

Red

The hills were touched with warm, spring green, but	9
even the sunshine all about him didn't make Red happy. He	20
was carrying a lunch to Mill Woods, where his father was	31
helping a neighbor, Mr. Mill, clear some land. Red's little	41
sister, Anne, was hopping along beside him.	48
"I want you to hold my hand, Red," she demanded. "The	59
ground's rocky. I might fall!"	64
Red looked at his little sister and frowned. Any other	74
day he might have enjoyed Anne's company, but not today.	84
She was the cause of all his trouble!	92
Anne had forgotten the bump on her head. That morning	102
she had tripped over Red's foot and had fallen against the	113
door. She had forgotten her screams of pain that had caused	124
her parents to come running. But Red hadn't forgotten.	133

The Bad News

Steve Jackson gave the ball another bounce. Then he	9
turned to look at his friend, Don Sharp, who was coming up	21
the walk.	23
“I suppose you’ve heard the bad news,” said Steve as	33
Don sat down on the porch steps.	40
Don nodded. “It’s the second gas station robbery in less	50
than a week. Did they get our Scout money?”	59
“Every cent of it,” Steve answered sadly. “The last member	69
paid me his money yesterday. I was afraid I might lose it, so I	83
took it to the gas station where the Scout leader works. Now	95
the money’s all gone. Over four hundred dollars!”	103

Giving up Hope

Mrs. Jackson appeared with a plate of sandwiches, some	9
cookies, and some cherry pop. "I thought a picnic lunch	19
would make you feel better," she said. "Don't give up hope	30
about the stolen money. The police might catch the robber."	40
She went back into the house and closed the screen door	51
behind her.	53
"Do they have any idea who took the money?" asked	63
Don. "I wonder if it was the same person who robbed the	75
other gas station.	78
"I don't honestly think they'll ever find out," remarked	87
Steve. "This is the busiest time of the season. People come to	99
the lake by the thousands. Could be any one of them.	110
Anyway, every cent of our Scout money is gone."	119

Lucky Sneakers

Jan sat down on Doug's bed. If only there was a sure	16
way to win the race! She ran her fingers over the gold cup that	26
Doug had won in a footrace. She could remember how proud	37
Dad had been when Doug told how he had won the cup.	49
"I didn't expect to win that race," Doug had said. "I	60
guess it really wasn't me as much as my lucky sneakers."	71
Jan looked across the room. There were the same lucky	81
sneakers! They had become too tight for Doug to wear. Like	92
the rest of his body, Doug's feet had grown a lot in the past	106
year.	107

A Day to Remember

When the fog had cleared away and the sun was high in the sky, Papa turned the <i>Santa Rosa</i> toward shore. He carefully steered the boat into Fisherman's Wharf.	12 22 29
Rosina knew that she would never be allowed to go aboard the boat again. This was a day she would always remember. She would enjoy it to the last minute. She waved at the other fishing boats and at a party boat as it passed.	39 50 61 74
When they reached home, Papa talked with Rosina. At the end of his talk, he said, "And now you will speak with Mama."	83 96 97
"I'm sorry," said Rosina. "I never meant to worry you. I won't go away again without telling you first. Not even with Papa and Luigi and Carlo."	108 119 124

Morse Code

Bill thought for a minute.	5
“I’ve always wanted to learn the Morse code.” Bill said.	15
“Maybe we can learn it together. Want to do that for a change?”	27
Jimmy was excited. “Hey, that sounds great. Then we can tap out secrets to each other and no one else will know what we’re saying!”	37
Bill dropped the cards and went to hunt for the code handbook he had brought from camp.	50
When he came back, he said to Jimmy, “We have lots to learn. Soon we should be able to put short taps and long taps together to make words.”	53
As he spoke, Bill tapped on the table with the end of a ballpoint pen.	64
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The Fog

One spring evening Mr. May asked, “Bill, how would you like to drive to town with me? I believe it’s about time for us to visit your grandmother again. A visit with you might make her feel better.”	9 23 34 38
Bill thought it would be more fun to watch TV. He knew his dad would like to have him along on the drive into town.	50 63
“OK, I’ll go,” he said, as he went into the bedroom to change his shirt.	75 78
“Do you think you should go tonight?” asked Mrs. May, looking out the window. “There seem to be quite a bit of fog. If the fog gets heavy, you’ll have a hard time seeing the road.”	88 101 114
“Don’t worry,” answered Mr. May. “I don’t think the fog will bother us.”	123 127

The Voice Below

One warm day in the spring the farmer was digging in the field. He was getting ready to plant potatoes.	11
All at once his horse stepped into a hole. At the same time the farmer heard a cross little voice. It seemed to be coming from below the ground.	32
The voice said, "There you go again! Poking through my roof. Don't you know that I live below this hill?"	44
The farmer hardly knew what to think. Could this be the troll talking? Did the troll really think the hill belonged to him?	49
The farmer thought to himself, "That hill had belonged to my family for over two hundred years, and this spring I need to have the field to plant my potatoes. What in the world am I going to do about the troll?"	58
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