

Berry Beary Kind –Book 5

*In a very kind town called, “Berry Beary Town”
Lived a very kind Bear called, “Berry Beary Kind”*

*Imagine a place where fun things happen every day;
Where everybody is happy and helping each other;
A place that is safe, pleasant and welcoming to all;
Where everyone is friendly and has what they need;
A place where new and interesting ideas and solutions can be tried.
...Perhaps, if we all do more than imagine, this dream can become a reality.*

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1--Ambulance to the Rescue

Berry Beary Kind had just finished taking a shower and getting all fancy. It was going to be his brother’s wedding.

Berry Beary Faithful was his name. All his friends and family were going to get together to celebrate this wonderful event. Berry Beary Kind wanted to be at his best.

As he looked out the window while getting on his coat, he noticed a tree branch that looked weak and was about to fall down. He put aside his fancy coat, and went to the shed to get a saw and put on

his handyman goggles.

It would be better to saw it off than to have it fall on someone walking past. With the job done, he finished getting ready to go to the wedding.

As he was about to hop into his car, he noticed how late it was. He had stopped to help prevent an accident, and now he might be rather late for the wedding celebration.

What should he do? After praying to make it on time somehow, he got an idea.

Berry Beary Fast owned an ambulance, and he often needed to come that way to help an elderly lady who had to frequently go to the hospital for care.

Just as he was about to call his friend, he began to hear a siren and see some flashing lights. It was him! Berry Beary Fast was zooming past.

Berry Beary Kind called him by cell phone, as Berry Beary Fast had a special “speaker phone” in the ambulance. He could easily hear and talk to those who needed to call him, while still driving carefully.

Sure enough he was taking the neighbour, Miss Elderbear, to have some rest and extra nourishment at the hospital. His ambulance was going to be driving close to the place that Berry Beary Kind needed to go to.

“Sure, you can ride up front with me. You’ll get there in no time at all, because we can zoom along faster than the other cars.

“Miss Elderbear needs to get there quickly. And since you often help people, you can come take a ride with me.”

“Great!” said Berry Beary Kind. “That’s so kind of you!”

So it all worked out in the end. He helped to guard others from an accident, and still made it to the very special celebration at his brother’s house.

“If you be kind to others, they’ll be kind to you!” he thought. “Hmm. How true it is.”

2--Berry Beary Fisherman

“It looks like it will be a bit of a cloudy night,” said Berry Beary Fisherman to Berry Beary Brave. They were going on a fishing trip and were checking that everything was fine and that they would have all that was needed. Before heading out, they stopped to pray for a safe and successful trip out that night.

Through parting clouds, the moon could be seen peering out and its light was reflecting off the deep sea waters Berry Beary Fisherman and Berry Beary Brave began to lower the nets to catch some fish.

“I hope we catch some good ones tonight so we’ll have plenty to offer to the towns folks at the market tomorrow,” said Berry Beary Fisherman. He liked being out in the quiet of the night—especially when it wasn’t stormy weather.

“Sometimes it seems like it would be more comfortable to be in my warm bed sleeping rather than out in the chilly night working,” Berry Beary Brave said. “But when I think about tomorrow, and all the families and their children that have no other way to get the fish that they need, then it makes me glad to persevere and to catch something for them.”

“Yes,” replied Berry Beary Fisherman. “Seeing the smiling faces of the children coming to get some nice

fresh fish for their dinner makes it worth it. I wouldn't feel so happy if I had nothing to offer to them. It's hard work and a bit lonely at times, too, but then I remember the fishermen of old, dear Peter and Andrew, James and John. Doing the work out on the sea day by day faithfully gave them the strength and determination to then do the jobs Jesus called them to do—to go out and bring people to know Jesus.”

“Oh! I think we've got something!” Berry Beary Brave yelled, and together they hauled the net in.

“Wow! That's a good catch! I'm so glad we prayed. I think the Lord led us to just the right place—or led the fish to us! Just like he helped those fishermen on the sea of Galilee to catch plenty when they needed the encouragement. I know Jesus is here with us too!” said Berry Beary Fisherman.

Things seemed to be going very well for quite a while until the wind started to blow stronger and the waves were getting rather choppy. Then the rain began to fall, and not just as a light sprinkle, but it was pouring down and the moon was fully covered by the clouds. Lighting and thunder added their dramatic ambiance to the night.

As the men on the boat were struggling with the weather, somewhere else was a sleeping Berry Beary Kind. Well, he was, until a loud thunder bolt woke him up and instantly he remembered to pray for the fishing team out on the sea who needed help from Heaven just then.

After praying a heartfelt prayer for their safety, he felt at peace and drifted back to sleep with this thought, “Well, sometimes the best and kindest deed we can do for others is to pray and let the Lord take care of them.

At times like this there is nothing at all that I can do to help Berry Beary Fisherman and Berry Beary Brave, but I know that as I pray for them, things will get better in all the best ways.”

Berry Beary Kind was fast asleep again, having full confidence that they would be alright, for they were in the care of the One who can control the wind and the waves—Jesus, who knew just what it felt like to be out in a boat on a stormy night.

“Things seem to be calming down for some reason. That's odd!” said a puzzled Berry Beary Brave.

“I have this feeling that someone somewhere just prayed for us!” commented Berry Beary Fisherman.

The team was trying to make it back to the shore in a hurry, cutting their trip short. But with the positive change in the weather they were able to fish for a good while more.

When they had safely made it back to the shore and were unloading their catch they were surprised and grateful to see how well things had gone.

Later at the market the smile of Tiny Tony greeted them. He and his family were usually the first ones there. He asked Berry Beary Fisherman how it went that night, and got to hear of the amazing trip, and how the storm had calmed and things had gone so well.

Tiny Tony smiled as he held his package of fresh fish in his hands. He thanked Berry Beary Fisherman and Berry Beary Brave for going through the trouble of bravely fishing in the night. And as he walked away he looked up and thanked Jesus for giving him what he needed.

3--The Grand Circus

It was the opening night of the Grand Circus, which is what the Wonderbears had decided to call it. They

had been working on their acts and tricks, as well as training the animals that were to be a part of the show. It had been a year-and-a-half since they started to work towards their goals.

Things took longer than they had expected, but because they all had made goals and plans, and kept working on each step of their plan, day by day, at last the show was ready.

The Wonderbears planned to travel all over the country to show their Grand Circus to as many as they could, for the next three months. Tonight the opening and first show of the season was to take place in Berry Beary Town.

The crowd waited with anticipation in the dim lighting. Then all of a sudden a spot light shone, and it was Berry Beary Kind all dressed up in fancy clothes, holding the microphone as the opening music played.

Berry Beary Kind welcomed the citizens of his town to enjoy the fabulous show. Then one by one the Wonderbears and animals—that were part of the team too—came out to take a bow or to say hello. Berry Beary Kind introduced each one while the crowd loudly cheered.

“And now, the show will begin!” Berry Beary Kind said and left the stage.

Music played and in walked two humorous Wonderbears to put on a clown act and start the show with a bit of laughter.

Clown #1 was sleeping. Zzzz, he snored. An extra loud and animated sneeze woke him up. What was it? He couldn't see anything that had ticked his nose, and drowsily attempted to fall back asleep.

“Ahhh-choo!” he sneezed again. More determined than ever to find out just what was causing this great disturbance in his sleep, he turned to his friend, Clown #2, who was busy polishing his shoes, whistling as he worked.

“What's going on?” Clown #1 said. But just then he spotted the cause of his disturbance.

“There it is!” Clown #1 said.

“There's what?” Clown #2 asked.

“There he goes...!” Clown #1 announced.

“There who goes?” Clown #2 asked, still not knowing what Clown #1 was talking about.

“I've got a plan,” Clown #1 said, wanting to enlist the help of Clown #2.

“There's a troublesome pesky fly, and he's keeping me from my nap!” Clown #1 began to explain.

“Ah,” Clown #2 exclaimed, glad to get a clue on what the fuss was all about.

“Since you've got some shoes there, why don't you shoo that fly away for me, so I can get back to sleep—and stay asleep this time!” Clown #1 suggested.

“Shoe it? What do you mean?” Clown #2 asked.

“Oh, you know, just shoo it!” Clown #1 answered.

“Oh, alright,” Clown #2 agreed.

So back to sleep Clown #1 went, and would have had a good rest, but was startled awake with a lively and yet exasperated Clown #2, who was running around with his freshly polished shoes, calling out, “I'm trying to shoe him, but I think the shoes are just too big. I've shod horses before, but never a fly. I just don't see how to do it!”

Clown #1 nearly laughed himself in a heap, and the both of them walked out ready to go for swim instead—and Clown #1 would catch a nap later on.

The crowd cheered, and Jelina called out, eager to help, “You just need a fly swatter!”

The next act was put on by a brave Wonderbear. He was going to ride a bicycle that had its tires removed, over a very tight rope. It wasn’t up very high at all, so it wasn’t dangerous, but it still required plenty of skill and practice.

First he rode with seeming ease from one side of the tight rope to the other. But that wasn’t all he was going to demonstrate. It was only the beginning. Next he placed a bowl on his head, filled with fruit and rode balancing that as well.

For the next ride across he took Malley the Monkey, and placed him on to his shoulders. Malley the Monkey would eat the fruit while the Wonderbear cycled across the tight rope.

As a final act, he put on a blindfold and showed his skill at balancing without being able to use his sense of sight.

And he made it! Cheers were heard, and the arena was cleared for the next act.

Hoops were held and the well-trained dogs ran and leapt through them, and received nibbles and treats for their great performance.

Then came the juggling team. They juggled just about anything that could be juggled—oranges, balls, apricots, hoops, shoes, skittles, even coconuts! –Only one of the coconuts fell and cracked, but the crowd didn’t mind the minor slip.

The jugglers had amazed them all, and it only added to the suspense of it, and reminded the crowd how very difficult it really was. Besides, Malley the Monkey was pleased to nibble it as a treat for his good performance.

After several more acts that amazed the crowds, in trotted the dancing ponies. They would trot and twirl in time to music—and not only that, but on each one of their backs danced a Ballerina Bear.

They went on tip toe, they twirled, they did back bends, and hand stands—and in time to the music on top of the ponies, as the ponies trot-danced along.

At last the Grand Circus show was over, and everyone clapped and cheered for a long time. The Wonderbears had done it once more—they’d used their skill of cheering up others, and this time made a whole town happy!

It had taken a lot of work to practice, train, persevere and learn all that they had to, to put on that show that lasted just a short while in comparison. But the thought remained with them, that the joy and happy memories that were in each of the audience’s minds and hearts would last even longer than the time it took the Wonderbears to work hard and practice for the show. It took them a year and a half, but those watching—especially the children—would have fond memories for many years to come.

After everyone had left, a grateful team of volunteers had asked to be allowed to help the Wonderbears clean up and pack up the tent and all their equipment.

“You all worked so hard and gave us all a great time. There were a lot of smiles around here this afternoon! We’d like to lend you a hand, so you can relax a bit,” the volunteers offered.

“Oh, thanks!” exclaimed the Wonderbears. “We’d sure appreciate the help.”

When everything was at last packed up, the team was ready to travel, and would leave early the next morning.

“Good bye then!” the team of helpers said, as they began to walk home. But before they could get too far, a wonderful smell filled the air. It smelt just like something they would all really like right then.— Dinner!

Berry Beary Kind had fixed a delicious dinner for the Wonderbears, as well as the helpful volunteers.

They sat on benches outside, looking at the stars and the bright moonlight, eating and laughing together.

When everyone was finished, Berry Beary Kind packed up the dishes and any remaining food. “I guess we best leave now, since you all have an early start on the day tomorrow. It was a great show and we are so thankful for all you did to make it so. We don’t want to keep you up any later now, so good night!” Berry Beary Kind said, and motioned for the volunteers to come.

“Good night!” the happy and relaxed Wonderbears replied and waved as the team left. “And thanks so much for your kind help!” they said as the volunteers were leaving.

It had been a marvellous first day. With this kind of gratitude and kindness, they felt eager to continue on with their plan of cheering up town after town, and giving each one the best show they could.

4--Beary Astronomical

Adjusting his telescope to look at the lunar eclipse, Berry Beary Kind heard a, “Hi there!”

“Oh, hi! A good night to have you around. How’s it going, Beary Astronomical?” Berry Beary Kind said to his timely visitor. “I was just going to show some of the kids and their families a closer look at what is going on up there tonight. Perhaps you would like to talk with them, since it’s your field of expertise. I bet you could help explain things a bit better than I could.”

“Ah, I would love to. Someone said there was a get-together here to watch the show in the sky, and I didn’t want to miss it!” Beary Astronomical said.

“Glad to have you here. Help yourself to some snacks from the table over there,” Berry Beary Kind offered.

The eager and waiting young folks, that were already beginning to come, were glad when Berry Beary Kind said the telescope was ready. Everyone lined up to get a turn looking closely at the moon.

“But why is the moon getting dark on one side of it? It was supposed to be a full moon tonight?” a boy asked, after his turn to look.

Berry Beary Kind motioned to Beary Astronomical, that it was his cue to help explain this amazing sight to all that were there. He stood up and used his flashlight and shone it on a circular mirror that he had in his pocket.

The children saw the light reflecting off the mirror.

“Is the mirror shining?” Beary Astronomical asked everyone.

“Yes,” most responded.

But as the flashlight was turned off, he said again, “Can the mirror really shine—on its own?”

“No, only when the sun is shining on it!” someone said.

Beary Astronomical continued his demonstration. He asked one of the children to hold the mirror in place while he used a round coaster. He shone the flashlight once again at the mirror and then passed the coaster between the mirror and the light of the flashlight.

“You see,” Beary Astronomical began. “The moon can only shine when the sun is shining on it. It just reflects the light. But if something gets in the way—for example the Earth, and blocks the light, then that part of the moon looks dark.”

Now the children understood, and some came over to take a turn acting out the demonstration as well.

“Thank you,” said Berry Beary Kind to Beary Astronomical. “That was a great explanation.”

After everyone had a chance to look through the telescope at the lunar eclipse, chat and have some snack, they said goodnight and left with their families to go off to bed—or to finish watching it from their home porches.

Berry Beary Kind and Beary Astronomical sat on the porch looking at the stars, as the moon was nearly covered by the Earth’s shadow.

“So what got you interested in the stars, and space, and all that is out there?” Berry Beary Kind asked Beary Astronomical.

Beary Astronomical thought for a moment and then responded, “I guess it was the story my mother read to me as a child—the one of the wisemen following the star to find Baby Jesus. And I always did want to fly, like the birds, only higher! I know one day I will, when I live with Jesus, but I used to dream of being able to do it also while still on Earth!”

“So that’s why you learned about space travel?” Berry Beary Kind asked.

“Yes. Why don’t you come over to take a look at the progress that is being made on the new shuttle? I think it will be able to go twice as fast, use up less fuel on take-off, and when in space it will be able to take some great pictures,” Beary Astronomical offered, and then continued:

“You see, I always wanted to be a great astronomer and learn all I could about the stars, the galaxies, and everything that could be discovered. I’m hoping to invent a way to take short trips up into space, with passengers who are interested to learn more about the fascinating universe.”

Berry Beary Kind began thinking. “Hmm... that’s one thing I think would be a great addition to our town...” He then chatted with Beary Astronomical about plans to make an observatory and planetarium on one of the hills.

“Oh, that would be just great!” Beary Astronomical exclaimed, getting excited about the idea.

“I think a lot of folks in our town would love to learn all they can. But it’s one of those things that the more you know, the more you realise you don’t know, and that there are just endless things to be discovered. It’s a thrill to find things out!”

A year and a half later, the building was complete, and so was Beary Astronomical’s amazing *Space Exploration Vehicle!* The town was all a-buzz at the new things they would learn and experience in and about space.

Many came to the observatory and planetarium to learn all they could, and get to see a closer view of

the stars far above through the giant telescope that Beary Astronomical, Berry Beary Incredible, and Berry Big Beary built.

The time for the launch of the *Space Exploration Vehicle* had at last come, and two families were selected from the many that were eager to have a go. The trip was to last two days, and everything they needed was put on board.

From a safe distance away, the rest of the town folks counted off while watching the large clock that could be seen by all.

10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1-0 BLAST OFF!

Everyone shouted together, and prayed a prayer for the safe-keeping of the adventurous travellers.

Two days passed, and nearly on the very second, the *Space Exploration Vehicle* had landed. Again, everyone was watching and then cheered loudly as the first trip was a success.

There were a lot of, “Mummy, can we be next?” and “When will the next time be?” type of questions asked.

After the team and Beary Astronomical were rested and recovered from their adventure in space, a meeting was held, and all questions were answered, and pictures were shown of the great things that they saw in space—and the next team was chosen, as well as a date set for the next launch.

“Well done!” Berry Beary Kind said, as he left the meeting hall, giving Beary Astronomical a pat on his shoulder. “That took a lot of it-can-be-done courage, and not giving up!”

Beary Astronomical nodded. It sure did! But it was worth it.

5--The Christmas ‘Capade

Diary

Day 1: Put boxes of clothes, food and toys secretly outside of people’s houses, those who can’t afford to do much for Christmas, to make things special for them.

Day 2: Went skiing with Berry Beary Fit. Sprained my ankle. Can’t go out for awhile. Sniff. I think I’ll catch up on letter writing. That way I can be visiting those in faraway places, that I can’t go and see. I’ll write notes to encourage them.

Day 3: Feeling a bit better, but still need to not walk much. I invited some neighbours for tea and to read the Christmas story. We talked about ideas of ways to spread joy and cheer at this time of the year.

Day 4: I could walk with the help of crutches. I went to the shopping mall entrance to play carols with some friends. We used an accordion, guitar and flute. Many people smiled at us, some even sang with us.

Day 5: Passed out smiley faces with ideas of things to be thankful for, reminding me to smile, and think on the good side of things, which makes even more things to be happy about happen.

Day 6: Went to sleep early, foot was hurting. Had extra time to pray for others who were in worse situations.

Day 7: Woke with a new idea. I printed out invitation cards. A friend Berry Beary Helpful came by to help

me give them out. I invited anyone who was going to be alone on Christmas Eve and also on Christmas Day, to come to my house. We could talk and have snacks or sing together.

Day 8: Started learning to play a new song. Perhaps when I know it, I can then teach it to the children who visit me sometimes. If we all learn it and other songs, we can go carolling.

Day 9: I opened my door and to my surprise a very big box was at my door step. What could it be? It was lots of snow suits, of all sizes. I wonder why. Then I found a note in the box: "These are for when your visitors come on Christmas. After they have time to snack and talk, I can take them for a fun day to play in the snowy park. Merry Christmas, BB Fit."

Day 10: Foot feels better. It's a miracle. I can walk, and even dance a bit. I better be careful and take it slowly. I went for a short walk, and smiled at as many people as I can. Christmas joy is here!

Berry Bear Kind was keeping a log of the different things that were happening to him over the Christmas season. He was having a good time, even though things weren't only as he thought they would be. But he was having fun anyway, and cheering up all those that he could.

One day he heard a knock on the door. It was the Christmas Kindness Clowns, coming to surprise him with a song and an apple. Ah, they looked so full of joy it would have been hard not to smile. They brought special Christmas cheer wherever they went.

Berry Bear Kind gave each of them a hug and a bag filled with treats. He wiped a tear of joy from his eyes. Usually he was the one that helped to cheer up others, but now someone was helping to do something for him. It was such a great day. He'd remember it for a long time!

6--Papa's Pudding and Pie Party

"Rinnnggg" the phone rang. "Hello? Oh, Dad! Great to hear from you. What's going on? A pie party?"

Berry Beary Kind's father was hosting a pie party at his house in the mountains. It was going to be for children who needed some extra cheering up. Different ones were selected for different reasons. Some were recovering from an accident, others lived far away and didn't have many friends, or others who couldn't walk, or had some disability.

"I was wondering if you knew of any good pie bakers who would like to contribute to the party and bring a few pies? There are going to be balloons, games, and even a mini-circus type of show put on by the Wonderbears. The kids will love this!"

"Hmm. Let me think a while. It sounds great. I'll let you know how many I come up with." Berry Beary Kind finished talking.

"Pies... Oh, I know...!" And he started making a list of who he could ask. There were 10 different excellent cooks who he asked.

And the party was all set, ready for the children to arrive.

"I wonder if there is something else I can do?" he thought. And just then an idea came to him. But he'd keep it a secret. Quickly he slipped away out to his car.

"Ah, there we go, just the thing!" he said with satisfaction. He found his balloon and pump set that he kept handy, and liked to use to practice balloon sculpturing. He made "Entry Prizes" to give to the

children.

He then stood at the door and gave away the "Entry prizes" to each of the children as they arrived.

A great time was had by all. And it ended in a pie feast!

"Well, even though I can't eat pie," thought Berry Beary Kind, "I still enjoyed today. Helping to make others happy was as good as the best snack I wish I could eat!

"Tasting something is nice for a minute. But the feeling and memory of peoples smiles and the joy I helped to give them will last me for much longer."

"Would you like some pie?" He heard someone offering to him, and was about to decline, since it was made with all the kind of stuff he had to avoid eating.

"Pie n apple! Ha, ha!" He was his friend Berry Beary Fit who came just then to help clean things up." It was fun to laugh, and they enjoyed a nice sweet slice of pineapple, and a handful of pine nuts for each.

"I can't eat the pie either," said his friend. "But I really don't mind. There is so much else I can do that these children can't. We each have things that we can do that look like so much fun to others who perhaps aren't able to do them. If we are each happy with what we can do, and look less on what others get, we'll have a great time no matter what."

"Yes, I agree," said Berry Beary Kind, as they helped to clean up and say good bye to the children.

7--Berry Fast Postie

As Berry Fast Postie got out of bed it was still dark outside. It was the time to get up and start work. There were many letters to sort and then to be delivered. He put on a warm sweater, as well as his bright coloured jacket with reflectors on it. That was to help other motorists and people notice him as he zoomed around on his motorbike delivering mail.

Since it was nearly Christmas time, there were extra letters to deliver, as it was a time of the year when many people sent greetings and cards to family, loved ones, and friends.

"Hmm, this one doesn't have a full address written on it," pondered Berry Fast Postie. "It makes it hard to sort the mail when addresses aren't written just right. But let me see, maybe I'll be able to figure it out by the name on it."

He thought, trying to remember anyone in the town by the name of Torrence B. Alborn. "Oh, yes! I remember now. I usually deliver mail with that name to house number 14, on Rosebloom Avenue."

With the mail then all sorted Berry Fast Postie said a prayer for protection and accuracy. In his job it was very important to pay attention to the smallest of details. He wouldn't want to mix letters up and have folks not get what they were waiting for.

When he arrived at the house number 14 on Rosebloom Avenue, he was happy to find that a man was just walking out the door.

"Mr. Alborn?" Berry Fast Postie questioned, wanting to see if he had remembered correctly.

"Ah, no, that's my uncle. He lives here and I was just visiting. Is there a letter for him?" the young man asked.

"Yes, there is," Berry Fast Postie replied and put it into the mailbox. He waved good-bye and was off in a

flash.

“Thanks!” the young man called out.

“Now, my next stop is to house number... uh oh, what’s going on,” Berry Fast Postie said, as it seemed his motorbike slowed to a halt.

“I’m certain that I put enough fuel in the tank, and everything seemed to be working alright so far. I wonder why it just stopped driving.”

Berry Fast Postie sat there wondering what to do, and then said a prayer. He had lots of letters still to deliver, and he’d need to get around fairly quickly. What should he do?

Before too long Berry Beary Kind drove past in his pick-up truck, and spotted a puzzled-looking Berry Fast Postie.

“What’s up?” Berry Beary Kind asked.

“I don’t really know, actually. My motorbike just stopped working. I have so many letters to deliver...” Berry Fast Postie’s voice trailed off, as he didn’t know what else to say.

“Hop in!” said Berry Beary Kind.

“I’ve got the time—well, I’ll make the time! You can just tell me where you need to go, and I’ll get you there as quickly and as safely as I can!” Berry Beary Kind offered.

Almost guessing what Berry Fast Postie was going to say next, Berry Beary Kind added, “We can ask Berry Beary Enough Stuff if he would mind keeping your motorbike in his back yard until you can get someone to take a look at it. He lives just next door here.”

Berry Beary Enough Stuff was still home, as it was earlier than he usually left to open his corner store, and without too much trouble, the motorbike was rolled and parked in his back yard.

“Thanks a heap!” Berry Fast Postie said.

“No, problem! It’s only a little thing to show you our thanks for all you do. Receiving letters—especially cards at this time of year, can bring smiles to a lot of folks!” Berry Beary Enough Stuff commented.

Berry Beary Kind and Berry Fast Postie were off for the morning to deliver the mail. They had a good chat and Berry Beary Kind shared a cup of tea from his extra big thermos that he had in the pickup truck that day.

“Do you always bring so much tea?” Berry Fast Postie asked Berry Beary Kind.

“Actually, I don’t. But today, as is my custom, I paused to pray before leaving the house on my routine drive through town to check on things. When I did, I felt the urge to bring extra, because there would be a special job that I needed to help with. Then when I saw you, I just knew that it was what I was supposed to do,” Berry Beary Kind explained.

“Well, I very much appreciate the time and the lift,” said Berry Fast Postie. “And the tea too!” he added. “I was getting rather cold today driving around out in the open on the motorbike.”

“Quick! Stop!” Berry Fast Postie said, just as Berry Beary Kind noticed the same and came to a halt. There seemed to be something in the road. Berry Fast Postie got out to check it out.

It was a bag or pouch of some kind.

“Hmm, I wonder who it belongs to...” thought Berry Fast Postie as he brought it into the pickup truck to

figure things out.

Thankfully there was a name and address written on a card. "Miss Belinda Jones, 25 Acorn Street."

"Oh!" said Berry Fast Postie, "that was just going to be our next stop! It's right around this corner. It must have fallen when she was walking home last night. The strap seems to be broken. She must not have noticed, as she was probably carrying lots of other shopping bags."

"Ding-dong!" The door bell rung, and a very relieved Miss Belinda opened the door, when she saw her bag was being returned.

"Thank you so very much!" Miss Belinda said enthusiastically.

"And here's a letter for you as well, Miss," Berry Fast Postie said and handed her the envelope.

"I wonder who it's from!" Miss Belinda said, opening it right away.

The note said: "As my Christmas gift to you, I'm enclosing in here two tickets to the concert next week—the orchestra will be playing all kinds of traditional carols, as well as a few newly written compositions!"

"Wait, don't go yet!" Miss Belinda called out to Berry Fast Postie.

"Here! This is for you. I want to thank you for returning my bag to me—and so soon too. Here is a ticket to a concert that I have been invited to. There was an extra one included in the letter. I want to give it to you in appreciation."

Berry Fast Postie was surprised, but took it and thanked her.

"I guess I'll be seeing you then! Thank you very much!" Berry Fast Postie said. "I best be on my way, but I'm looking forward to the event!"

Berry Fast Postie felt glad for all that had happened that day now. Things had worked out well.

After the day's work, Berry Beary Kind and Berry Fast Postie drove to Berry Beary Enough Stuff's house to check on the motorbike.

They were met by Berry Beary Fix-it, who was great with fixing all kinds of motors. Beary Enough Stuff had asked him to please come and check it, and he had kindly done so.

"It looks like it was just a problem with some of the wires, and it's good to go!" he said.

Berry Fast Postie was happily surprised for the third time that day—first the ride, then the ticket to the concert, and now with a fixed and up-and-running motorbike. He wasn't sure what to say, it just felt like a very special day.

Living in Berry Beary Town sure brought many wonderful moments and joys to those living there, as each one did their best to make those living there happy. It was like a puzzle—as they each helped each other, they each received help in return—and it made things in their town real pleasant. Like the pieces of a puzzle, all fit together to make a nice picture.

"Why don't you stop over at my place for dinner tonight. My sister is here for a visit and she's got something good cooking!" Berry Fast Postie said to Berry Beary Fix-it.

"I'd love to!" Berry Beary Fix-it exclaimed. "I was just wondering what to do, as my stove stopped working just this morning, and I haven't had a chance to look at it. I figured that getting your motorbike up and running before your day's work tomorrow was more important."

The two shook hands, and would meet for supper later on.

Berry Fast Postie smiled as he got on his motorbike and drove on home. What a great day it had been.

8---Fun and Fit at Berry Beach

“Hmmm, the surf is just right!” Berry Beary Kind thought, as he and Berry Beary Fit headed off for an early morning swim.

They, along with their families, had come to relax for a few days, camping near “Beary Beach”.

Today, the two were getting an early start on some water fun.

Berry Beary Brave had checked things out, and marked the signs safe for swimming, as the water wasn't too choppy.

After praying together for safekeeping, and promising to keep an eye on one another, Berry Beary Kind and Berry Beary Fit headed out into the water.

“Oh... it's a bit cold!” Berry Beary Kind said while bravely entering the water. But soon he didn't mind the temperature as he was on his boogie board. Next, Berry Beary Kind tried his new swimming ring, and after that put on his flippers to swim.

Berry Beary Fit had spent time recently doing some scuba diving off a boat, with Berry Beary Brave and some other divers.

He told Berry Beary Kind about his adventure under water.

“The fish I saw were amazing!” he recounted, while he and Berry Beary Kind took a rest from the waves, drank some water, and dried off a bit under the warm sun.

“It's like a whole new world under the sea, with new animals, plants, and scenery.” Berry Beary Fit described more of his experience.

“Of course, you need to know what you are doing and what to watch out for. But if you are doing it together with those who are trained and you have your gear on right, it can be pretty amazing.”

Just then, the rest of their families came to join them at the beach. Berry Beary Kind and his sister Berry Bella, as well as his younger brother Berry Beary Fun, worked together to build a great looking sand castle.

First they had to decide what kind to make, then work together to do it. Sometimes parts of it would fall down and they had to redo it, but with patience and teamwork the job was at last finished.

Berry Beary Gentle and Berry Big Beary, their parents, admired it and took photos. “You worked together well,” said Berry Beary Gentle.

“Anyone up for a game of frisbee on the beach?” asked Berry Big Beary. Berry Beary Fun joined his dad to play frisbee, while Berry Bella sat under the umbrella with her mother to chat and have a snack.

“I think I'll go back to the camp for a bit,” Berry Beary Kind said. “That's about all the sun I need for now. I'll see you all later!”

He waved good-bye to his family and then to Berry Beary Fit, who was nearby playing a game of chess under a beach umbrella with his dad, Berry Beary Wise.

“Okay, see ya!” Berry Beary Fit called out.

On his way back to the camper, Berry Beary Kind was looking forward to a nice shower and a bit of a

rest.

“That’s funny,” he thought. “I just realised now, that there were no emergencies to take care of! It was a fun, calm morning.”

Then he remembered what the Wonderbears had told him one time:

“It’s good to keep busy doing great things and trying to make the town the best it can be.

“But you also need to take time for recreation, just doing something fun with others to relax and enjoy a day of rest every now and then.

“Otherwise you’ll get weary and tired, and before long you’ll have a hard time helping others too.

9--A Tree in the Road

“Screech!!” it seemed a host of vehicle breaks all came to a stop, all at once! George the traffic policeman had to suddenly flag cars down to stop.

“I knew something was about to happen, with winds blowing this strongly!” he said, as he walked over the huge tree that now lay in the road.”

Just what could be done now, he wasn’t sure. Traffic would back up soon, and there was no quick way to get the road cleared.

“It’s a good thing I was here at this time—and that no one was right there when it fell!” George pondered. “This could be worse. Just a little delay in a trip was nothing like it could have been if the tree had fallen at the wrong place and the wrong time.”

When people asked him about how long it would be until they could get on their way again, or why they would have to take a longer detour to get to their destination, he’d remind them of these positive thoughts.

The first thing was to get some help to direct the drivers down another road, and the ones that were right there at the scene of the fallen tree would need to be able to turn around and drive out and take another route.

George called Berry Beary Kind and asked for some help. Berry Beary Kind had a team of experts who knew the area very well who quickly met together and drew up a mini map that showed the new way they would be able to take, until the road was cleared. These maps were printed out and given to those backed up in traffic.

Meanwhile, Rescue Bear was summoned to bring a team with some tools to cut the log on either side of the road, and move the cut out piece out of the way. The strong team of young men, who were used to going to get logs and split wood for their fire places, did this job well.

It was wonderful when everyone in the town was ready to be on call, in some way, when an emergency arose. With someone in charge of summoning the right team, and knowing who to call on, it was quick to get help.

Of course not everyone listed on the “volunteers” list could always come, but not everyone was needed, every time. The person in charge of calling on certain volunteer team knew how many was needed, and would contact and have come just the amount needed.

If some didn't help with the assignment one time, they could be called on to help the next time. Everyone got to have a turn—helping sometimes, and not being called on at other times—especially if they were on more than one list of volunteers, and more than one type of helping team was needed.

In just one and a half hours the road was clear, and all traffic was moving along swiftly again.

Thankfully the wind was calmer too.

Berry Beary High had a thought that something needed to be checked out about the trees that lined the road. He made a note that first thing the next day, those who knew trees well should go to prune off weak branches that might fall in the wind to the cars below, and to see if any others trees were too weak to stand, and posed a safety threat.

“It's better to always keep a step ahead—not just to patch up problems, but to be on the look out to prevent other dangers from occurring,” Berry Beary High said to George as he left.

“Yes, very good. I agree,” said a thankful traffic controlling policeman.

He was glad that so many cared about the wellbeing of the others and didn't just do the minimum that they were asked to help with, but that they took the initiative to do more.

“Those with caring hearts, thinking brains, and eager-to-help hands and feet are what make this town safe and pleasant,” George said as he waved good-bye to the last of the helpers on the scene.

They all agreed those were three very important tools to have to build a nice life for each one in the town.

10--Delightful Discovery

Berry Beary Kind was in his garage. His hands were greasy while trying to find out what was wrong with his quad. He'd checked nearly everything, and got things in tip top shape. But there was something that was still not quite right. A funny noise sounded whenever he'd turn on the motor. What could be causing it?

A knock was tapped on the metal garage door, and Berry Beary Kind looked up to see his friend, Discovery Bear—who had just gotten back from a long trip.

“Ah! My dear friend!” Berry Beary Kind said, as he set down his tools and went to say hello.

“You always seem to know the right time to show up! I was just in the middle of trying to find out what's not working right on this quad here.”

Discovery Bear was always happy to be a help, and he loved to solve mysteries and was soon drawn into the fix-it session. Together they looked, tried things out, examined it, and prayed for the answer to the problem.

“Why don't we go into the house for awhile and take a break. I have some fresh juice in the fridge,” Berry Beary Kind said. “You could tell me about your last travels abroad. You must have made all kinds of discoveries on your way!”

“That sounds like a great idea,” Discovery Bear said, as they walked to the house, washed hands and sat down with a drink.

Berry Beary Kind looked up eagerly to hear what Discovery Bear would have to say. He’d been to a part of the world that Berry Beary Kind had little knowledge of. If there was some new area to be explored, Discovery Bear was always the first one in the town eager to travel and see what he could see.

He made sure to bring back interesting items, stories and pictures, so that all who wished they, too, could travel, but didn’t have a chance, would be able to feel like they went there too.

Berry Beary Kind and Discovery Bear discussed when it would be best to give his “show and tell” to those of the town wanting to hear it.

“Can you tell me at least a little bit about your trip, now, even though I know you’ll save the rest for the main presentation?” Berry Beary Kind asked.

So they chatted a while, laughed a bit, and then got back to work on the trouble with the quad.

Discovery Bear was such a one, that if there was something that needed to be discovered, he just couldn’t put it fully out of his mind until he found out what it was. This came in handy when it was a friend that needed help—he could be counted on to help until the solution was discovered.

It was late in the afternoon when with joy the two hard working Bears found just what the trouble with the quad was. Some screws had been worked loose, though rust had kept them from falling off. The vibrating of the motor made things wiggle and create the sound he heard.

Ah! How nice it was indeed to have a good working quad once again, ready to help those in need. Berry Beary Kind invited Discovery Bear to join him and his family for dinner that night, as a way to thank him for his persistent help.

The following Saturday afternoon was Discovery Bear’s presentation and story-telling time, for all in the town that wanted to hear of his recent journey and explorations.

“The caves were HUGE!” Discovery Bear began to tell of the mountainous region they travelled through. He showed some samples of the stalactites and stalagmites he brought with him.

“Much of the caves have yet to be explored, as they just go on and on in this mountain range. We had to bring long-lasting torches, and plenty of warm clothes, and of course a good compass to find our way through and out again.

“We used ropes to climb up and down in the precarious areas. It really was something amazing. It was almost like a mountain king’s majestic secret palace.”

Discovery Bear continued on.

“Beyond the mountains, past the lush forests lay a land area that was parched and dry. It was almost like it had once been a river bed, but now the water had been redirected due to some change from an earthquake or landslide or volcano, and what used to be a grand pool of water is now bare land. We don’t know how long it’s been like this, but we decided to travel through it and see if anything living was there, besides the few shrubs and an occasional lizard.

“It was a hot and dusty afternoon, as we crossed on foot, carefully keeping track of our location, using the sun as a compass.

“Not much to be seen here, it seems,” I had said to the team.

“I really didn’t think we’d find anything spectacular, and we were ready to head back to a place with clean running water, and a good bite to eat,” Discovery Bear continued telling his story to those listening.

“But as we were turning, something caught my eye. It didn’t look like much, but since I knew I’d most likely not return there again—there simply wasn’t any reason to—I thought I’d check it out before leaving.

“At first it looked just like a very straight edged rock, but on closer inspection it wasn’t a regular rock at all! –It was a part of a constructed building, long abandoned and buried over time. We marked the place with a big stick and a flag made with one of my socks.

“We’d come to check it out the next day—when we wanted to return with shovels and gear to try to discover if indeed it was an old building.”

Everyone was eagerly listening to Discovery Bear’s story, and passed around the photos he’d taken of it all, as well as pieces of the old discovered buildings.

Discovery Bear continued.

“When we went in our 4-wheel drive vehicle to a village a couple hours away, to rest, take a swim in the river, and get a good supper, we also talked to the people living around there. There were stories that some of the older people said, that their great-grandparents told them, of what they used to call their ‘twin village’. It used to be right where the now barren land was.

“So, it started to become apparent that indeed what I saw was some remains from the village there, that now was so empty and quiet. Where had the people gone, and why? I had so many questions.

“We set off very early in the morning, along with a growing crowd of strong folks from the village who also wanted to find out this mystery. We started just after dawn and dug our way down. With all of us using our strength and persevering, we dug down until it seemed we’d uncovered one of the buildings. The soil was sandy, so it wasn’t too hard. The building was made of clay, rocks and bricks. The design looked simple and we knew that there must have been many more around to form a village.

“The older folks seemed to think, from stories they’d heard as children, that lack of rain caused those in that village to move—some said that they simply moved in with the existing village—their ‘twin village’, as the river nearby provided that place with what they needed.

“Perhaps some of the older folks were the descendants of the former dwellers of this forgotten place.

“A meeting was held in the village that night, to celebrate the discovery and to talk of excavating it all. ‘We could dig it all up, and set up a village there again! We have enough supplies here to get a town going, until a farm could be started, to supply crops for the village,’ one of the men suggested.

“Everyone liked that idea, and were glad for something mysterious and interesting to do. But there was one problem—the same problem that had driven the last inhabitants away in the first place. –The lack of water.

“It was a problem in deed. And there were other ideas given on how to solve it. ‘We could pipe water from the river here to the village, and set up an irrigation system for the crops..’”

“Many stayed on late into the night, talking about all kinds of ideas to make the village a thriving place

once again. But I'd had a long day, and was going to rise again real early to drive there for the last time before moving on, so I headed off to bed—on a sleeping bag under the stars near the glowing fire.

"When I awoke and was heading to my vehicle, a lady approached me. She said, 'Excuse me, but I'm wondering if this might help you.' And she handed me a roll of cloth that seemed to have an embroidered picture on it.

'It belongs to my great-grandmother, who is very old, but still lives, bless her heart. She wanted me to show it to you.'"

Discovery Bear continued on with his fascinating story.

"I was very curious and so promptly unrolled it. It was hard to make out the details in the early dawn, as the sun had not yet fully risen.

"All the town was quiet now, after their late night discussions, all that is except the team that was coming again with me that day to see what else we could discover at the place of the forgotten village.

"May I take this with me for today? That way I can see what it is more clearly in the daylight,' I asked. The lady was very glad that I would take it and hopefully find it useful in my quest to find out more about this village. I said good bye, took a drink of water and a handful of dry fruits, and headed off for a good day's work and discovery.

"The work was well on the way, and it wasn't until mid-day when I went to sit in the shade of my car to have a snack that I remembered the cloth that was given to me. It would be the perfect time to take a good look at it.

"As I observed it, at first it looked like nothing more than a well-done embroidered work of art, showing children playing outside one of these houses that we'd just discovered. But as I looked closer I noticed that there were goats drinking from a pond it seemed, and mountains to the back on the right of the picture.

"I wonder if this is a depiction of what this very place here used to look like,' I thought. I got out of the vehicle to look around. Then I spotted it. I stood in the very position to see the mountains just as they were shown on the cloth. The house shown in the picture would have been, yes, to my left.

"Work was already being done to dig it up. Could this cloth have been sewn by the mother that lived in that very place we were just then discovering? But what of that pond... was there a source of water then, and what became of it?

"I walked over to the corner, following the directions in the picture. I had noticed that this part of the land had a bit more greenery than the rest of the area. I asked a few of the men to help me check it out, and with shovels we got digging. Were we to find a hidden spring, what used to fill a pond?

"It wasn't more than an hour-and-a-half till we noticed that the lower we dug the wetter the soil got. We were on to something now. And by the end of the day, to our great delight, we saw water, clean, pure water, bubbling in a small way.

"If a well was dug, or a way to channel this water and store it for use in the village, it would be what they needed. Perhaps pipes could be laid later on, and more water channelled from the river somewhat far away. But for now this was a start and would be enough to make this village liveable again.

"The villagers who wanted to help with the work would also make the roofs able to catch the rain and

store it for people's use.

There were enough ideas from everyone to make this abandoned place a new, happy village.

"When I got back to the village that night, I found the lady who gave me that cloth and returned it. I met her great-grandmother, and their family was the first to hear of the miracle of the water discovery, thanks to her picture. She smiled.

"I could tell that she was glad that she could help, in her own way, even though old and frail. She played a big part in the work on the new village.

"When I left the place to begin my trip home, I smiled. Just a simple discovery can bring new inspiration and rejuvenation to a person, a home and a town. And that's why I love to discover as many helpful and wonderful things as I can."

Discovery Bear ended his presentation, and everyone clapped. They loved feeling a part of his discoveries and travels.

"And who knows?" he added, "what things we have yet to discover about our own town. Keep your eyes open. There's fun to be had, and great things to learn and do, if you look for them!"

11--Discovery Bear and the Twin Village—Part 1

Three years after the delightful discovery of the "Twin Village" by Discovery Bear and his travelling team, he decided to take a few of the young folks of Berry Beary Town to check out how things were going. They'd be willing to stay there for a bit to help out, if there was work to be done.

When news spread around the two villages that Discovery Bear was back, a surprise party was held—in each of the villages. Streamers were put up, bands were playing, and it was a great time. There was a lot to be glad for that had happened over the last few years. This was a great time to celebrate the progress, with Discovery Bear and his team coming by to help out for awhile.

Discovery Bear didn't expect such a reception, for he had been gone and hadn't helped with much in the way of setting up the Twin Village. But he had played a very important role; the reason this town was liveable today. If the new generation didn't even know of its existence, no one would be living there still.

But as always, no one can be a hero on their own; it takes several people all doing their part. In this case it took Discovery Bear and his initial team, then it took the needlework of someone in the past, who was no longer around to see just how much good their work did, but it was an important part that helped make the village liveable. It took the hard work of those in the village to make the great ideas become a reality.

And there was something else that played a big part in what this now thriving Twin Village was like. And that is what Discovery Bear found out.

"It's great to see you all!" said a familiar voice, greeting the visiting team. It was one of the men who Discovery Bear had met last time he was here. This man was now living in the newly set up Twin Village with his new little family.

Discovery Bear and the others on the team greeted him in the usual Bear hug custom of Berry Beary culture. Then they walked over to meet several others sitting at a long table that was set for the welcome celebration.

The stories of hard work, the set-backs and difficulties, the funny happenings, and all sorts of events were told this visiting team. They began to get an idea of just where their help would be most appreciated. But the story that caught their attention the most was how there suddenly was a gentle flowing stream added to this town.

One of the town dwellers was given the honour of telling the story to the visiting team.

“It happened about two years ago; it’s been awhile now, but every day we are amazed at what happened. The well that was dug helped greatly and it was a start. But before too long it became clear that something more in the way of a constant and more abundant source of fresh water would be needed.

“We had all been working real hard digging up good old buildings, or making new ones, setting up what any town needed to keep it working right. We certainly were doing all we could with our muscles and minds, but there was just nothing we could do to make things better in the water department—at least nothing that would be easily done. Yes, maybe we could have piped water all the way here, and we were willing to explore that idea. But then something happened that changed the situation for the better, nearly over night, and we’ve been enjoying its benefits ever since.

“Imagine going to bed one night, thinking deeply about a big need—like abundant water—and then waking up the following morning with a stream of water flowing right where it’s best to have it. And the next day and the next, and it’s always there!”

Discovery Bear and his team were very curious now about this fascinating occurrence.

The speaker, seeing the focused attention, continued on,

“That night, the night of the miracle of the flowing river, was a stormy one. There were loud claps of thunder, and the roaring of the wind. We’d never had a storm like it before. Rain was pouring down like it hasn’t done in a very long while. We were glad enough for that. Soon the abundant rain started flowing over the ground in miniature rivers down to the lowest slope of the village. It was cutting through the soil and forming a pathway—the very one where the stream still runs. It has never stopped flowing since. The cause? Two reasons. Rain has continued to grace our village on a regular basis—as soon as permanent dwellers moved in here. Yet we knew there was more water than just run off rain, for that would have soon stopped.

“We hiked up way up to see what the source of this stream was. Further up there was a low area, like a large pond or small lake, that served as a water catchment area for rainwater, which flowed on down, supplying the stream. But even that didn’t seem it would have been enough. Then we discovered it. Just above this small lake was a large rock, blackened from lightning, and cracked. It looked most curious. When we went to check it out we saw a trickle of water pouring out into the large pond. A new spring had been opened and the lightning had marked the spot.

“Some things you just have to enjoy, even if you don’t understand everything about it. The timing was perfect, and some how we knew we were being watched over, and we’d be successful in turning this place into a liveable dwelling area.”

Discovery Bear and his team were very eager to go hiking to check it all out, but that would have to be tomorrow. The stories had gone on for some time yet; everyone wanted a chance to talk and tell what they had done or were in the process of doing.

A house that was yet uninhabited, as it was still partially under construction—for it lacked the windows and doors being added to it—was where the team of visiting bears were perfectly happy to camp for the night. In fact, they were offered to use it for their whole stay. This became their first project—after the early morning hike to the small lake, of course.

After being refreshed with the fresh stream waters, the bear team got to work on fixing up their temporary dwelling place, and helping with numerous other tasks around the village. They helped build stall tables for food and goods to be placed; they put the roof on another nearly-finished building that had been dug up and was good to be used, and projects as such. With their help, things were happening must faster around the village.

12--Discovery Bear and the Twin Village—Part 2

Everyone was very happy, and were just settling down for the village evening meal together, when sudden news came their way. Fire! A big fire in the forest near the other village was putting their friends and families living over there at risk. What could be done?

Before too long the word went out that the other village was to be immediately evacuated. Everyone was to leave at once, taking only their most important valuables. It wasn’t too long before the villagers came filing in to this newly set up Twin village. It was a place of refuge now where they could be safe until the danger was over.

Not knowing what would happen to their village and houses, they were at least glad that everyone was alive and safe, including all pets and farm animals. All that was left behind was stone houses and personal belongings, as well as gardens, trees and crops. It would be a loss if those were ruined, but at least the plants could grow back again, and there were enough strong folks who would pitch in together to rebuild, if it came to that.

As they sat huddled on the ground, Discovery Bear stood up to offer them a few words of courage:

“This village here is an example that with the help of each other, and the supernatural assistance of the one who is looking after us all, that life can go on, and thrive, possibly better than ever before. Let us pray for divine assistance and protection of all that is important in your village over there, and then let us praise God for His power to turn troubles away and bring a great victory.”

Everyone agreed and joined in a hearty time of prayer, and in rejoicing that they had a God that was greater than any fire or any flood or anything that would try to ruin things. With His help, life could go on, better than before.

They weren't through praying and rejoicing when a sound of thunder rumbled. A few hours later someone, running to the Twin village, nearly out of breath, arrived. "The wind, I saw it, the wind changed directions and took the fire away from our village. And then there was a great pouring rain over it, like I've never seen before! The fire, it's all out! The forest is blackened, but our village is saved!"

A great cheer was heard, and such a grand rejoicing was felt in all their hearts, that they rose up to dance! Musical instruments were pulled out—some that those on Discovery Bear's team had brought. A Berry Cultural musical rejoicing party happened, right then on the spot. Even dogs were barking and wagging their tails as they saw the fun and laughter, dancing and rejoicing.

Then water and snacks were shared around, while everyone lay on the ground, snuggled in whatever blankets they had, and looked up to the starry clear sky. Discovery Bear had the one on his team play soft music on a guitar, while he led out in a new ballad, making up the words then and there, telling of the story of the deliverance and restoration of the Twin Villages.

They were glad they had each other. Each village had depended on one another in many ways. Two were better than one, and they would always remain close village partners.

The excitement of the day left everyone ready for a good long sleep, right there, where they were—under the stars. The smell of smoke lingered in the air, but that only reminded them of the victorious outcome, and the power of meeting with friends for prayer when troubles come.

Early in the morning, after hearty good-bye's, the visiting villagers returned home. They rejoiced all over again when they saw the markings of how close the flames had come to their village, but then just suddenly stopped, and their village was safe. It was a good reminder to enjoy and appreciate each day—even those days that seem to be quiet and without much happening, or nothing really special going on. Those days are good days; that means that all is well. It would be better than something dramatic happening that you need to be spared from.

The villagers were cheerful and content for their nice village, with renewed appreciation, and felt they loved and enjoyed each other's company more than ever, and wanted to make the village the Berry Beary Best they could, filled with lots of laughter and camaraderie.

They invited Discovery Bear and his team to come over there too, to teach them tips on how to make their place as happy and friendly as Berry Beary Town. They had lots to learn, and wanted to make the changes they needed to, to make things better and happier for all.

After a few weeks of helping out in Twin Village, Discovery Bear and his team moved over to the village they weren't expecting needed help, as outwardly they were doing alright. But it's not always the outward appearance that matters and what makes a place truly a nice place to live. This visiting team then spent a few weeks with them teaching them, explaining things, helping to set up plans and programs, and get new projects going.

It was a new discovery for Discovery Bear—to learn about all that was going on that needed fixing up in the way the villagers were living, talking, and going about things. He tried to find out new things each day that needed his help and training to make things better.

By the end of the few weeks so much had changed for the better. Discover Bear was content that he and his team had done all that they could. With another feast and time of rejoicing, to celebrate the new

improvements and the protection of their village from the fire, the Discovery Bear team said their farewells.

With great things they were eager to tell Berry Beary Kind, they made their way home. It had been a long, but good and successful—and eventful trip. And certainly many, interesting and unexpected discoveries had been made.