At dinner, Jon’s dad said, “Guess who just texted me?” Dad then explained that Aunt Jen was inviting Jon to visit the farm. Now that Jon had turned thirteen, Aunt Jen asked if he might be old enough to ride the bus by himself for a visit.

Jon’s mom said, “Hmm, we would have to check on the rules about when a minor can ride the bus. But first, Jon, how would you feel about going by yourself and staying alone on Aunt Jen’s farm? Do you think you would get bored?”

Jon said, “I could ride the bus myself. The trip is just three hours. With my phone and my comics, it would be fine.”

Jon’s mom continued, “I was thinking also about whether you would get bored during an entire week at the farm. I know Aunt Jen wants to spend time with you but she will
be working, and you will have to be entertaining yourself some of the time.”

Jon considered the things he liked about the farm. The first thing that came to mind were the goats. The goats were Elvis, Sniff, Felix, and Bill. Jon had his best times on the farm with them. Jon wished that his parents would let him have goats at home.

Most of the time, the goats were in their big pen. In the pen, there was a small shack that held the tin pails they ate and drank from. There was even a small pond inside the pen. Jon had seen the goats stand near the pond, but he had never seen them step in.

Aunt Jen let Jon take the goats out of the pen to go with him to other parts of the farm. Because goats are herd animals and like to be together, Jon never took just one out.