

The Big Trip

written and illustrated by Valeri Gorbachev

“I am going to take a trip far away,” Pig said to Goat one day. “How will you go?” asked Goat. “Let me think for a moment,” said Pig. “Maybe I will go by bike—that will be a very nice trip.” “Oh, dear,” said Goat. “You could fall off a bike.” “Ah,” said the Pig. “Then I will drive a car.” “It’s not a good idea, Pig,” said Goat. “A car can break down!” “Oh,” said Pig. “Then I will go by horse on my trip.” “I’m not sure about that,” said Goat. “Horses can be very jumpy!” “Okay,” said Pig. “Then I am going to go by donkey cart—a donkey is very quiet.” “Not good, not good,” said Goat. “Donkeys can be very stubborn!” “Then I will go by train,” said Pig. “Oh, Pig, oh, Pig,” said Goat, “a train could get stuck in a tunnel!” “Good point, Goat,” said Pig. “Then I will fly by plane.” “What if the engine stops!” said Goat. “You’d have to parachute.” “True,” said Pig. “Then I will go by hot air balloon.” “The hot air balloon could have a hole!” said Goat. “Okay. I will not travel by land. I will not travel by air. I will go by sea,” said Pig. “On a ship.” “Oh, no!” exclaimed Goat. “Don’t do it! The ship could run into a reef when passing through fog.” “Or run into a heavy storm at sea, and there are sharks all around at sea, so many, you couldn’t count them!” “And you could find yourself alone on a desert island in the middle of the ocean with pirates that could come on that desert island by pirate ship!” “STOP! STOP! STOP!” exclaimed Pig. “I could fall off a bike break down in a car get thrown by a horse never get there with a donkey or get stuck on a train. I might have to parachute from a plane or from a hot air balloon and traveling by ship could bring me many troubles!” “So, I will not go anywhere,” said Pig. “Having a big trip is a very scary thing.” “Unless...,” said Goat, looking at Pig, “you go with a friend.”