

Welcome to Paradise

Chapter two

All of the penguins and the fish played in the water with Bamboo and Josh and his sister named Mary. Then Bamboo got out of the water and soon after, everyone else did too. Well, everyone except for the fish.

"That was fun," said Josh.

"Maybe we can all play again together sometime," said Mary.

"We'd like that," said some of the penguins.

"But first," said Bamboo, "we have some work to do."

"Can I help?" asked Peter the penguin.

"Maybe," said Bamboo. "We are here to talk to a penguin named Blue. Do you know her?"

"Everyone does," said Peter. "She lives with her group of penguins at the north end of the island. The rest of us live here at the south end of the island."

"You mean you have two separate groups of penguins living here?" asked Josh.

"That's right," said Peter. "Our leader's name is Pilot."

"Why don't you all live together?" asked Mary.

"No one knows for sure," said Peter. "That's just the way it is."

"Can you take us to see Blue?" asked Bamboo.

"No way," said Peter. "We never go up there."

The dolphin named Captain was floating nearby and she heard the whole conversation.

"I'll show you the way," said Captain.

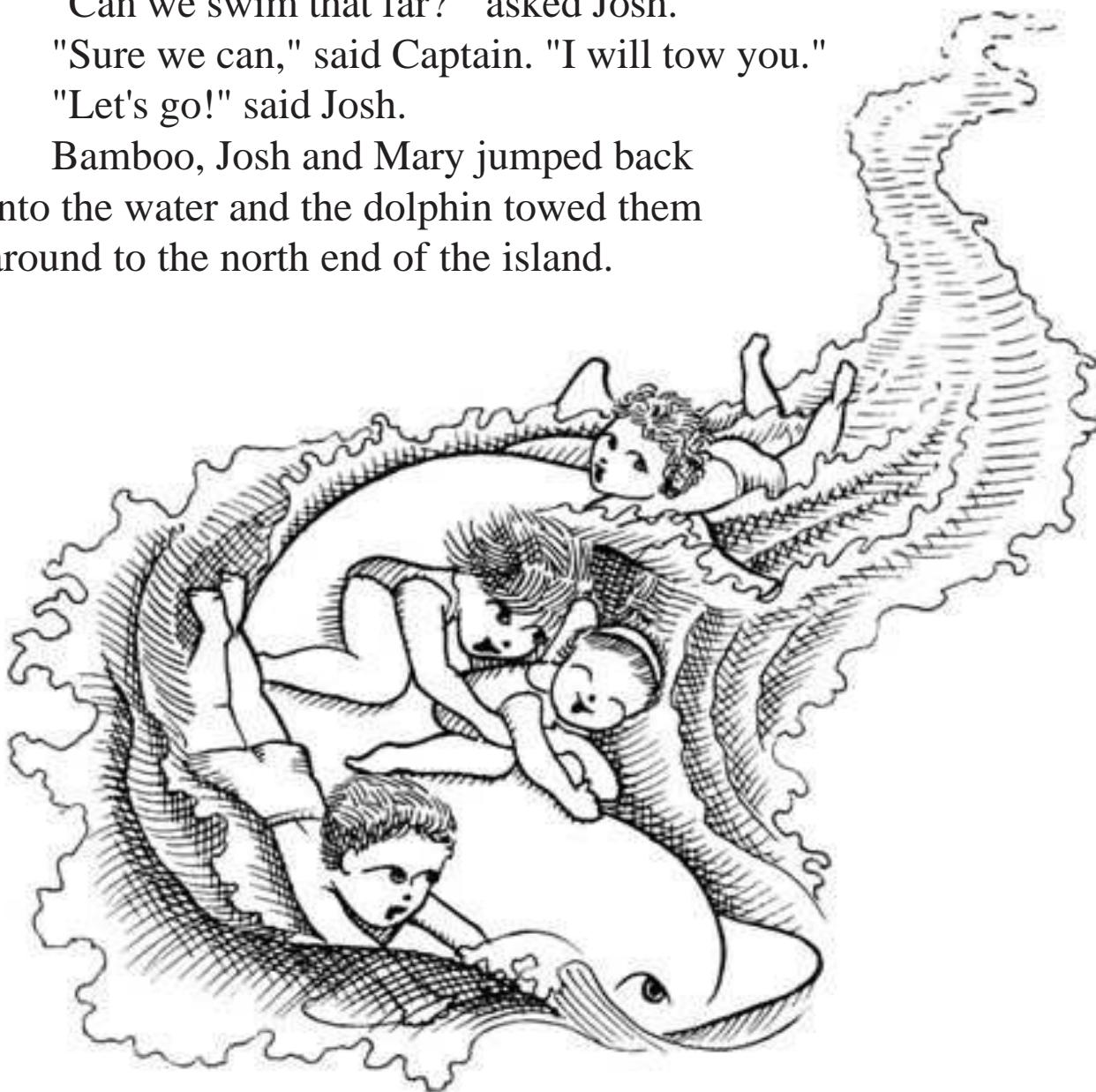
"Thank you," said Bamboo.

"Can we swim that far?" asked Josh.

"Sure we can," said Captain. "I will tow you."

"Let's go!" said Josh.

Bamboo, Josh and Mary jumped back into the water and the dolphin towed them around to the north end of the island.



When they got there, they quickly found Blue. She and some of the north penguins were playing in the water. The slow seahorse named Teacup was also there to once again say hello to her new friends. After everyone said hello, Bamboo got right to the point.

"We have heard," said Bamboo, "that your island is no longer big enough for both groups of penguins."

"That's right," said Blue. "We are doing everything we can but the south penguins are just not co-operating."

"What do you mean?" asked Josh.

"Over the years the number of families in our group has not grown much larger," said Blue. "And yet each year our island is getting more and more crowded. This can only mean that the south penguin families are getting much too big. And it's spoiling things for all of us."



"Why don't you just go and talk to them?" asked Josh.

"Never," said Blue.

"But why not?"

"Because it just isn't done," said Blue.

"But why?" asked Bamboo.

"Just because," said Blue.

This was all too confusing for Mary. As a matter of fact, she thought it sounded kind of silly.

"We will have to go back and talk to the south penguins," said Bamboo.

"Yes," said Josh. "We can talk to Pilot. Maybe he knows what is going on."

"I'll take you," said Captain.

"Let's go," said Bamboo.

They jumped back into the water and went in search of Pilot, the leader of the south penguin group.