

Roald Dahl

rip=розрізати=рвать,

The Fantastic Mr Fox

## 1 The Three Farmers

Down in the valley there were three farms. The owners of these farms had done well. They were rich men. They were also nasty men. All three of them were about as nasty and mean as any men you could meet. Their names were Farmer Boggis, Farmer Bunce and Farmer Bean.

valley=долина=долина,

Boggis was a chicken farmer. He kept thousands of chickens. He was enormously fat. This was because he ate three boiled chickens smothered with dumplings every day for breakfast, lunch and supper.

boiled=варений=вареный, smothered=задушив=задушены,  
dumplings=пельмені=вареники,  
supper=вечеряти=ужин,

Bunce was a duck-and-geese farmer. He kept thousands of ducks and geese. He was a kind of pot-bellied dwarf. He was so short his chin would have been underwater in the shallow end of any swimming-pool in the world. His food was doughnuts and goose-livers. He mashed the livers into a disgusting paste and then stuffed the paste

pot-bellied=горшковий=пузатый, dwarf=карлик=карликовый, chin=підборіддя=подбородок,

doughnuts=пончики=пончики, mashed=пюре=пюре,  
disgusting=огидно=отвратительный,

into the doughnuts. This diet gave him a tummy-ache and a beastly temper.

doughnuts=пончики=пончики,  
accustomed=звик=привыкший, beastly=звісно=зверский, temper=темперамент=настроение,

Bean was a turkey-and-apple farmer. He kept thousands of turkeys in an orchard full of apple trees. He never ate any food at all. Instead, he drank gallons of strong cider which he made from the apples in his orchard. He was as thin as a pencil and the cleverest of them all.

turkey=індик=индюк, orchard=фруктовий сад=фруктовый сад,

gallons=3.6 литр=3,6 литр, Cider=Сидр=Сидр,  
orchard=фруктовий сад=фруктовый сад, thin=тонкий=тонкий,

Boggis and Bunce and Bean

One fat, one short, one lean.

These horrible crooks

crooks=шахраї=мошенники,

So different in looks

Were none the less equally mean.

That is what the children round about used to sing when they saw them.

2 Mr Fox

On a hill above the valley there was a wood.

valley=долина=долина,

In the wood there was a huge tree.

Under the tree there was a hole.

In the hole lived Mr Fox and Mrs Fox and their four Small Foxes.

Every evening as soon as it got dark, Mr Fox would say to Mrs Fox, 'Well, my darling, what shall it be this time? A plump chicken from Boggis? A duck or a goose from Bunce? Or a nice turkey from Bean?' And when Mrs Fox had told him what she wanted, Mr Fox would creep down into the valley in the darkness of the night and help himself.

Boggis and Bunce and Bean knew very well what was going on, and it made them wild with rage. They were not men who liked to give anything away. Less still did they like anything to be stolen from them. So every night each of them would take his shotgun and hide in a dark place somewhere on his own farm, hoping to catch the robber.

shall=повинен=должен, plump=пухкий=полнеть,

turkey=індичка=индюк,  
creep=повзати=ползать,  
valley=долина=долина,

rage=гнів=ярость,

shotgun=дробовик=дробовик, hide=приховати=скрывать,  
catch=виловити=поймать,  
robber=розбійник=грабитель,

But Mr Fox was too clever for them. He always approached a farm with the wind blowing in his face, and this meant that if any man were lurking in the shadows ahead, the wind would carry the smell of that man to Mr Fox's nose from far away.

approached=підійшов=подошел, blowing=дующий=дующий,  
lurking=ховається=скрывааясь,  
carry=нести=нести,  
smell=запах=запах, пахнуть,

Thus, if Mr Boggis was hiding behind his Chicken House Number One, Mr Fox would smell him out from fifty yards off and quickly change direction, heading for Chicken House Number Four at the other end of the farm.

hiding=ховається=прячется,  
smell=запах=запах, пахнуть,  
yards=метры=метры, cement=цемент=цемент,

Dang and blast that lousy beast!" cried Boggis.

Dang=диявол візьми=черт возьми, blast=вибух=взрыв, lousy=божевільний=паршивый,  
beast=звір=зверь,

"I'd like to rip his guts out!" said Bunce.

rip=розрізати=рвать, guts=кишки=кишки,

"He must be killed!" cried Bean.

"But how?" said Boggis. "How on earth can we catch the blighter?"

blighter=бліше=губитель, catch=виловити=поймать,

Bean picked his nose delicately with a long finger. "I have a plan," he said.

"You've never had a decent plan yet," said Bunce.

decent=гідний=порядочный,

'Shut up and listen,' said Bean. 'Tomorrow night we will all hide just outside the hole where the fox lives. We will wait there until he comes out. Then ...Bang! Bang-bang-bang. '

hide=приховати=скрывать,

'Very clever,' said Bunce. 'But first we shall have to find the hole.'

shall=повинен=должен,

'My dear Bunce, I've already found it,' said the crafty Bean. 'It's up in the wood on the hill. It's under a huge tree ...'

crafty=хитрый=коварный,

### 3 The Shooting

'Well, my darling,' said Mr Fox.  
'What shall it be tonight?'

shall=повинен=должен,

'I think we'll have duck tonight,' said Mrs Fox.

'Bring us two fat ducks, if you please. One for you and me, and one for the children.'

'Ducks it shall be!' said Mr Fox. Bunce's best!  
Now do be careful,' said Mrs Fox.

shall=повинен=должен,

'My darling,' said Mr Fox, 'I can smell those goons a mile away. I can even smell one from the other. Boggis gives off a filthy stink of rotten chicken-skins. Bunce reeks of goose-livers, and as for Bean, the fumes of apple cider hang around him like poisonous gases.'

smell=запах=запах, пахнут, goons=гуни=головорезы,  
mile=миля=1,6 km, smell=запах=запах, пахнут,  
filthy=брудно=отвратительный, stink=дихати=вонять,  
skinny=худий=тощий, reeks=повторює=Разит,  
fumes=випаровувати=чад, Cider=Сидр=Сидр, hang=повісити=вешать,  
poisonous=отруйний=ядовитый, gases=гази=газов,

'Yes, but just don't get careless,' said Mrs Fox.  
'You know they'll be waiting for you, all three of them.'

careless=недбало=неосторожный,

'Don't you worry about me,' said Mr Fox. 'I'll see you later.'

But Mr Fox would not have been quite so cocky had he known exactly where the three farmers were waiting at that moment. They were just outside the entrance to the hole, each one crouching behind a tree with his gun loaded. And what is more, they had chosen their positions very carefully, making sure that the wind was not blowing from them towards the fox's hole. In fact, it was blowing in the opposite direction. There was no chance of them being 'smelled out'.

cocky=причудливый=самоуверенный,

entrance=ВИХІД=вход,  
crouching=присідання=Крадущийся, gun=пістолет=оружие,

blowing=дующий=дующий,  
blowing=дующий=дующий,  
cement=цемент=цемент, smelled=пахне=пахло,

Mr Fox crept up the dark tunnel to the mouth of

crept=закрав=подкрался,

his hole. He poked his long handsome face out into the night air and sniffed once.

poked=тикнув=тыкали,  
sniffed=нюхав=понюхал,

He moved an inch or two forward and stopped.

inch=дюйм=дюймовый,

He sniffed again. He was always especially careful when coming out from his hole.

sniffed=нюхав=понюхал,

He inched forward a little more. The front half of his body was now in the open.

inched=запалився=медленно двигался,

His black nose twitched from side to side, sniffing and sniffing for the scent of danger. He found none, and he was just about to go trotting forward into the wood when he heard or thought he heard a tiny noise, a soft rustling sound, as though someone had moved a foot ever so gently through a patch of dry leaves.

twitched=дрімав=дернулись, sniffing=нюхати=нюхают,  
sniffing=нюхати=нюхают, scent=запах=нюх,  
trotting=ривок=рысью,

rustling=шелест=шуршащий,

Mr Fox flattened his body against the ground and lay very still, his ears pricked. He waited a long time, but he heard nothing more.

flattened=плоский=плоский,  
pricked=колючий=кололи,

'It must have been a field-mouse,' he told himself, 'or some other small animal.'

field-mouse=польова миша=полевая мышь,

He crept a little further out of the hole . . . then further still. He was almost right out in the open now. He took a last careful look around. The wood was murky and very still. Somewhere in the sky the moon was shining.

crept=закрав=подкрался, further=далі=в дальнейшем,  
further=далі=в дальнейшем, almost=майже=почти,

murky=темний=темный,

Just then, his sharp night-eyes caught a glint of something bright behind a tree not far away. It was a small silver speck of moonlight shining on a polished surface. Mr Fox lay still, watching it. What on earth was it? Now it was moving. It was coming up and up ...Great heavens! It was the barrel of a gun! Quick as a whip, Mr Fox jumped back into his hole and at that same instant the entire wood seemed to explode around him. Bang-bang! Bang-bang! Bang-bang!

sharp=гострий=острый, caught=спійманий=пойманный, glint=проблиск=отблеск,

speck=пекк=пятнышко,  
polished=полірований=полированный, surface=поверхня=поверхность,

barrel=дуло=дуло, gun=пістолет=оружие, whip=кнут=кнут,  
instant=миттєво=мгновенное,  
explode=вибухнути=взрываться,

The smoke from the three guns floated upward in the night air. Boggis and Bunce and Bean came out from behind their trees and walked towards the hole.

guns=гармати=оружие,

Did we get him?' said Bean.

One of them shone a flashlight on the hole, and there on the ground, in the circle of light, half in and

shone=світиться=светило, flashlight=ліхтарик=фонарик,  
circle=коло=круг,



half out of the hole, lay the poor tattered bloodstained remains of ... a fox's tail. Bean picked it up. 'We got the tail but we missed the fox,' he said, tossing the thing away.

tattered=розтращений=оборванный,  
bloodstained=кривавий=запачканный кровью,

tossing=кидати=бросание,

Dang and blast!' said Boggis. 'We shot too late. We should have let fly the moment he poked his head out.'

Dang=диявол візьмы=черт возьми, blast=вибух=взрыв,  
poked=тикнув=тыкали,

'He won't be poking it out again in a hurry,' Bunce said.

poking=пхаючи=тыкать,

Bean pulled a flask from his pocket and took a swig of cider. Then he said, 'It'll take three days at least before he gets hungry enough to come out again. I'm not sitting around here waiting for that. Let's dig him out.'

flask=фляга=колба,  
swig=шпигувати=глоток спиртного, Cider=Сидр=Сидр, itched=свербіж=чесалась,

'Ah,' said Boggis. Now you're talking sense. We can dig him out in a couple of hours. We know he's there.'

'I reckon there's a whole family of them down that hole,' Bunce said.

reckon=рахувати=рассчитывать,

'Then we'll have the lot,' said Bean. 'Get the

shovels!'

Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,

#### 4 The Terrible Shovels

Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,

Down the hole, Mrs Fox was tenderly licking the stump of Mr Fox's tail to stop the bleeding. 'It was the finest tail for miles around,' she said between licks.

licking=лизати=облизывание,  
stump=пенька=пень, bleeding=кровотеча=кровотечение,  
miles=мили=1,6 km,  
licks=облизує=облизывание,

'It hurts,' said Mr Fox.

'I know it does, sweetheart. But it'll soon get better.'

sweetheart=кохана=возлюбленная, itched=свербіж=чесалась,

'And it will soon grow again, Dad,' said one of the Small Foxes.

'It will never grow again,' said Mr Fox. 'I shall be tailless for the rest of my life.' He looked very glum.

shall=повинен=должен,

glum=хмурий=угрюмый,

There was no food for the foxes that night, and soon the children dozed off. Then Mrs Fox dozed off. But Mr Fox couldn't sleep because of the pain in the stump of his tail. 'Well,' he thought, 'I suppose I'm lucky to be alive at all. And now

dozed=замерзнув=дремала, dozed=замерзнув=дремала,

stump=пенька=пень,

they've found our hole, we're going to have to move out as soon as possible. We'll never get any peace if we . . . What was that ?' He turned his head sharply and listened. The noise he heard now was the most frightening noise a fox can ever hear — the scrape-scrape-scraping of shovels digging into the soil.

frightening=страшно=пугающий,

Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,

'Wake up!' he shouted. 'They're digging us out!'

Mrs Fox was wide awake in one second. She sat up, quivering all over. 'Are you sure that's it?' she whispered.

quivering=тремтить=дрожащий,  
whispered=прошепотів=шепнула,

'I'm positive! Listen!'

'They'll kill my children!' cried Mrs Fox.

'Never!' said Mr Fox.

'But darling, they will!' sobbed Mrs Fox. 'You know they will!'

sobbed=закричав=всхлипывала,

Scrunch, scrunch, scrunch went the shovels above their heads. Small stones and bits of earth

Scrunch=грызть=грызть, Scrunch=грызть=грызть, Scrunch=грызть=грызть,  
Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,

began falling from the roof of the tunnel.

roof=дах=крыша,

'How will they kill us, Mummy?' asked one of the Small Foxes. His round black eyes were huge with fright. Will there be dogs?' he said.

fright=переляканий=испуг,

Mrs Fox began to cry. She gathered her four children close to her and held them tight.

Suddenly there was an especially loud crunch above their heads and the sharp end of a shovel came right through the ceiling. The sight of this awful thing seemed to have an electric effect upon Mr Fox. He jumped up and shouted, 'I've got it! Come on! There's not a moment to lose! Why didn't I think of it before!'

crunch=хруст=хруст,  
sharp=гострий=острый, shovel=лопата=лопата,  
ceiling=стеля=потолок, sight=видовище=взгляд,

'Think of what, Dad?'

'A fox can dig quicker than a man!' shouted Mr Fox, beginning to dig. 'Nobody in the world can dig as quick as a fox!'

The soil began to fly out furiously behind Mr Fox as he started to dig for dear life with his front feet. Mrs Fox ran forward to help him. So did the

furiously=люто=бешено,

four children.

'Go downwards!' ordered Mr Fox. 'We've got to go deep! As deep as we possibly can!'

downwards=вниз=вниз,

The tunnel began to grow longer and longer. It sloped steeply downward. Deeper and deeper below the surface of the ground it went. The mother and the father and all four of the children were digging together. Their front legs were moving so fast you couldn't see them. And gradually the scrunching and scraping of the shovels became fainter and fainter.

sloped=похилий=скошенный, steeply=круто=круто,  
surface=поверхня=поверхность,

After about an hour, Mr Fox stopped digging. 'Hold it!' he said. They all stopped. They turned and looked back up the long tunnel they had just dug. All was quiet. 'Phew!' said Mr Fox. 'I think we've done it! They'll never get as deep as this. Well done, everyone!'

fast=швидко=быстро,  
scrunching=накрутити=грызть, scraping=скребком=выскабливание,  
Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,

They all sat down, panting for breath. And Mrs Fox said to her children, 'I should like you to know that if it wasn't for your father we should all be dead by now. Your father is a fantastic fox.'

panting=задыхаючись=задыхающийся, breath=дыхання=дыхание,

Mr Fox looked at his wife and she smiled. He loved her more than ever when she said things like that.

## 5 The Terrible Tractors

As the sun rose the next morning, Boggis and Bunce and Bean were still digging. They had dug a hole so deep you could have put a house into it.

But they had not yet come to the end of the foxes' tunnel. They were all very tired and cross.

Dang and blast!' said Boggis. 'Whose rotten idea was this?'

'Bean's idea,' said Bunce.

Boggis and Bunce both stared at Bean. Bean took another swig of cider, then put the flask back into his pocket without offering it to the others.

'Listen,' he said angrily, 'I want that fox! I'm going to get that fox! I'm not giving in till I've strung him up over my front porch, dead as a dumpling!'

'We can't get him by digging, that's for sure,' said

Dang=диявол візьмы=черт возьми, blast=вибух=взрыв,

stared=подивився=смотрел,  
swig=шпигувати=глоток спиртного, Cider=Сидр=Сидр, flask=фляга=колба,

porch=ганок=крыльцо, dumpling=пельмені=клецка,

the fat Boggis. 'I've had enough of digging.'

Bunce, the little pot-bellied dwarf, looked up at Bean and said, 'Have you got any more stupid ideas, then?'

'What?' said Bean. 'I can't hear you.' Bean never took a bath. He never even washed. As a result, his earholes were clogged with all kinds of muck and wax and bits of chewing-gum and dead flies and stuff like that. This made him deaf. 'Speak louder,' he said to Bunce, and Bunce shouted back, 'Got any more stupid ideas?'

Bean rubbed the back of his neck with a dirty finger. He had a boil coming there and it itched. 'What we need on this job,' he said, 'is machines ... mechanical shovels. We'll have him out in five minutes with mechanical shovels.'

This was a pretty good idea and the other two had to admit it.

'All right then,' Bean said, taking charge. Boggis, you stay here and see the fox doesn't escape. Bunce and I will go and fetch our machinery. If he

pot-bellied=горшковий=пузатый, dwarf=карлик=карликовый,  
stupid=тупий=глупый,

bath=ванна=ванна, result=результат=результат,  
earholes=отверстия для ушей=отверстия для ушей, muck=шуміти=дрянь,  
chewing-gum=жувальна гумка=жевательная резинка,  
deaf=глухий=глухой,

stupid=тупий=глупый,

rubbed=протертий=втирать,  
boil=кип'ятити=кипятить, itched=свербіж=чесалась,

Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,  
Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,

admit=визнати=признавать,

cement=цемент=цемент,

fetch=принеси=получать,

tries to get out, shoot him quick.'

The long, thin Bean walked away. The tiny Bunce trotted after him. The fat Boggis stayed where he was with his gun pointing at the fox-hole.

Soon, two enormous caterpillar tractors with mechanical shovels on their front ends came clanking into the wood. Bean was driving one. Bunce the other. The machines were both black. They were murderous, brutal-looking monsters.

'Here we go, then!' shouted Bean.

'Death to the fox!' shouted Bunce.

The machines went to work, biting huge mouthfuls of soil out of the hill. The big tree under which Mr Fox had dug his hole in the first place was toppled like a matchstick. On all sides, rocks were sent flying and trees were falling and the noise was deafening.

Down in the tunnel the foxes crouched, listening to the terrible clanging and banging overhead.

thin=тонкий=тонкий,  
trotted=підстрибує=рысью,  
gun=пістолет=оружие, pointing=вказуючи=указательный,

enormous=величезний=огромный, caterpillar=гусениця=гусеница,  
Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты, clanking=Дженькіт=лязгать,

murderous=смертоносний=убийственный, brutal=жорстокий=зверский,  
monsters=монстри=монстры,

toppled=скинути=опрокидывать, matchstick=сірник=деревянная часть спички,

deafening=оглушливого=оглушительный,

crouched=гойдається=скорчился,  
clanging=стискаючи=лязг, banging=стукати=треск,



'What's happening, Dad?' cried the Small Foxes.  
'What are they doing?'

Mr Fox didn't know what was happening or what they were doing.

'It's an earthquake!' cried Mrs Fox.

earthquake=землетрус=землетрясение,

Look!' said one of the Small Foxes. 'Our tunnel's got shorter! I can see daylight!'

They all looked round, and yes, the mouth of the tunnel was only a few feet away from them now, and in the circle of daylight beyond they could see the two huge black tractors almost on top of them.

circle=коло=круг, beyond=далі=за,  
almost=майже=почти,

'Tractors!' shouted Mr Fox. 'And mechanical shovels! Dig for your lives! Dig, dig, dig!'

Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,

## 6 The Race

Race=Гонки=Гонки,

Now there began a desperate race, the machines against the foxes. In the beginning, the hill looked like this:

desperate=відчайдушний=отчаянный, Race=Гонки=Гонки,

After about an hour, as the machines bit away more and more soil from the hilltop, it looked like this:

Sometimes the foxes would gain a little ground and the clanking noises would grow fainter and Mr Fox would say, 'We're going to make it! I'm sure we are!' But then a few moments later, the machines would come back at them and the crunch of the mighty shovels would get louder and louder. Once the foxes actually saw the sharp metal edge of one of the shovels as it scraped up the earth just behind them.

'Keep going, my darlings!' panted Mr Fox. 'Don't give up!'

'Keep going!' the fat Boggis shouted to Bunce and Bean. 'We'll get him any moment now!'

'Have you caught sight of him yet?' Bean called back. Not yet,' shouted Boggis. 'But I think you're close!'

'I'll pick him up with my bucket!' shouted Bunce. 'I'll chop him to pieces!'

hilltop=вершина горы=на вершине холма,

gain=виграти=усиление,  
clanking=Дженькіт=лязгать,

crunch=хруст=хруст, mighty=могутній=могущественный, Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,  
sharp=гострий=острый,  
edge=краю=край, Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,

panted=пихкати=пыхтел,

caught=спійманий=пойманный, sight=видовище=взгляд,

bucket=відро=ведро,  
chop=нарізати=котлета,

But by lunchtime the machines were still at it.  
And so were the poor foxes. The hill now looked like this:

The farmers didn't stop for lunch; they were too keen to finish the job.

'Hey there, Mr Fox!' yelled Bunce, leaning out of his tractor. 'We're coming to get you now!'

'You've had your last chicken!' yelled Boggis.  
'You'll never come prowling around my farm again!'

A sort of madness had taken hold of the three men. The tall skinny Bean and dwarfish pot-bellied Bunce were driving their machines like maniacs, racing the motors and making the shovels dig at a terrific speed. The fat Boggis was hopping about like a dervish and shouting, 'Faster! Faster!'

By five o'clock in the afternoon this is what had happened to the hill:

keen=гострий=острый,

leaning=спираючись=склонность,

prowling=проборювати=праздношатание,

skinny=худий=тощий, dwarfish=карлик=карликовый,

belch=скачати=отрыжка,

maniacs=маніяки=маньяки, racing=гонки=гоночный,

Shovels=Лопати=Лопаты,

dervish=дервіш=дервиш, hopping=стрибати=скачкообразной,

Faster=Швидше=Быстрее, Faster=Швидше=Быстрее,

obstinate=упертий=упрямый,

The hole the machines had dug was like the crater of a volcano. It was such an extraordinary sight that crowds of people came rushing out from the surrounding villages to have a look.

crater=кратер=кратер, extraordinary=незвичайний=необычайный,  
sight=видовище=взгляд, crowds=натовп=толпы,  
surrounding=оточуючих=окружающих,

They stood on the edge of the crater and stared down at Boggis and Bunce and Bean.

edge=краю=край, crater=кратер=кратер, stared=подивився=смотрел,

'Hey there, Boggis! What's going on?'

'We're after a fox!'

'You must be mad!'

mad=божевільний=Сумасшедший,

The people jeered and laughed. But this only made the three farmers more furious and more obstinate and more determined than ever not to give up until they had caught the fox.

jeered=збентежений=издевался,  
furious=лютий=яростный,  
obstinate=упертий=упрямый,  
caught=спійманий=пойманный,

7 'We'll Never Let Him Go'

At six o'clock in the evening, Bean switched off the motor of his tractor and climbed down from the driver's seat. Bunce did the same. Both men had had enough. They were tired and stiff from driving the tractors all day. They were also

obstinate=упертий=упрямый, switched=переключено=переключился,

hungry. Slowly they walked over to the small fox's hole in the bottom of the huge crater. Bean's face was purple with rage. Bunce was cursing the fox with dirty words that cannot be printed. Boggis came waddling up. Dang and blast

that filthy stinking fox!' he said. 'What the heck do we do now?'

'I'll tell you what we don't do,' Bean said. 'We don't let him go!'

'We'll never let him go!' Bunce declared.

'Never never never!' cried Boggis.

Did you hear that, Mr Fox!' yelled Bean, bending low and shouting down the hole. 'It's not over yet, Mr Fox! We're not going home till we've strung you up dead as a dingbat!' Whereupon the three men all shook hands with one another and swore a solemn oath that they would not go back to their farms until the fox was caught.

'What's the next move?' asked Bunce, the pot-bellied dwarf.

crater=кратер=кратер,  
rage=гнів=ярость,  
cursing=прокляття=чертыхаясь,  
waddling=шкандибати=ковыляющий, printed=друкований=печатные, Dang=диявол  
візьмы=черт возьми, blast=вибух=взрыв,  
filthy=брудно=отвратительный, stinking=смердючий=вонючий,

declared=оголосив=объявленный,

bending=згинання=изгиб,

dingbat=дингбат=псих,

swore=присягнув=клялись, solemn=урочистий=торжественный, oath=присяга=присяга,  
caught=спійманий=пойманный,

belch=скачати=отрыжка, dwarf=карлик=карликовый,

'We're sending you down the hole to fetch him up,' said Bean. Down you go, you miserable midget!'

'Not me!' screamed Bunce, running away.

Bean made a sickly smile. When he smiled you saw his scarlet gums. You saw more gums than teeth. 'Then there's only one thing to do,' he said. 'We starve him out. We camp here day and night watching the hole. He'll come out in the end. He'll have to.'

So Boggis and Bunce and Bean sent messages down to their farms asking for tents, sleeping-bags and supper.

## 8 The Foxes Begin to Starve

That evening three tents were put up in the crater on the hill — one for Boggis, one for Bunce and one for Bean. The tents surrounded Mr Fox's hole. And the three farmers sat outside their tents eating their supper. Boggis had three boiled chickens smothered in dumplings, Bunce had six

fetch=принеси=получать,

midget=карлик=карлик,

sickly=хворобливий=тошнотворный,

scarlet=червоний=алый, gums=ясен=десны, gums=ясен=десны,

starve=голодувати=голодать, camp=табір=лагерь,

Badger's=Борсуки=барсука, supper=вечеряти=ужин,

starve=голодувати=голодать,

crater=кратер=кратер,

surrounded=оточений=окруженный,

supper=вечеряти=ужин, boiled=варений=вареный,

smothered=задушив=задушены, dumplings=пельмені=вареники,

doughnuts filled with disgusting goose-liver paste, and Bean had two gallons of cider. All three of them kept their guns beside them.

doughnuts=пончики=пончики, disgusting=огидно=отвратительный,  
gallons=3.6 литр=3,6 литр, Cider=Сидр=Сидр,  
guns=гармати=оружие,

Boggis picked up a steaming chicken and held it close to the fox's hole. 'Can you smell this, Mr Fox?' he shouted. 'Lovely tender chicken! Why don't you come up and get it?'

steaming=парування=пропаривания,  
smell=запах=запах, пахнуть,

The rich scent of chicken wafted down the tunnel to where the foxes were crouching.

wafted=прокинувся=повеяло, scent=запах=нюх,  
crouching=присідання=Крадущийся,

'Oh, Dad,' said one of the Small Foxes, 'couldn't we just sneak up and snatch it out of his hand?'

sneak=підкратися=ябеда, snatch=зривати=урвать,

'Don't you dare!' said Mrs Fox. 'That's just what they want you to do.'

dare=наважитися=сметь,

But we're so hungry they cried. 'How long will it be till we get something to eat?'

Their mother didn't answer them. Nor did their father. There was no answer to give.

As darkness fell, Bunce and Bean switched on the powerful headlamps of the two tractors and

switched=переключено=переключился,  
headlamps=фари=фарах,

shone them on to the hole. 'Now,' said Bean, 'we'll take it in turn to keep watch. One watches while two sleep, and so on all through the night.'

shone=світиться=светило,

Boggis said, 'What if the fox digs a hole right through the hill and comes out on the other side? You didn't think of that one, did you?'

'Of course I did,' said Bean, pretending he had. 'Go on, then, tell us the answer,' said Boggis.

course=звичайно=курс,

Bean picked something small and black out of his ear and flicked it away. 'How many men have you got working on your farm?' he asked.

flicked=струснув=щелкнул,

'Thirty-five,' Boggis said.

'I've got thirty-six,' Bunce said.

'And I've got thirty-seven,' Bean said. 'That makes one hundred and eight men altogether. We must order them to surround the hill. Each man will have a gun and a flashlight. There will be no escape then for Mr Fox.'

surround=оточувати=окружать,  
gun=пістолет=оружие, flashlight=ліхтарик=фонарик,

So the order went down to the farms, and that



night one hundred and eight men formed a tight ring around the bottom of the hill. They were armed with sticks and guns and hatchets and pistols and all sorts of other horrible weapons. This made it quite impossible for a fox or indeed for any other animal to escape from the hill.

armed=озброєний=вооруженный, guns=гармати=оружие, hatchets=топори=топорики, pistols=пістолети=пистолеты, weapons=зброя=оружие,

The next day, the watching and waiting went on. Boggis and Bunce and Bean sat upon small stools, staring at the fox's hole. They didn't talk much. They just sat there with their guns on their laps.

staring=глянувши=смотреть, guns=гармати=оружие, laps=коліна=коленей,

Every so often, Mr Fox would creep a little closer towards the mouth of the tunnel and take a sniff. Then he would creep back again and say, 'They're still there.'

creep=повзати=ползать, sniff=нюхати=нюхать, creep=повзати=ползать,

'Are you quite sure?' Mrs Fox would ask.

'Positive,' said Mr Fox. 'I can smell that man Bean a mile away. He stinks.'

smell=запах=запах, пахнуть, mile=миля=1,6 km, stinks=волає=вонял,

9 Mr Fox Has a Plan

For three days and three nights this waiting-game went on.

waiting-game=очікування-гра=жду-игра,

'How long can a fox go without food or water?'  
Boggis asked on the third day.

'Not much longer now,' Bean told him. 'He'll  
make a run for it soon. He'll have to.'

Bean was right. Down in the tunnel the foxes  
were slowly but surely starving to death.

starving=голодувати=голодающий,

'If only we could have just a tiny sip of water,'  
said one of the Small Foxes. 'Oh, Dad, can't you  
do something ?'

sip=ковток=глоток,

'Couldn't we make a dash for it, Dad? We'd have  
a little bit of a chance, wouldn't we?'

Weasels=Валянки=Ласки, dash=кидок=бросок,  
cement=цемент=цемент,

'No chance at all,' snapped Mrs Fox. 'I refuse to  
let you go up there and face those guns. I'd  
sooner you stay down here and die in peace.'

cement=цемент=цемент, snapped=врізався=рявкнул,  
guns=гармати=оружие,

Mr Fox had not spoken for a long time. He had  
been sitting quite still, his eyes closed, not even  
hearing what the others were saying. Mrs Fox  
knew that he was trying desperately to think  
of a way out. And now, as she looked at him,

desperately=відчайдушно=в отчаянии,

she saw him stir himself and get slowly to his feet. He looked back at his wife. There was a little spark of excitement dancing in his eyes.

excitement=хвилювання=волнение,

'What is it, darling?' said Mrs Fox quickly.

'I've just had a bit of an idea,' Mr Fox said carefully.

'What?' they cried. 'Oh, Dad, what is it?'

'Come on !' said Mrs Fox. 'Tell us quickly!'

'Well . . .' said Mr Fox, then he stopped and sighed and sadly shook his head. He sat down again. 'It's no good,' he said. 'It won't work after all.'

'Why not, Dad?'

'Because it means more digging and we aren't any of us strong enough for that after three days and nights without food.'

'Yes we are, Dad!' cried the Small Foxes, jumping up and running to their father. 'We can do it! You

see if we can't! So can you!

Mr Fox looked at the four Small Foxes and he smiled. What fine children I have, he thought. They are starving to death and they haven't had a drink for three days, but they are still undefeated. I must not let them down.

starving=голодувати=голодающий,

'I . . . I suppose we could give it a try,' he said.  
'Let's go, Dad! Tell us what you want us to do!'

Slowly, Mrs Fox got to her feet. She was suffering more than any of them from the lack of food and water. She was very weak. 'I am so sorry,' she said, 'but I don't think I am going to be much help.'

suffering=страждання=страдающий,  
lack=недостача=отсутствие,

'You stay right where you are, my darling,' said Mr Fox. 'We can handle this by ourselves.'

10 Boggis's Chicken House Number One

'This time we must go in a very special direction,' said Mr Fox, pointing sideways and downward.

pointing=вказуочи=указательный, sideways=боком=вбок,

So he and his four children started to dig once

again. The work went much more slowly now. Yet they kept at it with great courage, and little by little the tunnel began to grow.

courage=мужність=мужество,

Dad, I wish you would tell us where we are going,' said one of the children.

'I dare not do that,' said Mr Fox, 'because this place I am hoping to get to is so marvelous that if I described it to you now you would go crazy with excitement. And then, if we failed to get there (which is very possible), you would die of disappointment. I don't want to raise your hopes too much, my darlings.'

dare=наважитися=сметь,  
marvellous=дивовижний=дивный,

excitement=хвилювання=волнение, failed=не вдалося=не смогли,

disappointment=розчарування=разочарование,

For a long long time they kept on digging. For how long they did not know, because there were no days and no nights down there in the murky tunnel. But at last Mr Fox gave the order to stop. 'I think,' he said, 'we had better take a peep upstairs now and see where we are. I know where I want to be, but I can't possibly be sure we're anywhere near it.'

murky=темний=темный,

пееп=писк/погляд=взгляд/писк,

Slowly, wearily, the foxes began to slope the tunnel up towards the surface. Up and up it went

wearily=втомлено=устало, slope=схил=склон,  
surface=поверхня=поверхность,

... until suddenly they came to something hard above their heads and they couldn't go up any further. Mr Fox reached up to examine this hard thing. 'It's wood!' he whispered. 'Wooden planks!'

further=далі=в дальнейшем, examine=розглянути=исследовать,  
whispered=прошепотів=шепнула,  
planks=дошки=доски,

'What does that mean, Dad?'

'It means, unless I am very much mistaken, that we are right underneath somebody's house,' whispered Mr Fox. 'Be very quiet now while I take a peek.'

mistaken=помилково=ошибочный,  
whispered=прошепотів=шепнула,  
peek=заглянути=заглядывать,

Carefully, Mr Fox began pushing up one of the floorboards. The board creaked most terribly and they

floorboards=паркетні дошки=половицы, creaked=скрипнув=скрипнула,

all ducked down, waiting for something awful to happen. Nothing did. So Mr Fox pushed up a second board. And then, very very cautiously, he poked his head up through the gap. He let out a shriek of excitement.

ducked=занурений=пригнулся,  
cautiously=обережно=осторожно,  
poked=тикнув=тыкали, gap=розрив=разрыв,  
shriek=крик=визг, excitement=хвилювання=волнение,

'I've done it' he yelled. 'I've done it first time! I've done it! I've done it!' He pulled himself up through the gap in the floor and started prancing

gap=розрив=разрыв, prancing=підстрибує=скачущий,

and dancing with joy. 'Come on up!' he sang out.  
'Come up and see where you are, my darlings!  
What a sight for a hungry fox! Hallelujah! Hooray!  
Hooray!'

The four Small Foxes scrambled up out of the tunnel and what a fantastic sight it was that now met their eyes! They were in a huge shed and the whole place was teeming with chickens. There were white chickens and brown chickens and black chickens by the thousand!

Boggis's Chicken House Number One!' cried Mr Fox. 'It's exactly what I was aiming at! I hit it slap in the middle! First time! Isn't that fantastic! And, if I may say so, rather clever!'

The Small Foxes went wild with excitement. They started running around in all directions, chasing the stupid chickens.

'Wait!' ordered Mr Fox. 'Don't lose your heads! Stand back! Calm down! Let's do this properly! First of all, everyone have a drink of water!'

They all ran over to the chickens' drinking-trough

joy=радість=радость,

sight=видовище=взгляд, Hallelujah=Алілуя=Аллилуйя,

scrambled=скрембовані=вскарабкался,

sight=видовище=взгляд,

shed=сарай=сарай,

teeming=переповнений=переполненный,

slap=точно=точно, aiming=націлювання=прицеливание,

excitement=хвилювання=волнение,

cement=цемент=цемент,

stupid=тупий=глупый,

properly=правильно=правильно,

drinking-trough=питьевое корыто=питьевое корыто,

and lapped up the lovely cool water. Then Mr Fox chose three of the plumpest hens, and with a clever flick of his jaws he killed them instantly.

lapped=схопився=лакать,  
plumpest=найдивніше=самый толстый,  
flick=струшувати=встряхивать, jaws=щелепи=пасть, instantly=миттєво=немедленно,

'Back to the tunnel!' he ordered. 'Come on! No fooling around! The quicker you move, the quicker you shall have something to eat!'

shall=повинен=должен,

One after another, they climbed down through the hole in the floor and soon they were all standing once again in the dark tunnel. Mr Fox reached up and pulled the floorboards back into place. He did this with great care. He did it so that no one could tell they had ever been moved.

floorboards=паркетні дошки=половицы,

'My son,' he said, giving the three plump hens to the biggest of his four small children, 'run back with these to your mother. Tell her to prepare a feast. Tell her the rest of us will be along in a jiffy, as soon as we have made a few other little arrangements.'

plump=пухкий=полнеть,

feast=свято=праздник, jiffy=мить=миг,

arrangements=домовленості=договоренности,

## 11 A Surprise for Mrs Fox

The Small Fox ran back along the tunnel as fast as he could, carrying the three plump hens. He was

fast=швидко=быстро,  
carrying=носіння=проведение, plump=пухкий=полнеть,



exploding with joy. 'Just wait!' he kept thinking, 'just wait till Mummy sees these!' He had a long way to run but he never stopped once on the way and he came bursting in upon Mrs Fox. 'Mummy!' he cried, out of breath. Look, Mummy, look! Wake up and see what I've brought you!

exploding=вибухне=взрывающиеся, joy=радість=радость,

bursting=розрив=разрывной,  
breath=дихання=дыхание,

Mrs Fox, who was weaker than ever now from lack of food, opened one eye and looked at the hens. 'I'm dreaming,' she murmured and closed the eye again.

lack=недостача=отсутствие,  
murmured=нарікав=бормотал,

'You're not dreaming, Mummy! They're real chickens! We're saved! We're not going to starve!'

starve=голодувати=голодать,

Mrs Fox opened both eyes and sat up quickly. 'But, my dear child!' she cried. 'Where on earth ..?'

'Boggis's Chicken House Number One!' spluttered the Small Fox. 'We tunnelled right up under the floor and you've never seen so many big fat hens in all your life! And Dad said to prepare a feast! They'll be back soon!'

spluttered=сплеснув=трещал,

feast=свято=праздник,

The sight of food seemed to give new strength to Mrs Fox. 'A feast it shall be!' she said, standing up. 'Oh, what a fantastic fox your father is! Hurry up, child, and start plucking those chickens!'

sight=видовище=взгляд,  
feast=свято=праздник, shall=повинен=должен,  
plucking=збити=выщипывание,

Far away down in the tunnel, the fantastic Mr Fox was saying, 'Now for the next bit, my darlings! This one'll be as easy as pie! All we have to do is dig another little tunnel from here to there!'

'To where, Dad?'

'Don't ask so many questions. Start digging!'

12 Badger

Badger=Борсук=барсук,

Mr Fox and the three remaining Small Foxes dug fast and straight. They were all too excited now to feel tired or hungry. They knew they were going to have a whacking great feast before long and the fact that it was none other than Boggis's chickens they were going to eat made them churgle with laughter every time they thought of it. It was lovely to realize that while the fat farmer was sitting up there on the hill waiting for them to starve, he was also giving them their

fast=швидко=быстро, excited=схвилюваний=в восторге,  
whacking=бити=битья, feast=свято=праздник,  
churgle=херлу=посмеиваться,  
realize=усвідомити=понимать,  
starve=голодувати=голодать,

dinner without knowing it. 'Keep digging,' said Mr Fox. 'It's not much further.'

further=далі=в дальнейшем,

All of a sudden a deep voice above their heads said, 'Who goes there? The foxes jumped. They looked up quickly and they saw, peeking through a small hole in the roof of the tunnel, a long black pointed furry face.

peeking=підглянувши=выглядывая,  
roof=дах=крыша,  
pointed=вказаний=указательный, furry=пухнастий=пушистый,

'Badger!' cried Mr Fox.

Badger=Борсук=барсук,

'Foxy!' cried Badger. 'My goodness me, I'm glad I've found someone at last! I've been digging around in circles for three days and nights and I haven't the foggiest idea where I am!'

Badger=Борсук=барсук,  
circles=кола=круги,  
foggiest=туманный=туманное,

Badger made the hole in the ceiling bigger and dropped down beside the foxes. A Small Badger (his son) dropped down after him. 'Haven't you heard what's happening up on the hill?' Badger said excitedly. 'It's chaos! Half the wood has disappeared and there are men with guns all over the countryside! None of us can get out, even at night! We're all starving to death!'

Badger=Борсук=барсук, ceiling=стеля=потолок,  
Badger=Борсук=барсук,

Badger=Борсук=барсук,  
excitedly=збуджено=азартно, cement=цемент=цемент,  
guns=гармати=оружие,  
countryside=сільська місцевість=сельская местность,  
starving=голодувати=голодающий,

'Who is we ?' asked Mr Fox.

'All us diggers. That's me and Mole and Rabbit and all our wives and children. Even Weasel, who can usually sneak out of the tightest spots, is right now hiding down my hole with Mrs Weasel and six kids. What on earth are we going to do, Foxy? I think we're finished!'

Mr Fox looked at his three children and he smiled. The children smiled back at him, sharing his secret. 'My dear old Badger,' he said, 'this mess you're in is all my fault ...'

I know it's your fault!' said Badger furiously. 'And the farmers are not going to give up till they've got you.'

Unfortunately, that means us as well. It means everyone on the hill.' Badger sat down and put a paw around his small son. 'We're done for,' he said softly. 'My poor wife up there is so weak she can't dig another yard.'

'Nor can mine,' said Mr Fox. 'And yet at this very minute she is preparing for me and my children the most delicious feast of plump juicy chickens .

Mole=крот=крот ,  
Weasel=Вуса=ласка,  
sneak=підкрадатися=ябеда,  
Weasel=Вуса=ласка, hiding=ховається=прячется,

furiously=люто=бешено,

paw=лапа=лапа,

yard=метр=метр,

feast=свято=праздник, plump=пухкий=полнеть, juicy=соковитий=сочный,

'Stop!' cried Badger. 'Don't tease me! I can't stand it!'

tease=дражнити=дразнить,

'It's true!' cried the Small Foxes. Dad's not teasing! We've got chickens galore!

teasing=дражнити=поддразнивания, galore=величезна=в изобилии,

'And because everything is entirely my fault,' said Mr Fox, 'I invite you to share the feast. I invite everyone to share it — you and Mole and Rabbit and Weasel and all your wives and children. There'll be plenty to go round, I can assure you.'

feast=свято=праздник,

Mole=крот=крот ,

Weasel=Вуса=ласка,

assure=запевняй=уверять,

'You mean it?' cried Badger. 'You really mean it?'

realize=усвідомити=понимать,

Mr Fox pushed his face close to Badger's and whispered darkly, 'Do you know where we've just been?'

Badgers=Борсуки=Барсуки,

whispered=прошепотів=шепнула,

'Where?'

'Right inside Boggis's Chicken House Number One!'

'No!'

'Yes! But that is nothing to where we are going now. You have come just at the right moment, my dear Badger. You can help us dig. And in the meanwhile, your small son can run back to Mrs Badger and all the others and spread the good news.' Mr Fox turned to the Small Badger and said, 'Tell them they are invited to a Fox's Feast. Then bring them all down here and follow this tunnel back until you find my home!'

meanwhile=Тим часом=между тем,  
spread=поширюватися=распространение,

feast=свято=праздник,

'Yes, Mr Fox!' said the Small Badger. 'Yes, sir! Right away, sir! Oh, thank you, sir!' and he scrambled quickly back through the hole in the roof of the tunnel and disappeared.

scrambled=скрембовані=вскарабкался,  
roof=дах=крыша,

### 13 Bunce's Giant Storehouse

Storehouse=Склади=кладезь,

'My dear Foxy!' cried Badger. 'What in the world has happened to your tail?'

'Don't talk about it please : said Mr Fox. 'It's a painful subject.'

painful=болісний=болезненный,

They were digging the new tunnel. They dug on in silence. Badger was a great digger and the tunnel went forward at a terrific pace now that

pace=темп=темп,

he was lending a paw. Soon they were crouching underneath yet another wooden floor.

Mr Fox grinned slyly, showing sharp white teeth. 'If I am not mistaken, my dear Badger,' he said, 'we are now underneath the farm which belongs to that nasty little pot-bellied dwarf, Bunce. We are, in fact, directly underneath the most interesting part of that farm.'

'Ducks and geese!' cried the Small Foxes, licking their lips. 'Juicy tender ducks and big fat geese!'

'Ex-actly!' said Mr Fox.

'But how in the world can you know where we are?' asked Badger.

Mr Fox grinned again, showing even more white teeth. Look,' he said, 'I know my way around these farms blindfold. For me it's just as easy below ground as it is above it.' He reached high and pushed up one wooden floorboard, then another. He poked his head through the gap.

'Yes!' he shouted, jumping up into the room

lending=кредитування=взяйму дати, paw=лапа=лапа, crouching=присідання=Крадущийся,

grinned=посміхнувся=ухмыльнулась, sharp=гострий=острый,  
mistaken=помилково=ошибочный,  
belongs=належить=принадлежит,  
pot-bellied=горшковий=пузатый, dwarf=карлик=карликовый,

licking=лизати=облизывание,  
juicy=соковитий=сочный,

grinned=посміхнувся=ухмыльнулась,

blindfold=зав'язати очі=повязка на глаза,

floorboard=паркетна дошка=половица,  
poked=тикнув=тыкали, gap=розрив=разрыв,

above. 'I've done it again! I've hit it smack on the nose! Right in the bull's-eye! Come and look!'

smack=трчно=точно,  
bulls-eye=бич-око=прямо в точку,

Quickly Badger and the three Small Foxes scrambled up after him. They stopped and stared. They stood and gaped. They were so overwhelmed they couldn't speak; for what they now saw was a kind of fox's dream, a badger's dream, a paradise for hungry animals.

scrambled=скрембовані=вскарабкался,  
stared=подивився=смотрел, gaped=розплющений=зияла,  
overwhelmed=пригнічений=перегружены,  
Badgers=Борсуки=Барсуки,  
paradise=рай=рай,

'This, my dear old Badger,' proclaimed Mr Fox, 'is Bunce's Mighty Storehouse! All his finest stuff is stored in here before he sends it off to market.'

proclaimed=проголошений=Объявленная,  
mighty=могутній=могущественный, Storehouse=Склади=кладезь,

Against all the four walls of the great room, stacked in cupboards and piled upon shelves

stacked=укладено=сложены, cupboards=шафи=шкафы, piled=звалив=сложено,  
shelves=полиці=полки,  
ceiling=стеля=потолок,

reaching from floor to ceiling, were thousands and thousands of the finest and fattest ducks and geese, plucked and ready for roasting! And up above, dangling from the rafters, there must have been at least a hundred smoked hams and fifty sides of bacon!

plucked=збитий=щипковые, roasting=смаження=выпечка,  
dangling=зависає=свисающий, rafters=крокви=стропила,  
smoked=копчений=копченый, hams=кизи=ветчины,  
bacon=бекон=бекон,

'Just feast your eyes on that !' cried Mr Fox, dancing up and down. 'What d'you think of it, eh?'

feast=свято=праздник,  
dwarfish=карлик=карликовый,



Pretty good grub!

Suddenly, as though springs had been released in their legs, the three hungry Small Foxes and the ravenously hungry Badger sprang forward to grab the luscious food.

Stop!' ordered Mr Fox. 'This is my party, so I shall do the choosing.' The others fell back, licking their chops. Mr Fox began prowling around the storehouse examining the glorious display with an expert eye. A thread of saliva slid down one side of his jaw and hung suspended in mid-air, then snapped.

'We mustn't overdo it,' he said. 'Mustn't give the game away. Mustn't let them know what we've been up to. We must be neat and tidy and take just a few of the choicest morsels. So, to start with we shall have four plump young ducks.' He took them from the shelf. 'Oh, how lovely and fat they are! No wonder Bunce gets a special price for them in the market! ... All right, Badger, lend me a hand to get them down ... You children can

grub=їжа=еда,

springs=пружини=возникать,

ravenously=шалено=алчно, sprang=вискочив=вискочил, grab=захопити=грейфер, luscious=соковитий=приторный,

shall=повинен=должен,

licking=лизати=облизывание,

prowling=проборювати=праздношатание, chops=рот=рты,

Storehouse=Склады=кладезь, examining=вивчення=изучения,

saliva=слина=слюна,

jaw=щелепа=челюсть, suspended=призупинено=подвешенный, mid-air=в середині повітря=в воздухе,

snapped=врізався=рявкнул,

mustnt=не повинно=нельзя, overdo=перевантажити=переусердствовать, mustnt=не повинно=нельзя,

mustnt=не повинно=нельзя,

tidy=охайний=аккуратный,

choicest=найкращий=отборные, morsels=кусочки=кусочки,

shall=повинен=должен, plump=пухкий=полнеть,

lend=позичити=давать в долг,

help as well ... There we go ... Goodness me,  
look how your mouths are watering ... And now  
... I think we had better have a few geese ...  
Three will be quite enough ... We'll take the  
biggest ... Oh my, oh my, you'll never see finer  
geese than these in a king's kitchen ... Gently  
does it ... that's the way ... And what about a  
couple of nice smoked hams ... adore smoked

smoked=копчений=копченный, hams=кизи=ветчины, adore=обожднюй=обожать,  
smoked=копчений=копченный,  
ham=шинка=ветчина, fetch=принеси=получать, steeply=круто=круто,  
ladder=сходи=лестница,

ham, don't you, Badger? ... Fetch me that step-  
ladder, will you please ...'

Mr Fox climbed up the ladder and handed down  
three magnificent hams. 'And do you like bacon,  
Badger?'

ladder=сходи=лестница,  
hams=кизи=ветчины, bacon=бекон=бекон,

'I'm mad about bacon!' cried Badger, dancing  
with excitement. 'Let's have a side of bacon! That  
big one up there!'

mad=божевільний=Сумасшедший, bacon=бекон=бекон,  
excitement=хвилювання=волнение, bacon=бекон=бекон,

'And carrots, Dad!' said the smallest of the three  
Small Foxes. 'We must take some of those  
carrots.'

'Don't be a twerp,' said Mr Fox. 'You know we  
never eat things like that.'

twerp=хам=хам,

'It's not for us, Dad. It's for the Rabbits. They only eat vegetables.'

'My goodness me, you're right!' cried Mr Fox.  
'What a thoughtful little fellow you are! Take ten bunches of carrots!'

Soon, all this lovely loot was lying in a neat heap upon the floor. The Small Foxes crouched close, their noses twitching, their eyes shining like stars.

'And now,' said Mr Fox, 'we shall have to borrow from our friend Bunce two of those useful push-carts over in the corner.' He and Badger fetched the push-carts, and the ducks and geese and hams and bacon were loaded on to them. Quickly the push-carts were lowered through the hole in the floor. The animals slid down after them. Back in the tunnel, Mr Fox again pulled the floorboards very carefully into place so that no one could see they had been moved.

'My darlings,' he said, pointing to two of the three Small Foxes, 'take a cart each and run back as fast as you can to your mother. Give her my

bunches=пучки=сгустки,

loot=грабіж=добыча, lying=лежачий=лежащий, heap=купа=куча,  
crouched=гойдається=скорчился,  
twitching=тріпотки=дергающийся,

shall=повинен=должен, borrow=запозичувати=заимствовать,

cart=кошик=телега, fetched=приїхав=приносить,  
push-carts=штовхачі=колясками,  
hams=кизи=ветчины, bacon=бекон=бекон,  
push-carts=штовхачі=колясками,

floorboards=паркетні дошки=половицы,

pointing=вказуючи=указательный,  
cart=кошик=телега,  
fast=швидко=быстро,

love and tell her we are having guests for dinner — the Badgers, the Moles, the Rabbits and the Weasels. Tell her it must be a truly great feast. And tell her the rest of us will be home as soon as we've done one more little job.'

Badgers=Борсуки=Барсуки, Moles=Моли=Кроты,  
Weasels=Валянки=Ласки, feast=свято=праздник,

'Yes, Dad! Right away, Dad!' they answered, and they grabbed a trolley each and went rushing off down the tunnel.

grabbed=схопив=схватился, trolley=тролейбус=трамвай,

14 Badger Has Doubts

Doubts=Сумніви=сомнения,

'Just one more visit!' cried Mr Fox.

visit=візит=посещение,

And I'll bet I know where that'll be,' said the only Small Fox now left. He was the Smallest Fox of them all.

bet=ставка=ставка,

'Where?' asked Badger.

'Well,' said the Smallest Fox. 'We've been to Boggis and we've been to Bunce but we haven't been to Bean. It must be Bean.'

'You are right,' said Mr Fox. 'But what you don't know is which part of Bean's place we are about

to visit.'

visit=візит=посещение,

'Which?' they said both together.

'Ah-ha,' said Mr Fox. 'Just you wait and see.' They were digging as they talked. The tunnel was going forward fast.

fast=швидко=быстро,

Suddenly Badger said, 'Doesn't this worry you just a tiny bit, Foxy?'

'Worry me?' said Mr Fox. 'What?'

'All this ... this stealing.'

Mr Fox stopped digging and stared at Badger as though he had gone completely dotty. 'My dear old furry frump,' he said, 'do you know anyone in the whole world who wouldn't swipe a few chickens if his children were starving to death?'

stared=подивився=смотрел,

dotty=точка=рехнувшийся,

frump=насмехаться=насмехаться, furry=пухнастый=пушистый,

swipe=проведіть пальцем=красть,

starving=голодувати=голодающий,

There was a short silence while Badger thought deeply about this.

'You are far too respectable,' said Mr Fox.

respectable=респектабельний=респектабельный,

'There's nothing wrong with being respectable,' Badger said.

respectable=респектабельний=респектабельный,

Look,' said Mr Fox, Boggis and Bunce and Bean are out to kill us. You realize that, I hope?'

realize=усвідомити=понимать,

'I do, Foxy, I do indeed,' said the gentle Badger.

'But we're not going to stoop to their level. We don't want to kill them .'

stoop=притискатися=сутулость,

'I should hope not, indeed,' said Badger.

'We wouldn't dream of it,' said Mr Fox. 'We shall simply take a little food here and there to keep us and our families alive. Right?'

shall=повинен=должен,

'I suppose we'll have to,' said Badger.

'If they want to be horrible, let them,' said Mr Fox. 'We down here are decent peace-loving people.'

decent=гідний=порядочный,

Badger laid his head on one side and smiled at Mr Fox. 'Foxy,' he said, 'I love you.'

'Thank you,' said Mr Fox. 'And now let's get on with the digging.'

Five minutes later, Badger's front paws hit against something flat and hard. 'What on earth is this?' he said. 'It looks like a solid stone wall.' He and Mr Fox scraped away the soil. It was a wall. But it was built of bricks, not stones. The wall was right in front of them, blocking their way.

Now who in the world would build a wall under the ground?' asked Badger.

'Very simple,' said Mr Fox. 'It's the wall of an underground room. And if I am not mistaken, it is exactly what I'm looking for.'

#### 15 Bean's Secret Cider Cellar

Mr Fox examined the wall carefully. He saw that the cement between the bricks was old and crumbly, so he loosened a brick without much trouble and pulled it away. Suddenly, out from the hole where the brick had been, there popped a small sharp face with whiskers, 'Go away!' it

Badgers=Борсуки=Барсуки, paws=лапи=лапы,

bricks=цегла=кирпич,  
blocking=блокування=блокирование,

mistaken=помилково=ошибочный,

Cider=Сидр=Сидр, Cellar=Підвал=подвал,

examined=розглянуто=рассмотрел,  
cement=цемент=цемент, bricks=цегла=кирпич,  
crumbly=розсипаний=рассыпчатый, brick=цегла=кирпич,

brick=цегла=кирпич, popped=вискочив=совал,  
sharp=гострий=острый, whiskers=вуса=бакенбарды,

snapped. 'You can't come in here! It's private!'

snapped=врізався=рявкнул,

'Good Lord!' said Badger. 'It's Rat!'

'You saucy beast!' said Mr Fox. 'I should have guessed we'd find you down here somewhere.'

saucy=сором'язливий=дерзкий, beast=звір=зверь,  
Weasels=Валянки=Ласки,

'Go away!' shrieked Rat. 'Go on, beat it! This is my private pitch!'

shrieked=кричав=взвизгнул, beat=бити=бить,  
pitch=територія=территория,

'Shut up,' said Mr Fox.

'I will not shut up!' shrieked Rat. 'This is my place! I got here first!'

shrieked=кричав=взвизгнул,

Mr Fox gave a brilliant smile, flashing his white teeth. 'My dear Rat,' he said softly, 'I am a hungry fellow and if you don't hop it quickly I shall eat-you-up-in-one-gulp!'

shall=повинен=должен,

That did it. Rat popped back fast out of sight. Mr Fox laughed and began pulling more bricks out of the wall.

popped=вискочив=совал, fast=швидко=быстро, sight=видовище=взгляд,  
bricks=цегла=кирпич,

When he had made a biggish hole, he crept through it. Badger and the Smallest Fox followed

biggish=biggish=довольно большой, crept=закрав=подкрался,



him in.

They found themselves in a vast, damp, gloomy cellar. 'This is it!' cried Mr Fox.

vast=величезний=огромный, damp=вологий=сырость, gloomy=похмурий=мрачный,  
Cellar=Підвал=подвал,

'This is what ?' said Badger. 'The place is empty.'

'Where are the turkeys?' asked the Smallest Fox, staring into the gloom. 'I thought Bean was a turkey man.'

turkey=індик=индюк,  
staring=глянувши=смотреть, gloom=мрак=мрачность,  
turkey=індичка=индюк,

'He is a turkey man,' said Mr Fox. 'But we're not after turkeys now. We've got plenty of food.'

turkey=індичка=индюк,  
turkey=індик=индюк,

'Then what do we need, Dad?'

'Take a good look round,' said Mr Fox. 'Don't you see anything that interests you?'

Badger and the Smallest Fox peered into the half-darkness. As their eyes became accustomed to the gloom, they began to see what looked like a whole lot of big glass jars standing upon shelves around the walls. They went closer. They were jars. There were hundreds of them, and upon each one was written the word CIDER.

peered=подивився=всматривался,  
accustomed=звик=привыкший,  
gloom=мрак=мрачность,  
jars=банки=банки, shelves=полиці=полки,  
jars=банки=банки,  
  
Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

The Smallest Fox leaped high in the air. 'Oh, Dad!' he cried out. Look what we've found! It's cider!

Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

'Ex-actly,' said Mr Fox.

'Tremendous!' shouted Badger.

'Bean's Secret Cider Cellar,' said Mr Fox. 'But go carefully, my dears. Don't make a noise. This cellar is right underneath the farmhouse itself.'

Cider=Сидр=Сидр, Cellar=Підвал=подвал,

Cellar=Підвал=подвал, farmhouse=сільський будинок=сельского будинок,

'Cider,' said Badger, 'is especially good for Badgers. We take it as medicine — one large glass three times a day with meals and another at bedtime.'

Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

Badgers=Борсуки=Барсуки, medicine=медицина=лекарственное средство,

bedtime=перед сном=время отхода ко сну,

'It will make the feast into a banquet,' said Mr Fox.

feast=свято=праздник, banquet=банкет=банкет,

While they were talking, the Smallest Fox had sneaked a jar off the shelf and had taken a gulp. Wow!' he gasped. Wow-eer

sneaked=підкрався=проносят, gulp=ковток=глоток,

gasped=задихнувся=ахнула,

You must understand this was not the ordinary weak fizzy cider one buys in a store. It was the

fizzy=газований=газированный, Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

real stuff, a home-brewed fiery liquor that burned in your throat and boiled in your stomach.

'Ah-h-h-h-h gasped the Smallest Fox. 'This is some cider!'

'That's quite enough of that,' said Mr Fox, grabbing the jar and putting it to his own lips. He took a tremendous gulp. 'It's miraculous!' he whispered, fighting for breath. 'It's fabulous! It's beautiful!'

'It's my turn,' said Badger, taking the jar and tilting his head well back. The cider gurgled and bubbled down his throat. 'It's . . . it's like melted gold!' he gasped. 'Oh, Foxy, it's . . . like drinking sunbeams and rainbows!'

'You're poaching!' shrieked Rat. Put that down at once! There'll be none left for me!' Rat was perched upon the highest shelf in the cellar, peering out from behind a huge jar. There was a small rubber tube inserted in the neck of the jar, and Rat was using this tube to suck out the cider.

home-brewed=домашній=доморощенний, fiery=вогненний=пламенний, liquor=лікер=щелок, burned=спалений=сожженный, boiled=варений=вареный,

gasped=задихнувся=ахнула,  
Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

grabbing=захоплення=захватывая,  
gulp=ковток=глоток,  
whispered=прошепотів=шепнула, breath=дихання=дыхание,

gurgled=гуркіт=клокотало, tilting=нахил=опрокидывание, Cider=Сидр=Сидр,  
bubbled=булькав=пузыриться, melted=розплавлений=плавленый,  
gasped=задихнувся=ахнула,  
sunbeams=сонячні промені=солнечные лучи, rainbows=веселки=радуг,

poaching=браконьєрство=браконьерство, shrieked=кричав=взвизгнул,

perched=осілий=взгромоздился, Cellar=Підвал=подвал,  
peering=дивлячись=всматриваясь,  
rubber=гума=ластик, tube=трубка=трубка, inserted=вставлено=вставленный,  
tube=трубка=трубка, suck=смоктати=сосать, Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

'You're drunk!' said Mr Fox.

'Mind your own business!' shrieked Rat. 'And if you great clumsy brutes come messing about in here we'll all be caught! Get out and leave me to sip my cider in peace.'

shrieked=кричав=взвизгнул,  
messing=промахнуться=промахнуться, clumsy=незграбний=топорный, brutes=брутс=скоты,  
caught=спійманий=пойманный,  
sip=ковток=глоток, Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

At that moment they heard a woman's voice calling out in the house above them. 'Hurry up and get that cider, Mabel!' the voice called. 'You know Mr Bean doesn't like to be kept waiting! Especially when he's been out all night in a tent!'

Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

The animals froze. They stayed absolutely still, their ears pricked, their bodies tense. Then they heard the sound of a door being opened. The door was at the top of a flight of stone steps leading down from the house to the cellar.

froze=замерзла=заморозили, absolutely=абсолютно=абсолютно,  
pricked=колючий=кололи,

And now someone was starting to come down those steps.

Cellar=Підвал=подвал,

## 16 The Woman

'Quick!' said Mr Fox. 'Hide!' He and Badger and the Smallest Fox jumped up on to a shelf and

hide=приховати=скрывать,

crouched behind a row of big cider jars. Peering around the jars, they saw a huge woman coming down into the cellar. At the foot of the steps, the woman paused, looking to right and left. Then she turned and headed straight for the place where Mr Fox and Badger and the Smallest Fox were hiding. She stopped right in front of them. The only thing between her and them was a row of cider jars. She was so close, Mr Fox could hear the sound of her breathing. Peeping through the crack between two bottles, he noticed that she carried a big rolling-pin in one hand.

'How many will he want this time, Mrs Bean?' the woman shouted. And from the top of the steps the other voice called back, 'Bring up two or three jars.'

'He drank four yesterday, Mrs Bean.'

'Yes, but he won't want that many today because he's not going to be up there more than a few hours longer. He says the fox is bound to make a run for it this morning. It can't possibly stay down that hole another day without food.'

crouched=гоїдається=скорчився, Cider=Сидр=Сидр, jars=банки=банки,  
peering=дивлячись=всмакуючись,  
jars=банки=банки,  
Cellar=Підвал=подвал,  
paused=призупинено=приостановлена,

hiding=ховається=прячется,

Cider=Сидр=Сидр, jars=банки=банки,  
breath=дихання=дыхание, Peering=Доглядання=Подглядывание,  
crack=тріщина=трещина,  
rolling-pin=скалка=скалка,

jars=банки=банки,

bound=зобов'язаний=обязан,

The woman in the cellar reached out and lifted a jar of cider from the shelf. The jar she took was next but one to the jar behind which Mr Fox was crouching.

Cellar=Підвал=подвал,  
Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

crouching=присідання=Крадущийся,

'I'll be glad when the rotten brute is killed and strung up on the front porch,' she called out. 'And by the way, Mrs Bean, your husband promised I could have the tail as a souvenir.'

brute=грубий=скотина,  
porch=ганок=крыльцо,

'The tail's been all shot to pieces,' said the voice from upstairs. 'Didn't you know that?'

'You mean it's ruined ?'

ruined=зруйнований=разрушенный,

'Of course it's ruined. They shot the tail but missed the fox.'

course=звичайно=курс, ruined=зруйнований=разрушенный,

'Oh heck!' said the big woman. 'I did so want that tail!'

'You can have the head instead, Mabel. You can get it stuffed and hang it on your bedroom wall. Hurry up now with that cider!'

hang=повісити=вешать, bedroom=спальня=Спальня,  
Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

'Yes, Ma'am, I'm coming,' said the big woman, and she took a second jar from the shelf.

lying=лежачий=лежащий,

If she takes one more, she'll see us, thought Mr Fox. He could feel the Smallest Fox's body pressed tightly against his own, quivering with excitement.

quivering=тремтять=дрожать,  
excitement=хвилювання=волнение,

Will two be enough, Mrs Bean, or shall I take three?'

shall=повинен=должен,

'My goodness, Mabel, I don't care so long as you get a move on!'

'Then two it is,' said the huge woman, speaking to herself now. 'He drinks too much anyway.'

Carrying a jar in each hand and with the rolling-pin tucked under one arm, she walked away across the cellar. At the foot of the steps she paused and looked around, sniffing the air. 'There's rats down here again, Mrs Bean. I can smell 'em.'

carrying=носіння=проведение,  
tucked=заправлений=заправленные, piled=звалив=сложено,  
Cellar=Підвал=подвал,  
paused=призупинено=приостановлена, sniffing=нюхати=нюхают,  
smell=запах=запах, пахнуть,

'Then poison them, woman, poison them! You know where the poison's kept.'

poison=отрута=яд, poisonous=отруйний=ядовитый,

'Yes, Ma'am,' Mabel said. She climbed slowly out of sight up the steps. The door slammed.

lying=лежачий=лежащий,  
sight=видовище=взгляд, slammed=хляпав=захлопнула,

'Quick!' said Mr Fox. 'Grab a jar each and run for it!'

grab=захопити=грейфер,

Rat stood on his high shelf and shrieked. 'What did I tell you! You nearly got nabbed, didn't you? You nearly gave the game away! You keep out of here from now on! I don't want you around! This is my place!'

shrieked=кричав=взвизгнул,  
nabbed=нагромаджений=арестовал,

'You,' said Mr Fox, 'are going to be poisoned.'

poisoned=отруений=отравленный,

'Poppycok!' said Rat. 'I sit up here and watch her putting the stuff down. She'll never get me.'

Poppycok=чепуха=чепуха,

Mr Fox and Badger and the Smallest Fox ran across the cellar clutching a gallon jar each. 'Goodbye, Rat!' they called out as they disappeared through the hole in the wall. 'Thanks for the lovely cider!'

Cellar=Підвал=подвал, clutching=стискаючи=вцепившись, gallon=3.6 литр=3,6 литр,

Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

Thieves!' shrieked Rat. 'Robbers! Bandits!'

Thieves=Злодії=Воры, shrieked=кричав=взвизгнул, Robbers=Розбійники=Грабители,  
Bandits=Бандити=Бандиты,



Burglars!'

## 17 The Great Feast

Back in the tunnel they paused so that Mr Fox could brick up the hole in the wall. He was humming to himself as he put the bricks back in place. 'I can still taste that glorious cider,' he said. 'What an impudent fellow Rat is.'

'He has bad manners,' Badger said. 'All rats have bad manners. I've never met a polite rat yet.'

And he drinks too much,' said Mr Fox, putting the last brick in place. 'There we are. Now, home to the feast!'

They grabbed their jars of cider and off they went. Mr Fox was in front, the Smallest Fox came next and Badger last. Along the tunnel they flew . . . past the turning that led to Bunce's Mighty Storehouse . . . past Boggis's Chicken House Number One and then up the long home stretch towards the place where they knew Mrs Fox would be waiting.

Burglars=Грабіжники=Взломщики,

feast=свято=праздник,

paused=призупинено=приостановлена,  
brick=цегла=кирпич,  
humming=гукати=гудящий, bricks=цегла=кирпич,  
Cider=Сидр=Сидр,  
impudent=нахабний=нахальный,

polite=ввічливий=вежливый,

brick=цегла=кирпич,  
feast=свято=праздник,

grabbed=схопив=схватился, jars=банки=банки, Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

led=вести=вести, mighty=могутній=могущественный,  
Storehouse=Склади=кладезь,

'Keep it up, my darlings!' shouted Mr Fox. 'We'll soon be there! Think what's waiting for us at the other end! And just think what we're bringing home with us in these jars! That ought to cheer up poor Mrs Fox.' Mr Fox sang a little song as he ran:

'Home again swiftly I glide,  
Back to my beautiful bride.  
She'll not feel so rotten  
As soon as she's gotten  
Some cider inside her inside.'

Then Badger joined in:

'Oh poor Mrs Badger, he cried,  
So hungry she very near died.  
But she'll not feel so hollow  
If only she'll swallow  
Some cider inside her inside.'

They were still singing as they rounded the final corner and burst in upon the most wonderful and amazing sight any of them had ever seen. The feast was just beginning. A large dining-room had been hollowed out of the earth, and in the

jars=банки=банки, cement=цемент=цемент,

glide=ковзати=скольжение,  
bride=наречена=невеста,

shelves=полиці=полки,  
Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

hollow=порожній=полый,  
swallow=проковтнути=глотать,  
Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

burst=вибухнув=взрыв,  
sight=видовище=взгляд,  
feast=свято=праздник, dining-room=їдальня=столовая,  
hollowed=дубльований=выдолбленные,

middle of it, seated around a huge table, were no less than twenty-nine animals. They were:

Mrs Fox and three Small Foxes.

Mrs Badger and three Small Badgers.

Badgers=Борсуки=Барсуки,

Mole and Mrs Mole and four Small Moles.

Mole=крот=крот , Mole=крот=крот , Moles=Моли=Кроты,

Rabbit and Mrs Rabbit and five Small Rabbits.

Weasel and Mrs Weasel and six Small Weasels.

Weasel=Вуса=ласка, Weasels=Валянки=Ласки,

The table was covered with chickens and ducks and geese and hams and bacon, and everyone was tucking into the lovely food.

hams=кизи=ветчины, bacon=бекон=бекон,  
tucking=наповнення=заправлен,

'My darling!' cried Mrs Fox, jumping up and hugging Mr Fox. 'We couldn't wait! Please forgive us!' Then she hugged the Smallest Fox of all, and Mrs Badger hugged Badger, and everyone hugged everyone else. Amid shouts of joy, the great jars of cider were placed upon the table, and Mr Fox and Badger and the Smallest Fox sat down with the others.

Amid=Серед=среди, joy=радість=радость,  
jars=банки=банки, Cider=Сидр=Сидр,

You must remember no one had eaten a thing for several days. They were ravenous. So for a while there was no conversation at all. There was only the sound of crunching and chewing as the animals attacked the succulent food.

ravenous=хижковый=хищный,

crunching=хрускіт=хруст, chewing=жування=жевание,  
attacked=напали=атакован, succulent=соковитий=сочный,

At last, Badger stood up. He raised his glass of cider and called out, 'A toast! I want you all to stand and drink a toast to our dear friend who has saved our lives this day — Mr Fox!'

Cider=Сидр=Сидр, toast=тост=тост,  
toast=тост=тост,

'To Mr Fox!' they all shouted, standing up and raising their glasses. 'To Mr Fox! Long may he live!'

Then Mrs Fox got shyly to her feet and said, 'I don't want to make a speech. I just want to say one thing, and it is this: MY HUSBAND IS A FANTASTIC FOX.'

shyly=сором'язливо=застенчиво,

Everyone clapped and cheered. Then Mr Fox himself stood up.

clapped=хлопав=хлопнул, cement=цемент=цемент,

'This delicious meal ...' he began, then he stopped. In the silence that followed, he let fly a tremendous belch. There was laughter and more

belch=скачати=отрыжка,

clapping. 'This delicious meal, my friends,' he went on, 'is by courtesy of Messrs Boggis, Bunce and Bean.' (More cheering and laughter.) And I hope you have enjoyed it as much as I have.' He let fly another colossal belch.

clapping=плескати=хлопающий,  
courtesy=люб'язно=учтивость,  
cheering=підбадьорювати=ободряющий,

colossal=колосальний=колоссальный, belch=скачати=отрыжка,

'Better out than in,' said Badger.

'Thank you,' said Mr Fox, grinning hugely. 'But now, my friends, let us be serious. Let us think of tomorrow and the next day and the days after that. If we go out, we will be killed. Right?'

grinning=усмішка=ухмыляющийся,

'Right!' they shouted.

'We'll be shot before we've gone a yard,' said Badger.

yard=метр=метер,

'Ex-actly,' said Mr Fox. 'But who wants to go out, anyway; let me ask you that? We are all diggers, every one of us. We hate the outside. The outside is full of enemies. We only go out because we have to, to get food for our families. But now, my friends, we have an entirely new set-up. We have a safe tunnel leading to three of the finest stores in the world!'

'We do indeed!' said Badger. 'I've seen 'em!'

'And you know what this means?' said Mr Fox. 'It means that none of us need ever go out into the open again'

There was a buzz of excitement around the table.

buzz=гудіння=жужжание, excitement=хвилювання=волнение,

'I therefore invite you all,' Mr Fox went on, 'to stay here with me for ever.'

'For ever!' they cried. 'My goodness! How marvellous!' And Rabbit said to Mrs Rabbit, 'My dear, just think! We're never going to be shot at again in our lives!'

marvellous=дивовижний=дивный,

'We will make,' said Mr Fox, 'a little underground village, with streets and houses on each side — separate houses for Badgers and Moles and Rabbits and Weasels and Foxes. And every day I will go shopping for you all. And every day we will eat like kings.'

Badgers=Борсуки=Барсуки, Moles=Моли=Кроты,  
Weasels=Валянки=Ласки,

The cheering that followed this speech went on for many minutes.

cheering=підбадьорювати=ободряющий,

## 18 Still Waiting

Outside the fox's hole, Boggis and Bunce and Bean sat beside their tents with their guns on their laps. It was beginning to rain. Water was trickling down the necks of the three men and into their shoes.

guns=гармати=оружие,  
laps=коліна=коленей,  
trickling=капанье=капанье,

'He won't stay down there much longer now,' Boggis said.

'The brute must be famished,' Bunce said.

brute=грубий=скотина, famished=грішили=изголодавшийся,

'That's right,' Bean said. 'He'll be making a dash for it any moment. Keep your guns handy.'

dash=кидок=бросок,  
guns=гармати=оружие,

They sat there by the hole, waiting for the fox to come out.

And so far as I know, they are still waiting.