

02 Two Friends and the Bear

Tom and John were two friends. One day, they were passing through a dense forest.

John said, “Friend, I am afraid there are wild animals in this forest. What should we do if a wild animal attacks us?”

“Don’t be afraid, John,” said Tom. “I will stand by your side if danger comes. We will fight together and save ourselves.” So, they went on their journey.

But suddenly, they saw a bear coming towards them. Tom immediately climbed the nearest tree. He did not stop to think about what

his friend would do.

John did not know how to climb a tree. He had no way of escape. He felt helpless.

But soon, he had a plan. He lay flat on the ground like a dead man.

The bear came up to John. It smelled his nose, ears, and eyes. It thought John was dead, so it walked away.

After the bear left, Tom climbed down from the tree. He asked John, “What did the bear whisper in your ear?”

John replied, “The bear told me, ‘Do not trust a friend who leaves his friend in danger.’”