

TEN WORD TALES No. 3

The Long and the Short of it

by The Story Spinner

CHAPTER 1



Have you ever been teased at school for something that is not your fault? Perhaps it is because you have extra big ears or are very small or because you are very quiet or a bit too loud?

Max was sometimes teased because people thought his language was strange. This was not because he spoke another language or because he made mistakes with his words. It was because his words were sometimes so complicated people were confused about what he meant.

Max was invited to the birthday party of his friend Ben. Ben had a big sponge cake with seven candles, spotted with smarties.

“Did you like the cake?” asked May, Ben’s sister. “My mum made it.”

“It was delectable!” said Max.

Everyone at the party thought he was being rude. “Delectable” sounded like something nasty to them; an unknown word. They did not know it meant delicious.

Ben’s sister burst into tears and left the room.

Ben burst into tears and ran upstairs.

All the children were shocked and horrified that Max’s word had spoiled everything.

Max didn’t dare even whisper that delectable meant delicious. He was dangerously close to bursting into tears himself. Instead he left the table quickly and quietly and went to wait on the front door step until his mum came to collect him.

Watch out for Chapter 2 tomorrow!