

Where There's a Will

By Phil Gale



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"Hi Dad," said Toby as his father came into the dining room.

"Guess what, we did today!"

"Hello Toby," replied Dad. "I can't imagine. What did you do today?"

"We were allowed to play with the new building bricks that Mr. Thomas sent for."

Mr. Thomas the Headmaster, had arranged for all the school's old building bricks to be replaced with new, modern ones, the sort that click together to build houses and things.

"I built some shops" explained Toby.

"Dinner's ready" called Mum.

"Can I just tell Dad about the crane?" asked Toby.

"Let me dish up first and you can tell your father at the table. Call Katie while you're washing your hand please Toby."

After they were sitting down Toby began to explain to his father how he had tried to build a crane out of the bricks, but after a number of attempts found that it just wouldn't go right.

"Never mind" said Dad, "you can always try again."

"But I kept trying Dad. Even John couldn't do it. And when we asked Miss Harper if she would help, all she said was 'Where there's a will there's a way.' " Toby looked a little disappointed.

"That's interesting" said Dad, "Did I tell you my story about that?"

"Yes you did," answered Katie who had been listening to the conversation.

"I don't remember" was Toby's reply.

"Perhaps I'd better tell it again then" said Dad.

"We'll wait until dinner's finished, and all sit down in the living room."

After supper, when they were all assembled in the living room, Dad began his story.

"---and that's why you must never give in on something. Where there's a will there's a way," concluded Dad.

"Yes I do remember that story now," said Toby looking happier.

"I'm going to try again tomorrow to build that crane, there must be a way somehow."

"Time for bed now" said Dad, and Toby went to brush his teeth and get into bed.

After Mum and Dad had both said goodnight, Toby soon fell fast asleep.

"Come on!" Mother's voice cried, "Time to get up."

"What? So soon," thought Toby, and yawned as he struggled to get out of bed.

Breakfast soon over, Mum, Katie and Toby walked up the road towards the school. When they arrived at the gate, there was a clown waiting there, much to Toby's delight.

"Hello Toby," laughed the clown

"I'll bet you're surprised to see me."

"Er – yes I am actually," replied Toby not really knowing what to say. He looked curiously at his mother.

"It's alright Toby" she said, it's a special day today. William the Clown is going to take your class while Miss Harper is away.

"Come on Toby. This is the way" coaxed the clown as he ran into the school.

"Bye Mum" said Toby as he ran after the clown.

"Goodbye Toby" his mother called after him.

When Toby walked into the classroom he had such a surprise, as there laid out on the table was a sumptuous feast of cakes and jellies and biscuits.

"Come on children, eat up." William the Clown started to eat some of the delicious food, and all the other children joined him.

"Right, what we're going to do today" stated William, "is build a large crane out of bricks. Now I need a helper. Toby, would you like to come and help me? All the rest of you can watch."

"Yes sir!" said Toby.

"Will – Will's the name Toby" "Will the Clown, short for William."

"Alright Will," hesitated Toby.

It wasn't long before the crane was nearly finished.

"This is the way" said Will. This is the way" he kept repeating. "We'll soon have this crane finished."

"Oh I see now" Toby said to himself. "Now I see how to build my crane."

Toby was startled by his mother's voice. She was standing at the doorway to the classroom. The children were having such fun eating the delicious cakes and jellies and building the crane that they had quite forgotten the time.

"Come on Toby, time to get up. Time to get up."

"Time to get up? What does she mean" thought Toby.

"Come on Toby, wakey, wakey." said his mother as she gently shook him awake.

Toby woke up; it had all been a dream.

“Have you been dreaming again?” said his mother, “I thought you were never going to wake up.”

“Quickly now. Get dressed and come down for breakfast.”

“You’ll be able to have another go at making that crane today” she added.

“Yes and I’ll know just how to do it now, thanks to Will” thought Toby.