

Bruno's Christmas Shopping

For a day in early December, Bruno had planned to do his Christmas shopping. He had to buy presents for his two dearest friends Elmar and Knut and of course for himself as well. The three of them would celebrate Christmas together this year.



Bruno had already thought carefully about what to give to his friends and prepared his tour to the city center very well. For Knut, he would get some jars of special honey at the market and - as he forgot him so often - a stuffy animal to be his companion.

The present for his vain friend Elmar was much harder but in the end, he decided to buy him an expensive tie in a designer boutique. Bruno was sure that Elmar would be quite happy about a fashionable tie and boast even more about himself the next time they would go out together. Although that meant that Elmar would be even more unbearable than usual, Bruno thought that a posh tie was the perfect present for Elmar.

Last but not least, he needed something for himself. He had not decided this yet. There was so much he would like to have. Most of it were not material things. Maybe he would arrange a world trip for himself as present. There were so many places he had not been yet and urgently wanted to travel to. But Bruno had no time to think about his future travels at the moment; he had to leave now. It was already quite late in the morning.

As it was very cold outside, Bruno put on his warmest clothes, was careful not to forget his gloves, the woolly hat and the scarf and decided to take his large rucksack because no-one could know what he would end up buying.

When he already had closed the door behind him, it came to Bruno's mind that he had forgotten his wallet. He was becoming more forgetful every day, which was probably due to the many thoughts and ideas he had to think about.

Finally, he left the house and went to the tram. The weather was great. He loved winter when everything was white like now. In the afternoon, he would build a snowman together with Knut. He hoped that the snow would not melt soon because he longed for a white Christmas.

The city center was really crowded. Although Bruno usually was not overly keen on crowds, this did not matter to him today.

It was great: There were colourful lights and Christmas decoration wherever he looked and so many Christmas trees! And everything smelt so fine. Although Bruno had just eaten, he got hungry again. He had to buy something. Bruno chose one of these fruits with chocolate coating. It was delicious. Sweets would be an ideal extra present for all three of them. Bruno went to a stall he liked most and did his first shopping. He got 3 portions of everything he liked, paid and put the sweets in his rucksack.

A bit delayed, Bruno separated himself from the Christmas market and went to the market place to buy Knut's honey at the usual stall. For the little toy, he went to a common department store and bought a tiny dog with a red and brown ear.

Bruno passed a shop with colourful sweets. He actually had never seen sweets of so many different colours in his life before. Totally fascinated, Bruno decided to have a closer look and entered the sweets' shop. This was even greater than the sweets on the Christmas market! As he could not resist, Bruno put some sweets in his mouth to taste them. The decision what to buy was really hard: One tasted better than the other. That's why Bruno chose one portion of everything which was quite much in the end. His rucksack had become almost full.

In addition, Bruno discovered that there was not much money left in his wallet.

What had he done? He had totally overspent! Usually, he was not so generous with regard to spending money. He must have forgotten himself.

As the wallet didn't even contain enough money any more for Elmar's tie, he had to buy it another time.

After all these impressions and all that running-around, Bruno suddenly felt tired and decided to go home to Knut. On the tram back, he could hardly wait to show the sweets and cookies he had bought to his friend.

Back at home, Bruno made tea with milk and honey and Knut and Bruno had afternoon tea with some of the new cookies and sweets. After a short nap, both of them went out and built a polar-bear snowman.

The End