



'Hey! Wait for me!'

Pangur ran up the stairs. When Brendan caught up with her she was crouched beside a grating outside the Abbot's room. He heard voices from inside.

'You should not have come, Aidan. The Northmen will have followed you!'

'Should I have stayed to be killed? And what about the Book? The Book is saved ... and I mean to complete it.'

'We have more important things to complete here, Aidan. The wall I am building will save Kells – and your precious book!'

'No wall can stop the Northmen, Abbot. When they come, all we can do is run and hope that we are fast enough.'

Brendan didn't wait to hear more. He picked up a protesting Pangur Bán and hurried down to the kitchen to find her some food.