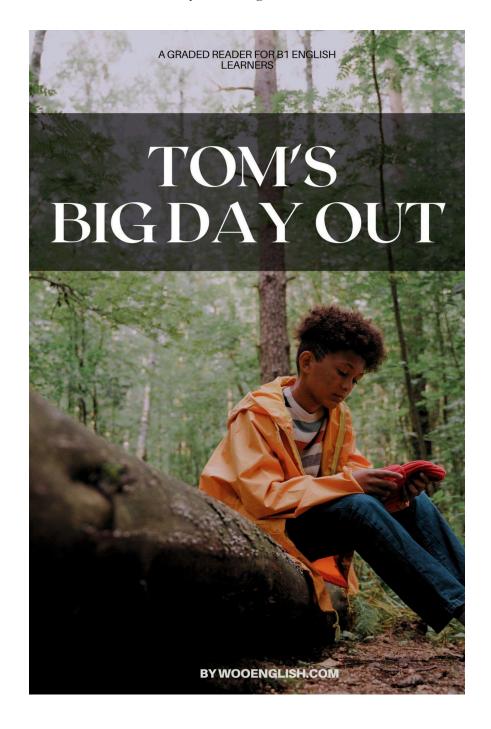


A1 Tom's Big Day Out

by WooEnglish



Chapter 1: The Secret Map

One sunny morning, Tom goes to his grandpa's house. His grandpa has a big, old house. It is a very interesting place. Tom loves to explore it.

Tom says, "Grandpa, can I go to the attic?" The attic is up, up, up in the house. It is like a secret place.

Grandpa says, "Yes, but be careful."

Tom climbs the stairs. They make noise. "Creak, creak, creak." Tom looks around in the attic. There are many old things. There are boxes and old clothes. There are books and pictures.

Tom sees a small, brown box. It is under a blue blanket. "What is this?" he thinks. He opens the box. Inside, there is a map.

The map is old and yellow. It has pictures of trees and a river. It shows a path. The path goes through a forest. At the end of the path, there is an 'X'. "X marks the spot," Tom says. He knows 'X' means treasure.

Tom feels excited. His heart goes "thump, thump, thump." He wants to find the treasure.

Tom runs to Grandpa. He shows him the map. Grandpa smiles. "That is an adventure map," Grandpa says. "I used it when I was young."

Tom asks, "Is the treasure real?"

Grandpa says, "Yes, but no one finds it. It is a game. It is fun to look."

Tom wants to play this game. He wants to look for the treasure.

"I will find the treasure," Tom says.

Grandpa laughs. "Okay, Tom. Go on an adventure."

Tom gets ready. He puts on his boots. Boots are good for walking in the forest. He takes a small bag. He puts water and a sandwich in the bag.

Tom stands at the door. He feels happy. He feels brave. Today is Tom's big day out.

He looks at the map. He starts to walk. He follows the path to the forest.

Tom walks into the forest. The trees are tall. The leaves are green. Birds sing. "Tweet, tweet." Squirrels run. "Scurry, scurry."

Tom follows the map. He turns left. He turns right. He goes straight. He is looking for the treasure.

Tom is on an adventure. It is a big day out. What will he find? He does not know. But he wants to find out.

This is the start of Tom's story. What will happen next?



Chapter 2: The Friendly Squirrel

Tom walks under the big trees. The forest is big. The trees are green and tall. Tom looks at his map. He is not sure where to go.

"Where is the treasure?" Tom thinks.

Then, he hears a noise. "Chatter, chatter." Tom looks up. What is that?

It is a squirrel. The squirrel is small and brown. It has big, bright eyes. It looks at Tom. The squirrel is not afraid. It is friendly.

"Hello," Tom says to the squirrel. He smiles.

The squirrel comes closer. It stands on a rock. It looks at Tom's map.

"This is Max," Tom says. He gives the squirrel a name. "Hello, Max."

Max the squirrel chatters. "Chatter, chatter." It sounds like he is talking to Tom.

Tom shows the map to Max. "I am looking for treasure," Tom tells Max.

Max looks at the map. Max knows the forest. He knows all the trees and rocks. He knows the rivers and the flowers.

Max points with his little paw. He wants to help Tom.

"Will you help me find the treasure?" Tom asks.

Max nods his head. Yes, Max will help.

Tom is happy. "Thank you, Max! Let's go together."

Max runs along. He runs fast. He runs up trees and down trees. Tom follows Max.

They go left. They go right. Max shows Tom the way.

Tom and Max are friends. They are a team. They look for the treasure together.

The sun is warm. The birds sing. Max is a good friend.

They come to a big rock. Max stops. He looks at Tom. "Chatter, chatter."

Tom understands. Max has an idea. They climb the rock. From the top, they can see a lot.

Max points again. He shows Tom where to go next.

Tom says, "Let's go, Max!"

They go down the rock. They walk more. They are close to the treasure.

Tom and Max are on an adventure. They are looking for the treasure. Will they find it? They hope so.

They are happy. They are excited. They are ready for more.

Tom and Max are friends. Friends on a big adventure.

What will happen next? Where will they go? The adventure is fun.

Tom is not alone. Max is with him. Together, they will find the treasure.

The forest is beautiful. The adventure is big. Tom's day out is very special.

Tom and Max keep going. The treasure is waiting.



Chapter 3: The River Crossing

Tom and Max walk and walk. The trees get smaller. The sun shines bright. Then they see water. It is a river.

The river is wide. The water moves fast. "Splash, splash," says the river.

Tom looks at Max. "How do we go over?" he asks.

Max looks at the river. He looks at the trees. Max has an idea.

Max runs to the trees. Tom follows. They find logs. Logs are big pieces of wood. The logs are on the ground.

"We can make a raft," Tom says.

A raft is like a big, flat boat. It can float on the water.

Max brings the logs. Tom helps him. They put the logs together.

Tom has a rope. The rope is long and strong. Tom uses the rope to tie the logs. He makes knots. Knots hold the logs together.

Tom does not know how to make knots. But he tries. He tries again and again.

Then he does it! The logs are together. They have a raft.

Tom is happy. "I can make knots!" he says.

Max is happy too. "Chatter, chatter," Max says.

They push the raft into the river. The raft floats. Tom and Max get on the raft.

The raft moves. The water takes it down the river. "Splash, splash," goes the water.

Tom has a stick. He uses it to push the raft. Max helps. They work together.

They go across the river. It is hard work. But Tom and Max do it.

They get to the other side. Tom jumps off the raft. Max jumps too.

"We did it!" Tom says. "We crossed the river!"

Tom is proud. He made a raft. He crossed the river. He learned to make knots.

Max is proud too. They are a good team.

Now they can go on. They can look for the treasure.

The adventure is not over. It is just starting. What will they find next?

Tom looks at Max. "Let's go," he says.

Max runs. Tom follows. They go into the trees again.

Tom looks for the treasure. Max looks too.

They are ready for more adventure. They are brave. They are smart.

Tom is not just looking for treasure. He is learning new things. He is having fun.

Tom and Max keep going. They will find the treasure.

Chapter 4: The Singing Birds

Tom and Max walk through the forest. The trees are tall. The leaves make shadows.

Tom hears music. It is not from a radio. It is from the birds.

"Tweet, tweet," sing the birds.

The birds are in the trees. They are high up. The sky is blue. The birds look small.

Tom looks at Max. "The birds sing," he says.

Max looks up. "Chatter, chatter," Max talks to the birds.

The birds sing louder. "Tweet, tweet."

Tom listens. The birds sound happy. But they also sound like they want to say something.

Max listens too. He understands the birds.

Max looks at Tom. Max takes Tom to a big tree.

They look up. The birds sing and fly around.

Tom feels the birds are special. They know the forest. They know the way.

Max points his paw. He shows Tom a place with no trees.

"It is a clearing," Tom thinks.

They walk to the clearing. But there is a problem. The ground is not hard. It is soft. It is mud.

The mud is thick. It sticks to Tom's boots.

"We cannot walk here," Tom says.

Max nods. The mud is too deep.

The birds sing again. "Tweet, tweet."

Tom listens. He thinks, "The birds are helping us."

The birds fly. They go to the left. They go to the right.

Tom watches. "They show us the way," he says.

Max chatters. He agrees with Tom.

Tom and Max go left. They find stones. The stones are not in the mud. They are on top.

"Step on the stones," Tom says.

They walk on the stones. They do not get stuck.

Tom and Max go around the mud. The birds follow them. They sing.

"Thank you, birds," Tom says.

Max says, "Chatter, chatter."

They are past the mud. They are safe.

Tom and Max keep walking. The birds go back to the trees.

Tom learns something. He learns to listen. He listens to the birds.

The forest is full of friends. The friends help Tom and Max.

Tom feels good. He has Max. He has the birds.

They go on. The treasure is close. Tom can feel it.

Tom and Max are on an adventure. They are not alone. They have help.

Tom looks at the map. They are on the right path.

The birds sing. The sun shines. It is a good day.

Tom and Max are happy. They are on a big adventure. And it is not over yet.



Chapter 5: The Mountain Cave

The map in Tom's hand is old. It has a picture of a mo	ountain. There is a mark. It is a
cave.	

"The treasure is near," Tom says.

Max looks at the mountain. It is big. It is rocky.

"We must climb," Tom says. Max nods.

They start to go up the mountain. It is steep. Tom takes small steps. Max jumps on the rocks.

Climb, climb, climb.

Tom's legs feel heavy. But he does not stop. Max climbs and waits for him.

They help each other. Max finds the best rocks to climb. Tom follows.

The sun is hot. Tom's face is wet. It is sweat. But Tom is strong.

After a long time, they see the cave. It is dark inside.

"Here it is," Tom says.

Max runs to the cave. Tom goes in too.

It is cool inside. It is quiet.

Tom's eyes get used to the dark. He sees something.

There is a box. It is old and wooden.

Tom opens the box. Inside, there is paper.

"It is a clue!" Tom says.

Max comes close. He looks at the paper.

The clue is short. "Look for the biggest tree," it says.

Tom thinks, "What does it mean?"

Max chatters. He thinks too.

They go out of the cave. They look at the forest below.

Many trees are there. But one is bigger. It is very big.

"That must be it," Tom says.

Max looks at the big tree. He agrees.

They must go to the big tree.

Tom and Max go down the mountain. Down, down, down.

Climbing down is easier. But they are careful.

Tom holds onto rocks. Max jumps well.

They come down the mountain. They are at the bottom.

"Now, to the big tree," Tom says.

They walk through the forest. The big tree is not far.

They come to the tree. It is huge. The branches are wide.

Tom and Max look at the tree. They must find the next clue.

Tom feels excited. "We are close," he says.

Max feels excited too. "Chatter, chatter," he says.

They look around the big tree. They look for a sign.

The adventure is big. The day is good.

Tom and Max are finding their way.

The biggest tree in the forest is their next big clue.

What will they find here?

Tom and Max are ready to see.



Chapter 6: The Big Tree

Tom and Max stand in front of the biggest tree. It is taller than all the others. Its leaves touch the sky.

The tree's bark is rough. The roots are big. They look like snakes on the ground.

Tom walks around the tree. He looks up. He looks down.

Max follows Tom. His small nose sniffs the air.

Tom stops. He sees something. It is a hole. The hole is at the bottom of the tree.

"What is in there?" Tom thinks.

He is a bit scared. But he is brave. He must look.

Tom puts his hand in the hole. It is dark. It is empty.

Then his fingers touch something. It is small. It is hard.

Tom takes it out. It is a key!

The key is old. It is metal. It shines in the sun.

"There is more," Tom says. He feels paper.

He pulls out the paper. It is a note.

Max comes close. He looks at the note with Tom.

Tom reads, "Find the chest." "What chest?" Tom thinks. Max tilts his head. He thinks too. A chest is a box. It can hold treasure. Tom looks at the key. "This key opens the chest," he says. Max's eyes are bright. He is ready to find the chest. They must look for it. But where? Tom looks at the map. The map is quiet. It has no more clues. Tom puts the key in his bag. He holds the note. "We will find it," Tom says. Max chatters. He agrees. They start to look. They look near the tree. They look at the ground. They look in the bushes. They look and look.

But Tom and Max do not give up.

The forest is big. The chest can be anywhere.

They have a key. They have a note. They will find the chest.

The sun moves in the sky. It is getting late.

But Tom is not tired. Max is not tired.

They are on an adventure. They are treasure hunters.

They will find the chest. They must.

The big tree is the start. The key is the next step.

What will they find?

Tom and Max keep looking. They will not stop.

The treasure is waiting. They feel it.

They are a team. They are friends.

The biggest tree has given them a clue.

Now to the next part.

The key will show the way.

Tom and Max are ready.



Chapter 7: The Puzzle Box

Tom and Max do not stop looking. They walk and look. They look under leaves. They look behind trees.

The sun is not high now. It is getting dark.

Then, Max stops. He sniffs the ground.

Max finds something. It is a chest. It is not big. It is small.

The chest is brown. It has a lock.

"Here it is!" Tom says. He is happy.

Max barks. He is happy too.

Tom takes out the key. It is the key from the big tree.

He puts the key in the lock. Click! The lock opens.

Tom opens the chest. Inside, there is a box.

The box is pretty. It has colors.

Tom opens the box. There are pieces. Many pieces.

"It is a puzzle," Tom says.

Max sits next to Tom. They look at the puzzle.

Tom takes a piece. He puts it on the ground.

Max takes a piece. He puts it next to Tom's piece.

They work together. They find the right places for the pieces.

Piece by piece, a picture comes.

They see blue. They see white.

The puzzle is hard. But Tom and Max do not give up.

Slowly, a picture is there. It is a waterfall.

"A waterfall," Tom says. "It is beautiful."

Max barks softly. He agrees.

Tom thinks, "Is the treasure near water?"

He looks at the map. There is no waterfall on the map.

But the map is old. Maybe the map is not right.

Tom stands up. He looks around.

"Where is water?" he asks.

Max runs around. He comes back. He barks.

Tom follows Max. They go through the trees.

They hear a sound. It is water. It is moving.

Tom and Max find the waterfall. It is big. It is loud.

Water falls down. It hits the rocks. Splash!

Tom feels the mist. It is wet. It feels nice.

"Is the treasure here?" Tom thinks.

Max sniffs. He looks.

They have a new clue. They have the waterfall.

Now, they must look here.

The treasure is close. Tom feels it in his heart.

The puzzle in the chest was a clue.

The waterfall is beautiful. It is powerful.

Tom and Max are on an adventure. It is a big one.

They are smart. They are brave.

They will find the treasure.

The waterfall is the next step.

They are ready to look.

The treasure is waiting.

Chapter 8: The Hidden Waterfall

Tom and Max stand near the loud waterfall. They see water fall down. It is strong. They feel the water in the air.

Tom looks at the waterfall. It is just like in the puzzle.

Max barks. He runs to one side of the waterfall.

Tom follows Max. They go behind the water. It is like rain.

Behind the waterfall, Tom sees something. It is a door. The door is old. It is made of wood.

Tom touches the door. The wood is wet. It is from the waterfall.

"Is the treasure here?" Tom thinks.

He looks at Max. Max looks at the door.

They are both excited. Their hearts beat fast.

Tom tries to open the door. It does not move.

"Is there a key?" Tom thinks.

He remembers the key. The key from the big tree.

Tom takes the key out. He puts the key in the door.

He turns the key. The door opens!

The door makes a noise. Creeeak!

Tom looks inside. It is dark.

Max does not wait. He goes in.

Tom goes in too. It is like a cave.

They can't see much. It is too dark.

Tom takes a deep breath. He is brave.

Max is brave too. He stays close to Tom.

They walk in. Step by step.

They hear drip, drip. Water drops from the top.

Tom's eyes get used to the dark. He sees something shine.

It is gold. It is bright.

Tom walks to the shine. He sees a box.

The box is big. It is old. It is locked.

"Is this the chest?" Tom thinks.

Max is next to Tom. He looks at the box.

Tom uses the key. He opens the lock.

The chest opens. Tom looks inside.

Inside the chest, there is something.

It is not gold. It is not coins.

It is a book. The book is old.

Tom is surprised. "A book?" he says.

He takes the book. He opens it.

The book has pictures. It has stories.

It is a book of adventures.

Tom smiles. Max looks happy.

The treasure is not gold. It is stories.

Tom feels rich. He has a book of adventures.

 \mbox{He} can read every story. He can go on new adventures.

Max sits next to Tom. Tom reads to Max.

They are in the hidden waterfall. They have a book.

It is their treasure.

The sound of water is around them. It is peaceful.

They found the treasure. It is better than gold.

Tom and Max have a new adventure. It is in the book.

They will read every story.

The hidden waterfall has given them a gift.

It is the best day out.



Chapter 9: The Treasure

Tom and Max are in the room. It is a small room. The room is hidden behind the waterfall.

In the room, there is a chest. It is an old chest. It is in the middle of the room.

The chest is made of wood. It has metal on it. The metal is shiny.

Tom walks to the chest. He is excited. His hands shake a little.

Max is with Tom. Max s ears are up. He is excited too.

Tom takes the key. It is still in his hand. He puts the key in the chest s lock.

The key turns. The lock clicks. It is open.

Tom opens the chest. The hinges creak. It is a loud creak in the small room.

They look inside. There is a book.

The book is big. It looks very old.

Tom picks up the book. He feels it. The cover is hard. The pages are old.

Max looks at the book. He smells it. It smells old.

Tom opens the book. Inside, there are stories.

There are pictures too. The pictures are beautiful.

The stories are about adventures. They are about heroes and treasures.

Tom looks at Max. This is the treasure, he says.

Max does not understand. But he looks at Tom. He is happy because Tom is happy.

Tom understands now. The map, the key, the chest. It was all for this.

The real treasure is not gold. It is not coins.

The treasure is the adventure. It is what you learn.

The book is full of stories. It will take Tom on adventures.

Tom can read. He will learn. He will go on adventures in his mind.

This is the real treasure. It is better than gold.

Tom feels happy. He feels rich.

Max feels happy too. He is with Tom.

They sit in the small room. Tom reads a story.

It is about a pirate. The pirate looks for treasure.

Tom reads. Max listens. The water falls outside.

It is a perfect moment. It is quiet and exciting.

Tom and Max have their treasure. It is the book.

The day is almost over. But the adventure is not.

They will read all the stories. They will learn all they can.

The treasure is theirs. It is the adventure. It is the knowledge.

Tom and Max will have many big days out. But today is special.

They found the treasure. They found what is important.



Chapter 10: Home Again

Tom holds the book. It is close to his chest. Max is by his side.

They leave the small room. They go out from behind the waterfall.

The sun is going down. The sky is orange and pink.

They walk through the forest. They see the path.

The path is not scary now. They know this path.

They walk and walk. Max is tired. Tom is tired too.

But they keep walking. They are going home.

They come out of the forest. They see Tom's house.

The lights are on. It is warm. It is nice.

Tom's parents are there. They are outside.

They see Tom and Max. They run to them.

"Tom!" they say. "We were worried!"

Tom hugs them. He is happy to see them.

"I am okay," Tom says. "We had an adventure."

Max barks. He is happy too.

Tom shows them the book. It is the treasure.

He tells them about the chest. About the secret map.

He talks about the birds. About the big tree.

He talks about the friendly squirrel. About the river.

His parents listen. Their eyes are big.

They smile. They are happy.

Tom's mom says, "We are proud of you."

Tom feels good. He is proud too.

Tom knows he will have more adventures.

He will read all the stories in the book.

Every story is a new adventure.

But now, Tom is home. It is safe.

It is time for dinner. Dinner smells good.

Tom puts the book on the table. It is important.

Max sits by Tom. They are hungry.

Tom's family sits down. They all eat.

They talk about the adventure.

Tom looks at the book. He is excited.

There will be more adventures. But now, he is home.



THE END

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