

A Visit to Aunt Jen's Farm (Part 2)

Last year Aunt Jen and Jon had talked about constructing ramps in the pen for the goats to climb. They had even gone to the hardware store to look at items they would need but did not have time to start the project.

Jon said to his mom, "I know that I cannot bother Aunt Jen all the time I am there, and I will not get bored! Besides, I can work on the ramps!"

"Ok, then, I think this visit is a splendid idea," Mom said.

Jon was feeling more enthused than ever about the trip. He remembered the old stone wheel in the yard. The wheel had been on the farm as long as the farm had been there. Aunt Jen kept the old wheel and used it to sharpen her kitchen knives just like people did a hundred years ago. A small thing like holding the knife to the wheel while it turned was fun.

There was one thing on the farm Jon did not like: the chickens. Aunt Jen asked him to collect the eggs each morning. Maybe Aunt Jen was thinking that Jon would find it a fun thing to do.

No matter how quick Jon was when he grabbed an egg, a mean hen would peck his hands first. Aunt Jen gave him kernels of corn to scatter in the yard for the hens to peck while he collected the eggs. Doing this was supposed to distract the hens, but he could never make it work the way it did for Aunt Jen. Still, Jon would rather pretend that the job was no problem than admit that he was scared of hens.

“I won’t get bored on the bus or on the farm,” Jon said. “I’m just not wild about the chickens.”

Jon’s mom smiled and said, “But the chickens are so cute!”

“Not to me,” Jon said.