

My First Time Mushrooming

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I'm from Bristol in the UK, but my mum comes from the Czech Republic. She often goes there to visit her mum – my granny. A few weeks ago, we went to see my granny.

One morning, granny took me to the forest to show me how to pick mushrooms. We don't go mushrooming back at home in the UK, so it was very new to me.

Next morning, I woke up early and everybody was still asleep. So I decided to go mushrooming on my own¹! On the way to the forest, there was a meadow² with an electric fence³. But I couldn't see any animals, so I climbed over the fence and crossed the meadow. It was a great shortcut⁴! I walked down the hill and looked forward to real, Czech mushrooming.

In a while, my basket was full of beautiful mushrooms. I sat on the grass and started to arrange the mushrooms in the basket so that the best ones were on the top and everybody could see them.

Suddenly, I heard, "Moooo ...!" I looked up and saw a cow. It was so close, looking at me! And another one, and another one ...

"Mum, gran!" I cried. I was in the middle of a circle of cows. And more and more cows were coming to look at me.



Photo by Fotolia

"Mum, help, I'm here," I called. In a while, I saw my mum and granny up on the hill, behind the electric fence. Granny was laughing! I was in danger, stuck⁵ among cows, and she was laughing!

"Run up the hill, Tom," granny called.

"I can't, the cows are standing right in front of me! And they might start to run after me." I replied with tears in my eyes.

"Don't worry, Tom, they're too lazy to run uphill." The cow in front of me was chewing⁶ some grass, looking at me ...

"Run or die," I told myself. So I closed my eyes and started to run right towards the cows. I was ready to hit them. But

they jumped aside⁷ and I could run freely (and really quickly, ha, ha, ha!).

When I was up the hill behind the electric fence, I looked down at the cows. They were still standing in the circle, just looking up at me in a surprise. Perhaps they were thinking, "Why did he run away?"

LANGUAGE NOTE

* to stick/ stuck/ **stuck**

VOCABULARY

¹ on my own [ɒn maɪ əʊn] – já sám

² meadow ['mɛdəʊ] – louka

³ fence [fɛns] – plot

⁴ shortcut ['ʃɔ:tkaʊt] – zkratka

⁵ stuck* [stʌk] – uvázlý

⁶ to chew [tʃu:] – žvýkat

⁷ aside [ə'saɪd] – do strany