

CHAPTER V -The circus boys on the flying Rings

In Chapter V of "The Circus Boys on the Flying Rings" titled "When the Bands Played," Phil Forrest embarks on an enthusiastic preparation for the circus, starting by generously providing a ticket to the circus for Widow Cahill. His excitement is palpable as he ensures the widow, who hasn't seen a circus since her youth, will attend right next to him. Following the heartwarming interaction, Phil races to the circus grounds, greeted by the vibrant scene of performers in glittering costumes and decorated horses, all preparing for the parade.

The sight of the bustling circus lot, transformed from its quiet state just hours before, leaves Phil in amazement. Amid this flurry of activity, he is approached by Mr. Sparling's assistant, who, impressed by Phil's bravery during a previous incident involving a lion cage, invites him to participate in the parade as a member of the Kazoo Band. Phil, adorned in clown makeup and costume, is filled with excitement at the prospect of being part of the circus parade, a dream going beyond his expectations.

As the parade commences, with the buoyant sounds of circus music filling the air, Phil experiences the peak of joy. Unrecognized by the onlookers, including people he knows from his village, Phil takes pride in his anonymous contribution to the spectacle. A particularly heartwarming moment occurs when he spots Mrs. Cahill among the spectators, a reminder of his small acts of kindness that knit the narrative's theme of community and joy together.

The chapter concludes with a dramatic turn as trouble arises during the parade—an uncontrollable pony with a rider unable to manage, due to a broken bit, careens

towards them. The rider, a circus woman, is thrown and dragged, caught by her foot in the stirrup, prompting urgent cries for help that go unanswered by the spectators. In a gripping cliffhanger, Mr. Sparling, the circus owner, makes a valiant effort to rescue her, showcasing the bravery and quick action that seem to echo Phil's own qualities.

This chapter captures the essence of circus life—its vibrancy, the camaraderie among its members, and the underlying risks. Through Phil's eyes, readers experience the magic of the circus and the unexpected incidents that test the mettle of its performers and workers.



Summaryer