

Chapter 6

Cabin On The Hill

The Kents, Bud and the cub go to the spot where Pip's mom and dad got stuck. There is no trap, no net and no fox.

“What can you tell us? What did the man look like?” asks Tim.

“He was big. He had a cap when he got my mom and dad out of the net. It was a red cap with a “C” on it. The next day, he was back with a black run down truck with a pen in the back.”

“Where did the truck go?” asks Mr. Kent.

Pip shrugs.

“It had a bad smell to it. Does that help?” asks Pip.

“All hints help,” grins Mr. Kent. He pets the cub.

Mrs. Kent spots red dots on a shrub’s trunk. She thinks this is odd.

Bud runs down the hill. He sniffs the shrubs, the grass and the mud. Then he yaps with a thrill.

What did Bud spot?

Can it be a hint in the mud?

Tim runs to Bud fast. There are lots of prints in the mud.

“Mom! Dad! Pip!” Tim yells. “Check this out!”

“Are they your mom’s or dad’s prints?” asks Kim. “Do they smell like them? What do you think?”

Pip sniffs the prints in the mud.

“Yes! This is Mom’s print!” Then he sniffs the next print. “And this is Dad’s!”

Plus, there are prints from a big man. But no tracks of a truck.

“If your mom’s and dad’s prints are in this path, the man must not have got them on the truck. They must be just steps from us,” says Tim.

“Pip’s mom and dad must be this way!” yells Kim. “The prints go west.”

Pip and Bud stay on the path with the tracks.

They end up at a cabin at the top of the hill. A swing is on the deck.

There is a bad smell. A trash bin with a big crack sticks out of a pit in

the mud. The bog by the cabin has a distinct smell.

“Can you still smell your mom’s and dad’s prints?” asks Mr. Kent.

Pip says no in a sad way. “The bog stinks so much. I cannot smell a thing to track them.”

A big black truck with a pen in the back stands in front of the cabin. It has a dent in the front from a crash. There is a big “C” on the back of the truck.

“Does the cabin or the truck ring a bell?” asks Mrs. Kent.

“This is it! That is the truck by the net,” yells Pip. “And... and the truck had this bad smell.”

Kim grabs her mom’s hand. She does not like the feel of this cabin.

Tim sticks to his mom and grabs her hand as well.

They wish to get out of there fast.