

CHAPTER 1

Emily is eight years old. She lives in a little town near a big forest. She does not have any brothers or sisters, and she does not have many **toys**. Her mother and father work very hard, but they do not have very much money.

Emily loves her toys very much. Her favourite is a toy rabbit. He has big, **soft** ears. His name is Eddie. Emily loves Eddie so much. She **cuddles** him every night and pulls him around by the ears all day. He is very dirty. His fur is **worn**, but he is still her favourite.

toy (n) something that a child plays with

soft (adj) not hard or firm; pleasant to touch

cuddle (verb) to hold in your arms

worn (adj) too old or damaged



*Emily loves her toys very much.
Her favourite is a toy rabbit.*

Every day, after school, Emily and Eddie play with each other when her mother and father are at work. Some days, she reads books. Some days, she does school work. Other days, she goes for a walk. Every day, Eddie goes with her. He is her best friend. She loves him with all her heart.

Eddie knows Emily very well. She can tell. When she is **sad**, he looks at her to **cheer her up**. She tells him all of her **secrets**. Even Emily's mother and father don't know those secrets. Emily wants Eddie to talk, but he cannot talk because he is a toy. Sometimes Emily thinks, "Eddie cannot talk so he cannot tell anyone my secrets. This is a good thing."

One day, Emily goes into the forest with Eddie to play a game. They have a tea party. Emily is happy. Eddie is happy too. They play with each other all day long. Emily makes them both some more tea.

sad (adj) not happy, upset

cheer somebody up (phrasal verb) to make somebody happier

secret (n) a piece of information that you hide from other people



She tells him all of her secrets.

Just then, Emily hears a noise. The noise comes from the forest. It is the sound of **laughter**. She thinks, “That is the sound of children. They are laughing.”

Emily feels good because she wants to play with other children. She likes the sound. She follows it into the forest.

Emily has a smile on her face. She is happy. She holds Eddie **close**. She wants to play with the other children so she follows the sound deeper and deeper into the forest. Then, there behind some big trees, are three girls. They look a little older than Emily. Maybe they are 9 or 10, or even 11 years old.

laughter (n) the action or sound of laughing
close (adj) near, not far away



*Just then, Emily hears a noise.
The noise comes from the forest.*

At first, Emily does not feel very **brave**. She hides behind the trees. She looks at the girls as they play. They are having a good time. Soon, she begins to feel brave. She comes out from behind the trees.

“Hello,” says Emily. “Can I play with you?”

The three girls turn and look at her. Their laughter stops. Then they turn to look at each other. The tall girl speaks first.

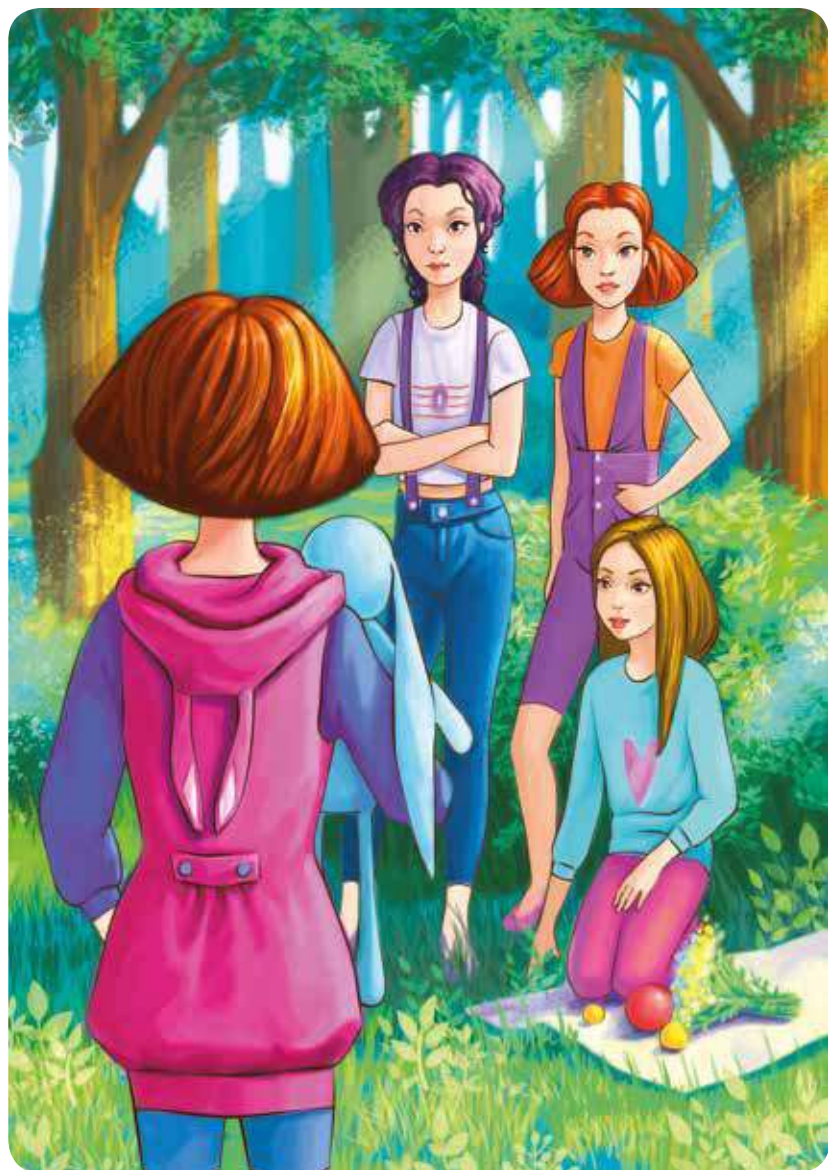
“Who are you?” she asks.

“My name is Emily and this is Eddie,” says Emily, with a smile.

The tall girl looks at Emily, then at Eddie, and then back at her.

“That’s not Eddie. That’s my old toy rabbit,” the tall girl says.

brave (adj) not afraid



“That’s not Eddie. That’s my old toy rabbit,” the tall girl says.

CHAPTER 2

Emily is **confused**. She cannot say anything. She does not feel happy now. She feels afraid. She holds Eddie close.

“He is Eddie. He is my best friend,” says Emily.

The girl walks closer to Emily. She wants to take Eddie from Emily. Emily walks back, away from the tall girl.

confused (adj) unable to understand or think clearly



She feels afraid. She holds Eddie close.

GLOSSARY

brave (adj) not afraid

cheer somebody up (phrasal verb) to make somebody happier

close (adj) near, not far away

confused (adj) unable to understand or think clearly

cuddle (verb) to hold in your arms

fantastic (adj) extremely good

laughter (n) the action or sound of laughing

let go of (idiom) to stop holding (somebody or something)

sad (adj) not happy, upset

secret (n) a piece of information that you hide from other people

soft (adj) not hard or firm; pleasant to touch

toy (n) something that a child plays with

tug-of-war (noun) a contest in which two teams pull against each other at opposite ends of a rope

worn (adj) too old or damaged

Test 3

Answer the questions below.

1. How old is Emily?
2. What do Emily and Eddie do after school?
3. Where does Emily see the other girls?
4. How many other girls are there in the forest?
5. Whose idea is the tug-of-war?
6. Who wins the tug-of-war?
7. Why does Sally give Eddie back to Emily?
8. What does Emily do after getting Eddie back?

GRAMMAR CHECK

Test 1

Write the question form of these sentences. Use *where*, *how*, *what*, or *who*.

1. The noise comes from the forest.

Where does the noise come from ?
.....

2. Emily lives in a little town near a big forest.
.....

3. Eddie is Emily's best friend.
.....

4. Emily tells Eddie all of her secrets.
.....

5. Emily hides behind the trees.
.....

6. Emily feels afraid.
.....

7. Sally wins the tug-of-war.
.....

8. Sally and her friends look sad.
.....

9. They play every day after school.
.....

VOCABULARY CHECK

Test-1

Fill in the blanks with the words below.

sad

let

close

mean

favourite

brave

cheer

secrets

1. Their home is to the school.
2. He doesn't feel so he runs away.
3. She tells him jokes to me up.
4. The toy rabbit is Emily's
5. Emily tells Eddie all of her
6. Betty is afraid of her brother because he is always
to her.
7. "..... go! You are hurting me!" he said to the man.
8. She is because she cannot find her toy.