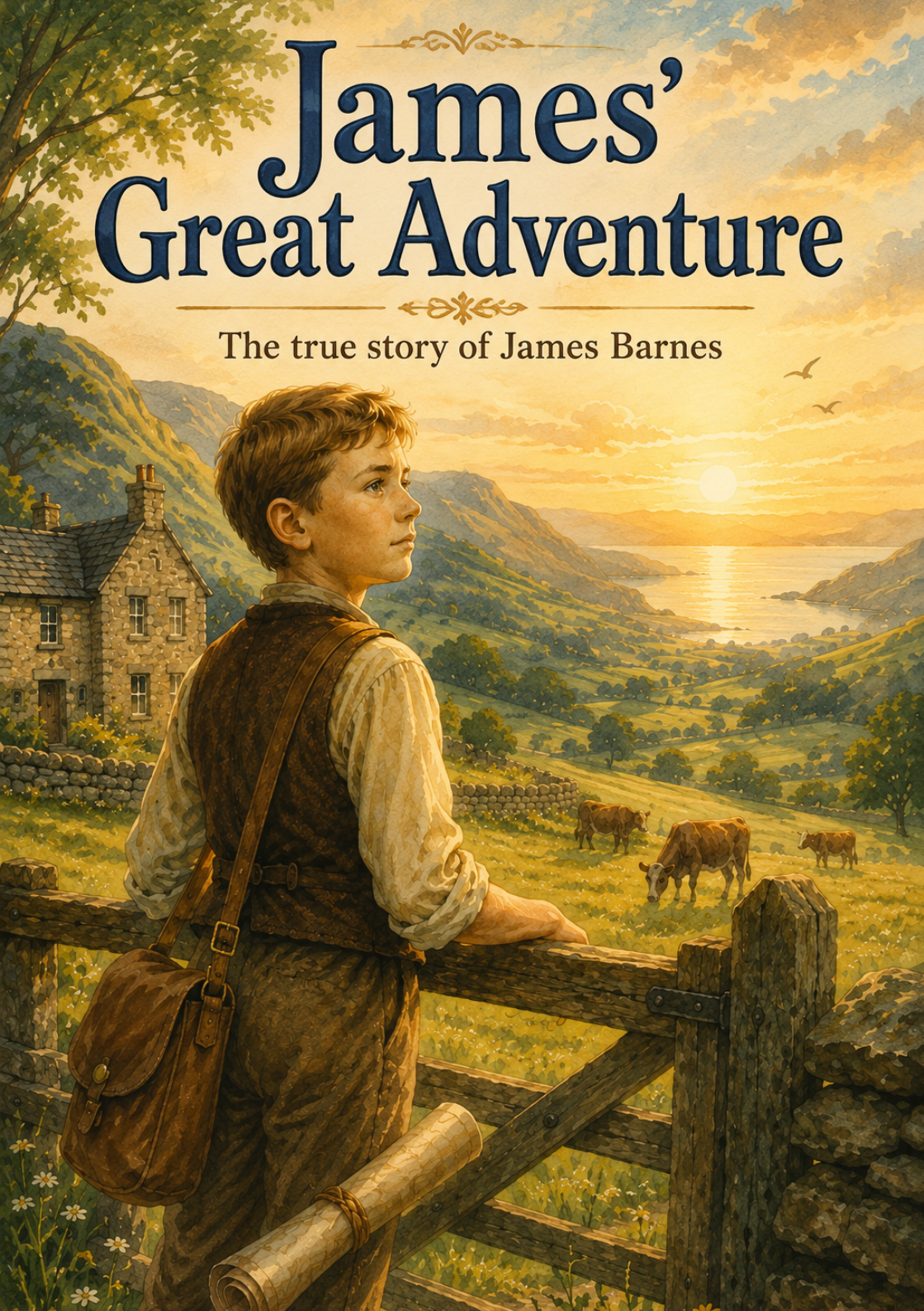


James' Great Adventure

The true story of James Barnes



James' Great Adventure

*The true story of the boy who studied maps
and became a big, kind policeman*

*A true story. Every important thing in this book really happened.
Where we could not be sure, we kept it gentle and simple, and we
never invented facts.*

1 • A Boy Who Studied Maps

Long ago, a boy named James lived on a farm. The farm was in England, in the green hills called the Lake District. Its name was Garnett House. It was very, very old, with thick stone walls.

James helped with the cows before school. But James liked one thing best of all. He liked maps. He looked at faraway places and dreamed. One day, he thought, I will go and see them.



2 • The Whole Wide World

At school, James found a map of the whole world. He saw lands far across the sea. Places like Australia and New Zealand. They were so far away they seemed like magic.

Big ships sailed from England every week. They went to those faraway lands. James made up his mind. He would climb aboard a ship. He would go and see the world.

The world
is wide,
and I want
to see it.

— 1875 —

STEAM SHIPS LEAVE
FROM LIVERPOOL
EVERY WEEK.



THE WHOLE
WIDE WORLD

Steam Ships
sail from England
every week
to faraway lands.

I will climb
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3 · Across the Sea

So James said goodbye to the farm. He sailed away on a tall ship. The sea was huge. The trip took many weeks. James was not scared. He was excited.

First he came to New Zealand. He walked and looked all around. Then he sailed to Australia. He stepped off the ship in a sunny city called Sydney. He was far from home now.



4 • The Policeman's Coat

In Australia, James became a policeman. He put on a blue coat and a tall hat. The police sent him far away, to a place called Temora. Gold had been found there!

Temora was full of people digging for gold. They lived in tents and little bark huts. It was hot and dusty. James kept everyone safe. It was hard work.



TEMORA
1882

STORE

GOLD!

GOOD DIGGINGS

FORTUNE
AWAITS!

5 • A Piece of Gold

On his days off, James dug for gold too. One evening his boot hit something in the dirt. He picked it up. He washed it clean. It was a little lump of gold!

James was so happy. He did not want to be rich. He wanted to go home. He wanted to show his family in England. So he took his gold and sailed away.

TEMORA
GOLDFIELDS
— 1880 —



6 • Too Cold for Home

James sailed all the way back to England. His mother hugged him tight. Everyone wanted to hear his stories. He showed them the gold. It was lovely to be home.

But something felt wrong. England was so cold now! James had lived in the warm sun for years. Soon he knew the truth. Australia was his home. So he sailed all the way back again. Now he had crossed the whole world two times!



GARNETT
HOUSE
EST. 1383

7 • The Big Gentle Constable

James was a very big man. He was tall as a door and strong as a bear. But he was gentle and kind. Everybody liked him.

He was a country policeman now. He rode to little towns far, far apart. He looked after everyone. Some towns were wild and rough. James kept the peace with a quiet smile.



GENERAL STORE

HOTEL

TEMORA

45 MILES

NARRANDERA

80 MILES

8 • A Girl of the Goldfields

Far away, a girl named Emily was growing up. She lived on the goldfields too, near a town called Bendigo. Her family came from Germany and England. They were poor but kind.

On Sundays, Emily walked to a little chapel. Her family sang hymns together. Some songs were in German! Emily did not know all the words. So she hummed along and smiled.



9 • By the River

When Emily grew up, she went to work in a busy river town. It was called Wentworth. Big paddle boats puffed up and down the water. Her brother lived there too.

One day Emily met a policeman on the street. It was James! They talked and laughed. They liked each other very much. Soon they were married in a little church by the river.



10 • A House Full of Children

James and Emily made a happy home.

Soon there were children! First Constance, then Cecil, then Freda, and then twin girls, Myrtle and Ivy. What a busy house!

Big James loved his family. He was gentle with the little ones. The children loved their kind, giant dad. There was always something happening at home.



11 • The Quietest Place

At last James came to a quiet village called Kelso. Almost nothing ever happened there! It was the calmest place he had ever seen. James liked it that way.

One frosty day, two nuns knocked at his door. They were shivering. “The man who chops our firewood is in your jail!” they said. “We are so cold!” James smiled. He let the man out to bring their wood.



12 • Homework and Rabbits

James wrote with a beautiful hand. He checked the children's homework at the table. If it was messy, they did it again, neat and tidy!

One day James told his son Cecil to clean some rabbits. Cecil said, “Do it yourself!” Oh dear. James popped him in the little jail for being cheeky. But Cecil's arms were long. He reached through the bars and let himself out! The family laughed about it for years.



KELSO
POLICE STATION
EST 1893

ARITHMETIC

COPIE BOOK

GRAMMAR

13 • Missing Emily

For a long time, Emily was not well. She grew more and more tired. Her sister came to help look after her and the children. Everyone loved Emily very much.

One sad day, Emily died. James missed her with all his heart. They laid her to rest in the quiet churchyard at Kelso, under the trees. He never forgot her.



EMILY
KEZIAH BORMAN
BELOVED WIFE
AND MOTHER
AT REST

14 • This Is Heaven

James was a policeman for many, many years. When it was time to stop, his friends gave him a present. They gave him three shiny silver pipes and said thank you.

One evening James came home very tired. He took off his boots and sat in his big soft chair. He leaned back and said three little words: “This is heaven.” Then he fell asleep, happy and safe, and was laid to rest beside his Emily, together forever.



Presented to
Constable James Barnes
with sincere thanks
and best wishes.



Meet James Barnes and Emily Borrman: a farm boy who loved maps, sailed across the whole world twice, and became the biggest, kindest policeman in town; and Emily, a German engineer's daughter brought up on the Bendigo goldfields. This is their story - from the green hills in England to the goldfields of Australia, and a little house full of children. Every important thing in this book really happened.