

# The Button-Sized Explorer



Yavuz DEMİRKIRAN

# **The Button-Sized Explorer**

Yavuz DEMİRKİRAN



Ben sat on his bedroom floor, bored and small for his age. A strange measuring tape lay beside his sock drawer, shiny and silver with tiny numbers. He picked it up and touched the cool metal. Zap! The room blurred and stretched. Suddenly, Ben was no taller than a button. His red star t-shirt looked like a tiny flag, and his sneakers were like specks of white.



Ben blinked. His bedroom had become a giant land. The bed was a mountain, and the chair a tall tower. Dust bunnies looked like fluffy boulders, and a pencil on the floor was a fallen log. He felt a shiver of fear, but also a spark of curiosity. How would he ever get back to normal? He took a deep breath and looked around.



Just then, a friendly voice called out. 'Hello down there!' It was a spider, about Ben's size, with a glossy brown body and eight thin legs. The spider wore a tiny acorn-cap hat and a red thread scarf. 'I'm Pip,' she said, her amber eyes twinkling. 'You must be new to being tiny. Don't worry, I know every crack and shortcut in this room.'



Ben smiled, relieved. 'I need to reach the desk,' he said, pointing to the far wall. 'My measuring tape is up there. It might be the only way to get big again.' Pip nodded. 'The desk is a long journey from here. We'll go under the bed first. It's the fastest way.' Ben looked at the dark space under his bed and gulped. But with Pip beside him, he felt a little braver.



They set off across the vast floor. The carpet fibers were like thick grass, and Ben had to lift his legs high to walk. Pip scuttled easily on her eight legs. 'Watch out for the dust bunnies,' she warned. 'They're soft, but they can trap you.' Ben climbed over a giant Lego brick and jumped across a crack. He was already learning to see his room in a whole new way.



Under the bed, it was dark and cool. Ben's eyes adjusted, and he saw a forest of forgotten toys and lost socks. A silver jacks ball rolled past, and a toy car looked like a real automobile. 'This way,' Pip said, leading him through a tunnel of blankets. 'We need to be quiet. The cat sometimes naps here.' Ben tiptoed, his heart beating fast. He felt like a real explorer.



They emerged near the bookshelf. It loomed above them like a skyscraper. 'We have to climb it,' Pip said. 'The desk is on the other side.' Ben looked up at the towering shelves. 'That's impossible!' he gasped. 'No, it's just a challenge,' Pip said. 'Follow me. I'll show you the easy path.' She started up a stack of books, and Ben followed, his tiny hands gripping the pages.



The climb was hard. Ben's arms ached, and his legs felt like jelly. But Pip encouraged him. 'You're doing great! Just a little further.' They climbed past a picture book with a dragon on the cover, then a tall dictionary. Ben slipped once, but Pip caught him with a thread of silk. 'Thanks,' Ben whispered. He looked down and saw how high they were. His bedroom looked like a giant's playground.



At the top of the bookshelf, Ben saw the desk. It was still far away, across a wide canyon of floor. 'How do we get there?' he asked. Pip pointed to a long, shiny cord. 'That's the lamp cord. We can slide down it like a slide.' Ben's eyes widened. 'Is it safe?' 'I've done it many times,' Pip said. 'Hold on tight.' Ben grabbed the cord and zoomed down, laughing with delight.



They landed safely on the floor. Now only a stretch of carpet separated them from the desk. But a huge shadow loomed. It was Ben's dog, Max, sniffing around. 'Don't move,' Pip whispered. 'He won't see us if we stay still.' Ben froze, his heart thumping. Max's nose came close, then sneezed and wandered away. Ben let out a breath. 'That was close!' he said. 'We're almost there,' Pip smiled.



Finally, they reached the desk leg. It was like a smooth tree trunk. Ben looked up and saw the measuring tape on the edge, gleaming. 'We made it!' he cheered. But then he stopped. 'Wait, how do I get up there?' Pip thought for a moment. 'I can spin a silk thread. You can climb it.' She got to work, and soon a strong thread dangled down. Ben took a deep breath and began to climb.



Halfway up, Ben's arms trembled. 'I can't do it,' he said. 'Yes, you can,' Pip called from above. 'Remember, courage comes in all sizes.' Ben thought of how far he had come. He tightened his grip and kept climbing. At last, he reached the top and pulled himself onto the desk. There was the measuring tape, huge and shiny. He touched it, and with a flash, he grew back to his normal size.



Ben sat on the floor, blinking. Everything was back to normal size. He looked around and saw Pip on the desk, still tiny. 'Thank you, Pip,' he said softly. 'You were very brave,' she replied. 'And now you know that even the smallest person can do big things.' Ben smiled. He would never forget his button-sized adventure. He carefully placed the measuring tape in a drawer, just in case.



From that day on, Ben saw his bedroom differently. The bed was still a mountain, the bookshelf a skyscraper. But now he knew the secret paths and hidden corners. He sometimes left tiny crumbs for Pip and waved to her in the mornings. He learned that ordinary places can become extraordinary when you look at them from a new perspective. And that courage is not about size, but about heart.



Ben also learned that help can come from unexpected friends. He and Pip remained close, and he often thought about their journey under the bed and up the bookshelf. He knew that whenever he faced a challenge, he could remember that he was once button-sized and still found his way. His room was no longer just a room—it was a world of adventure, waiting to be explored.



One day, Ben found another strange object in his room—a tiny magnifying glass. He picked it up and smiled. Who knew what other adventures awaited? But for now, he was happy to be his normal size, with a big heart and a new friend. He looked out the window and whispered, 'Thanks, Pip.' Somewhere in the room, he heard a tiny sneeze and a friendly giggle. The end.