

A SUMMER ADVENTURE

Tegan Maharaj

... Tegan and her cousin go off to camp...

It was two weeks after vacation had started, and Kaitie, Tegan and the rest of their families were getting packed for a holiday. Tegan thought it would take 846 suitcases to cram in all her stuff. They were going camping! They would go way up into the mountains.

As they drove along in the van, Kaitie and Tegan were looking out for a clearing. They finally found one. It was surrounded by trees except for one path that led to a clear stream, from which they could get water for washing and drinking. Kaitie brought her canoe so they could go rowing in it. They got their tent from the van, and began to set up their things.



The girls put up one of the tents and their dads put up the other. After that, they got out their bathing suits and went for a swim. The water was warm. They had to climb a tree because the wind had blown their clothes to the top of it.

They found a hill and took turns rolling down it because it was very grassy and there were no rocks in the way. After that they went down to the lake again and tried to catch a few fish for dinner from the canoe



But they did not have much luck. After this they were very tired indeed, and they went back to their warm sleeping bags.

In the morning, they went out and saw an island, but they were not allowed to go out to it just then, because they were going on a picnic lunch very soon. But they hoped to go the next day.



The next day was perfect for an island trip. The morning was bright and sunny. And the water was calm. Ideal for paddling! The girls paddled out to the island, but it took them almost half an hour since the island was so far out.

Once they got there, they hopped out of the canoe at once, and began to explore. The island was not very big, and it did not take long. They very soon knew their way around. They climbed high cliffs and slid down the ones that were smooth.



The wind began to blow a little more strongly, and the girls thought that they should start back to the camp.

Kaitie said: "I see you still have the rope to tie up the canoe, Tegan. Did you not tie it up? This wind could blow it right away, and we would be stuck on this island!"

"Oh, I thought you tied it, Kaitie!" said Tegan.

"Oh, no!" they both exclaimed together, and ran to where they had left the canoe.



But it was too late. As the girls got to the shore, they could see their red canoe well off in the water, and the wind was blowing it away back toward the mainland.

"We couldn't swim that far in this current," said Tegan. "We're trapped on the island!"

They walked back sadly. All of a sudden, as they were walking along, Kaitie fell into a hole!

"Hey! Where am I?" she exclaimed.

"You're down in some sort of hole!" Tegan answered. "Here, I'll come down with you. What's it like down there?"

She jumped down the hole, almost landing on top of Kaitie. They jumped up and looked around. They were in a small, cell-like cave. A dark passage seemed to lead off to one side.

"Well," Tegan finally said. "Let's not just stand here. Let's look around and try to find some way out of this place. There's no ladder up!"

So they went down the passage. But to their surprise they came to a pile of rocks and sand, where the roof had fallen in.

They had to go down another passage close by. Suddenly there was a wall in front of them. It was not a cave-in; it was a wall.

"What's the use of having a passage, if it doesn't lead anywhere?" said Kaitie.

"Well, maybe that other passage did lead somewhere," replied Tegan. "But now we're prisoners in here, and we can't get out!"

Kaitie said: "There has to be a door or something that we've missed."

So they looked all around, but couldn't find anything.

Suddenly Kaitie tripped over a rock and fell down flat.

"Hey, look!" she said, lying on the floor. "There's a trapdoor in the ceiling!"

"I have the rope that we brought for tying up the canoe," Tegan said. "You give me a lift up, and I will tie it to something and haul you up." Kaitie pushed Tegan up to the trap-door, and Tegan scrambled up. She tied the rope to a convenient post, and hauled Kaitie up with difficulty.

"Hey, look there's another passage here. And lots of food!! This must be some kind of storage place. But I'm hungry. Let's have something to eat before we go on"

So they had a bite to eat, and then continued down the passage.

Suddenly the passage went up so steeply that the girls could hardly climb it, but then they found that there were steps and they began climbing those. To their surprise, the steps led to daylight. They climbed out and found themselves in the middle of some bushes. Below them was the lakeshore, and their campsite. They could see their red canoe washed up on the shore, and their parents looking all around and running everywhere looking for them!



The girls saw them and giggled. They decided to hide behind a nearby tree and jump out at their parents and say "BOO!"

Which is what they did, to their parents great astonishment and relief!

The girls had to tell their story to everyone, and everyone was glad that they got back safely! Tegan's Dad said that the passage must be used for hiding goods to be taken or brought across the lake by boat.

"This was a summer adventure!" said Kaitie.



THE END