave the tickets to the ticket lady, “Thanks my dear,” she replied. Anne could see she had a warm heart. “Where are you all off to?” the lady asked.

“Oh, we are going to the Lake District,” Elizabeth replied.

“Sounds nice, well I will see you all later as I am on your train.”

“ALL ABOARD!” a man who looked quite like their father shouted, making his face go as red as a tomato.

“Hello mister,” Florence shouted. He did not reply - he just smiled and went back to his work. Going up the small steps they arrived in their carriage. H3, H4 and H5. They walked past G3 and G6 they *were* posh!!! Big ladies with golden sparkly earrings which were as big as Elizabeth's eyes were reading the latest newspaper. It said on the headline, BEAR ON THE LOOSE BE CAREFUL IF YOU ARE GOING TO THE LAKE DISTRICT. Michael stared at one man in particular, “Wow!” Michael whispered.

“He must be a billionaire!” Florence exclaimed.

“Stop it” Anne said and smacked Michael on the head with a newspaper, “Come on, we are going to depart in a minute”. Finding their seats, they sat down.

The sun was setting and the horse and cart had just dropped them off in Badger Wood Lane, where Auntie Georgina and Uncle Richard lived. While the suitcases were getting lowered to the ground, Florence spotted what looked like a bear. They knocked on the door and said hello to their auntie and uncle, then asked if they could all go to the Little Eye (the island they always played on). They took a picnic and rowed for about 10 minutes. Reaching the island, they heard a mournful cry, “What was that?” asked Jane nervously.

“I don't know but whatever it was it sounds like it's in pain,” Michael replied.

They set up a tent and went for some wood to start a fire when Florence saw the same shape. The figure was coffee brown and was ...huge! Since Florence was the youngest and her voice was not the loudest, she was frozen to the spot and could not shout out. It was the same bear that had been on the newspaper on the train.

She tried to tell the bear that she was not a hunter, she then heard shouting - it was not her siblings. She got some branches and leaves and tried to cover up the bear.

Hello! Hello! a voice boomed; it was the hunters who were trying to hunt the bear! “What has he done to hurt anybody?” thought Florence. She heard the voices get quieter and then thankfully heard some familiar voices. “Come over here everybody,” she whispered, “Do you remember that lady who was reading the newspaper, well this is the bear that was in the headline, they are trying to hunt him, and he's hurt, and we must help him and stop them trying to hunt him.”

Whilst Florence and Elizabeth helped the bear, Michael and Jane rode the boat back to Badger Wood Lane and faster than fury they banged on the door. It swung open in a flash. They told their mother everything and she was determined to help them.

They all got back to the Little Eye and put the plan they made on the boat into action. They made lots of noises by throwing things, whilst mother and Florence put him on the boat. They didn't know if they were going to make it or not, but they were determined to rescue him.

“GET HERE NOW!”, a man appeared and began to chase Michael and luckily Michael; he was not alone and he had hungry, fierce dogs with him. Deciding to get his clothes muddy and wet Michael jumped in the water and swam. Returning to the cottage, they hid in the secret room and sent their father a telegram. Secretly, the father worked for SHA (Stop Hunting Animals) and with their fathers help, people set out to save the bear which was safely returned to the wild.