

## Little Fish with a Dream

Here I am. I've been alongside them from the very beginning, waiting for the chance to meet them and now they have finally noticed me. I might even get the opportunity to come onto their raft and say "Hello". I've seen them a few times before and I envy them; the way they talk and the way they walk is just incredible. I ache to get out of the streams and rivers that I have seen a hundred times before and experience their world. I want to live life to the fullest.

This all first began when I was swimming along looking for a nice, big juicy plant to devour. And then I saw them in the river near me. They were in a big colourful raft with the words 'Holme Valley Rafting Team' written alongside it. I guess that I live in the beautiful Holme Valley. It fascinated me that they could see into my world so easily. I instantly started to crave the idea of me doing that and so I did what any other fish would do. I followed them.

After a few minutes of intense swimming I started to get extremely hungry and tired so I thought that it would do no harm to wonder off towards the bank for a minute or two and re-charge my batteries. But I was wrong! I must have spent ages eating and resting so by the time I popped my little head up they were gone. I figured that all I needed to do was just go down the river as fast as my little flippers could carry me and I would eventually bump into them.

I spent what felt like hours trying to find them and I eventually realised that I was getting nowhere so I turned around and started to head back home. But then I spotted in the distance downstream more splashing than you could ever imagine. It had to be the men in the raft!! And so I swam faster than I ever had before. I was a torpedo tearing through everything in my watery path.

After what felt like an eternity the humans had finally noticed me jumping in and out of the water like a salmon. Why are they not noticing me? Why are they not saying hello? Don't they know how I long to be free like them? My little eyes followed them. The raft slowed as they navigated a bend in the river, so without thinking I took the opportunity to leap onto their boat. During that leap, I felt free. I felt liberated. I felt ecstatic. Then I land on the boat with a thud.

Oh no. What is happening to me? "Help!" I can't breathe. I'm suffocating. I'm out of the water. I am drowning!

I felt hands under my body. A kind human gently scooped me up and placed me in back in the river saving me from my certain death.

I am home!

Thomas

