

Searching for the Sky River



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Chapter One



THE SKY RIVER

Not long ago, on a planet called Gleam, two friends wandered through a vast forest. They were as different as two friends could be. Kira was a girl with a passion for adventure. Bo, a woggle, preferred life at a slower pace. For Bo, comfort was everything.

“I’ve almost reached the top,” Kira called out.

She was climbing a shining tree. Up she went, branch by branch. On Gleam, forests were never dark—every tree sparkled with silvery light.

For Review Only

As Kira climbed up, the branches got thinner. It was scary, but not scary enough to make her stop.

Down below, Bo was doing a strange little dance against the tree's trunk.

"I've found the perfect scratching post," he sighed happily. "Not too smooth, not too lumpy!" He wiggled his body against the trunk.

Kira was only half listening. Standing on a branch and poking her head above the leaves, she could see just above the treetops. The view was spectacular.

To the east, beyond the forest, stretched a wide but shallow valley. The valley was covered with brilliant wildflowers. To the west, the forest continued endlessly. It met the horizon with a mild, silver glow. And there, far to the north, was the reason Kira had climbed the tree. She broke into a smile when she saw it: the Sky River.



“Bo, I found it!” Kira cried.

When Bo didn’t answer, Kira peered through the leaves. Where was he? She studied the branches below, mapping her descent. The journey down was quick.

“Wake up,” Kira gently poked the snoring creature. The woggle was half buried in a pile of leaves, fast asleep.

With a lurch, Bo sat up and said, “I wasn’t asleep, I promise.”

Kira giggled, “You were definitely asleep! But never mind that.” Kira took a deep breath. “I think I finally found it.”

“Found what?” Bo shook leaves from his fur.

“The Sky River!” Kira said. “I saw it from the tree. It’s just like the old stories say. There is a river in the clouds. It was up in the sky, pouring from an enormous cloud.”

“That sounds like a storm,” Bo said.

“It wasn’t a storm—believe me. I know what a storm looks like. This was the Sky River. If we hurry, I think we can reach it in half a day.”

“But it’s past lunchtime already,” Bo said. “Aren’t we going home?”

“Go home—are you crazy?” Kira exclaimed. “We’ve been looking for the Sky River forever. We may never have this chance again!”

Bo sighed and shook his head. Kira was always being dramatic. “Well, you know I can’t go on an adventure with an empty stomach.”

Kira was silent, and the two friends stared at each other. Then, Kira laughed.

“Why are you laughing?” Bo frowned.

Searching for the Sky River

Kira and Bo live on Gleam,
a faraway planet. One day,
the two friends make a
surprising discovery.

Reading Levels

Guided Reading: P

DRA Level: 34

Lexile® Level: 600L

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