

Bella was very good at races.
She won the Three-Legged Race
with her friend Barbara.

“Wouldn’t you like to go in
for a race?” they asked Dave.
But Dave didn’t feel like racing.
He was missing Dogger
too much.





Then another very exciting thing happened to Bella. She won first prize in a Raffle! It was a huge yellow Teddy Bear, wearing a beautiful blue silk bow. He was almost as big as Dave.

Dave didn't like that Teddy at all. At that moment he didn't like Bella much either because she kept on winning things. He went off on his own to look at the stalls.





One lady had a Toy Stall, full of knitted ducks and cars and baby dolls in bonnets. And there, at the very back of the stall, behind a lot of other toys, was —



DOGGER!



He was wearing a ticket saying "5p".

There were a lot of people round the stall. Dave tried to explain to the lady that it was his Dogger, who had got lost and somehow been put on the stall by mistake, but she wasn't listening. He looked in his pocket. He had 3p but that wasn't enough. He ran to find Mum and Dad to ask them to buy Dogger back *at once*.

Dave went everywhere in the crowd but he couldn't see Mum and Dad. He thought he was going to cry. At last he found Bella by the cakes. When she heard about Dogger, she and Dave ran back to the Toy Stall as fast as they could.



But something terrible had happened. Dogger had just been bought by a little girl!



She was already walking off with him. Dave began to cry.



Bella ran after her and tried to explain that Dogger really belonged to Dave, and could they please buy him back?

But the little girl said: "No."

She said that she had bought Dogger with her own money and she wanted him. She held on to him very tightly.



Dave cried and cried.

And the little girl started to cry too.

But out of the corner of her eye she caught sight of Bella's big yellow Teddy. She stopped crying and put out her hand to stroke his beautiful blue silk bow.





Then Bella did something *very* kind.

“Would you swop this Teddy for my brother’s dog, then?” she asked. Right away the little girl stopped crying and began to smile. She held out Dogger to Dave, took the big Teddy instead and went off with him in her arms.

Then Dave smiled too.

He hugged Dogger and he hugged Bella round the waist.

“Thank you, Bella,” he said.





That night Dave had Dogger in bed beside him.

Bella was practising somersaults.

“Shall you miss that big Teddy?” Dave asked her.

“No,” said Bella, “I didn’t like him much really.

He was too big and his eyes were too staring.

Anyway if I had another Teddy in my bed there wouldn’t be room for me.”