

7. The Big Drop

Jim's Mum and Dad plan to go to the beach with the caravan.

Jim and Linda will go as well.

Dad tells them that there are big cliffs and rocks next to the caravan park at the beach.

Sea-gulls nest on shelves of rock on the cliffs.

Gus, the dog, rushes in as Linda and Jim look at the map of the way to the beach.

Gus jumps up at Jim. Will Gus go as well?

Yes, Gus can go too.

But he must not attack the gulls, and he must sit still if Jim is fishing.

On the day of the trip Jim and Linda get up at six o'clock.

Jim gets his fishing rod packed up and then packs a bag.

He has a lot to get in and he has to sit on it to get the zip shut.

Linda has packed and she is in the caravan dusting and polishing.

Mum is stacking the shopping in the caravan.

Dad has the bonnet of the van up, and is dipping the dip-stick.

He shuts the bonnet and then connects the van to the caravan.

Jim, Linda, Mum and Dad set off on the trip.

Dad has to stop to get petrol.

At the end of the trip Dad stops at the caravan park, and Jim and Linda rush from the van.

"This is smashing," Jim tells Linda. "Look at the big cliffs the rocks and the sea-gulls".

Gus thinks it is great as well. He yelps and dashes at the sea-gulls sitting at the top of the cliffs. Jim yells, "Bad dog!" and rushes with Linda to the top to stop him.

It is grand on the top of the cliffs.

From the top Linda and Jim can spot ships.

Linda sees a gull's nest on a shelf of rock that juts from the cliff.

The next day Jim and Linda run from the caravan.

Jim has his fishing rod, and Linda has a big net and a red bucket to get crabs and shells.

Jim stands on a rock in his swimming trunks, but Gus rushes up and splashes and yelps.

This stops Jim's fishing.

He thinks he will run to the top of the cliffs.

Gus runs with him.

As Jim gets to the top of the cliffs Gus spots a sea-gull and rushes at it yelping.

In a flash the gull is off-but Gus cannot stop.

With a yelp he skids on a rock and crashes from the top of the cliff, but luckily his drop is stopped by the shelf of rock with the gull's nest on it.

Linda has spotted Gus as he crashes on the shelf of rock and runs up the track to help Jim.

Jim yells at Linda.

He tells Linda to run back and get the fishing net.

Linda gets the net and runs up to Jim with it.

She tells Jim that she will get help, but Jim thinks that he can get to Gus and bring him back in Linda's big net. Linda tells him he is not to, but Jim is off.

Jim flings the net onto the shelf of rock and then, clinging to the jutting rocks, he swings himself from the top.

The rocks dig and cut into his flesh, as he is in his swimming trunks.

But in the end he drops on the shelf of rock.

Gus licks him.

Jim is glad that Gus is not hurt.

Having got onto the shelf of rock, Jim has then to get back up.

This is a problem.

Jim stands with his back to the cliff-and then-he spots the drop.

The drop to the bottom is very big.

Linda's bucket is a red dot on the sand, and his fishing bag a black speck.

A slip and he will crash onto the rocks.

Gus will not get into the net.

Jim wishes that he had stopped on the top.

In the end he gets Gus into the net and attempts to get up the cliff, but he cannot get a grip on the rock and he slips back onto the shelf.

He yells to Linda that he is stuck.

Linda runs off to get help.

Jim shifts his leg and an egg from the sea-gull's nest crashes to the bottom onto the rocks.

Gus will not sit still. Jim is in a fix.

Bits of rock go crashing to the bottom of the cliff.

Linda rushes panting into the caravan to get Dad. Dad runs up to the cliff top with Linda.

He yells at Jim to stand still and not to shift till he gets back.

The wind freshens and Jim has to cling to the cliff. Gus licks Jim's legs.

Then the sea-gull attacks Jim and Gus, as it thinks Jim is attacking the nest.

Dad runs back to the caravan camp to get help as Linda waits at the top.

Jim stands as still as he can in the gusts of wind, but the gull will not stop its attacks and Jim gets pecked.

In the end Dad rushes back with the men from the caravan park.

The men have a long rope with a sling on the end.

The rope is dropped to Jim.

The men tell Jim to sit in the sling but he will not.

He fixes Gus in the sling.

He has a problem with Gus as the gull is flapping its wings and pecking at him, but in the end he gets Gus fixed in the sling.

Gus is dragged up the cliff.

The rope is then flung back to Jim.

He gets in the sling and the men drag him up.

As the men drag him up, Jim gets bad cuts on his back and legs and at the top he collapses.

Dad rushes to him, picks him up, and carries him to the caravan.

That is the end of the trip to the beach.