Old Henry explained. “We are behind a lot of other geese. Those geese fly through the air and leave a trail of wind that moves in the same direction the geese are moving. We’re flying through that air, so we don’t have to work as hard as the geese up front.”

Tim said, “That’s good for us, but I sure wouldn’t want to be one of those geese up front.”

Henry said, “All the geese that are up front take turns at being the first goose in the V. They fly at the point for an hour or more and then change places with another goose.”

Then Henry noticed that his wing wasn’t as sore as it had been. He hadn’t been thinking about that wing because it hadn’t been hurting. Henry realized that it hadn’t been hurting because it didn’t have to work as hard as it did when he and Tim flew alone. Henry said to himself, “If it doesn’t get any harder than this, maybe . . .” He still wasn’t sure how he would feel the next morning when the rest of the flock was ready to fly again.

Later that afternoon, when the sky was starting to get very cloudy, the great V of geese went lower and lower through the clouds and came out of them above a beautiful green lake. Tim asked Henry, “What’s that lake?”