

# Desert Disaster

Beep beep! The chime of the car horn told Danger Dan that this was his moment! His moment to discover the hidden secret of the Arabian Tomb. Tightly wrapping his desert scarf around his weathered face, he left his hotel room and stepped out into the hustle and bustle of the Dubai street. He was a tall, lean man, with dark hazel hair which flicked up at the fringe. It had done this ever since he became an explorer. The years of exposure to the arid heat and howling desert winds of the Middle East had taken its toll, but this time... he was determined! Before long, the taxi had taken him away from the crowded city roads and dropped him off at the edge of the wilderness.

Wind howled across the heated desert. Towering sand dunes were all around and slim, green palm trees blew in the breeze like kites. In the distance, hairy camels plodded across the land. Crooked twigs and branches stuck out from the scorching ground. Salty air blew up Dan's nose as he trudged on through the sea of sand. The sky was bright blue like the ocean and the sun shone down like a ball of fire! Jagged, sharp rocks were scattered everywhere like there had been some kind of catastrophic explosion! After some time, Dan came to a Wadi, which shielded him from the burning wind.

Hiiisssssss!!! What was that? Suddenly, without warning, an agile, slithering snake leaped at Dan like a coiled spring! Its teeth directed at Dan's throat. Like lightning, Dan rolled to the side and the snake came tumbling to the floor. Again, it coiled up ready for its next attack, however, Dan was ready this time! Without thinking, he whipped out a small net, as the hissing beast lunged for a second time. With a violent twist, it fell straight into the Dan's grasp. The snake was caught!



Just as Dan took a deep sigh of relief, he spotted something from the corner of his eye. It was a sudden sparkle. Dan pivoted on the spot. What was that glistening behind the rock? As he stepped closer, a smile emerged on his face and then grew into a huge grin! It was the treasure! He had done it! After years of searching, he had found the ancient treasure. Sparkling gold spilled out of the chest and onto the floor which was dotted with glorious rubies and diamonds!

In all the excitement, Dan suddenly realized that his hands were empty - where was the net? Spinning around, he caught sight of the EMPTY net lying on the floor! The snake had escaped...