

THE ADVENTURES OF  
SWAMP DOG SAM II  
IN THE CITY

Chapter One

**DANGER DETECTORS**

“A-R-O-O... R-O-O... R-O-O!”

I howl into the evening sky and hop around my tree house porch. My floppy ears stand at high alert. I bump into Husk.

“Calm down, little buddy,” Husk says. “You really know how to scare a tortoise right out of his shell!”

“What’s all the fuss?” Misty Sue, a white-tailed dwarf deer, sticks her head out of her tree house door.

“Sam’s in a tizzy over something,” says Husk.

“Why are your ears doing that sticky-up thing?” Misty Sue scampers over. She’s nose to nose with me.

“My brothers are missing! I just know it!”

“Your brothers never miss a meal,” Misty Sue says. “And it’s dinnertime. They’ll show up. You’ll see.”

“I haven’t seen them since last night. Look at this.” I pull my ears down and they spring right back up. “This isn’t normal.”

“You’re right about that,” Husk says. “When did your ears turn into *danger detectors*?”

“Today! Sensei’s been teaching me how to solve my problems and this is my new superpower.”

“So, your ears aren’t flying up because you’re scared?” Misty Sue asks.

“Nope! My ears are pointing to *danger*.”

“Sensei’s students are famous for their magic. Are you sure those chameleons, Ying and Yang, didn’t make you drink a potion?”

“They wouldn’t do that, Misty Sue. You’re the one who took me there in the first place.”

“Alright, Sam. Calm down.”

“How can I calm down? Boss, Skippy, and Stinkie are in a mess. I can feel it! I can feel it! You know I can feel it!”

I keep hopping around on my porch, tugging on my ears. But they bounce back up to attention.

“Sensei says my sixth sense is growing.”

“I think your *ears* are growing,” Misty Sue says. “But I think we’d better trust your new DANGER DETECTORS and start looking for your brothers.”

# OKEFENOKEE SWAMP

## FUN FACTS (SAMPLE)

### **What is the largest mammal in the Okefenokee Swamp? BLACK BEAR!**

It can weigh up to 400 pounds when it is full grown. The black bear is omnivorous, eating both plants and animals, anything from berries, nuts, roots, insects, fish, eggs, and other small animals.

Black bears have a keen sense of hearing and good sight at close range, but their oversized noses make them able to sniff out the smallest morsels of food. They can find food that has been discarded by humans over a mile away. Wow!

Did you know the black bear is one of the most helpless and dependent creatures at birth? It weighs less than a pound, is blind, and hairless when it is born.

Did you know the black bear hibernates in the winter? This means it sleeps in a dormant state without eating. The black bear lives off its fat reserves. When it wakes from hibernation, it's very hungry! You would not want to meet up with a black bear after hibernation! Yikes!

Did you know the black bear is an expert climber? It may look clumsy, but with its sharp claws, it is built for climbing and can run up a tree almost as fast as a squirrel. It would not be wise to try to escape a bear by climbing a tree!