

TEN WORD TALES No. 1
Mr Wombat's Wonder Shop
by The Story Spinner

CHAPTER 4



Mr Wombat was very surprised but relieved not to have to build an ice palace or catch the moon in a glass or change the little princess, who he thought quite lovely as she was.

“Leave it with me,” he said. “Come back next week.”

This wonder was going to be one of the biggest challenges Mr Wombat had ever had. He phoned zoos and zookeepers; he phoned animal trainers and pet shops; he phoned vets, but he got nowhere.

After four days he told his friend Miss Victoria he was afraid he was stuck.

“Where do you think dragons could be?” he asked.

“All I have ever heard about dragons came from books,” said Miss Victoria. “Have you tried the library?”

At once Mr Wombat dashed off to the library and got out armfuls of books on dragons. He stayed up all night reading them and in the morning he felt better. He had ideas about where to look. He would start with English caves then move on to Scottish lochs, then to Ireland and the Welsh mountains. He had a plan.

On Thursday night he arrived back at the shop at midnight. He was walking slowly and talking to a shape that walked beside him. As they stepped into the shop something surprising at the bottom edge of the shape shone in the moonlight. A minty green foot.