

Petey Alfalfa Baranowski

“Sure, why not,” replied Petey. “After all, we’re on vacation. Just don’t barf on the roller coaster.”

Lola hesitated at the door as the group prepared to surreptitiously enter among a busload of school children.

“I think I’ll wait here and guard the wagon,” said Lola reluctantly.

“Lola’s afraid of roller coasters,” whispered Molly. “She may look tough, but she’s really a big baby.”

“That sounds like a fabulous idea, Lola,” said Petey reassuringly. “We won’t be long. Why don’t you scope out the casinos for some hot slot machines while you’re waiting?” Lola, thankful for the reprieve from a panic attack, went to formulate a scheme that would lead to riches.

Buckwheat and Kobe were already settling into a boxcar on the Canyon Blaster.

Petey, ZuZu, and Sammy joined a pair of twin boys from Japan in the car behind them, while Molly and Mr. Lewis pretended to be circus performers on the carousel. With a mournful groan and a colossal lurch, the coaster climbed the first precipitous peak. As it

Petey's Great Adventure

climbed the summit and accelerated down the steep incline, Kobe let out a bloodcurdling scream.

"I guess this will be the last time he begs to go on a roller coaster," said Petey to himself as he felt his stomach rise to his throat. When at last the terrifying ride ended, Petey was quite pale, but Kobe was horror-stricken.

"My tail! MY TAIL IS GONE!!!" he screamed.

"Calm down, Kobe," said Petey. "Remember last year after the earthquake and Sammy's tail lay in a heap on the bedroom floor? It can happen when you get scared."

"Who said I was scared?" said Kobe. "Buckwheat was hanging on so tight, he pulled it right off!"

Buckwheat hung her head sheepishly. "Sorry, Kobe."

Kobe saw a tear in Buckwheat's eye. "It's ok, baby girl. But next time, you ride the teacups." The five siblings rejoined Molly and Mr. Lewis and went off in search of Lola.

"Whoa, Kobe! What happened to your tail?" asked Mr. Lewis in wonderment.

As Kobe turned red and Buckwheat began

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to cry, Petey spoke up. "That's a subject we'd rather not discuss." Their attention quickly turned to a shrieking crowd running from Caesar's Palace. "I wonder what happened?"

"SNAKE!" yelled a woman as she ran past hysterically.

"I guess we found Lola," said ZuZu.

"Hey, guys!" said Lola. "There are no lines at the slot machines in this place! But if I were you, I'd hurry before the manager comes back..."

Petey saw Lola staring at what once was Kobe's tail. "Don't ask, Lola."

Buckwheat was hurriedly passing out the quarters from Mom's laundry jar. "That's the last of them!" she said as the group scattered throughout the deserted casino. Within minutes, bells and whistles rang out from Sammy's machine.

"Jackpot!" yelled Sammy with glee as they all gathered to scoop up the winnings. "Get ready to pig out!"

"This will buy a lot of puppy chow!" cried Molly in delight. As they headed toward the exit with their spoils, they were discovered by the manager.