THE ADVENTURES OF PETER AND ED

by Colin Murphy

“Finally!” hollered Edward Brown.

 “We’re off that stupid ship!” shouted Peter Brown.

“I hated that!” complained Edward.

“Me too” snapped Peter.

“Now children, it wasn’t that bad was it?” asked Charlie and Lucy Brown.

“This isn’t like home,” said Peter to his mother. By now the others had all gotten off the boat. The Browns ran and caught up to the others.

 They had been searching for a nice place to start their new life. Gregory, another pilgrim noticed a structure. It was by the nice open stream and a big forest with lots of wood. But then the question came, do we dare to build here? What if other people live here?

 “Well too bad for them,” said Jon Smith. “Men, go get some wood while the women bring some water. The children can start a little fire.” By dusk the settlers had a hull of wood, a few buckets of water, and a strong fire. The settlers went to bed on the ground and the ladies slept on the ship.

In the morning the men started to build. Ed and Peter were hunting. Edward caught a squirrel just standing on a log and day dreaming. BOOM BOOM BOOM! The squirrel didn’t have much luck. “YA I got us dinner!” bragged Ed. Peter wasn’t impressed, he already had four squirrels, and some rabbits.

 Out of nowhere, a snake jumped from the ground. Peter tried to shoot it but missed. Then it was on Edwards’s neck. HISSSSSS, HISSSSSSS slithered the snake. All of a sudden the snake bit Edward in the neck and Ed fell down. The snake tried to get away but Peter stepped on its body and squashed it. Peter dragged back the bloody Edward and the animals to their parents.

When Peter got back he told everyone what happened and Mary, the most experienced settler with medicine, took a sharp stick and stabbed him in the neck. That removed the poison. Ed woke up and was loopy so he went back to bed.

Peter started to cook the food. His father, Charlie, was quite impressed. Peter asked if Ed would be all right. “Yes he’ll be fine in a little while.”

The weeks went by and the house was almost done. One morning Peter and his father were talking and Ed came down the stairs and he was ….fine! He was happy because he had a new weapon, a snake fang! It was sharp, long, and awesome.

It was a harsh night. It was freezing cold and the animals kept everyone up. After chores in the morning, Peter found a smooth, round rock. He took a stick and hit it. He got all the boys and girls to try it and then they made a game. You hit it and then you had to run to a tree before someone got to the tree with the rock. They called it hit the rock. In the middle of the game, the brothers’ dad called for them. He needed help on the roof. The boys all helped him and soon the roof was finished. They were proud of their father for the fine house he built and proud of themselves for helping.

At dinner time the family said a prayer of thanks. They all agreed that they were lucky to have a house and a family. They then ate fish and duck, helped their mother clean up, then went to bed.

 When he woke up Ed went outside and got some water. He noticed that their animals were missing. The Brown’s chickens were gone one was dead. The settlers gathered to talk about the problem and came to the conclusion that foxes got to the chickens, but they couldn’t find out why the cows and sheep were gone. Then they heard sheep in the distance. They followed the noise and it led them to a fire. There were small tents and dozens of animals in pens.

They knew that these were Indians, but the question was whether they were good Indians? A native spotted them and screamed. In the blink of an eye they were surrounded and one of the Indians said something they did not understand. Jon Smith told the natives that they had come in peace. Only one of them understood what he said. His name was Sqonto. While this was happening, Ed and Peter were terrified. They didn’t know if they would ever see their family again. Meanwhile Squonto was telling their leader that the Indians didn’t want to hurt them. Ed was so relieved. Captain Smith asked if they would let the animals go. The natives talked for a minute and decided to return the animals.

The settlers were grateful and invited the tribe to come for a feast. They would come on November 22, 1635. They prepared for a week but when the day came, Peter and Ed were still unsure. “What if they were lying or what if they attack us?” they thought, “or burn our village?”

But they did not attack and together they feasted on duck, pig, cow, corn, and they drank water. It was very nice and Ed loved it. They soon developed a friendship with the Indians. They would give them some supplies like axes or shovels, and they would give them wool and food. They all had a happy ending.

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