

Series 7

A Family

Book 3

Trouble at the Shoe Shop

Trouble at the Shoe Shop

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himself HIMSELF himself himself himself himself

ff FF stuffing puffing cuffs scruffy muffins

teatime great thunder scruffy

under television know himself light rabbit

Trouble at the Shoe Shop

**It was the October half term holiday
and the children were looking forward to a
week with no school. On Monday and
Tuesday morning, Daniel, Tina and
Thomas were going to visit friends while
Mrs Kibble was at work.**

Trouble at the Shoe Shop

Thomas wanted to go and play with Sam again on Wednesday morning. Mrs Kibble had said "no", as he needed a new pair of shoes. She wanted to take him into town. Thomas was upset and didn't want to go.

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At teatime on Tuesday Thomas was very quiet. He wasn't interested in eating his tea. He was even more upset as Daniel and Tina were going next door.

When the family had finished the evening meal, Thomas went upstairs. He

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sat staring at Bubble and Squeak.

**They were running up and down the ladder
in the cage. As he watched the swishing
tails and twitching whiskers, an
idea came to him.**

"I know what I'll do," he said

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to himself. "I'll take a mouse into town."

**He crept downstairs and shuffled
into the lounge with a large grin on his
face. He sat on the settee
watching television, but he was thinking
of his mouse.**

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"What are you up to?" asked Mrs Kibble, as she knew when Thomas was up to something.

"Nothing," said Thomas, "I'm just thinking about my new shoes."

That night Thomas got his jacket

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ready and stuffed some pet bedding in the top pocket. He hung the jacket on the back of the chair and climbed into bed. Soon he was fast asleep.

Mum called him early in the morning. She needed to go into town as soon as possible.

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**The family had breakfast together, then
Dad drove off to work and Daniel and
Tina went next door.**

**Thomas ran upstairs and put on his
jacket. He reached into the cage, lifted
out the sleeping Bubble and popped him**

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**into his pocket. His pocket looked rather
funny. It was lumpy and bumpy
instead of flat and smooth.**

**"Let's go," shouted Mum as Thomas
came downstairs.**

They got into the car and went into town.

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Thomas kept his hand over his top pocket. He felt Bubble breathing as he slept.

Mum was very pleased as it was so early. They parked the car easily and walked up the high street to the shoe shop. Two

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other customers were in the shop. Thomas sat down and the shop assistant measured his feet. He needed a larger size than last time.

By the time Thomas had made up his mind to have the black shoes with wide laces, the shop was full.

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Suddenly there was a scream. All the customers turned to look at a lady who stood quite still in the middle of the shop.

"Something white ran in front of me," she said with a quiver in her voice.

Thomas felt his top pocket. There was

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no lump or bump or breathing. He
felt sick as he looked all over the
floor. He slithered from the seat and
started to crawl on the floor.

"What are you doing?" yelled Mum. "Just
sit down on this chair and wait for your shoes."

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Thomas was worried about losing his mouse.

He took no notice of Mum, and ran

to the window. A lot of people were looking in.

**They were watching something small and white
running from shoe to shoe.**

"What are you up to?" shouted Mum.

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Then she saw the mouse in the window.

**She knew what Thomas had done. He
was crying and trying to catch his mouse.**

**The shop assistant ran off and came
back with a shoe box. She climbed into
the window and moved towards the mouse.**

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**Soon Bubble was safely inside the box
and Thomas stopped crying.**

**"Thanks," he said. "I know I won't
bring Bubble shopping again. I'll leave
him at home with Squeak. I know that
Squeak will have missed him." Thomas**

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walked out of the shop with Bubble safely

hidden in the box. Mum carried his shoes.

Daniel was surprised when he saw them.

**"Oh, you lucky thing. You've got two
pairs of shoes."**

Thomas grinned and said "I know." He

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ran upstairs to put Bubble in his cage.

**That evening he sat cuddling the puppies
while he watched television.**

"What now?" asked dad.

"I'm thinking about my Shoes," he said.

But he was thinking of his morning

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adventure and one very surprised lady.

Fun Page

Can you say who

1. Went into town in a pocket?
 2. Screamed?
 3. Crawled on the floor?
 4. Put the mouse in a box?
 5. Said Thomas was lucky?
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