

Maggie and Ginger's Big Adventure

It was a bright sunny day with a cool breeze and Maggie was pawing at the gate.

"I'm so hungry! He's never this late!" Maggie said.

"Don't worry Maggie, he always comes." Ginger said with her head hung low.

"I don't know why you are always so hungry, Maggie." Said Boots the cat as he laid curled up like a ball in the warm sun.

Maggie winnieed loudly as she heard the truck drive up. "He's here! He's here!"

Mr Friesen stomped into the barn and quickly grabbed two buckets, scooped the grain and put it into the feeders. He then cut open a bale of hay and took two sections and dropped them into the hay net. Then he took a handful of kibble and dropped it into the cat bowl and quick as a flash he was gone.

The horses quietly munched their food till it was all gone then, as usual, Maggie went and laid down while Ginger slowly walked to the far corner of the paddock and hung her head over the rail. Boots walked carefully along the wooden fence and sat down on the fence post by Ginger.

'Why are you so sad all the time?' Boots asked Ginger.

"I miss our rides with Katie. We used to go across the field, through the river and up into the mountains. We would go for hours looking for new trails and new adventures. Since Katie moved away there has been no more brushes no more hugs and no more adventures" Ginger said with a sigh.

"Really?" Boots purred. "All I need is three things to be happy, my kibble, mice to catch and a warm place to sleep".

Maggie walked over and yawned." I'm just happy with a full belly" she added.

Later that night the wind started to pick up and the rain started to pour down more and more. Ginger, Maggie and Boots were laying down in the barn when they heard a very loud CRASH! In the morning before Mr

Friesen arrived Ginger went out to see what caused the crash. A tree had come down and destroyed the far corner of the fence.

Ginger came running back into the barn.

"Maggie! Maggie!" she yelled. "Do you want to go on an adventure?"

Ginger and Maggie stepped over the broken fence.

"I'm not sure. Do you think we should do this?" Maggie asked.

"Yes of course we should do this! It will be so much FUN!" Ginger replied as she walked down the trail with a spring in her step and her head held high.

Ginger was so excited she didn't even know where she was going. Maggie was feeling very nervous and she couldn't believe she missed breakfast!

The trail was getting narrower and bushier and Maggie was starting to doubt Ginger's sense of direction. Maggie started to feel nervous.

Something wasn't right, she didn't know why but something was wrong.

"Ginger! I think we should turn back! Mr Friesen will be missing us".

"Miss us!" snorted Ginger. "He barely even knows we exist!"

Just at that very moment like a lightning bolt, a flash of tan fur came pouncing out of the bushes and landed directly on Ginger's back. Ginger reared up high, screaming loudly as claws and teeth sank into her back. Maggie wheeled around and started to kick at the cougar that was on Ginger. Terrified, Ginger started to buck hard till the cougar came flying off over her head!

"Quickly! Follow me!" Shouted Maggie. Ginger turned around and bolted down the trail following Maggie. Maggie was sure of where she was going and knew the fastest way to get out of the bush to safety was to get to the road. She was going faster down the trail than she ever had before and was afraid she might miss the turn but then there it was! Quickly she turned onto the larger trail leading to the road.

"Almost there!" She yelled to Ginger. Suddenly the bush opened up and there was the road! Maggie began to slow and she could hear Ginger breathing hard behind her. When they stepped onto the road they stopped and looked behind into the bush and saw nothing but the branches still waving from when they ran by. That was enough to scare them so they went off down the road at a slower pace this time. Maggie knew how to get home but she could feel Ginger starting to slow down.

"Are you ok?" she asked.

Before Ginger could answer, two girls playing in their yard screamed and yelled "Mom! COME QUICK!" This made Maggie and Ginger come to a complete stop.

The two girls and their mom slowly approached them and attached a rope to each of their halters.

"Mom! These are the two missing horses we saw on the poster at the mailbox!" The taller girl said.

"They didn't say they had any injuries in the description! These must have just happened". Said the shorter girl pointing to Ginger's cuts on her back. "Alright! Stephany, I need you to run to the mailbox and get that phone number off the poster!" The mom said to the taller girl. Then she turned to the shorter girl and said "Olivia, I need you to run and get my phone! This horse needs a veterinarian!"

The morning air was fresh and cool. The sun was coming up and creeping into the barn to find Boots curled up looking like a furry pillow. Maggie was pawing at the gate "I'm so hungry!" She said with a snort.

"Be patient" Ginger said softly "The food is coming" she said as she stretched her stiff back. She looked over her shoulder to see that the cuts were healing nicely.

Suddenly they could hear the distant giggles.

"Oh boy!" Maggie whinnied loudly! "They are here!" Her and Ginger both blasted out another whinny.

The girls came flying into the barn brushes already in hand.

"Wonder where we will go today?" asked Olivia as she put the hay in the hay net.

"Hmmm. I think today is Ginger and Maggie's choice" Stephany said as she ran a brush carefully around Ginger scar. "Good news Ginger, the vet said you're almost clear to be ridden! Until then You go out on a lead".

Boots purred softly as Olivia scratched him under the chin. "I change my mind". He said as she ran her hand down the length of his back. "All I need is four things to be truly happy".

"What are they?" Ginger nickered contently?

Boots stretched and yawned as he said. "My kibble, mice to chase, a warm place to sleep and the love of two girls".

Maggie and Ginger nickered deep and low in agreement. The End.