



# The Return of Brother Tom

Maha Zaki



Marten stands confidently amidst swirling fog, holding a glowing ritual paper. The mist dissipates around him, revealing a glimpse of an enchanted forest. His face is determined and filled with hope, knowing he can bring Tom back.



With a worried but determined expression, Marten follows giant, jagged claw marks carved into ancient, mossy rocks. In the distance, a large, shadowy figure—Tom, now a monstrous form—is seen hunched over something, eating a bear.



Marten, mid-chant, holds out the ritual paper, which glows brightly with magical energy. Suddenly, the monstrous, flower-possessed creature (Tom) leaps towards him, tearing the paper into four colorful, fluttering pieces as Marten recoils in surprise and runs away.



Looking a bit deflated, Marten walks along a sunny, vibrant beach, surrounded by whimsical seashells of all shapes and colors. He searches for the first piece of the ritual, almost giving up when he finds nothing but sand.



Just as he's about to despair, a piece of the ritual paper, vibrant and glowing, playfully dances in the air above Marten's outstretched hands. He leaps and twirls with exaggerated effort, finally catching it with a triumphant grin.



Marten cautiously enters a dense, fantastical forest, where towering, glowing plants and oversized mushrooms grow. In the center, a majestic, cartoonish lion guards another glowing paper, looking fierce but a little sleepy.



Marten cleverly dangles a comically oversized piece of meat, luring the lion away from the paper. As he dashes for the glowing fragment, the lion suddenly turns, roaring. Marten quickly shoves a shiny metal stick from his pack into the lion's mouth, grabs the paper, and zooms away with a comical burst of speed.



In a bustling, futuristic city with towering, whimsical buildings, Marten finds Jib, a friendly, quirky character with exaggerated glasses. Jib points towards a magnificent 'Tower of Freedom' in the distance, where the next paper piece glows at the very top. Marten, with a determined sprint, quickly scales the tower to retrieve it.



Marten, beaming with relief, kneels in the heart of a quaint, cheerful village, surrounded by cozy, cartoon houses. He picks up the final piece of the ritual paper from the cobblestone path, all four glowing pieces now reunited in his hands.



Marten stands before the transformed, human Tom in a sun-dappled forest clearing, the ritual complete. Tom, looking a bit dazed but smiling, reaches out, and the brothers embrace in a heartwarming, joyful hug, surrounded by shimmering magic as Marten exclaims, 'Tom, is that you?'