



17-This Job Stinks!

nt, pt, st, ct, ft, xt

When Dan saw that the man from the bank had his land, Dan told Rat The Cat, "Rat, the bank man has my land. He has my home. My home is now his bank. All I have is a cat who is a pest. The bank man is rich. I am not. He has my home. I do not. Why did the bank

man keep my home and leave Rat The Cat? I wish he would have left my home and kept Rat The Cat."

"But Dan," said Rat, "I'm fun to pet."

"FUN TO PET?" Dan screamed. "FUN TO PET? Rat, this land was mine. You do not even pay me rent, yet you gave my land to the bank man!" Boy, was Dan angry.

"Dan," said Rat, "you still have me. I am your chum. We will be fine."

"No, Rat, we will not be fine," said Dan. "I have lost all I had. Where can we go?"

"To Pine Lake, Dan. We can camp."

"Well," said Dan, "where else can we

go? We will go to Pine Lake."

At the lake Dan and Rat set up a tent.

"Can we play now?" Rat asked Dan after the tent was up.

"Rat, you lost my home and land," Dan answered. "We have no food to eat. Do not be nice now."

All day long Rat did not say a thing, and all went well. But then the sun went down and Dan and Rat went to bed in the tent.

"Oh no," said Rat. Rat was full of fear. BIG fear.

Late that night Dan and Rat heard a noise.

"Hold me Dan!" said Rat. "Hold me!"

Dan held Rat.

Then Dan and Rat heard the noise again, but now it was near the tent.

"Rat get a stick!" Dan shouted. Rat got a stick and Dan got a stone.

"Stay back you beast!" yelled Rat. "Stay back or we will hit you with sticks and stones! The next step you take may be your last step!"

Dan and Rat heard the noise again, but now it was next to the tent!

Dan and Rat ran from the tent and saw the beast. It was a skunk!

"Hold still Rat!" yelled Dan, but Rat threw his stick at the skunk. WOW, how a skunk can make a stink when you

throw a stick at it! Now the whole camp stunk and Dan and Rat could not stay there.

"Rat!" Dan screamed. "Now we have no camp! We have no land, no home, no tent, and no camp! You are just bad luck Rat The Cat!"

Rat was sad.

"I can help, Dan," said a man. It was Ranger Tim. "Be kind to Rat now. You two are family." Dan knew Ranger Tim was right. Dan could fix the mess and not be mean. Cats are cats, and cats do cat things.

"Dan," said Ranger Tim, "I heard of the mess with your home and land. I can

pay the bank man for you."

"Oh thank you thank you!" said Rat. "You are the best, Ranger Tim!" Rat fell at Ranger Tim's feet. Dan was not so angry now.

"No, Rat," said Ranger Tim. "Do not thank me yet. It is not a gift. You lost Dan's land, so you must stay with me a week. I have a job for you to do so you can pay me back."

"Thank You Thank You!" Rat cried.

"Stop, please," said Ranger Tim. "Wait to thank me. Do the job, then if you want you can thank me."

Ranger Tim sent Dan home with the money to pay the bank man. Dan left

Rat to stay with Ranger Tim a week to do his job.

Rat did not like the job At ALL! His job was to catch skunks!

Phew! That job stinks!

Vocabulary

nt

dent	tent	lint	rant
rent	went	tint	punt
sent	hint	pant	runt

pt

kept	wept	apt
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st

stop	stone	fast	test
step	stink	pest	cost
steep	stank	west	lost
steer	sting	chest	rust
store	past	rest	must

ct

act	tact	fact	pact
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xt

next

ft

left	raft	gift	soft	loft
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Dictation

You must pay rent for the tent.
Rat wept when Dan kept the runt pig.
Rat can steer his bike on a steep hill.
Tim saw a dent in a stove in the store.
Rat ran west past the rest in the race.
Tim can pass the raft test.
You must use tact to not be a pest.
It is a fact that the raft can go fast.
The next day we will have a big test.
The chimp was in my tent at camp.
Mend the dent in the bent pipe.
He gave me a gift of a soft cat.
Rat went into the tent at the raft store.

Weird Words

have	threw	being	I'm
family	from	after	I've
Ranger	again	answered	took
there	noise	even	leave
their	night	please	out