

# The Fox Hero



By: Tavin W.

Edited by: Jaxon B.

## Chapter 1 The Save

“Ahhhhhhhhhhh” Cried foxes. Max ran out of the fox den to see what the commotion was. “Max you have to help us!” screamed another fox. “Ok, what’s the problem?” asked Max a bit frightened himself. “A big mountain lion is gnawing on our friends!” The fox yelled. “Ok, I am heading there right now!” Max then ran as fast as he could with his little fox legs to save his pack.

When Max arrived he saw his friend Fexer getting his leg chewed on. “Ahhhhhhhhhhh, this hurts!” Fox blood was already seeping from Fexer. “Don’t worry Fexer I will save you!” Yelled Max dashing over to the mountain lion. Max used his super jump and jumped onto the mountain lion’s face. Fexer fell out of the mountain lion’s mouth and fox doctors came and took Fexer to the hospital den

Meanwhile, Max was in a crazy position on the mountain lion’s face. “Rrrrrrrrggg, get off of me!” Yelled the furious mountain lion. “Not until you say you won’t hurt the pack!” yelled Max. “Fine I won’t hurt your pack!” yelled the mountain lion annoyed. “Do you mean it?” asked Max “Yea, Sure!” the mountain lion said. “Fine,” said Max, cooled down.

Max jumped off the beast’s face and Max suddenly heard chuckling from the mountain lion. “What’s so funny?” Max asked. “HA HA HA, you fell for it!” The mountain lion laughed. “Uh oh,” said Max with a scared face.

## Chapter 2 The fight

The mountain lion and Max got into position to get ready for the fight. “Ha, I am going to enjoy this!” said the mountain lion. “You wish!” said Max, not sure what he was saying. You see one of the fox’s predators is the mountain lion and the fact that Max and the mountain lion were going to fight made Max tremble. A Fox came to the fight and counted down the seconds until the fight was going to begin.

“3.....”

“2.....”

“1.....”

“FIGHT!”

The two animals were circling the field staring at each other angrily. "Are you gonna jump at me or something bro?" the mountain lion said mockingly. The mountain lion bit Max and held him in the air. "Ohhhhhhh, this is a meaty one!" The mountain lion said with Max in his mouth. Max scratched the mountain lion's nose after he said that. "Ow!" "That is a good nose and you made it seep my blood, how dare you!" yelled the mountain lion angrier.

"Well that's just how life is!" said Max wanting to chuckle but realized there was no time for laughing. Max still had to finish the battle so he sprinted to the mountain lion but the lion had a trick up his sleeve. When Max was sprinting the mountain lion tail whipped Max into a tree. "Oof!" "ugg" Max said weakly. "You see! I told you I could take on a little wimpy fox like you!" Max just stared at the beast weakly.

The mountain lion was going to pick up Max for the last time but then the mountain lion heard a noise, a rumbling tumbling noise. It was like the sound of a million footsteps. The mountain lion looked into the distance and saw 50 orange creatures. The creatures kept on closer and closer and the mountain lion finally made out what it was.

It was the other foxes coming to the rescue! "This won't be good." said the mountain lion. All the foxes ran up to the mountain lion biting him, scratching him, tail whipping him. Some even needed a restroom break. "Ewww, get off me!" Soon the mountain lion fell. *Boom!* The foxes didn't care that he fell, they just kept on attacking the lion.

One of the foxes scratched the mountain lion's eyeball and then his eye turned into a dark purple

"OOOWWWWWWWWWWWIIIIIIEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!"

The mountain lion shrieked and ran away from the foxes. "OW OW OW!" "MOMMY MOMMY!" yelled the lion. Max snapped out of his daze and saw what was happening. "MOMMY MOMMY" the beast kept on yelling. Max then said, "Who is the wimpy one now?" Max said mockingly. The mountain lion's last words before he ran away were "I WILL GET YOU FOR THIS YOU STUPID FOXES!" Then he ran away from the foxes forest.

"YAY!"

"WHOO HOO!"

“WE DID IT!”

The foxes cheered on and on about their victory. Max was done resting and decided to join the cheering.

“Thank you so much guys, we actually did it!” Yelled the other foxes. While everyone was cheering and dancing Max realized something very important. Max ran into the hospital fox den and found his pal Fexer laying on a bed made out of leaves and cotton from a sheep. “Hey good friend, I am here.”

Fexer looked at Max with a big leather bandage on his leg. “Did we win?” Fexer asked Max weekly. “Everything went fine,” said Max by the bed. “I knew you could do it,” said Fexer listening to the cheering above. The two friends chilled next to each other. After an hour Fexer said, “I think I feel fine now.” Max smiled. Fexer and Max walked out of the hospital den. Fexer still had to wear his leather bandage for safety reasons.

When they walked out they heard loud music and foxes dancing. The two foxes gasped.  
*Gasp!* Then they realized what this meant  
“FOX PARTY!”

### Chapter 3 The Fox Party

Fexer and Max ran outside into the night. They noticed there were lots of foods laid out on tables like steak, berries, rabbit meat, and pork. The two foxes dug in and got some food. “Yum!” said Max “Delicious!” said Fexer. Max and Fexer looked behind them and they saw a dance floor where foxes did all kinds of moves like the slither, chase, and even the hind legs which were very hard for most foxes.

“Man this party is wild!” yelled Max. “I know!” yelled Fexer. Suddenly everybody heard a jukebox play. They also saw a fox get up on the jukebox and slid a disc in. The jukebox started playing loud and wild music. Everybody still kept on dancing. There was even a fox D.J!

Max and Fexer finished their food. “I am stuffed!” Fexer said. Max chuckled “So am I.” Fexer wanted to try out some dance moves. “Hey, Max.” “What?” Max asked. “I kinda want to go out on the dance floor,” Fexer replied. “You can do that,” Max said. “Thanks, hey do you want to join me?” Fexer asked kindly. “Nah, I am good,” Max replied.

“Please, two is better than one,” Fexer said. “Fine, I will do it for you.” “Thanks, bud.” So they left the area they were at and hopped on to the dance floor. Everyone was

amazed that their hero was dancing with them. Fexer was doing the shuffle and Max was doing the worm.

The foxes leaped into the air, they did a little twirl, and they finished it off with a paw slide and a tail whip.

Everyone was cheering for them. "I think we did it," Max said. "Definitely," Fexer said. The two foxes walked off the dance floor. "Well that was fun but I think I am done," Max said. "Ok, I think I am going to stay behind and dance some more," Fexer said. "That's cool with me." The two foxes split up. Max decided to talk to some of his other friends. He first saw Linda so he walked over there.

"What's up Linda!" Max yelled. "Oh hey Max!" They both hugged. Or more like pawing each other's neck. "It's been a while." "Yes," said Linda. Linda asked Max "Hey do you want to grab some food?" Max replied "No, I am good." Max said pointing to his big o' dangling belly. Linda chuckled. "You are hilarious Max." Max smiled. "Not to brag but did you see me and Fexer's performance?" Linda replied "Yes, everyone did." "Uh, did you like it?" Max asked, a bit nervous.

"Yes, it was amazing, I never knew you could dance." Linda said, kindly like she meant it. "Yea, me neither." said Max as they chuckled. Linda realized something. "Speaking of Fexer, where is he?" Max replied and said "He has a real passion for dancing." as soon as Max said that he heard loud cheering and then he heard a familiar voice say "Yea, I love doing this!" Max looked back at Linda. "You see told ya." They chuckled. Well it was nice talking to you." said Linda.

"It was nice talking to you too." Max replied, smiling. Max left Linda to do her own thing and Max went to talk to someone else. While Max was walking he found his friend Tobie. Tobie was actually kinda a weird fox.

He doesn't like to eat the fresh food. He only ate from the ground where the foxes threw away their leftover berry leaves. Even though Tobie was gross he had a big heart.

Max found him eating old meat and berry leaves. "Mmmmmh, Max you have to try this." Tobie said. Nah, I am good. Max said, very grossed out. "Hi Tobie." Max said, trying to not think about or look at the old food. "Hi Max." said Tobie, looking at Max. "Do you like the fox party so far?" asked Max. "Yes a lot, they have the best rotten food here and I saw you dance with Fexer, very clean performance by the way." replied Tobie.

“Oh, Thank you.” said Max, a bit embarrassed. “Oh I have a request for you, can you do those moves again?” asked Tobie. “The same ones?” “Yes.”

“Ok, here it goes.” Max leapt into the air, did a little twirl, and he finished it off with a paw slide and tail whip. “Wow, that was awesome, bravo!” Max lifted his head down and brought it back up like he was bowing.

“Thank you.” Max said. *Burp!* “Excuse me.” said Tobie, licking his paws. “Wow you finished already?” Max asked. “Yea, I am going to go find more, see you soon!” Tobie said. “Bye!” They went their separate ways.

Max suddenly heard the D.J say “Ok, this is the last song of the night make it count!” The foxes started dancing for the last time. Fexer did his last moves then the song ended and all the foxes went back home.

Max walked over to Fexer. “*Pant Pant Pant*” “You ok bro?” Max asked. “That was a lot but it was fun at the same time.” Then Fexer barley chuckled. “I think all you need is rest.” “I bet you are right.” said Fexer. The two foxes walked home to their own dens and went to sleep.

## Chapter 4 The Lake

Max woke up around 11:00 in the morning. Max usually wakes up at 9:00 but the party was really tiring because of all the dancing, talking, and eating. Max got out of his leaf bed. He did some stretches and twists, ate breakfast and headed out the den.

Max looked around and saw tall trees and dens. He saw dirt pathways and plants everywhere. It was a beautiful day for Max. when Max was walking a fox named Theodor ran up to him. “Max there is a new lake on top of that hill over there, you must check it out!” “Ok, I will go do that.” Max said. Max ran up the big but not too big hill.

When Max arrived on top of the mountain he saw it. He saw the biggest beautiful lake he had ever seen. “Woah, this is a really nice lake.” Max said. He also noticed there were lots of foxes hopping into the lake swimming in it.

“Cannonball!” a fox said. Max was frightened “Where where?” Fexer walked over to Max. “Don’t worry buddy, it’s just something a fox says when they curl into a ball and

leap into lakes.” “Oh, I get it, I thought the forest was under attack or something.” “Nah man, everything is good.” Said Fexer.

Max cooled down and decided to jump into the lake. Max remembers to jump and curl in a ball. “*Seems easy enough.*” Max thought to himself. He was in a pouncing position then he leapt into the air. Max was trying to curl up in a ball but instead of doing that he did a few flips in the air and before he knew it he splashed into the lake. *Splash!*

All the foxes at the lake saw what happened, they were in awe.

“Whoo hoo!”

“Go Max!”

“Can you teach me how to do that?”

Max didn’t believe it he actually did some really cool flips in mid air! Fexer ran over to Max. “That was really cool Max!” Yelled Fexer. “Wow, I didn’t even mean to do that.” said Max. “Well you did buddy!” “I guess I did!” Max bowed a few times.

After five minutes everybody settled down. Fexer let Max sit on a lounge chair with him. They sat and talked for a bit. “If I do more practice then I might be able to do the hind legs dance.” Fexer said.

“That’s great Fexer! You’ll be a natural in no time!” “I am looking forward to it.” said Fexer

They talked more about their fox town and they had some chuckles. “Why did the fox cross the road?” asked Fexer. “To prove the possum it could be done!” “Hahahahahahaha!” They laughed.

Max and Fexer decided to hop into the lake again. They swam and played in the beautiful water. The afternoon turned into the evening. They decided to sit on a floating log and watch the sunset.

“The sunset sure is beautiful.” said Fexer. “Indeed.” All the other foxes at the lake said

“Ooooooooooh.”

The sun was a little bit lower.

“Ahhhhhhhh.”

The sun was now below the horizon. The stars were filling the night sky with lights and happy feelings. For generations foxes would sit down looking at the moon and howl.

“Arooooooooooooooooooooooh!”

They howled just like wolves. It’s a known fact that foxes will sometimes do this.

As the stars twinkled a little fox yelled “Shotgun! Axe!” He screamed. Max looked over at Fexer “What does Shotgun! Axe! Mean on the lake?” Fexer didn’t understand. “I don’t know, let’s ask him.”

Fexer and Max walked over to the scared little fox. When they found him he was running in circles. “H-h-h-h-h-hunter!” said the scared fox kid. They looked over the ledge of the mountain “What the fox! There is a hunter! Three hunters!” yelled Max.

“I’ll go tell the others! Fexer ran to the lake where everyone was. “Everyone listen! There are two hunters arriving in this area! Grab your children and grandchildren!” yelled Fexer, alarmingly.

## Chapter 5 The Hunters

As Fexer warned all the foxes to skedaddle back to their dens Max was still on the lookout. “Go home little one.” Said Max smoothly. “Ok mister.” The little fox said running to his parents.

The hunters were getting closer and closer to the fox town. A guy carrying an axe tied a rope to a tree and made the other guy hold it. “Here take this.” said the axeman. “Why do I always have to hold the rope?” “It’s because I am better with the heavy axe!” he yelled.

He held the rope and the axeman was chopping down the tree. Max didn’t understand what was happening until the tree fell down. When it landed on the floor Max was mad and nervous at the same time.

Max was mad because one of the forest trees got chopped down. Max was nervous because the axe could do so much damage to one tree. Max got brave all of a sudden



and jumped down the hill. He was now at ground level and one of the hunters spotted him.

“Hey git out of here you pesky fox!” The hunter yelled with a shiny rifle in his hand locked and loaded with bullets. *Bam!* Max dodged the bullet by a single tail hair.

The hunter was starting to get mad. “Rrrrrrrrrggh!” This reminded Max of someone. *Bam! Bam! Bam!* Max dodged all the bullets. “What are you doing here?” Max asked loudly.

But all the hunter heard was “Yip yip, squeak squeak, chatter chatter.” “Chatter chatter something your own size!” *Bam!*

Max barely dodged it again. Max was confused that the hunter thought he said chatter chatter. Max yelled at him “I am too fast for you!” “Hungry eh? Where I hope you like bullets!” *Bam!*

Max was pretty sure he didn’t say he was hungry for bullets at all. “Hey, uh Bob? Just admit he is faster, besides we are only here for wood.”

Bob, the guy with the rifle, looked angry “Never!” he yelled. He was going in circles spamming his rifle in every direction. At this point he couldn’t hit Max. Bob hit his friend in the leg though.

“OW! BOB STOP DOING THAT!” He yelled. Bob realized what he was doing so he stopped. Max was sitting down watching the entire thing. “You started this all!” He was about to shoot but he didn’t have any bullets left.

He didn’t even have any spares. “You know what we should go, forests are creepy at night.” One of the hunters said.

“Ok.” Max had an idea. Max pounced from the ground and jumped on Bob’s face. “Gahhhh you pesky fox!” he yelled. The axeman held his axe and swung it at Max. He jumped off Bob’s face and the axeman chopped Bob’s hair off.

“Hey! That was my beautiful hair!” He yelled. “Well there was a fox on your head what else am I supposed to do!” “I don’t know!” While they were arguing back and forth Max ran away.

Max was very tired so he ran to his den. When he made it inside his den he ran into Fexer. "What are you doing here?" asked Max. "Oh, sorry Max I was so scared about the hunters that I ran in here instead of my own den." Fexer confessed.

"That's ok, you can now return to your den and go to sleep." "Thanks Max. Wait, what happened out there, and how did you survive?" Fexer had lots of questions. Max decided to tell him everything about the hunters.

"Interesting." Fexer said. *Yaaaawwwwn!* Max yawned. "It's time to hit the hay, go back to your den." "Ok." said Fexer leaving.

It was 12:30 A.M and Max was really sleepy. So he plopped himself on his cozy leafy bed and went to sleep and thought *I hope I can protect this place.*

## Chapter 6 new Foxes

Max woke up at 12:00 in the morning. Fexer spotted Max walking around the fox village. "Good morning, or should I say good afternoon!" "Hi Fexer."

While Max and Fexer were talking they spotted a new fox family. They wanted to be nice so they decided to greet them. "Hello, My name is Max and this is my buddy Fexer." "Hi." said Fexer, in the nicest way.

Hello, my name is Mary and this is my husband Simon. "Hi." said Simon. "And these are my kids, all nine of them, Jhon, Jake, Jacob, Judy, Jerry, Jered, Jonna, Joan, and Jace." Mary said.

"Nice to meet you guys, you all look so happy together." said Max, looking sad. "Why do you look so sad Max?" asked Simon kindly. Max looked at them and said "It's just I wish I still had my family here." "Oh." said Marry.

"Well, Back when I was just a kit I was born with a brother and sister. Martha and Jason. We laughed and played together everyday." Max continued on. "It was a wonderful life

until we turned 10 months old, when we started our own lives in this town. That's the sad part because Martha and Jason didn't want to live here anymore. They decided to move to a different fox town. I still wanted to stay here. So that means I don't have them here anymore." Max said with a tear rolling down his eye.

Simon decided to speak up. "It's ok Max. At least you know where they went and decided to have good lives." "Yea, I guess it's better then not knowing where they are." said Max, starting to cheer up.

"So, are we good?" Fexer asked. "Yes." said Max. "Mommy." asked Jared. "Yes?" asked Mary. "Can I go potty?" "Me too." "Me three." "Me four." "Me five." "Me six." "Me seven." "Me eight." "Me nine. Said the kids.

"We will go now. Nice meeting you guys though!" said Mary. "Nice meeting you too!" said Max and Fexer. It was 12:30 now.

"That was a nice family." said Fexer. "I agree."

## Chapter 7 The Competition

Max was always an amazing hero in his fox town. But there was one fox named Flippy who always beat Max at things like food eating competitions, running, dancing, beatboxing, and even tail!

Fexer and Max met Flippy bragging to his friends how good he is at beating Max. "Wassup chumps." Flippy said cooley. "Oh, uh, hey Flippy." Max said nervously.

"It's Flipster to you punk." said Flippy meanly. "Uh, ok Flipster." "It's too late now." said Flippy.

"Ok." "What's it to yah." "Well I bumped into you and uh, you know and uh-" "Uh, uh, uh! That's all you say these days!" yelled Flippy.

Max felt a bit heartbroke. "Ha Ha! That fox wimp can't even keep himself together!" Flippy laughed. Soon the rest of his friends started laughing. Max was even sadder. Fexer saw the look on Max's face and said "Well we challenge you tonight for a competition!" He yelled

Flippy and his friends stopped laughing and said “What kind of challenge?” Fexer thought of something “How about an eating competition, running, dancing, tail, and to finish it off beatboxing!”

“Ha! All the things Max loses to me! Good choice.” Flippy said. Max looked at Fexer “Why did you do that?” He asked “I don’t know. I just hate seeing them getting away with bullying you.” Fexer said.

“Friend arguments, classic!” “So do you accept the competition?” Fexer asked. “Definitely! I will probably win anyway.” Flippy said confidently. Max and Fexer, Flippy and his friends went separate ways.

“Yea, that was real smooth!” Max said sarcastically. “What, I couldn’t help it!” “Yea sure!” “Ok, please just do this!” “Fine, but only because I hate arguing with you!”

“Ok, cool. Now we only have a few hours until the competition, that means we really have to train.” said Fexer. “Ok, let’s make this quick, I don’t want to embarrass myself.”

Fexer and Max found a wide peaceful place in the forest and started training.

## Chapter 8 Training

“So do we start training?” Max asked. “Yes, let’s get started. The first thing to train for is the food eating competition.” “Ok let’s go hunt.”

Fexer and Max ran into the forest and hunted for rabbits and gathered some berries. They made it back to the training area. “I think we got everything.” Fexer said with a mouthful of raw food.

They found a table that was a log. “Ok so all you gotta do is eat all this food before the timer runs out.” Max wasn’t too sure about that because there was food laid out everywhere towering.

Max knew what he had to do so he started digging in. *Nom nom! Munch gobble Noms! Chew gobble stuff munch munch!*

“Wow Max! You are a killing machine!” Fexer said proudly. There were a few berries and Max was starting to get full. “Uggg!” “Come on dude, you are almost there!” Max started pushing himself to his limits and it felt like something was going up his throat.

“Uh oh.” Max said weakly. He ran behind a tree in a bush and- *Blorgolchelorgobel!* *Blech! Gag!* When Max was finished he slowly came out of the tree and plopped down on the floor.

“I need a break.” “Yea, Definitely.” Fexer chose to sit next to his pal for about an hour. Then they got back to training. Max threw up again but he kept on training.

Max had finished his training in the food competition. They moved on to running. Max got tired along the way but he managed to complete that too. “I bet running for long periods of time will be useful for fighting.” Fexer said.

“I think you are right.” They moved on to dancing. Max added a few more cool moves to his previous move like a flip, another twist, and a foot backup.

“This training is starting to wear me out.” “You’ll get used to it.” It was now 3:00 P.M. They moved on to beat boxing. Max was the worst at beatboxing but he managed to make some sick beats. It was now 5:00 P.M and they were pretty tired so they killed some time by resting.

## Chapter 9 Competition Wars

Max and Fexer met up with Flippy. They noticed lots of foxes gathered in a big arena and it was in the same area as the mountain lion fight. “Uhhhh, why are there tons of foxes here?” Max asked Flippy. “Well that’s because I decided to make my 5th win a bit special.” He replied.

“Sure, ok.” *Oh no! I am not only going to embarrass myself in front of Flippy. I am going to embarrass myself in front of 50 foxes! I need to up my game and stay strong.* Max thought all panicky. Max entered the arena. Flippy was wearing a jacket made of leather, which was very hard to make.

Everybody was so attracted to it. Max was wearing nothing like a normal fox. “Are you ready to lose again?” Flippy asked mockingly.

“Uh, sure?” Max and Flippy say a fox put some berries and meat on a log table. They ran over to it. “Alright foxes! This will be the eating contest!” Max and Flippy glared at each other and they heard the same fox say

“On your mark!”

“Get set!”

“GOOOOO!”

They raced eating all the food on the table. *Munch Munch! Gobble gobble! Chew Chew Munch Gobble stuff!* They munched and munched until there were only a few food items left. Max didn’t control it but he fell onto the ground.

Max was too sick to get up. Flippy ate the rest of the food and won the contest.

“And Flippy has won the eating contest!” Max just laid there. Fexer ran into the arena. A piece of chicken rolled out of Max’s mouth. “It’s ok Max. There are at least three more contests left.” Max now had some hope and stood up.

Flippy came over Max and his giant belly. “Ha! Told ya I am going to win this like always!” The next contest was running. Max stood up and went into a running position next to Flippy.

“3...”

“2...”

“1...”

GO!

Max was in the lead but Flippy got ahead of him. Max caught up with Flippy and they were now tail and tail. Foxes were very good at sprinting so it was hard for the audience to see where they were.

There was a part in the race where you had to go up a little slop then jump off. Max did not train for this but he went for it anyway. Max went up the slope and jumped to the floor. When Max landed he tripped a little bit but he kept on running. The finish line was right in front of their eyes. Flippy and Max were getting tired so they were just running not sprinting.

The audience could now see where they were. They were getting slower and slower by the minute. *Pant Pant Pant!* They got closer and closer. Max was so close he could taste it. Now Flippy and Max were so close to it.

Max used his last bit of leg strength and leaped into the air passing the finish line.

“And Max wins the running contest!” “Yay!” Everybody cheered. Flippy needed to speak up “Wuh? That’s not fair! He jumped over the line! This is a running competition!”

“Well the rule book doesn’t say the fox can’t jump over the finish line. So Max still wins!”

Flippy was annoyed. “I-I-I actually did it!” Fexer ran over to Max “Only three more to go buddy!” Flippy and Max were tied. Only dancing, beatboxing, and tail. were left. The two foxes ran over to a dance floor. “This is the dance floor where we will do the dance fight!”

Music started playing and the two foxes started getting ready. The music started playing and they started dancing. Flippy was running around in circles like a maniac.

Then he did the craziest dance move ever. The hind legs! Flippy started walking around on his own legs moving his arms and legs around. He wasn’t even tipping over! He fell back down on all fours and said “Let’s see if you can beat that!”

Max leapt into the air, did some twists, paw slides, tail whip, arched back, head out, head in, back flip. “Sorry Max but the winner for dancing is Flippy!” “And now the last competition is beatboxing!”

Max and Flippy stayed on the dance floor and started beatboxing. Flippy went first *pppp p ch ch chee chee wop wop wip!* “Ohhhhhhhh!” the audience yelled. Max went next.

*Pppppp chhheee cho cho coo hip wooop ch bod bo beeee woop!* “Bravo Max!” “He has now won this round!” “All that’s left is tail!”

The rules for tail were like rock paper scissors. Max and Flippy turned their backs away from each other. Flippy was getting frustrated.

“Begin!” yelled the game announcer. “Leaf, tail, curl, shoot!” Max held up his tail like a leaf. Flippy made a curl. Leaf always beats the curl. “Yay! Max has won the-”

“Woah, woah, woah, woah, woah. This isn’t fair! He is cheating! This can’t be right! I want a rematch!” interrupted Flippy.

Everyone gasped because if someone ever wanted a rematch in tail, that means they were really angry or embarrassed. Flippy felt both of those things. They did a rematch. Max won again. They did another rematch. Max won again. After a few rounds Flippy won. “Ha ha! I won!” The announcer spoke up.

“I am sorry Flippy. Max has won at least ten times and well, you have only won once.” He then continued on. “That means Max has won the competition wars!” Flippy spoke up. “He won the tail game which means we are tied.”

“Well, you wanted a rematch and Max kept on winning. He got lots of points for that. He got more points than you.” Flippy knew what was going to happen.

“Let’s give it up for Max!” yelled the announcer. Everybody cheered.

“Yes! You are the best Max!” Max and Flippy’s jaws dropped. Max’s jaw dropped because he actually beat Flippy for the first time.

Flippy’s jaw dropped because he couldn’t believe Max had beat him. The crowd went wild.

“Max is the best!” Max walked up to the audience and hi fived, fist bumped, and waved to everyone.

Once he was done he saw a food table. The announcer caught Max’s eyes. “Our foxes searched hours in the forest to find the freshest berries all for you!” “All for me?” Max asked “Yes all of them!” Max ran to the log with food displayed on it. While Max was nibbling on some food Flippy was making a scene. “NO! I will not allow this!” he yelled.

Flippy’s friends came over to him. “What was that!” “I don’t know!” “Sorry Flipster but we are going to find a different gangster boss because you know. You are kind of a loser now.” They walked away.

“Rrrrrgh! The game is rigged! R-i Uh. How do you spell rigged again?” “Ha! He can’t even spell a simple word!” When the fox said that something snapped inside of Flippy. Kinda like revenge.



## Chapter 10 The Poison

Flippy had a crazy idea that made him laugh. He ran to his den, looked on his shelves and found the bottle. The bottle had rare scorpion venom from a long time ago when scorpions walked in forests. The scorpion venom was basically poison to any fox foolish enough to drink it.

Flippy grabbed the bottle in his hands and ran over to the sound of cheering. He found Max nibbling on some raw steaks. "Hey Max." Max was surprised to see Flippy here. "Oh, hey Flippy." "I thought I would give you some sauce to go with that. It looks very plain."

"I guess I could spice it up a bit." Flippy carefully poured the poison on to the steak and berries. They both looked very black. Max took a bite. "Tastes a bit funky, but it tastes good at the same time." "Glad you like it."

Flippy went off somewhere else. Max finished off the steak and berries. After a while a woozy feeling came over Max. "Wow, this feels weird. The world looked like it was spinning too fast. Max felt something in his stomach like someone kicked it. "Oof!" Max said.

Then Max felt something like something was stinging him. "Agh! Max fell to the floor. "I don't feel so well." said Max with swollen cheeks. His tail was going bonkers because of all the pain. Fexer spotted Max.

"Woah! You don't look so good buddy." "How do I look?" "Er, let's not talk about that right now." Max knew what that meant. Max started feeling all sorts of things. Finally Max knocked out on the floor unconscious.

## Chapter 11 The Hospital Den

Max woke up in the hospital den with Fexer asking quietly "How are you feeling?" Max looked up at Fexer. "Better." "Glad to hear that." The doctor walked over to Max's bed. "Max has suffered from lot's of bad fox desises." the doctor said.

"Is he going to be good?" "Yes, all he needed was some sleep and restroom breaks, lot's of restroom breaks." Max just stared at them. "When will I be out?" asked Max. "You will be out next week." "What? I can't wait that long!"

“Sorry Max but if you don’t stay in bed with these conditions I am afraid it won’t go well.”

Max thought about all the bad things that could happen.

“Fine, I will stay.” “Perfect! Thank you. I will check on you every hour.” The doctor went to check on other patients while Fexer and Max were talking. “I wonder how this happened. The announcer said they were fresh berries.”

“I don’t know Max. Maybe they were actually poison berries.” “Maybe, but I have a better theory.” “What is it?”

“Well I started feeling weird when Flippy came over and gave me some special funky sauce.” “Wait, do you really think that Flippy poisoned you?”

“Well think about it, Flippy got mad that he lost so he wanted to get revenge and poison me.” “OMG. You might be right.” “Well it only made sense.”

Max and Fexer talked for a little bit until they heard footsteps. “Has it been an hour yet?”

“I don’t think so.” When they looked at who it was they saw Linda and Tobie with flowers in their mouth.

“Hey guys!” “Hi!” said Linda and Tobie. They placed down the flowers by Max. He took a good whiff of them. “Thank you guys.” “You’re welcome, we found them outside.” said Linda.

“Anyway, what are you doing here?” asked Max. “Well we heard that you got very ill last night and we decided to check on you.” replied Tobie.

“Oh wow. Word spread about my sickness?” “Yes, everybody misses you already. They are giving you leaves with words that tell you how we all miss you.” said Linda.

Max wished he could stand up and have a party or something but he can’t. Max tried to fight it and stand up but it didn’t work. The poison was just too strong. “They really do care about me.”

“Yes, everyone does. Every fox in town cares. Without you we wouldn’t be able to live here anymore. That mountain lion would have gobbled us up if you hadn’t sprinted and jumped on his face.”

“I always knew I was important but not that important.” “Well you are and all 49 foxes want you back.” “What about 50?” “Oh, well that’s Flippy.”

All of a sudden a surge of energy rushed through Max. A strong surge of energy. "I am going to fight and get up fro- ow! Max tried to get up but couldn't do it. "How about you stay here?" said Fexer.

"No! I can get uuuup! Ow!" "Max stay here." Max plopped back down. "You are right."  
"Well we have to get going now," said Tobie. "Ok, bye!" They waved.

Fexer and Max talked a bit. Fexer decided to leave and Max had to stay at the hospital den. Like the doctor said she came every hour. Max read a book about different types of foxes and other types of bugs, animals, and plants that lived in the forest.

It was nighttime and Max was reading some more books. That was the only thing he could do besides more dinner but Max didn't feel hungry.

He fell asleep reading a book about humans. He fell asleep thinking *I hope nothing bad happens to this place* and dozed off to dreamland.

Max woke up at 9:00 A.M the next morning. He stretched and he was about to stand up but "Ow!" Max forgot he was still here in the hospital den.

The doctor heard Max hurting and rushed over to his room. "Are you ok Max?" asked the doctor worriedly. "I'm fine, I just forgot that I was still here." "Oh, well that's understandable." said the doctor.

The doctor left the room with Max laying there, helplessly. Max's friends would always visit now and then to check on him. Later in the night fell asleep and something awful happened. Max was having a nightmare.

At the beginning of his dream he felt like he could walk again so he started walking. Randomly everything looked orange. It felt hot and steamy. Fire was starting to appear everywhere. "Woah! How did that happen?" Max was confused but nervous at the same time.

The room was bursting with fire. Max ran out of there. He could see the doctor behind him. "Save me Max!" She yelled in terror. Max tried to go and save the doctor but his legs were uncontrollable.

Max tried to fight his legs but they were running away from the doctor like they had a mind of their own.

“AHHHHHHH!” the doctor yelled sinking into the flames. Max was now outside and he saw chaos. Everything was on fire and orange. Foxes were screaming in terror falling down all over the place.

Max tried to save everybody but for some reason his legs were stuck like they were glued to the floor. “Urrg Urgg!” He tried to move but nothing worked. Suddenly Max heard some stomping. *Stomp stomp clomp*. Max looked over to where the noise was and saw some familiar villains.

It was the mountain lion and the hunters! The mountain lion roared at the red sky and started gulping everyone. Linda and Tobie fell into the dark pit known as the mountain lion’s mouth.

“Ahhhhhhhhh! Help us!” they cried. Max wiggled and squirmed but nothing worked. All he could do was watch his friends perish in the predator’s mouth.

The hunter was aiming his rifle everywhere and the mountain lion ate all of his friends. “NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!” he yelled.

Everyone was now all gone. Soon the forest fire was getting bigger. Max was about to get engulfed in fire if he didn’t do something. His body felt stiff. The fire was getting closer and closer.

The fire was now so close Max’s tail caught on fire. Even though he knew it was a dream it still didn’t feel pleasant. Max looked over and saw the hunters and mountain lion staring at him. “Let’s cook him for dinner.” the hunter said. “That would be very nice.” The mountain lion said viscously.

Max was engulfed in the flames now. “Gosh darnit! Now we can’t cook him!” That was the last thing he heard before Max closed his eyes.

Max opened his eyes in the real world. Max sighed in relief. He was so excited because what happened was just a nightmare. Max breathed the cold den air.

Max wasn’t in that sweaty hot dungeon anymore. It felt like getting cooked on the hottest oven and escaping to the coldest lake like the one on the hill.

So it's been about a week now and Max is feeling as great as ever. No longer did he have to lay on a leafy bed. Max was now free to do whatever he wanted outside which was Max's favorite place to go.

Max hung out with his friends and did things like hunting, swimming, and talking. Even the citizens and kids wanted to talk to him.

One time a five year old fox kid named Patrick said "Max what is it wike being in da hospital den?" "Well it's pretty simple you lay down on this leafy bed and rest there for a whole week." Max replied.

"Interesting. Goodbye Max!" Patrick ran off to play with the other fox kids. *What a nice kid.* Max thought.

And now you are caught up. Anyway, one time Max was walking around the fox village enjoying the scenery when he heard something important a few foxes were talking about.

Max walked over to them and talked to them. "Hey, what's going on?" "Well there is some loud commotion going on and those noises usually come from humans." a fox replied.

"Humans?" Max asked. "Well, humans are tall creatures with rifles and axes." "Oh, I thought they were just called hunters."

"Yes, that's another name for them." "So they live here now?" "Yes, I read a book and I learned they live in a thing called " a house."

"Interesting. So how do we stop the noise?" Max asked. "Well we have to find whatever is making the noise or we do something sneaky."

"What do you mean by sneaky?" Max was concerned. "Well, we could steal the humans stuff." the fox answered. "What?! We are sophisticated foxes, we don't steal things."

"Max, just imagine all of the benefits this place will have." "But, we are loyal, kind, cute, awesome foxes and we don't start wars."

"Don't worry, We'll be sneaky and they won't even see who's coming." "Well, I will if it benefits the fox village." "I promise it will."

Max sighed "Fine." "Yahoo Wee! Tonights gonna be a big night!" "Wait, tonight?" Max was confused. "Yea. We're gonna sneak in there tonight! It's perfect."

"Uhhhhh." "It's the perfect timing because if the human hears a noise we can just hide in the shadows." "I guess it's perfect timing. But what time?"

"How about 6:00?" "That works." Max was about to wrap things up and walk away but the fox said "My name is Rey by the way."

"Nice to meet you Rey." Max walked away to do other things. Max killed some time by hunting and swimming and talking to fox residents.

*I can't believe this place is growing. It has like 70 foxes now! Maybe my heroic skills attract people? Or maybe it's because the place is growing. To be fair we have lots of new dens for foxes and businesses. It's good to be staying and living here. Especially because I am a fox hero. Max thought. Too bad my brother and sister don't live here anymore.*

The sun was setting below the horizon a few hours later and it was almost 6:00. Max took a big walk around town and when the sun sank it was time.

## Chapter 13 The Farm

Max found Rey and the other foxes hiding behind a bush looking at the house. "That is one heck of a home." Max said. "Yes, and it probably has lots of different kinds of goodies in there." Rey's mouth was watering.

"So, are we going to do this thing?" asked Max. Rey snapped out of his daze. "Oh, right."

Max and the foxes ran over to the house, leaped over the fence, and found a big square hole in the house which was open. "That's our ticket in." Rey said.

"How are we supposed to get up there?" Max asked. "We used those." Rey pointed to boxes. "I'll demonstrate."

Rey stepped back behind everybody. He sprinted away from them, jumped on to the boxes and did some parkour, and made it onto the ledge.

*Clap clap clap!* “That was awesome!” yelled Max. *shhhhhhh!* “We don’t want to get caught remember?” “Oh, sorry.” Max settled down the other foxes.

Max was going to jump up on the ledge so to do that he had to remember the demonstration Rey showed. Max stepped back a little, sprinted, then jumped on the boxes onto the ledge. Max couldn’t do all the crazy flips like Rey did but at least he made it.

*Sometime in the future, sometime in the future.* Max thought to himself. All the foxes made it on the ledge and looked inside. They saw a huge room with counters and ledges with bowls of fruit and bread.

“What a huge room for a human.” Max whispered. “Very.” replied Rey. Everybody got inside the house and started walking on counters and eating fruit bowls.

“Ok, now whatever you do, keep quiet. We don’t need to be caught.” said Rey. Max found a fruit bowl and ate an apple. “Mmmmmmh! The fruit is so fresh and juicy here.”  
“Let me try.”

Rey bit into a plum. “Ooooooh! You’re right.” They tried some more fruit and then decided to take a break to try other things. A fox saw a cabinet so he opened it.

Inside there were some plates and cups. The fox has never seen a plate or a cup before so he bit into it. “Mmmm, very plain and hard.” he said.

Max opened a different cabinet. There was all kinds of cool stuff in there like cereal, popcorn, bread, and some little candies. Max bit on the different foods.

Max thought they tasted good. Rey ate some to “I have an idea.” said Rey. “What?” asked Max. “How about we take the good food home.” “Ok, but only the food we really like.”

“Sweat!” Everybody was stuffed from the food they found. “I think we should explore more of the house then just eat all night.” said Max “I agree.”

All the foxes quietly jumped from the kitchen counter and went into a different room. They found a small room with a toilet and sink on the wall. There were different papers and soaps around the room.

Rey found water in some kind of bowl with a lever and lids. He took a whiff of the water and started drinking. “Mmmmmh. This tastes nothing like the water at home.”

Everyone decided to try it too. "You are right, it has more flavor and texture than it does at home." said Max. Once they were done quenching their thirst they exited the bathroom because it was small and there there wasn't much inside.

They explored the house a bit more and they found a really big room known as the living room. They checked it out a bit and it was a pretty cool place. Rey found the couch and laid on it.

"I think this is where I am sleeping tonight." Max chuckled looking at Rey "That's also a ticket to get caught." They laughed a bit and heard a loud noise coming from a big box with pictures on it.

*Wee yew! Wee yew! Wee yew! Wee yew!* "Chief reporting status at the underpants dance Joe is doing in the corner!" yelled the big box. *Kaboom! Bang bang!* "Ahhhhhh! Turn it off!" yelled Max. "I can't!"

The big box was still playing. "The space monkeys from space are attacking the big loyal banana!" *Kaboom!* Then the channel changed and the channel was on commercial break.

"ROBOT GUYS! THEY DO STUFF BECAUSE THEY CAN AND YOU WON'T UNDERSTAND! The commercial song continued.

"THIS IS A MEGA ULTRA DUPLEX!"

"IF YOU MEET THIS GUY YOU ARE DONE FOR! IT'S WEIRD BECAUSE THE SHAPE IS AN UNDERSCORE!"

They finally turned off the loud box and they felt relieved. But then they heard a noise *Yawwwn! Clomp clomp stomp!*

"Oh no! They are coming! Hide!" Rey yelled. All the foxes in the room found a place to hide. Some hid under the couch, some hid under the table, and some hid behind the big square box.

Max and Rey hid underneath the blanket on the couch. "Ok, now don't make a peep." Rey said "Got it."



The big human farmer came into the living room. He stretched a bit and plopped himself on the couch going to sleep again. Max and Rey had to be as quiet as a mouse to escape the couch.

They wiggled and jiggled until they fell off the couch. "Jeez, we almost got caught." said Max. "Yes, we should be more careful with our surroundings." "Agreed." *Honk! Shew! Honk! Shew! Honk! Shew!* "Let's get out of here." said Max. "The entire house?" asked Rey. "Yes, there is nothing left to do here." "What do you mean?"

"This just isn't the place to be at the minute." Max said leaving. Rey yanked Max's tail. "Ow! What was that for?" "We need you to stay Max, there is tons to do here." Rey said begging.

"No there isn't." "Of course there is! It's like paradise!" "Not really, I think home is the safest option." "I thought you wanted to stay here." "I never said that!"

"And you may not again." "What does that even mean?" As soon as Max asked that these foxes knocked out Max unconscious and put a sack over his head.

## Chapter 14 Gangster Explaining

Max had woken up in a basement tied onto a short chair. "Ughh, what happened?" "You know Max I really thought someone believed my gangster ways."

"What gangster ways?" asked Max. "Well you see these are Flipster's friends not mine." "Flippy?" "Yes, I say Flipster."

"Then how-" "It's ok Max, I'll explain."

Rey started explaining. "You see, I was a gangster nobody liked, not even the other gangsters liked me. Except for one, Flipster. We were pals, but even though we were pals, he wanted to hang out with other foxes more." Rey continued on.

“It wasn’t fair that he didn’t even want to talk to me. So I stole his friends after the competition with you and Flipster. I told them what to say and it worked like a charm. Now I should be able to take out Flippy just like that.”

“Woah! Take out? That’s a bit much.” “Indeed it is. Flippy will never get to talk to a friend again.”

“You are taking this way too far!” “That’s how you learn punk!” “You are the punk! You are the evil gangster! This is like some kind of story or something.”

“Maybe..... NOW!” “Wha?”

*Bang Bang Bang!* Rey’s new friends started making a loud racket. They all hid as Max stayed tied to the short chair. “Hey! Let me go!” Max yelled.

Rey just walked away and hid from the scene. “Get over here and help me!” Max continued “I should have never trusted you!” Rey laughed to himself “Hero.” he said sarcastically.

The human came into the basement. “Hey! What are yee doing here?” the farmer yelled. The farmer untied Max and threw him out a window. “Yee never come ya stupid fox!” Max ran away from the house.

Max hid behind some bushes feeling dumb that he trusted Rey, as the sun was rising. Max didn’t want to see the house any longer so he ran back home. Max decided to not talk to anyone and went to sleep.

## Chapter 15 The Situation

It was now morning but Max didn’t want to get up. Instead he laid in the dark room on his bed. Max didn’t care if a visitor came. He didn’t care about anything except his bed and his thoughts. *I am a real hero? Or am I just a fox that tries?*

He kept on thinking about Rey’s words from last night. *I can’t believe I trusted a fool. I am smarter than that. Or am I? Is Flippy still in this situation?*

Max looked awful with bumps and bruises everywhere from previous battles and human encounters like last night. Max wasn’t the fittest in the town either. Max looked like a huge mess but he went to go talk to Flippy.

He found him alone with his dirty leather jacket on. "Hey Flippy." "What's it to ya?" "Uh, I wanted to see if you were planning something." "What plan? I am nothing now."

Max was surprised Flippy actually said that. "Uh, you know. Do you remember Rey?" "Never speak of that name again!" "Why?" Max was confused.

"Rey was a huge fox wimp. All he did was throw the tiniest pebbles at dens while me and my old friends threw the biggest rocks." "Oh. Well he isn't like that anymore, he has gone psycho."

"Pppff! How can he go psycho? We never hung out because he was a horrible gangster. And also how do you know about Rey?" "Oh, well I saw him yesterday and we snuck into a human's house."

Flippy's jaw dropped "Y-y-y-you s-snuck into a h-h-h-h-humans house?" "Yea." "And you were cool with it!?" "I wasn't at first but I got convinced."

"Rey, convincing? What else happened!?" Max told him what happened last night. "I never thought i'd say this but y-y-y-you were r-r-r-right." "Thanks." Flippy was running away. "What are you doing?" "To go see Rey at the new house." Flippy replied. "Do you even know where it is?" "It's ok, I will find it!"

Max was chasing Flippy but he was way too fast. *Pant, Pant, Pant.* "I hope he is ok." Max said quietly to himself. By now Flippy was long gone.

Max rested a bit and went to his den. So many things just happened all at once. Max ate some raw chicken and plopped himself on his bed going to sleep.

## Chapter 16 Exercise

*Yawwwn!* Max woke up from his huge rest. Max felt weird. No, he didn't feel sick, just strange. Max looked at himself. Boy, he was not in shape. So much blubber hung off of him. *Oh no. How am I supposed to be the protector when I look like this?* Max thought. He thought all about the fat protector puns villains will say. Max knew what he had to do. He got up from bed, ate some breakfast and headed out the door to go exercise.

Max found a big place to exercise where there were tons of delicious animals. Max decided to hunt them but not eat them. He wanted to give the food to the town and upgrade the food supply.

He hunted all the bunnies and chickens and put them in a big pile. Max burned off a few calories but it wasn't enough. He decided to jog around the town for a while. Max was starting to get tired but he didn't want to stop now.

It was a few hours now and Max pushed himself so hard that his body felt like a wet noodle. Max was walking around wobbling and falling over everywhere. For some reason Max didn't want to get seen wobbling around weirdly.

Max tried his very best to stand up straight but it didn't work. Fexer was walking over to Max. *Ok, just stay cool.* Max thought leaning against a tree. "Hey Max!" Fexer yelled excitedly. "Oh, um, hey Fexer."

"You alright there buddy?" Fexer asked. "Uh, I am fine, why wouldn't I be fine?" "Makes sense. Anyways, it's been a while." Max was nervous.

"Yea, definitely, some crazy hero stuff has been happening." "Oooo! I love that stuff! Tell me everything!"

Max gulped. Max decided to tell him a few things like a bit about Rey. "Interesting." Fexer said. You could tell he was pumped about what was going to happen next. "Alright, I should be on my way now." Max said rushing. "Ok, bye!" Max quickly wobbled away from his den. He ran into his den and fell on to his bed.

Max woke up the next morning not feeling as weird but a little sore. Max got up anyway to exercise.

Max did not feel well jogging. He kept on going and he started feeling more sick and more sore. *Uhgg! Just a little, bit more!* At this point he wasn't even jogging. He then started seeing things because of how hot it was.

All the trees looked like fox tails sticking out of the ground. The grass looked pink. All the foxes looked like slops of weird orange goo. Everything started looking hazy.

Suddenly, a fox walked up to Max and he said "Yee want yee pot of yee berries yee?" "Whut?" "Yee need yee pot of berries yee!"

Max was confused "Sure you little Swedish banana." The fox was so excited. "Yeeeeeeeeeeeeee!" The pot of berries were right in front of him. "Yee enjoy yee berries yee!" He took off with a fox that made a horse noise.

Max was about to eat them but he kept on wobbling. "Just a *pant pant* little f-farther!" Then Fexer came up to him. "Ello mate!" Fexer said in a British accent.

"Hi." said Max. "Ello jolly good sir! You must have a rumbly in your tumbly!" "A what in my what?"

"You must try these biscuits!" "Biscuit? Look, I need to keep going." "Going where good sir?" "Around the town." "Oh, well you must hop on her!" Fexer said riding on a flying tree.

"Uh, no thanks, I am good, walking." "Ok young one!" Fexer took off into the green sky.

*Why is everyone talking like they are from different towns?* Max thought.

*First someone talked like they were from Texas, sort of. Then Fexer starts talking like he is from England.*

Max was so tired now he couldn't move a muscle then fell down. *Come on stupid body!* Max thought frustrated. *How am I supposed ugh! To be a hero when I can't even go around ow! Town.*

Max wasn't chubby anymore but his conditions were awful. Sweat rolled down his cheek every 5 seconds, he was seeing things, He felt anger, and worst of all there was pain everywhere.

"Ow! Rrgh! Keep oof! On ouch! Going! Owwww!" Max said out loud. Then Max got so tired he fell unconscious on the grass and dirt.

## Chapter 17 The Conditions

Max woke up the next day with pain and sores everywhere. The doctor came over to Max. "Are you ok?" "Doc? Is that you?" "Yes it is and you are here because you suffered from a list of bad conditions." The doctor replied.

"Oh, sorry about that, I have no idea what I was thinking." Max said. "That's alright, you just need rest. You will probably stay here about two days."

“Thanks doc, you are the best.” “Thanks Max.” the doctor said happy. The doctor was about to leave the room when Max asked.

“Uh, I have a question, why did I see things that weren’t real?”

“Oh, well that’s because your body was too sleepy and it decided to give up and your brain made you see things that were very strange.” She replied. “I see.”

The doctor left saying “One more thing, don’t do something foolish like that again.” “Ok, I won’t.” Max said surely.

Max laid there the rest of the day. *Man, if I keep on ending up here I will probably be one of the most unhealthiest foxes around.* MAX thought to himself.

Max looked at the scars, bruises, and dirt all over his body. He then realized something. *Maybe I am a hero, what other fox has this many wounds?* Max had a little confidence.

*Nevermind that, I just need rest.* Max rested a bit and dozed off. It’s been a few days now and Max is back on his feet.

When he was released from the hospital den, the first thing he did was walk outside and took a shower in a creek nearby. Max did this because he didn’t look so good with dirt on his paws.

His wounds have also been healing from the mountain lion fight a while back. *I guess healing and resting is all I need.* Max thought with his healed injuries.

Well that’s all that happened after the last couple days.

## Chapter 18 The Storm

Max was walking through the woods enjoying the scenery. Max looked up at the sky and saw only grey clouds filling up the blueness. He walked some more and felt a water droplet hit his nose. Then Max felt more water droplets hit his nose.

He felt more droplets but this time it hit his entire body. So many water droplets hit him that it was starting to get heavy and more and more droplets came from the sky. By now it was raining birds and foxes outside.

All the other foxes felt it too. Then the water was so heavy you could see it.

“Mommy mommy! Water is falling from the sky!”

“This feels wonderful!”

All of them looked and felt the sky water known as rain. Almost everyone enjoyed it. Then all of sudden they heard *Boom!* Everyone saw a spark of light hit a tree and it caught on fire falling down on foxes. “Ahhh! Run!”

The tree fell down *Bam!* Everyone was frightened from the event. *What hit that tree?* Max thought. The tree was on fire but luckily it was raining. Even though the fire was gone the foxes were in shock. Max jumped on to the tree like it was a stage for speeches.

“Is everyone ok!?” Max yelled questionably. “I think so!” a fox yelled. “Ok, good.”

The tree wasn’t the only problem though. The rain went from heavy to stormy. *Gush! Shhhhhhhh!* Nobody could see because of all the wind and rain in their faces.

“Agh! I can’t see!” someone yelled. Max felt so pushed he fell off the log. “Woah!” *Oof! Gush! Shhhhhhhh!*

The storm continued with foxes falling down and flying everywhere.

“Ahhhhhhhhhhh!”

“Help!”

All the foxes did not like this at all. Max thought of a plan to escape.

“Everyone! Get to the underground safety den!” Max yelled. The underground safety den was a den to hide if there was an attack or a natural disaster.

Everyone remembered where the den was and they started slowly walking over there. They had a hard time because of how foggy everything was. “Rrrrg! Uggh!” they said.

A fox was trying to find it when suddenly they slid down a hole. “Woah!” *Oof!* Everyone looked down the big hole and noticed the safety den.

“We made it!”

“Yes!”

“Woo hoo!”

Everyone ran into the hole to safety. “Is everyone alright!?” asked Max. “Yes!” Just to be safe Max counted the foxes. When he was done he couldn’t find Fexer.

“No, where is Fexer?!” Everyone looked around the big den “I don’t know.” “I can’t find him.”

*Oh no! Fexer could still be caught in that storm!* Max thought. “Ok everyone, I will have to leave the den to go find Fexer!” yelled Max with determination.

Everyone gasped.

“What?! That’s crazy!”

“Has he gone mad?!”

“You are crazy! Crazy I tell you!”

“It’s ok, I’ll be back soon! I promise!” Max said leaving. “Ok, if you think you can make it.” someone said.

Max went really close to outside the den. He took big breaths. *Ok, out, save, in. Perfect.*

Max stepped outside the den. The wind was so heavy so he had to power through. “Come on! I can make it! No foxes behind!” he yelled. Max was getting closer and closer to what he heard with his sensitive ears.

“Help! Ahhhhh! So windy!” yelled Fexer terrified. Max found Fexer tied to a tree with logs and bushes in the way. “Max? Is that you?!” Fexer asked.

“Yes it is!” “Thank goodness!” Max went up to him. He used his sharp claws to cut the rope Fexer was tied to.

“Rrrrg! I got you buddy!” *Gush! Shhhhhhhhhhh!* The storm roared loudly across the forest. Max was losing balance but he didn’t let the storm stop him.



Fexer moved his arms a bit and managed to get out. "Yes! I am free!" "Awesome! Now we just have to get out of here."

"Yes." said Fexer. They slowly walked over to the den. "Ok, I think we are almost there!" said Max.

By now the wind was even stronger. They held on tight to each other like it was the last day of their lives. They kept walking in the fog when. "Woah!" *Oof! Oof! Oof! Ugh!*

They had fallen to the very bottom of the den where everyone was. *Gasp!*  
"They have returned safely!" yelled a fox.

"Yay!"

The news spread throughout the den. Fexer and Max were excited they made it without dying in a storm. "We actually made it, alive!" yelled Fexer. "I guess we did!" They hugged each other.

They ate some food and partied a bit with everyone else. Fexer started dancing for everyone in the middle like he was born to dance. Even though he was soaking wet.  
Max joined in on the action but stopped after a bit.

Max wanted to sleep but first check on the storm. He looked at the rain and it was still as hard as ever. *Maybe tomorrow everything will be alright.* Max thought. He went back into the den.

Max found a room to sleep in and dozed off from all the action today.

Max woke up the next morning still in the den. When he exited his room there were no people left. When he saw a big empty den he realized the storm must've cleared.

When he left the den it was a beautiful sunny day. *Finally, it's gone.* Even though the storm cleared the down didn't look too good with the giant tree in the middle. *We have to do something about that.* Max thought, staring at the fallen tree.

*On the bright side it could be a new house or something.* There was other stuff besides the tree like dead animals, puddles, and bushes tumbling everywhere.  
*Yea, this place probably needs a cleaning.* Max thought with an animal in his mouth. He walked some more cleaning debris in his way.

Max was walking when these two foxes walked up to him. "Thanks for helping us clean this place!" one of them said. "Oh." Max didn't know he was helping cleaners. "Uh, you're welcome."

"Say? Do you want to help us with this place? Got real messy yesterday."

"Sure." Max answered. "Perfect!" the other fox said. They started cleaning the town and did things like drinking the puddles, moving the bushes, and eating animals.

"Woah! This place looks pretty good." said Max. "Sure is!" "Well it was nice working with you guys." "You too." They shook hands and went separate ways.

*That was a nice start to a day.* Max thought. He is now set for the day. Max found Fexer walking on his own. "Wassup Fexer!" yelled Max. "Hey Max!"

"What are you doing alone?" Max was curious. "Oh, I got some good news and some bad news."

"What's the good news?" Max asked. "Well everyone is thanking you for saving me and for cleaning up the town."

"That's nice, but what is the bad news?" "Well we got some reports of a missing fox." Fexer replied. Max was shocked.

"What? Who is it?" "They say it's Flippy." Max's jaw dropped. "You ok?"

"Sorry, do you remember that time I told you about psychopathic Rey and the house?"

"Yea?" "Well I have a theory that Rey took and kept Flippy." Max replied.

"You really think so?" "Yes I do." "Oh man, this isn't good." said Max panicky.

Max was panicking and suddenly an idea popped into his brain. "I have an idea! How about I sneak in there tonight."

"Tonight? That's awfully scary and dark." said Fexer nervously. "It's ok, I have done this before, I know the way in."

"Ok, whatever you say." "Thanks for understanding," said Max.

Max left and went to go kill some time. And when it hit about 6:30 to 7:00 it was time for some sneaking.

## Chapter 19 Gangster Battle

Max had now sprinted out of town. He jumped over the fence and made it to the side of the house of where the window was. But when Max got there he saw no boxes to jump on. *Man, Rey is smart!* Max went around the house and at the front of the house he found a little mail slot Max can crawl into.

*Good thing I burned off my weight.* Max thought. He slid into the mail slot making himself as thin as he can. He made it in. *Finally.*

Max was now inside the house so he walked around trying to find Rey's creepy lair. *I think I am getting close.* Max found a room with the door a slit open. *Bingo!* Again Max had to think thin and made it in.

Once he was in there were some steps leading down that didn't look promising or sturdy but Max went down anyway. He had to be so quiet because at any moment he could make a huge racket.

Max decided to tip toe down because it was the quietest way. *Whatever I do, don't make a sound.* He thought.

When Max was in the middle steps he heard a yell that almost made him jump that would alarm everyone. "NO! You can't do this to me again!" a familiar voice yelled.

*Flippy?* Max thought. "Ow Ow OW!" Flippy yelled. "Well you should have thought about your words long ago." said Rey.

*What is Rey doing? I have to get a closer look.* Max continued creeping down the steps of the lair. He was a bit closer and saw what was happening to Flippy. "Ahhhhhhh! I'm sorry! I'll do anything!" yelled Flippy getting poked and played with.

Rey just laughed. "Who is the fox wimp now?" he asked mockingly. "Fine! I'll admit it! Just let me go! I can't live through this torcher anymore!"

"Ok, one last thing." Rey said suspiciously. "Fine! Just make it fast!" "Oh, it'll be fast..... Throw him in!" yelled Rey. "What?! Throw me in what?" asked Flippy.

Rey's goons made a mini ramp up to the washing machine using wood that was scattered across the lair. "What is that?!" "Be patient, fool!"

Two goons picked up tied Flippy and got him up the ramp. Another goons through a few random things in there. Then it was Flippy's turn. "A hole?!" Rey chuckled again. "The washing hole. Now I am getting bored.... THROW HIM IN!"

"NOOOOOOOOOOOOO!"

The two goons threw him in. *Oof!* "Hey! Get me out of here!" yelled Flippy. The two goons didn't listen. Instead they closed the door shut.

*Bam!* Then they used their little fox paws to turn on the machine. Water started filling up inside like they were drowning Flippy.

*Flippy! No! I gotta do something!* Max ran from the stairs and jumped on to Rey.

"Ahhhhhhhhhhh! What is that?!" Rey yelled. He kicked Max off of him. Max used his claws to skit across the room.

*Skkkkkkkkkkkkkk!* Rey saw who the fox was who attacked him. "Well, isn't it Max the hero? Or should I say Max the zero!"

"Ohhhhhhhhhhhh!" all of the goons yelled. "You may have the sickest burns, but do you have the strongest power?!" asked Max.

Max ran over to Rey and tackled him. Rey clawed Max a bit while Max did the same. Rey managed to get out of the fighting position. "Guards! Attack!" Rey yelled.

He ran away while his guards stood there glaring at Max. "We gonna crush your skull to pieces!" yelled an angry goon. *Gulp!* Max didn't know how to act so he said.

"Did Rey teach you how to use bad grammar?" asked Max jokingly. "We ain't got time for jokes!" the other one yelled.

"Hahahaha! Ain't? What does that even mean?! Hahahaha!" "You die!" Hahahahahahahaha! Sorry! Hahahahaha!" Max laughed. "We eat your horrible brain!" A different goon yelled.

"Hahahahaha! Wait, hold up! Are you a fox zombie now?! Hahahaha!"

Rey interrupted. "Ugh! Just get on with the fight already!" he yelled annoyed.

“Ok, ok, ok, sorry.” Max apologized. They were going to fight without a countdown.

The goons immediately charged for Max. “Oh oh!” Max dodged “Woah! That was a close one!” said Max. “Quit talking Bozo!” Rey yelled from behind.

Max saw one tough looking fox with tree sap tattoos, giant muscles, and a purple eye that was closed. “BEAT IT PUNK!” he yelled. Rey just stared “Get him Vixen!” Rey yelled. Before Vixen the goon could charge Max said.

“Wait! Isn’t Vixon the name of girl foxes?” Max asked, nearly chuckling.

“NO! YOU MOCK MY NAME, I KILL YOU AND USE YOUR TAIL AS COTTON SWAB AND YOU FUR AS FANCY CARPET!” Vixen yelled viciously.

Max imagined himself as a carpet. *Yikes! Maybe I should lower the jokes a bit.* He thought.

“DOOM TIME!” Vixen yelled loudly. *Jeez. This guy is hurting my fox ears!*

“RAAAAAAAAH!” Vixen aimed for Max and charged at him. Max dodged but Vixon had a trick up his sleeve. “Whew, Tha- Woah!”

Vixen stood on his hind legs and grabbed Max with one arm raising it in the air. “HA HA! HERO ZERO!”

Max couldn’t quiet talk because his neck was being grabbed tightly like Vixen was choking him. “*Please! Let me go!*” *Cough cough!* Max was being seriously choked.

“TODAY YOU DIE! GET READY FOR FURNITURE LIFE!” Vixen yelled, very amused. “No! Not *Furniture!*” Max yelled quietly.

Hope seemed lost. Max was dying from a strong grip. Flippy was still in the washing machine and the water was almost up to his neck.

“Vixen, if Max dies here, I will promote you as the best goon!” Rey yelled. Vixen got excited.

“VIXEN GET PROMOTED, VIXEN BEST GOON!” Vixen was choking Max even harder to get that promotion.

Max had no air going through his mouth so it was hard to talk. *No! I love my life! But I guess this is the end. Everyone is not gonna like what they are going to hear about their hero.* Max imagined everyone standing in front of a gravewood that had Max's name on it.

But out of nowhere a few foxes were falling from the sky and landed on Vixen. "YOU GET OFF OF VIXEN!" he yelled. Rey watched.

"Whuuut?! How?" Max fell out of Vixen's hands and landed on the floor. *Who are those foxes?* Max thought. Then a familiar voice said. "Get out of here! You need to breathe!"

Max wanted to respond "Ok" or "Who are you?" but instead he took a breather. *Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Pant! Pant!*

When Max was done he heard Vixen yell, "GET OFF YA FILTHY DUM DUMS!" Instead they kept on attacking.

All of a sudden a fox fell off of Vixen. *Oof!* "Are you ok?" Max asked. The unknown hero showed his eyes and face. "Tobie?! But how?!" "I'll explain that later, I need to help. Ow!" Tobie said.

Max was so confused. "Uh, just chill out, I need to figure out what is going on." Max said. "Ok, good idea."

Max ran off to the fight. "You are about to get a mega beating!" yelled Max. "RGH! I KILL YOU I GET PROMOTION!" he yelled.

Then he threw off the other unknown heroes. "Max! You need to fight! Watch out! He has many tricks up his sleeve!"

"Wait. Fexer and Linda? Is that you?" "Uh, Yes! It is me! Just fight!" yelled Fexer. "Ok!"

"ENOUGH CHIT CHAT! CARPET TIME!" yelled Vixen at the top of his lungs. "Ok, ok, calm down. Maybe you can start saying please?" Max asked.

"PLEASE NEVER WORD TO ME!" he yelled. "I guess that's a no."

Vixen started charging, Max dodged. Thankfully he didn't get grabbed when he dodged. Fexer and Linda still had some strength so they ran over to the washing machine to save Flippy.

They ran up the ramp but there were goons behind them. "Oh no you don't!" one of them said. "Uh oh! This isn't going to be good!" Linda said. A strong goon stepped on the ramp, Fexer and Linda went flying.

"Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!" they yelled. When they landed they were on a shelf where all the detergent was. "No! We are all the way up here and the fight is down there." said Linda.

"Don't worry." said Fexer. "I have a plan, but it's going to acquire lots of leaping and dropping."

"Ok, let's do that." They found some more shelves in different areas. They jumped on to them. It was now clear where the washing machine was, plus they had a good view to aim. "Ok, this may seem dangerous, but we're gonna jump." said Fexer.

"What?! That's crazy! What if we land on the floor?" Linda yelled in panic. "It's ok, I'll hold on to you, buddy's stick together." said Fexer.

"Ok, I don't know about this, but I trust you at the same time." They were getting ready. "Ok, we are gonna jump on the count of 3." said Fexer.

They both aimed for the machine. Fexer and Linda took deep breaths. "Ok, 3... 2...1... jump!" They both leaped off the shelf, soaring through the air.

They zoomed so fast the next thing they knew, they had landed on the machine. "I'll free Flippy, you hold off the goons." said Fexer. "Uh, ok." Linda agreed nervously.

Linda started opening the washing machine. "Ugh! Almost, there!" Linda was out of breath but she managed to open it and pull Flippy out. She looked in and saw Flippy unconscious.

"Oh no! I hope we aren't too late!" cried Linda. But then she remembered something. Something from a while ago. She gasped. "CPR!"

She started pressing on Flippy's chest trying to bring him back to life. Meanwhile Fexer was holding back goons. When almost all the goons went at once, he pushed the ramp away so they couldn't get up anymore.

"Ha ha!" laughed Fexer. "Hey! That's not fair!" yelled a goon. "Hey? What's that? I can't hear you because I am all the way up here." teased Fexer.

“We’ll get up there! Just wait and see!” yelled the same goon. “I’ll like to see that!” Fexer teased again.

Linda was still giving Flippy CPR. “Come on! He must be awake soon!” After a few more tries she spotted Flippy lifting an arm.

“Linda?” he asked. “Yes! It’s me! We are going to get out of here!” said Linda excitedly.

“Yes! Finally! This place feels like torture!” Flippy was excited. *Cough cough! Blech! Ugh!* Flippy was coughing and vomiting water everywhere.

“Stay here, we’ll get you to safety when this fight is over.” said Linda. “Ok, fine.” Flippy agreed.

They all stayed on top of the washing machine for the higher ground. Meanwhile, Max ended up on Vixen’s head tired like crazy.

*Pant, pant!* “Can this fight be over yet?” asked Max with a tired voice.

“NOT UNTIL PROMOTION!” Vixen yelled. “What is with you and that dumb promotion? Are you in love with it or something?”

“NO! I TURN YOU INTO-” “Carpet! I get it! It’s like you’re brainless or something.” Max was about to regret what he just said.

“YOU CALL VIXEN WHAT NOW?!” he asked madly. “Uh, brainless?” Max asked, a bit nervous.

“RGH! DIE!” he yelled, charging with all his might. Max couldn’t take it anymore, so he went in for the kill.

Max leaped straight into the air and landed back on Vixen’s head. “HEY, GET OFF STUPID, DUM DUM, HORRIBLE, WIMPY, FOX!” Vixen was turning red because of all the anger “OW! CAN’T TAKE NO MORE ANGER!”

After Vixen said that, Max got an idea. He could make Vixen so mad, he won’t be able to fight anymore. “Hey Vixen! Or should I say unpromoted Vixen!”



“YOU UNPROMOTED! YOU UNPROMOTED FROM LIFE!” Vixen started getting angry. “OW! NO MORE ANGRYS! STOP!”

“Well, you’re the one who keeps wanting to fight.” Max said. *Wow! I can’t believe this is actually working!”*

“Ha! Who’s the dum dum now?” “NO ONE USES VIXEN’S WORDS AGAINST HIM! WAIT A SECOND! NO NO! ANGRY HURTS!”

“Anger issues!” yelled Max teasing. “I WILL ANGER ISSUES YOU FACE OFF! GAH! HOW IS THIS WORKING?!”

Vixen’s face was as red as a lobster. “AHHHH! I HATE YOU SO MUCH! DUMB, STUPID, MOTHERFOXER!”

*Thump, thump, thump, thump, thump,* Vixen’s red face was out of control. “HATE YOUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUU!” Vibrations were happening everywhere.

Rey was happy at first but now, everything was out of control. He wanted to speak up. “Uh, Vixen, I-”

“HATE! RAHHHHHH! EVERYONE DIES TONIGHT!” he kept yelling.

“How do we stop him?!” Max asked, yelling. “You can’t! Once his anger is at full rage mode, we will have to wait until it’s over!” yelled Rey back.

“Are you sure?! I think you are tricking me or something!” “No I am not!” Max trusted Rey, but if he was lying Max wouldn’t believe him again.

Now, Vixen was going to blow the loudest words ever. “Oh no! Take cover and cover your ears! This is gonna be real loud!” Rey yelled.

Everyone, including the goons ducked for cover and covered their ears. “RGH, RGH, RGH, RGH!” Vixen was about to blow.

Everyone was in their positions. And it was now time to close their ears super tight and-and!

"I HATE YOU AND I WILL TURN YOU INTO THE SMALLEST CARPET OF ALL THE TIME, AND STEP ON YOU EVERYDAY FOREVER AND EVER! THEN YOU WILL GET CRUSHED LIKE A PEA IN MY GIANT HAND!AND AGAIN! I HATE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! YOUUUU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

Finally the yelling stopped. "Whew, that was intense." said Max. Everyone got out of cover and started walking. Fexer, Max, Linda, Tobie, and Flippy. saw no gangster in sight. Not even Rey was there. "Finally! It's all over." said Fexer at the top of the washing machine. "Yes! I am exhausted." said Max.

Everyone was also very drowsy. "Ok, next mission. Escape this place, head back town, and get some rest." said Max.

They all agreed. Before they could go upstairs they heard a familiar noise. *Clomp!*  
*Clomp! Stomp!*

"Oh no! I think they are coming!" said Linda, alerted. Flippy was behind them.

"No! I can't stay here! I can't go through that torture again! I can't, I tell you!" he said frightened.

"It's ok, just stay calm." said Max. "Yea, think of trash!" said Tobie. "No! Trash won't calm him down!" As soon as Max said that they heard the stomping get closer and closer.

"Hide!" commanded Max. Everyone hid behind boxes, tall and short. The farmer stepped inside.

"What in tarnation is going on down here?!" the farmer questioned. Everyone stayed hidden.

"I hope it isn't them foxes again." he said. The farmer pulled out his long trusty rifle. "At least i'll get a decent midnight snack!" he said.

The farmer was walking around slowly aiming his rifle in different directions. "We're toast." whispered Fexer. "Like I said, stay calm." Max whispered gently.

After a while of hiding Max got an idea. "Ok, since there are lots of boxes here, we sneak while still hiding. Then we will walk up the steps." he whispered to everyone.

"Max. You are a genius." said Tobie. "Yea. the best genius." said Linda.

They were now starting Max's plan. They slowly crept behind the boxes getting closer to the steps. "Ok, almost there." Max whispered to everyone.

Flippy was so happy to be free that he made a mistake. Flippy accidentally knocked a big box over with some hard items in there. *Boom!* "Oh no!" Flippy said.

The farmer ameditally aimed his rifle at everyone. "Oh boy." Fexer said. "Run!" Max yelled. Everyone ran for the steps.

"Ah ha! Gotcha!" the farmer said holding his rifle. *Bam! Bam! Bam!* The farmer pulled the trigger super fast. On every step there was a bullet hole.

"Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!" yelled Max. They were about to reach the door when Max heard Flippy behind him. "Agh! He shot me!" he yelled.

Flippy had the wound on his back. Max knew what he had to do. He ran over to Flippy and bit him then dragged him up the steps.

"Oh no you don't!" the farmer yelled. *Bam! Bam! Bam!* Max got shot a bunch of times. "Ow! Ow! Ow!"

Fexer, Linda, and Tobie decided to help to speed up the process. The farmer was now running up the steps. *Bam! Bam! Bam!* Sometimes he missed and other times Max would get hit.

"Ouch! We are almost there! Just keep going!" yelled Max in pain. Now they were on the last step and were about to get through the door but the farmer closed it.

"It seems like you are cornered!" the farmer said. The farmer held his weapon up tightly and was about to shoot our heroes to smithereens.

But suddenly, *Clomp! Stomp! Stomp! Creeeak!* There was a human woman that opened and gave her husband an angry glare.

"Charles! What did I say about guns in the house?!" she yelled. "Uh, sorry, it's just that these foxes, a-and-"

"Foxes?!" she questioned. "You were about to shoot cute innocent foxes?!" "Well yea! Those foxes have been causing trouble in our house!" he explained.

“Well then forgive them!” “Bu-but did you hear what happened in the basement?!”

“I have no idea what you are talking about! We are going to have a discussion about this!” she said in a loud, demanding voice.

“Fine!” Charles the farmer just agreed. The women went back into the house

“Ok, little guys, you can be free now.” she said nicely. Everyone was surprised a human was being nice to them.

“How is this human nice?” asked Linda. “I have no idea.” said Max, very confused.

“Well at least we are free.” They went out the door and saw the sun rising above the ground.

“Wow, we were in there all night!” said Fexer, surprised. *I can't believe we pulled off an all nighter.* Max thought.

They ran into the forest. “You see Charles. We don't need guns to get foxes away.” said the wife.

“It's a rifle, not a gun.” Charles complained. “Rifle, gun. Same dif.”

They went back into town. “You know, it's hard to not miss this place, I mean, it has almost everything a fox could ask for.” explained Max.

“I agree.” said Fexer. They continued walking. “I am beat! I am going to bed.” said Tobie.

“Same.” everyone said, including Flippy who is now full of air.

They each walked back into their dens. Max was walking over to his bed, but everything went black.

## Chapter 20 The Great Hunt

Max woke up a bit late in the morning on the dirt floor of the den. Max was so tired from last night with all the battling, he couldn't even make it to his bed. Max stretched and wiggled.

“Ugh, being a hero is hard.” he said to himself. Max felt like eating raw rabbit but he had no rabbit in his home. There weren't even any other animals to eat.

The only thing he could eat were some old dirty berries on the floor. “What? I could've sworn I had a lot more food than this.”

Max knew the only thing he could eat were the berries so he took a bite. “Ew! Wrinkly berries!” he said with disgust in his mouth.

They were so old, Max didn't remember the time he gathered them. He finished his old berries and headed out the hole.

When he went outside it seemed busy with people talking everywhere nonstop. *Jeez, what's going on?* Max thought.

Max decided to go talk to a group of foxes about what was going on, but realized what happened the last time he talked to a group of foxes.

*No way! I don't want to get into another storyline!*

He kept on walking and found his friends. “Hey guys! What's going on right now?” he asked.

“Oh hey Max! You forgot didn't you.” said Fexer. “Forget what.” Max was trying to remember in his little fox brain.

“Well, if you don't remember, today is The Great Hunt!” Max's memory finally clicked after he heard that name.

“What?! Already?” Max was excited.

If you want to know what The Great Hunt is it's a holiday lots of foxes celebrate all around the world by hunting animals big and small to restock the food supply. Foxes would hunt all day for fun and for food. At the end of the day there would be a Great Hunt feast where they eat some of the food that they got while hunting. The hunt usually begins at noon.

The sun was almost in the middle of the sky which means it's almost time. Foxes were gathering everywhere and it became a giant crowd.

Even the laziest foxes came out because it was such a huge deal. The sun was now in the middle of the sky. Everyone was disappearing.

“It’s a good thing today is The Great Hunt because I had old berries for breakfast, I mean I didn’t do that!”

“What did you have for breakfast?” asked Fexer. “Uh, nothing! I had absolutely nothing for breakfast!” Max replied.

“Oh ok, I thought you had old berries for breakfast, that would be embarrassing.” said Fexer. “Uh, yea! Totally embarrassing!”

Every single fox was disappearing into the big forest to hunt some animals. Max, Fexer, Linda, and Tobie were also about to leave.

“Ok, let’s go our separate ways so we don’t fight over animals or anything.” said Linda.

“Good idea Linda.” Max agreed. They ran into the big wide forest and went opposite ways. *Alright, make sure no one steals my food. I really need it.* Max thought. *I can’t let anything stop me!*

After Max thought that he took off into the forest. Max surprisingly became lucky with his hunt, but sometimes foxes would steal his prey.

*I gotta up my game!* He thought. Max was running when suddenly he came across a big creek where lots of cool animals were.

*Woah! I didn’t know there was a creek here.* Max sniffed and walked around the creek.

Max found a few rabbits around which was a good opportunity to hunt. The best part about the creek was no one was there and Max could hunt all the creatures he wanted.

*Yes! This is amazing! So much food!* He thought. Max felt lots of victory around him. For all the animals and berries he hunted, there was a big pile of goodies. *Ha ha! Awesome!*

Max continued walking around the creek when he found a few wandering fish in the water. *Ooooooh! Fish! This would make a great snack!*

He got a little closer to the edge of the water. *Ok, almost there.* Max thought with drool rolling down his chin.

The fish didn't even know what was happening above. He got closer and closer reaching out his long arm trying to get it in the water. *Just a little closer!* Max was so closer he could nearly taste it.

He could nearly taste the cold meatyness of the fish. At this point little droplets of the water were hitting his face. Max was leaning over the water now.

Max slipped a bit from the water. "Woah!" He slipped, but his reflexes were fast and managed to grab on to a rock.

Max's stomach was now hanging over the river. "Oh no! I'm stuck! All because of a fish!"

The fish was a bit startled so it swam away. "Oh come on!" he yelled. Max just hung there frustrated, holding on to the rock with dear life hoping someone would help him.

Then the creak became a little fearsome. It was bringing in water, heavier and heavier by the minute. "No, stop water." he said.

A little wave of water splashed on to the rock Max was holding on to. The water made everything slippery, which meant Max was losing grip on the rock.

"No, no, no, no, no, no, no! Please hold." It was too late, the rock became too slippery and Max's arms gave away.

"Ahhhhhhhhhhhh! Noooooo!" he yelled, washing away in the harsh creak.

*Blergholarlorlghrghlorg!* The water carried him down stream.

"Ahhhhhhhhhh! Why?!" *blegorgalarogaloufglokgo! Swish! Splash!*

The small creak had become a rapid river. Max was traveling all the way down stream.

Max's arms were waving everywhere, when suddenly his arms got caught in a tree branch hanging down.

Max rose up for air. *Gasp! Pant! Pant! Pant! Cough, cough!* Max's vision wasn't too clear because of all the water in his face.

He was holding on to the branch tightly with his claws. Max had to pull himself up so he could stay up on the branch. So he used all his little fox strength to pull himself up.

“Rgh! Either it’s life or death!” he yelled. Max pulled up all of his weight up the hanging branch. “I can do it! I just need to believe!”

Max believed in himself and used all his strength to get up there. Max was now halfway up the branch. “Just a little more!” So much strength was being put into pulling, that he was starting to lower into the water again.

“No! I can’t go back down!” Max was about to plunge into the water when suddenly he felt something grab him.

It felt like a paw of some sort. “What?!” he yelled. Then he used his arms to hold on to the tree branch and made it safely.

Max looked at the hero and he was shocked when he saw who it was. His jaw dropped all the way down, not being able to higher it.

“F-F-F-F-Flippy?!” he said in the most shocked voice.

“Uh, yea, I guess you weren't really expecting that.” Flippy said.

“Yea! I definitely was expecting it to be Fexer or something.”

“I thought you’d say that.”

“Uh, I have a question.” Max said. “Yea?”

“Why did you help me? I thought you were a rotten gangster.” Max asked.

“Oh, I’ll explain it to you when we get off this tree branch.”

“Sure.” They balanced and got off the tree branch back to safety.

“Ok, so the reason why I helped you is because I gave up my gangster ways, and now I want to help people.” said Flippy. “Things are starting to change now, and besides what’s a gangster with a gang? I think I realize fighting more and more won’t do much, so I want to help you with putting Rey to justice.”



“Whut? Uh, sure, you can help me with my friends.” said Max.

“Alright, thanks for understanding.” Flippy ran away, probably to hunt.

Max went over to his food pile and some of it was gone. “What?! Did someone take my pile?!”

Max got a little angry. *Now I have to do this again? I hope I can finish hunting by sundown. There are only a few hours until The Great Hunt feast. Let's do this.* He thought.

Max ran away to go hunt some more prey. *Oh my! Hunting is tiring, but fun!*

Even though Max got a lot of food, some foxes found the creak later in the day. He didn't feel like being in the creak because it already caused him enough trouble. *Maybe next time.* He thought.

The sun was going lower and lower, until everyone heard a grand noise you would only hear on The Great Hunt.

*Roooh!*

The sound traveled through the air. All the foxes knew the hunt was over, the only thing left was to eat.

All the foxes rushed over to the town square where the feast was beginning. “Woah! We really outdid ourselves this year!” yelled Max.

Music was playing, but instead of a d.j, there was a band where they played instruments like the saxoleaf, or the rockolin, and even the branjo.

This party was even bigger than the fox party for defeating the mountain lion. But the party wasn't only a thing to hear, there were big beautiful firefly lights!

Firefly lights were spread everywhere, all over the bushes and trees. Max heard the band playing in the background. There was even a singer going along with it.

“We wish you a merry Great Hunt, we wish you a merry Great Hunt, we wish you a merry Great Hunt and a happy new day!”

“Alright! I love this song!” Max said.

“Good food we bring to you and your kit, we wish you a merry Great hunt and a happy new day! We want some raw rabbit, we want some raw rabbit, we want some raw rabbit so i’ll hunt it right now! I’ll go and get some, i’ll go and get some, i’ll go and get some, i’ll bring it right here!”

“Yaaaaay!” Everyone was so amused with the song.

Max was happy, but when he was listening to the song, he thought he heard a familiar voice. *Who could that singer be?*

Max ran over to the singers and saw Linda sitting down with the band. *Linda is the singer?!* He slowly walked backstage behind the leaf curtains and saw them talking.

“Great performance Linda!” said the band member with the rockolin.

“Thanks, I think singing is my new thing now.” said Linda.

*Woah! I didn’t know Linda wanted to be a singer.* The band members cheered for Linda. After they were done talking Max went over to Linda.

“Wait, so you sing now?” asked Max. “Yea! It’s awesome!” replied Linda.

“That’s awesome! Are you going to sing anymore songs tonight?”

“Yes, I love singing Great Hunt songs.” she replied.

“Cool, I’ll listen closely during the performance.”

“Ok.” Then they heard the director of the performance say “Linda! You’re on!”

“Sorry, I have to perform now.”

“That’s ok. Have fun! I’ll be listening!” They waved and Max went back to the crowd.

Max was walking, and met Fexer and Tobie. “Hey guys! Merry Great Hunt!” Max yelled.

“Max!” they said. “Wassup guys!?”

“Good!” said Fexer.

“Did you hear Linda sing tonight?”

“Linda? I was wondering who was singing just now.” said Fexer.

“Linda was excellent,” said Tobie. “Speaking of excellent, the trash is excellent.”

Fexer and Max were disgusted as usual talking to Tobie. They chatted for a bit and then stood around for Linda’s next performance.

It was amazing. Most of the foxes wished they could sing like her. Linda sang a few more songs, then finished.

“Whoo hoo!”

“That was awesome!”

“I love your voice!”

Everyone was loud and cheerful. Singing was always a good way to bring the hunting spirit. There were fox couples everywhere getting together. “I love Great Hunt.” said Max..

“You said it!” Even though things were cheerful it was getting a little chilly.

Not a lot of foxes cared though. Max was walking and chatting with his friends when suddenly something landed on his nose.

It felt cold, but it wasn’t a liquid, it was an ice crystal that had a unique pattern. Then a few more landed on his body.

“That’s weird, it doesn’t feel like rain- *Gasp!*”

“What is it buddy?” asked Fexer.

“An ice crystal landed on my nose.” he replied.

“What?! Is that why it’s so cold?”

They looked around and saw more ice crystals land on the floor. *Could it be?*

More ice crystals landed on the floor, one by one. In one corner there was a pile of white crystals.

“Snow!” they both yelled. Everyone looked towards them and saw an even bigger pile.

“It’s a Great Hunt miracle!” More piles of snow were on the floor, and even on leafy trees.

“Yay!”

## Chapter 21 The Snow

After a few hours it started to get more snowy. “Wow, it’s really coming down.” said Max.

All the children in town jumped a bit from the air and into the snow. “Mommy! Mommy! Play with me!” a kid yelled.

The snowflakes twinkled in the sky like a glorious diamond that just got polished. Lots of foxes tried to get a snowflake in their mouth because it is said to bring foxes charm and luck.

“Yea! This is the best day of my life!” Max was jumping around just like the other foxes. Linda was also excited about the snow, so she decided to sing the song that doesn’t get sung often because this doesn’t happen in the forest often.

“Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow. Oh, it doesn’t show signs of stopping, and I brought some berries for munching; The sun is gone way down low, let it snow, let it snow, let it snow. When we finally say good night, how i’ll hate going out in storm; But if you really nibble me tight, all the way home i’ll be better. The heat is slowly dying.”

“Yaaaa! Awesome!”

“I want lessons!”

“That’s cool!”

Linda played the song again. Everyone once again enjoyed it. Over the song it was getting really cold now. To stay warm like always, they would drink hot water from the hot spring nearby. They would also put some nice berries in to give it a little flavor.

Luckily, someone already prepared some hot water.

“Yay!”

“I love hot water, especially with the berries.” said Max.

“I love to put wrinkly ones in!” Fexer and Max tried to ignore that.

Max, Fexer, and Tobie had a blast in the snow. They decided to drink their hot water with Linda over at the stage.

“Hey Linda, want to drink with us?” they asked.

“Sure, I need to refresh my throat right now.” she replied.

They got their warm drinks in a big tree leaf as a bowl. They sipped on it gradually.

“Mmmh yummy, just how I remembered it.”

“This is good!” said Fexer. “My voice feels a lot better.”

*Slrrrrrrrp!* They all chatted about what events happened, and how much food they got.

“Hey guys, did you know that there is a creek in this forest?” asked Max.

“Yea, lots of foxes did after a few hours.” replied Fexer. “What creek?” asked Tobie.

They explained to Tobie where and what the creek was. “Oh, that’s neat.” Max also talked about his Great Hunt.

“Yikes! That sounds scary!” said Linda. “Wait, so Flippy saved you?”

“Yes, it was weird but at least I am still alive.” he replied. Max was thinking about what else to say, but something clicked to him. A question he had for a while now.

“Uh guys? I have a question. Why and how did you save me that one time? You know, the basement.”

“Oh yea.” Fexer said. “We wanted to save you because we couldn’t have left you on your own. Humans can be really dangerous, especially Rey, we thought about all the things he could have done to you. Besides, we’re your friends and we’ll always have your back.”

“Aww! Thanks guys. Who knows what could have happened if you weren’t there.”

“Probably bad stuff.” Tobie said. They talked a little more about small things in life as the snowflakes continued hitting the ground gently.

They finished their hot water and decided to make snow foxes. Snow foxes were hard to make, and only the most talented ones could make them. “Wow, good job to the talented foxes.” said Max.

Max’s snow fox was kinda coming together, but not quite. “I like art, but not when it’s this tricky.” he said.

“Same.” It was getting more and more late every hour in the snow. They were about to rap up the night, but out of nowhere something hit Max in the side.

“Ah! What was that?” Everyone was concerned but realized something. They remembered the other Great Hunt tradition.

“Uh Max. I think you were the first victim for the, you know.” said Fexer.

“You mean,” Max said frightenedly. “The Great Hunt Snow War?!” he yelled.

If you don’t know what the Great Hunt Snow War is, it’s basically a tradition where people scoop up snow with their mouth or claws to fight in a big snow war. The whole town competes in this crazy fight.

Some more snowballs hit Max and his friends. *Whoop whoop! Whip Whip Whoop! Splat Splat bop!* “Ahhhhhhhhh! Take cover!” they yelled dashing off together.

Many more foxes were gathering snow and firing at each other. It was hard because the firefly lights were dying out, plus it was nighttime still. The friends hid in a bush to talk.

*Pant pant pant!* For weather so cold their lungs were so hot. “Oh no! The war is starting and we didn’t even come prepared!” panicked Linda.

“It’s ok, we’ll try to find a way to win this thing.” said Max, confidently.

“How are we supposed to come up with a plan that will last all night?”

“Just follow my lead, let’s also start collecting snow.” “Good idea.”

Everyone started collecting snow on the floor. “Mmmmmh! This snow is delicious!” said Tobie.

“Less eating, more collecting.” said Max. “Ok, got it.”

After about 20 minutes they had a decent pile of snow to throw. “Yes! We are pretty stacked now.” said Max. “I agree.” said Fexer.

“Ok, so we got our pile, now we just need to face this war.” “I don’t know Max, I feel really scared.” said Tobie, shaking.

“It’s ok, like I said, follow my lead.” he replied. “Ok, I trust you.” Once they were all set, they decided to exit the bush out to all the dangers of the snowy, war filled forest.

When they stepped out they didn’t believe their own eyes. “Omg,”

## Chapter 22 Snow Wars

They stepped out farther and saw chaos everywhere. *Blip blip blip blip bop bop bop bop bop bop blip bloop!* “I don’t think we can win this.” said Linda.

“On the count of three we are going to charge in and you will be able to let out the weakness inside of you.” said Max. “Wait, what?!”

“Calm down, now go get some snow and we are going to charge in the battle.” Everyone grabbed some snow. *I hope I am doing good soothing everyone down, I do admit I am pretty nervous too. But as a protector I can’t give up or chicken out.* Max thought.

“O-o-o-o-ok, on the count of three. 1-1-1... 2-2... 3-3-3-3... G-go!” Max said.

“CHARGE!” they yelled into the night. They all went in with snowballs flying in all different directions. The war had now started. It didn’t matter where anyone walked, they still got hit anyway. “Ah! Keep charging!”

The team was struggling to charge into an area where all you could see was snowballs and fallen foxes on the floor. "This is insane!" Fexer yelled above all the yelling.

"We could- *woah!* Everyone fell down a random hole in the middle of the battlefield. *Oof! Ugh! Gah! Ah!* They went tumbling down into the ground. "What is going on- *ah!*

They went deeper and deeper into lots of dirt and some snow until they made it to the very bottom of the deep, endless like hole. "Where are we?" asked Tobie.

"I have no idea." said Max, looking around the little den. All of a sudden these two random foxes fell from the sky and said "Intruder! Stop them!"

"Intruder?" Max asked. "Get out of our hideout!" they continued saying. "Hideout?"

"Yes! Hideout, Now get out!" "We aren't leaving until we know what this place is." said Max, brushing off all the snow on his fur. "Wait, M-M-M-M-Max?!" he asked in shock.

"Yea, I'm Max, the protector, the hero." The hideout foxes would be as white as an egg if it wasn't for their fur.

"Uh, sorry! I am so very sorry! I didn't know you were Max! Sorry, big fan!" he said, feeling really embarrassed and ashamed. "That's ok. You wouldn't be able to see me under all that snow anyway." he said.

"Thank goodness! Are those your friends?" the other one asked this time. "Yea, They are Fexer, Tobie, and Linda."

"Eek! I can't believe I am meeting Max and his friends!" They were making this all a big deal. "I promise if you all don't tell a single soul about our secret hiding place, I'll help your friends be fighters!" they said, secretly.

Everyone was shocked to hear this. "I want to be a fighter like you Max!" said Fexer, frantically. "Ok, you can help me, but I don't know."

"What do you mean you don't know?" "Well it's just, dangerous out there. I don't want you guys to get hurt." Max replied.

"Don't worry, we'll train lots." Fexer said, convincingly. Max looked at the hideout foxes and they nodded at him. "Fine, but you will have to spend a while training."



“Awesome! You are the best Max!” everyone yelled for joy. Max smiled. Mostly because his friends will get to help and achieve one of their dreams. “I’m glad you guys are happy. Now, what is this place?”

“Oh, sorry about that. My name is Brodey, and this is Carl. And this is our hideout away from the snowball war that’s happening at the top.” replied Brodey. “We don’t like the snowball wars.” Carl was talking now.

“Are you sure? It’s just a silly tradition most should enjoy.” said Max.

“Well we don’t think so. Lot’s and lot’s of battling, everywhere! It’s just too much. So every time the snowball war starts, we hide in our secret hidey hole, aka hideout. We play a few games and munch on some food down here. When the war ends we secretly come out and turn to normal foxes again. So now you know the reason why.”

“I get it now, I thought you guys were- you know, weirdos?” “Yea, kinda.”

They talked a bit more before they left. “You guys were so alert when we fell down here, you definitely were going to tackle us for a second. Hey, that gives me an idea!” said Max, with a raised voice. “Have you always wanted to fight before?”

“Are you kidding?! We are born fighters! We have always wanted to be like you!” said Brodey all pumped up.

“Wow, I didn’t know. How about you guys can train with my friends and-

“Are you saying we can become fighters?” Carl yelled with excitement.

“Yup.” Max said. Brodey and Carl’s jaws dropped down to the cold, dirt floor. They gasped almost all the air in the den went into their mouth, into their lungs.

“OMG! That would be awesome! Thank you, thank you! I don’t know what to say!” said Carl.

Max looked at him with a bright smile. “Just say thanks.” “Thanks, I think you better get going,” said Brodey.

“Alright, let’s go team.” They left the hideout to go join the snow war again. “Wow Max. you are so nice.” said Linda. “Agree.” Tobie said. “I hope it didn’t end yet.” Fexer said to Max.

"I don't think so." They were now outside to surprisingly, even more foxes! "Ahhhhhh! Cover!" The friends ran around the battlefield like a blind bat. They kept on running until they saw a wall for cover up ahead.

"Towards the wall! Towards the wall!" Max yelled repeatedly. They jumped over to the wall in a diving position, and face planted into the snow safely. *Pant, pant, pant, pant!*  
"We made it." Fexer said with a sleepy voice.

"This is the longest night of my life." said Linda. "Yea." They sat around the wall to catch their breath and warm up before they went in again. Fexer looked around to make sure everyone made it. "Hey guys. Do you know where Tobie is?" asked Fexer.

"Tobie? I haven't seen him since we ran out of the hideout and sat for cover." replied Linda with a nervous and tired face. "Does this mean-"

"Tobie is still out there?!" everyone finished in shock. They couldn't believe there was still a friend out there that was getting pelted with snow in all directions. It was too hard to admit, but it was true. Tobie was still lonely in the snow. They each had sad looks on their faces.

Even though this was a bad position to be in, they stayed confident and created a plan to rescue Tobie. "So, do we charge in again with snowballs flying?" asked Linda. "No, I got a better idea." Max responded.

They talked a bit about their plan, and then they started. One paw at a time. "This may not go as planned, but at least we can save a friend." Max said to Fexer and Linda to boost their morale. They looked at each other, then nodded. It worked and it definitely helped.

The three friends ducked down as low as they could and started sneaking out to the fight. *Gulp! I hope this goes well at least.* Max thought. They all sneaked out of hiding and sneaked on the battlefield.

"Woah! Great idea Max!" they all said greatly to Max. They sneaked all the way under the war of snowballs. Of course they got hit a few times, but for the most part, everything was going smoothly.

“Just keep going until we spot Tobie!” The three snuck a little faster to pick up the pace. They kept going like this for fifteen minutes and Tobie was nowhere to be found.

“Are you sure we are doing this right Max?” asked Linda.

Max looked behind him to see his friends. They had fallen over so very fatigued. “Sorry Max, *Yawn!* I think it’s about time to drift into dreamland.” said Fexer.

Linda agreed. “Yea, I don’t feel sturdy anymore.” Max looked over at both of their fallen bodies. “Come on guys! We are so close, I could taste it any time now!”

“I don’t know, we’ll find him in the morning when the war is over.”

“You really want to give up now?!” asked Max shocked by this. “Face it, you can already start to see the sun coming up.” Linda said, pointing to the sun rising to the top.

“No, I don’t care what time it is. I need to get to Tobie.” Fexer and Linda sighed. “You do you-” They had dozed off on the snowy floor.

Max nudged them a little near the rock so they were safe, then headed off into the war.

The war started to become only a fight now because many foxes were either disappearing to their homes, or some were just too sleepy and decided to sleep in the snow. Max was continuing the walk when he saw some fur that was familiar.

It looked all stinky, dirty, and really messy. It looked quite like Tobie. *Gasp! That could be Tobie!* Max walked straight towards Tobie resting on the floor. Max stood next to him and asked what was the matter.

“Are you ok?” he asked lightly. “Ugh. They got me good. I must rest now.” Tobie responded with a low tone of voice. He automatically passed out on the floor.

*Uh oh, Tobie must have had it hard.* Max was about to drag Tobie away when randomly, his legs gave out. “Woah! Oof!” He fell to the floor. Max tried to stand up again but his legs weren’t listening.

They stayed on the floor like a pig that was too chubby. *Come on legs! Get up! What are you doing?* Not a single paw or ankle moved. Max tried wagging his tail but his tail muscles were broken too. He couldn’t even lift his head.

The only thing Max could do was lay there like a big rock. He really tried to stay up but his eyelids were shutting. *Nooooo! Body! Don’t give up on me now!* Max squirmed and wiggled, but whatever he tried it wouldn’t work. His eyes were slowly

shutting. All he could do was see a little bit of snow, and later Max had been put to sleep. *Well I guess the night... is... over...*

## Chapter 23 The Den Fox

Max had woken up on a cold Winter morning, or should I say mid day! "Ugh, where am I?" he asked. Max was in a leafy bed, but it wasn't the hospital den. He looked around, then realized something. He was in his own den.

*That's weird, It's like someone dragged me over here or something.* Max thought. Max got up from the bed, and he took his first step for the day. But then- "Agh!" He fell on his side to the dirt floor. "What was that?"

Max tried to get up again but like lastime, he failed. *Sigh* "What is happening?" He thought about it, then realized what had last night. "Oh yea, I remember now." After Max remembered he tried to get back on the bed which wasn't necessarily an easy task. "Ok, maybe this time." he said to himself with pride.

"Come on!" After about a minute he finally got back on. After about two hours someone yelled from outside. "Max? Are you there?" the outside voice asked. Max looked over at the tunnel where the voice was coming from. "Er, Come in!" Max yelled back at the voice.

He started hearing footsteps from the tunnel until he saw 3 foxes. "Tobie, Fexer, and Linda?" asked Max. "Yep, we have come to see you." said Fexer. "Thanks guys! You are so thoughtful." After Max said that, he had a question. "How come you guys aren't so sore?" Linda responded. "Oh, it's because I didn't stay out as long as you." "Oh." Max said with regret. "It's ok if you regret it Max." said Tobie. "I know you wanted to save me."

"Wait, Tobie? I thought you were lost in the snow." "Well what happened is that I was trying to follow you guys through the snow but I suddenly slipped down a slope in the snow because of how lumpy it was." Replied Tobie. "I was sliding down the slope while you guys were continuing on." Max felt sorry. "It's fine Max, you didn't know. Anyway, when I got to the bottom, I bumped my head on some snow which kinda hurt. I couldn't get up because I was too sore, hurt, and tired so I laid there on the snow until I fell asleep."

“Wow.” said Max. “That’s a lot.” “Yea, I woke up and found everyone.” Tobie said. They talked a while and told stories for a bit. Tobie, Fexer, and Linda left and Max stayed in his den for another day. Max was happy to escape his den and go into the outside world like he always did. Max ran and jumped and even swam in the hill lake nearby. Max one night spoke to everyone about the creek he found during the Great Hunt. All the foxes decided to start dens and everything at the creek. No one actually swam in the river because we all know how that went.

## Chapter 24 The Big Stuff

So it has been a week since the snow war, the Great Hunt, and Max's appearance outside again and plenty of stuff has happened, like how there is a new training area for Fexer, Linda, and Tobie to train from the help of Brodey and Carl. They have decided to train them outside where they are not hiding. There also has been lots of new foxes like there are now 80 of them in town and the town's goal is to get to 100 of them. If they do, they will have a massive party in honor of all of them for coming. That was all for the week or was it.

Max, Linda, Fexer, and Tobie were walking around discussing how good this week has been. “This is great! There are so many new foxes here!” said Max, obviously very excited. “I can’t until 100 foxes join this town.” said Linda. Tobie and Fexer agreed with them. They kept walking until they got closer to a seemingly horrifying scream of many foxes. “Ahhhhhhhhh!” “Help!” “Nooooooooo!” “The trees!” yelled multiple foxes. “The trees?” They all asked in concern or horror. “Lets go follow the screams and help them!” said Fexer. They all sprinted to the loud screaming noises when they came across people running around all crazy. Max ran over to a hyperventilating fox.

“Are you ok?!” asked Max. “Y-y-yes, there is a *pant pant* human over in the woods!” replied the young woman. “What?!” Max ran from the woman and told his friends what’s happening. “Oh no! Humans are dangerous!” said Fexer. “What do we do?!” asked Linda. “We got to get everyone to safety! The underground safety den should do it.” Max replied. They all liked his thinking and tried to gather up as much foxes as they could.

“Hurry! There are too many, it’s going to take a while.” yelled Tobie. “Let’s just get as many as we can.” responded Max. Every few seconds they would yell: “Everyone of the fox village! Get to the underground safety den!” After about a minute they gathered all the foxes in the town to the den. It was packed and everyone was squished because of the new foxes, they all were in. All the foxes outside were Linda, Tobie, Max, and Fexer. “Whew, everyone made it. Now, where is the enemy?” asked Max.

Suddenly they heard noises, kinda like clomping noises from a human. "Uh Oh! Get ready!" Max commanded. Everyone stood there in a fighting position. Suddenly, *Rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr! Whoop!*

*CLOMP!* A tree had fallen down. “A tree! I know what they meant now!” After the tree fell they say multiple treeless stumps scattered everywhere. But the worst part of all, there was a tall man with a crisp and brown beard and short hair with a little bun on top. He had some equipment all over him, and he held a long, sharp, metal, chainsaw!

Obviously, our friends were foxes so they didn’t know it was a chainsaw. “Does that blade cut down trees?” asked Fexer. “I think so.” replied Tobie. He stomped and clomped, and stomped some more over to the fox fighters. “Uh oh.” said Linda. The man lifted up his giant foot, swung it backwards and swung it forwards. “Nooooo!” The man’s foot kicked the foxes far away from where he was. “Ahhhhhhh!” *Oof!* They had been knocked out by such a strong kick.

3 hours later they woke up to fog and dirt with topless trees. Berryless berry bushes and grassless grass. “Ughhh, wha-what happened?” asked Max. standing up on his four legs. The rest of the friends were up already. “Are you guys ok?” he asked them. “Yea, just very uncomfortable.” replied Fexer. All of them looked around and saw that their home was no longer a forest. It was the opposite of a home or a forest. “Oh no.” they all said. They went back in time in their minds and remembered all those memories they had in their home. They all heard little footsteps coming from the residents of a no longer town. Everyone gasped at the sight of the ruined forest.

“I can’t believe it.” said Linda. “The forest, it-it’s gone.” Linda said quietly. They sat around in the dirt trying to forget this ever happened but it was hard. They couldn’t get this fact out of their heads. “I think we have to move.” Max said. “No, not now.” said Linda, staring at the floor. “We have too, I know a place to go.” “What place? There is no place that could be better then this town.”

“I know.” Max tells Linda. “Nothing can beat this town, but I know what the other town is called and it’s called Foxtopia. It’s the town my brother and sister went to when I was a child.” Linda looked at Max. “Ok, but i’ll still hold on to the memory of this place.” “Me too.” Fexer and Tobie joined the conversation. “Me too.” the both said.

“ME TOO!” Everyone in the village yelled. “Oh my, you have a lot of supporters.” Fexer said. “Yes. Yes I do!” “Alright guys. We’re going to Foxtopia!” Everyone cheered and danced. Oh, and don’t worry. This fox world is going to continue. Going to continue in the form of a journey!

## To be continued...

Thanks to  
Jaxon Burrell for modifying this book.

Also, stick around for book 2!

A Fox hero Max he saves the day and haves fun but sometimes it can be dangerous but he still fights for the good of foxes around the world. A silly fox named Fexer, strong not quick. Maxes cousin Fexer and Max save the day even when it's tough they fight through the protectors of a nice fox village with friends to help! The Fox Heros!

Fexer and Max forever!



Also read...

Diary of Fexer and Max  
Book 1, The village universe 1  
(A unofficial Minecraft book)



By: Jaxon Burrell