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VORSCHAU

The toy monkey

‘Mum, I’m not going into another shop!’ said Jeremy. ‘We’ve looked in gift shops, dress shops, shoe shops... We’re leaving this afternoon, and I want to take some photos of the sea lions at Fisherman’s Wharf. Come on, Mum. Let’s go, please!’

Jeremy Sinclair and his mother Jill were on holiday in America. It was their last day in San Francisco.

Jill liked shopping. She liked shopping a lot. She wanted to buy some gifts for family and friends. She also just loved dress shops and shoe shops. Jeremy didn’t.

They walked past another gift shop and Jill said, ‘Oh, look! This is nice.’ The shop was full of handmade things from Africa.

‘No, Mum! Don’t go in there, please!’ said Jeremy.

But Jill said, ‘I won’t be long. The sea lions can wait. You can too.’ And she walked into the African gift shop without him.

Jeremy waited on the footpath. Jill came to the door of the shop and said, ‘Jem, come in. There are some amazing things in this shop.’

Jeremy went in. The shop was full of colourful things to buy. There were lots of hats, clothes, cards, cups, pots and toys.

The shop assistant said to him, ‘Excuse me, sir. You need to give me your backpack, please. All big bags have to go behind the counter.’

Jeremy took off his backpack and gave it to the shop assistant. She put Jeremy’s backpack behind the counter. A

family of four people came into the shop. The shop assistant took their bags and put them behind the counter too.

‘Why don’t you find a gift for Ruby?’ Jill asked Jeremy.

‘No, Mum. I don’t want to.’

Ruby was his father’s daughter. Jeremy’s parents were divorced. His father lived in New York with his second wife, Tanya. Ruby was their baby. She was ten months old.

‘But Jem, she’s your little sister,’ said Jill. ‘And you’re going to meet her for the first time. Go on. Get a gift for Ruby.’

Jeremy didn’t like talking to his mother about Ruby. He didn’t like talking to her about his father. Not after the divorce.

‘Oh, look at this!’ said Jill. She picked up a toy monkey from the floor next to the counter. ‘It’s from Angola. It’s handmade. Isn’t it sweet?’

Jeremy didn’t speak.

‘You had a toy monkey when you were a baby,’ she said. ‘It was your special toy. Do you remember, Jem?’

‘Did I?’

‘Yes. His name was Bobo.’

‘Oh, yes, I remember Bobo!’ said Jeremy. ‘He had a red cap.’

‘That’s right. And you took him with you all the time.’

‘Yeah. I took him to the beach that summer. Remember that?’

‘You put Bobo into the water. Your father had to swim out and get him.’

‘I wanted to teach Bobo to swim!’

They both laughed. That was a very happy family holiday. It was before the divorce. Before Jeremy’s father moved to New York. Before Tanya and Ruby.



‘This monkey is a great gift for a baby girl. Come on, Jem. We’ll get it for Ruby. I’ll pay for it,’ Jill said. ‘I can’t see a price on it.’ She said to the shop assistant, ‘Excuse me.’

‘Can I help you?’ asked the shop assistant.

‘Yes, please. We want to buy this toy monkey. But it hasn’t got a price on it.’

‘Oh, doesn’t it? The small toy animals from Angola are twenty dollars.’

‘Thanks,’ said Jill. She gave the girl the money and then pointed behind the counter. ‘And those are our backpacks,’ she said.

The girl had to move some other bags to get them out. ‘There you are.’

‘Here, Jem,’ said Jill. ‘Put Ruby’s gift into your backpack.’

Jeremy shoved the toy monkey inside his backpack. Then they left the shop.

‘Now can we go to Fisherman’s Wharf?’ asked Jeremy.

‘Okay,’ said Jill. She took her tourist book out of her backpack and looked at the map. ‘We can go there in a cable car.’

They walked to the cable car stop. They didn’t have to wait very long. A cable car came noisily along the middle of the street. They got on. Jeremy stood outside and held on to a pole. The cable car started going up the hill.

The girl from the gift shop ran out onto the street. She was with a large man with blond hair.

The man said angrily, ‘You’re in big trouble! How did they get that monkey? It was behind the counter!’

The shop assistant cried, ‘I’m sorry, I’m sorry! I don’t know. I had to put a lot of bags behind the counter. Maybe I

Help!

'I have to go,' said Tony. They put the picnic things back into the basket. Jeremy put on his backpack and stood up.

Then Tanya said, 'Have you got time for a coffee before you go, Tony?'

Tony looked at his watch. 'Yes, just a quick one. And I want to talk to you about our next holiday, Tanya. I'll have to ask the boss about it today.'

'Do you want a coffee, Jem?' Tanya asked him.

'No, thanks. I don't drink coffee,' said Jeremy.

'Will you stay with Ruby, then?' Tony asked his son. 'Tanya and I will go and get the coffees.'

'Will you be okay with her, Jem?' asked Tanya. 'Maybe I'll stay too, and Tony can get the —'

'Go,' said Jeremy. 'I'll be fine with Ruby.'

He watched his father and Tanya walk away.

'Ruby, try to walk!' said Jeremy. He helped Ruby to stand up. He held her hands. Then she sat down again. Jeremy and Ruby laughed.

Suddenly someone grabbed Jeremy from behind and dragged him into the trees. There was a hand over Jeremy's mouth. He heard a nasty voice say, 'Where are the diamonds, kid? Give them to me or you're dead!'

Jeremy thought, *Ruby! I must get back to Ruby!*

Jeremy bit the man's hand. Then he kicked the man's leg.

'Ow!' said the man.

Jeremy pushed the man away and ran to Ruby. He grabbed her and ran across Strawberry Fields. He shouted, 'Help! Help!' The man ran after him.

‘Help!’ Jeremy shouted again. In front of him he saw Tony and Tanya with their cups of coffee. ‘Dad!’ he shouted.

Tony shouted, ‘Jem! What’s wrong?’

Tanya dropped her coffee. ‘Ruby!’ she screamed, and she ran to Jeremy and Ruby. Tony followed her.

Jeremy quickly gave Ruby to Tanya. Just then the man grabbed Jeremy’s backpack and tried to pull it off him. Jeremy and the man fell to the ground.

‘Hey! Stop it!’ Tony shouted, and he threw his coffee at the man. It hit the man in the face. Hot coffee went all over the man’s face and neck.

The man screamed and then hit Tony in the head, hard. Tony and the man fought.

‘Tanya, get help! Quickly!’ shouted Jeremy.

Tanya ran. She took Ruby with her.

Jeremy got up and tried to help his father.

Then another man came into Strawberry Fields.

‘Help us, please!’ Jeremy called to him.

But the second man hit Tony. And he said to the first man, ‘Mack! We have to get out of here. Come on!’

‘I’m not leaving without that backpack!’ shouted the first man. He grabbed Jeremy again. ‘Give it to me, kid!’

‘Stop!’ shouted a new voice. Jeremy looked up and saw two police officers on big horses.

The two men stopped and put up their hands.

Jeremy looked at the first man and said, ‘Hey! I know you! You were at the airport. You’re that taxi driver! What’s going on? Why ask me about diamonds?’

Jeremy and Tony arrived home from the police station very late. Ruby was asleep.

Tanya hugged them both. ‘Are you okay?’



Activities

Chapters 1 and 2

Before you read

A. Look at the picture on page 6 and circle the correct answers.

1. What kind of shop is this?
a. a shoe shop b. a dress shop c. a gift shop
2. Who do you think the woman and the young man are?
a. a mother and son b. a teacher and student
c. two people working in the shop

B. Find these words in your dictionary. Use them in the sentences.

gift counter thief handmade

1. This chair is _____. My grandfather made it.
2. Let's get Prue a _____ for her birthday.
3. Go to the _____ and ask the man for six eggs.
4. I left my bike here and now it's gone. I want to know who the _____ is.

C. Listen to Track 3 on the CD and answer these questions.

1. Where did all the things in the shop come from?
a. America b. Africa
2. What did the shop assistant ask Jeremy to give her?
a. his backpack b. a gift
3. Where did Jeremy's backpack have to go?
a. on his back b. behind the counter

After you read

COMPREHENSION

A. Circle the correct answers.

1. Where did Jeremy want to go?
a. to Fisherman's Wharf b. to Angola c. to a shoe shop
2. What did Jeremy and Jill buy in the shop?
a. a hat b. some clothes c. a toy monkey
3. Who did Jeremy and Jill watch at Fisherman's Wharf?
a. a tap dancer b. a thief c. a taxi driver
4. What did the dancer shout when she pointed at Jeremy?
a. 'Watch it!' b. 'Thief!' c. 'Thanks!'

Chapters 3 and 4

Before you read

A. Answer these questions about the story so far.

1. Who is following Jeremy and Jill?
a. the tap dancer b. the shop assistant
c. the man with blond hair
2. What does that person want to get from Jeremy?
a. his camera b. the toy monkey c. some money

B. Find these words in your dictionary. Use them in the sentences.

queue board stuffing come off

1. After all the people _____ the plane, it will fly away.
2. A long _____ of people waited for the bank to open.
3. Leo can't play with his toy car because two of the wheels have _____.
4. This old sofa isn't very comfortable because a lot of the _____ has fallen out of it.

C. Listen to Track 4 on the CD and answer these questions.

1. Where was Jeremy's boarding pass?
a. in a pocket in his backpack b. in Jill's pocket
2. What gate did Jeremy have to go to at two thirty?
a. Gate 61 b. Gate 72
3. Where was Jill's boarding pass?
a. on the table b. in her jacket pocket

After you read

COMPREHENSION

A. Circle the correct answers.

1. Where was Jill's flight going to?
a. Vancouver b. to London c. to New York
2. What came off the monkey when the man pulled it?
a. its head b. its legs c. its arms
3. Who held up a big piece of paper at the airport in New York?
a. Tanya b. a taxi driver c. Jeremy's driver
4. What did Jeremy go out to buy in the morning?
a. some eggs b. some milk c. some bread

Glossary

adj. adjective; *adv.* adverb; *conj.* conjunction; *n.* noun;
prep. preposition; *pron.* pronoun; *v.* verb

about /ə'baʊt/ <i>adv.</i>	ungefähr
airport /'eə,pɔ:t/ <i>n.</i>	Flughafen
amazing /ə'meɪzɪŋ/ <i>adj.</i>	toll
anything /'eni,θɪŋ/ <i>pron.</i>	(irgend)etwas; nichts (<i>verneint</i>)
backpack /'bæk,pæk/ <i>n.</i>	Rucksack
badly /'bædli/ <i>adv.</i>	sehr
basket /'bɑ:skɪt/ <i>n.</i>	Korb
before /bɪ'fɔ: / <i>prep./conj.</i>	vor; bevor
board /bɔ:d/ <i>v.</i>	besteigen, einsteigen
boarding pass /'bɔ:ɪdɪŋ ,pɑ:s/ <i>n.</i>	Bordkarte
boss /bɒs/ <i>n.</i>	Chef
both /bəʊθ/ <i>pron.</i>	beide
bottom /'bɒtəm/ <i>n.</i>	Boden
bruise /bru:z/ <i>n.</i>	blauer Fleck
cable car /'keɪbl ,kɑ:/ <i>n.</i>	Kabelbahn
came off /keɪm ɒf/ <i>v.</i>	ging ab (<i>past tense</i> von <i>come off</i>)
client /'klaɪənt/ <i>n.</i>	Kunde
closed /kləʊzd/ <i>adj.</i>	geschlossen
cot /kɒt/ <i>n.</i>	Kinderbett
counter /'kaʊntə/ <i>n.</i>	Ladentheke
crowd /kraʊd/ <i>n.</i>	(Menschen)menge
curly /'kɜ:li/ <i>adj.</i>	lockig
diamond /'daɪəmənd/ <i>n.</i>	Diamant
divorce /dɪ'vɔ:s/ <i>n.</i>	Scheidung
drag /dræg/ <i>v.</i>	ziehen
drop /drɒp/ <i>v.</i>	fallen lassen
everyone /'evriwʌn/ <i>pron.</i>	alle; jeder