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opening extract from

Seal Surfer

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SPRING

One day in early spring an old man and his grandson climbed carefully down to a rocky beach. They were looking for mussels.

As the boy searched he noticed a slight movement among the rocks. Then he saw the seal. It was difficult to see her body against the rocks, except for a smudge of red on her belly.

"Look, Grandad," cried the boy. "The seal is injured."

"Best not to go too close," said Grandad, and they watched the seal from a distance.



The seal looked quite calm, lying still in the morning sun, and after a while the boy started hunting for mussels again.

When he next looked up at the seal, instead of a smudge of red he saw a flash of white. A seal pup, snow white and just born, was nuzzling its mother.

"Quick, Grandad," whispered the boy. "Let's get some fish for the seals."

As the spring days lengthened the man and the boy often watched the seal family. The pup's white coat moulted and she became the colour of the rocks. She often moved to the water's edge to watch her mother fish. She also saw the boy and the old man watching from the cliffop as she basked in the warm sun.

