

## A Treat for Mum

"Beep...beep...beep", Jenna lifted her head off the pillow and looked at the blinking lights next to her bed, it was 7.15 am. Although she was still sleepy and could have dozed on a bit longer, she jumped out of bed and ran very quietly downstairs. She tip-toed past her brother Toby's room, all quiet there. This was **her** treat and she didn't want Toby interfering.

When she was in the kitchen, she patted the dog who was excited and surprised to see her. She started her task. It was quite exciting to be in the kitchen on her own while everybody else was still asleep; it made her feel very grown up!

She knew she had to be careful. As she filled the kettle, she was a bit puzzled that it was slightly warm. She looked at Daisy the dog suspiciously but she just looked back at her. She got the tray that was leaning up against the microwave. She was just tall enough to reach the mugs in the cabinet (she couldn't leave Dad out). She got a milk jug from the cupboard and then carefully filled it with milk from the fridge. This was very tricky as the container was big, full and heavy. Jenna was pleased when this was finished, hardly any mess! She found a tea-pot at the back of the cupboard (normally they made tea in mugs, but not on Mum's special breakfast in bed treat.). Sadly the teapot was a bit dusty but Jenna was pleased that she had noticed. As she stood in the kitchen, wiping the tea-pot with a cloth, she half-expected a big flash and a genie to appear!

Next job was the toast, two slices of brown bread in the toaster but she didn't switch it on yet. Three tea bags in the tea-pot, boiling water added carefully, very carefully, stir, lid on, put onto tray with mugs and milk jug. She then switched on the toaster. While the toast was browning, she got the butter from the fridge and the Marmite from the cupboard (Jenna hated everything about Marmite; the texture, the colour, the taste but most of all that dreadful smell).

The toast popped up, Jenna spread it with butter and added that horrible paste. She put the toast onto a plate and then put it on the tray with everything else.

All the time Jenna was doing this, Daisy the dog had been staring at her with a puzzled look. But Jenna was really enjoying this time on her own, feeling very grown-up. She put the final touch to the tray, a pretty vase and a single yellow daffodil. With a deep breath, she very carefully lifted the tray and oh so slowly, carried it upstairs.

The door to her Mum and Dad's room was slightly open. Carefully and slowly, she nudged the door open. What a shock greeted her! There, curled up on the bottom of the bed was her brother Toby. By the side of the bed was another tray. This one had empty mugs and a plate with crumbs on it. Toby had beaten her to it! Jenna was disappointed.

Mum looked up at her, "Oh Jenna, how lovely and thoughtful. As you can see, Toby has brought me some tea already but that was at 5 o'clock! And however thoughtful it was, 5 o'clock was a bit early. And...he didn't bring me a daffodil!". She gave Jenna a big hug and Jenna felt really proud.

Can you answer these questions about Jenna's treat for Mum?

- 1, What do you think made the Beep beep beep noise in Jenna's bedroom?
- 2, What made Jenna feel very grown up?
- 3, Why do you think the kettle was still slightly warm?
- 4, When she cleaned the tea-pot, what story do you think came to her mind when she was expecting a genie?
- 5, Why do you think Jenna waited to switch on the toaster?
- 6, What did Jenna think was the worst thing about the Marmite?
- 7, Write down everything that Jenna put on the tray.
- 8, What had Toby done already?
- 9, About how much time had passed between Toby's cup of tea and Jenna's?
- 10, How did Jenna feel when her Mum hugged her?

## Answers

1, What do you think made the Beep beep beep noise in Jenna's bedroom?

*The alarm clock.*

2, What made Jenna feel very grown up?

*Being in the kitchen on her own.*

3, Why do you think the kettle was still slightly warm?

*Toby had boiled the kettle earlier that morning.*

4, When she cleaned the tea-pot, what story do you think came to her mind when she was expecting a genie?

*Aladdin*

5, Why do you think Jenna waited to switch on the toaster?

*She didn't want the toast to go cold.*

6, What did Jenna think was the worst thing about the Marmite?

*The dreadful smell.*

7, Write down everything that Jenna put on the tray.

*Teapot, mugs, milk, toast, daffodil.*

8, What had Toby done already?

*Made tea and toast.*

9, About how much time had passed between Toby's cup of tea and Jenna's?

*About 3 hours.*

10, How did Jenna feel when her Mum hugged her?

*Jenna felt proud.*