## **CHAPTER 3**

That night, the farmers waited at the big tree.

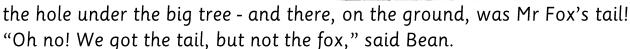
"Let's have Bunce's duck tonight," said Mrs Fox, below them.

Mr Fox looked out into the night. All was quiet.

But what was that? It was a gun! Mr Fox ran back into his hole.

BANG!! And again - BANG! BANG! "Did we get him?" shouted Bean.

Boggis, Bunce and Bean walked to



<sup>&</sup>quot;What can we do now?" asked Bunce.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Start digging!" shouted Bean.



There was no food that night.

Mrs Fox and the Small Foxes quickly went to sleep. Mr Fox could not sleep. He had no tail now! Suddenly, he heard a noise above him.

"Wake up!" he shouted. "They're digging us out!" Mrs Fox began to cry.

"I've got an idea!" Mr Fox said.

"Foxes are better diggers than men."

Mr Fox started digging. "Help me, all of you! Dig down. We have to go deep."

The hole got deeper and deeper. After about an hour, Mr Fox stopped and listened. All was quiet. "They can't catch us now," he said.

"You see, children, your father saves us again," said Mrs Fox. "He's a fantastic fox!" Mr Fox smiled.







<sup>&</sup>quot;Let's dig him out," Bean said angrily. "Him and his family!"

<sup>&</sup>quot;Good idea," said Boggis.