

*But the wildest of all
the wild animals
was the Cat.*

*He walked by himself,
and all places were
alike to him.*



Beginner

Elementary

Для начинающих

Pre-Intermediate

Для продолжающих
первого уровня

Intermediate

Для продолжающих
второго уровня

Upper Intermediate

Для продолжающих
третьего уровня

Advanced

Для совершенствующихся

АЙРИС ПРЕСС

REDYARD KIPLING JUST SO STORIES

РЕДЬЯРД КИПЛИНГ МАЛЕНЬКИЕ СКАЗКИ

АЙРИС ПРЕСС

Домащее чтение

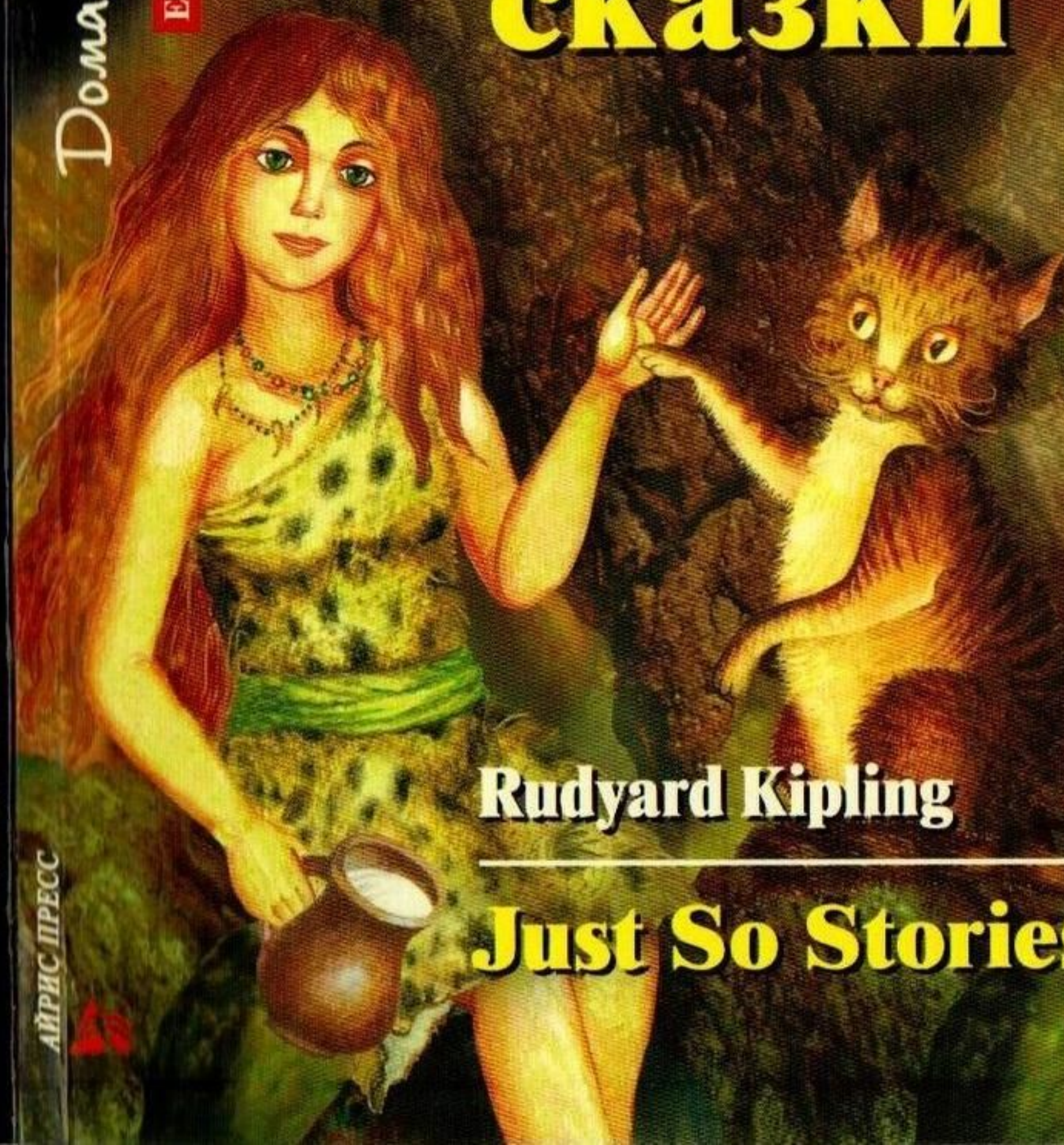


АНГЛИЙСКИЙ клуб

Редьярд Киплинг

Маленькие сказки

Elementary



Rudyard Kipling

Just So Stories

ISBN 978-5-8112-3963-4



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Английский клуб

Домашнее чтение

Редьярд Киплинг

Маленькие сказки

*Составление, адаптация текста,
комментарий, упражнения
Е.Г. Вороновой, Н.Н. Чесовой*



Москва

АЙРИС ПРЕСС

2010

УДК 811.111(075)
ББК 81.2Англ-922
К42

Серия «Английский клуб» включает книги и учебные пособия, рассчитанные на пять этапов изучения английского языка: Elementary (для начинающих), Pre-Intermediate (для продолжающих первого уровня), Intermediate (для продолжающих второго уровня), Upper Intermediate (для продолжающих третьего уровня) и Advanced (для совершенствующихся).

Серийное оформление А. М. Драгового

Киплинг, Р.

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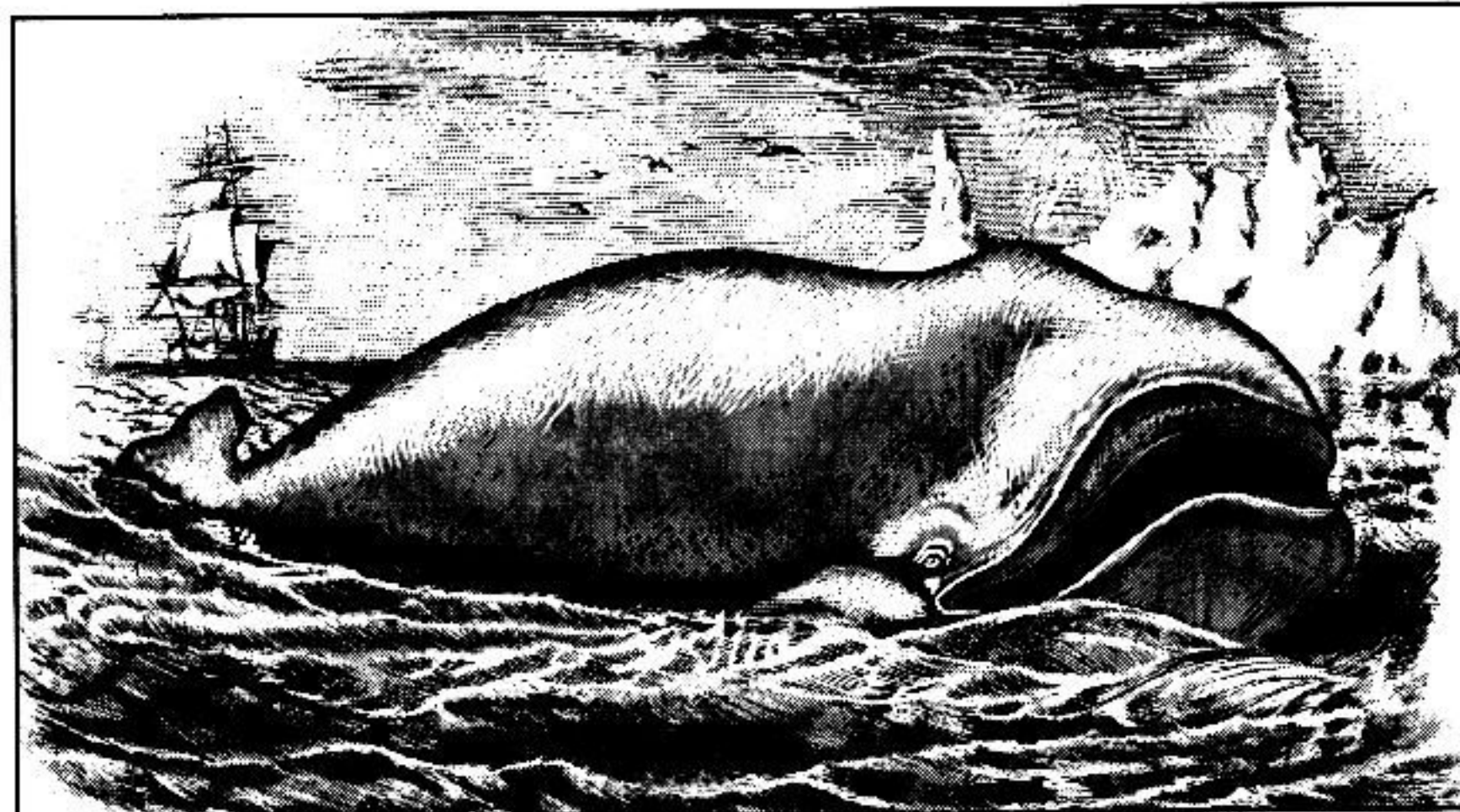
Книга знакомит читателя с творчеством известного английского писателя Джозефа Редьярда Киплинга (1865–1936). Путешествуя по разным странам, в 1899 году он провел несколько месяцев в Южной Африке, где собрал материал для новой детской книги, которая вышла в свет в 1902 году под названием «Маленькие сказки». Дети всего мира зачитываются его рассказами про любопытного слоненка, про кошку, которая гуляла сама по себе, о том, как леопард стал пятнистым, как было написано первое письмо и др.

Текст сказок адаптирован с учетом уровня владения языком учащихся 5–6 классов школ, гимназий, лицеев. Книга снабжена комментарием и упражнениями, направленными на проверку понимания текста, отработку лексики, грамматических структур, а также развитие навыков устной речи.

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Part One

HOW THE WHALE GOT HIS THROAT

In the sea, once upon a time, there was a Whale, and he ate fishes. He ate the starfish and the garfish, and the crab and the dab, and the skate and his mate...¹ All the fishes he could find in all the sea he ate with his mouth — so! Till at last there was only one

¹ the starfish and the garfish, and the crab and the dab, and the skate and his mate — морских звезд и панцирных рыб, и крабов и лиманду, и скатов и его друзей (На самом деле названия рыб не имеют особого значения. Главное ритм и рифма!)

small fish in all the sea. He was a small Clever Fish, and he swam behind the Whale's right ear, so the Whale couldn't see him. Then the Whale stood up on his tail and said, "I'm hungry." And the small Clever Fish said in a small clever voice, "Noble Whale, have you ever eaten Man?"

"No," said the Whale. "What is it like?"

"Nice," said the small Clever Fish. "Nice but a little noisy."

"Then bring me some," said the Whale.

"One at a time is enough¹," said the Clever Fish. "Will you swim to latitude Fifty North, longitude Forty West (that is Magic)? There you will find a Sailor. He is sitting on a raft in the middle of the sea. He has nothing but a knife, and a pair of blue trousers on and a pair of suspenders (you must not forget the suspenders). But I must tell you that he is a man of infinite-resource-and-sagacity².

¹ **One at a time is enough** — Для первого раза одного вполне достаточно

² **a man of infinite-resource-and-sagacity** — человек безграничной мудрости и изобретательности (Это выражение, как и многие другие Киплинговские неологизмы, употребляется как устойчивое словосочетание.)

So the Whale swam and swam as fast as he could. On a raft, in the middle of the sea, with nothing on but a pair of blue trousers and a pair of suspenders (you must remember the suspenders!), and a knife, the Whale found the Sailor. The man was doing nothing with his toes in the water. (His Mother let him do that!)

Then the Whale opened his mouth back and back and back till it nearly touched his tail, and he swallowed the Sailor, and the raft he was sitting on, and his blue trousers, and the suspenders (which you must not forget), and the knife. He swallowed them all down into his warm, dark, inside cupboards¹. He was so glad that he turned round three times on his tail.

But when the Sailor (he was a man of infinite-resource-and-sagacity) got inside the Whale's warm, dark, inside cupboards, he jumped and he bumped, and he pranced and he danced, and he hit and he bit, and he leaped and he crept, and he hopped and he dropped, and he cried and

¹ **inside cupboards** — внутренний шкафчик (имеется в виду желудок кита)

he sighed¹ and the Whale felt most unhappy. (Have you forgotten the suspenders?)

So he said to the Clever Fish, "This man is very noisy, and besides he is making me hic-cough². What shall I do?"

"Tell him to come out," said the Clever Fish.

So he called down to the Sailor, "Come out! I've got the hiccoughs."

"No, no!" said the Sailor. "Not now. Take me to England first, and I'll think about it." And he began to dance again.

"It is better to take him home," said the Clever Fish to the Whale. "I told you that he is a man of infinite-resource-and-sagacity."

So the Whale swam and swam and swam, as fast as he could for the hiccoughs; and at

¹ he jumped and he bumped, and he pranced and he danced, and he hit and he bit, and he leaped and he crept, and he hopped and he dropped, and he cried and he sighed — он прыгал и подпрыгивал, ножками подрыгивал, бился и стучался, иногда брыкался, падал двадцать раз к ряду, кричал, орал, громко стонал, когда совсем уж устал (*Здесь снова используется прием ритмических рифмованных повторов, поэтому лишь настоящим любителям словарей можно посоветовать переводить эту фразу дословно.*)

² to hiccough — икать

last he saw the land. He came up to the shore, opened his mouth wide and wide and wide and the Sailor walked out of his mouth.

But... Can you remember that the Sailor was a man of infinite-resource-and-sagacity? On his way back to England he took his knife out and cut the raft into pieces and then made the grating with the help of his suspenders (now you know why you mustn't forget the suspenders!). So when the Whale opened his mouth, the Sailor put that grating into the Whale's throat, and there it stuck!

The Sailor got very happy and he made a rhyme — By means of a grating I have stopped your ating.¹

When the Sailor walked out of the Whale's mouth, he went home to his Mother; and he married and lived happily.

So did the Whale. But from that day on², he ate nothing but very, very small fish because

¹ By means of a grating I have stopped your ating. — С помощью решетки заткнул тебе я глотку. (ating — слово, придуманное Киплингом. Этот неологизм рифмуется со словом grating. Образован от формы прошедшего времени глагола to eat — ate с помощью суффикса ing.)

² from that day on — с того самого дня

he had the grating in his throat. He couldn't cough it out, he couldn't swallow it down. That is why whales nowadays never eat men or boys or little girls.

The small Clever Fish went away as fast as he could. He hid himself under the Equator. He was afraid that the Whale could be angry with him.

The Sailor took the knife home. He was wearing the blue trousers when he walked out. But he never wore suspenders because they were left in the Whale's throat; and that is the end of that tale.



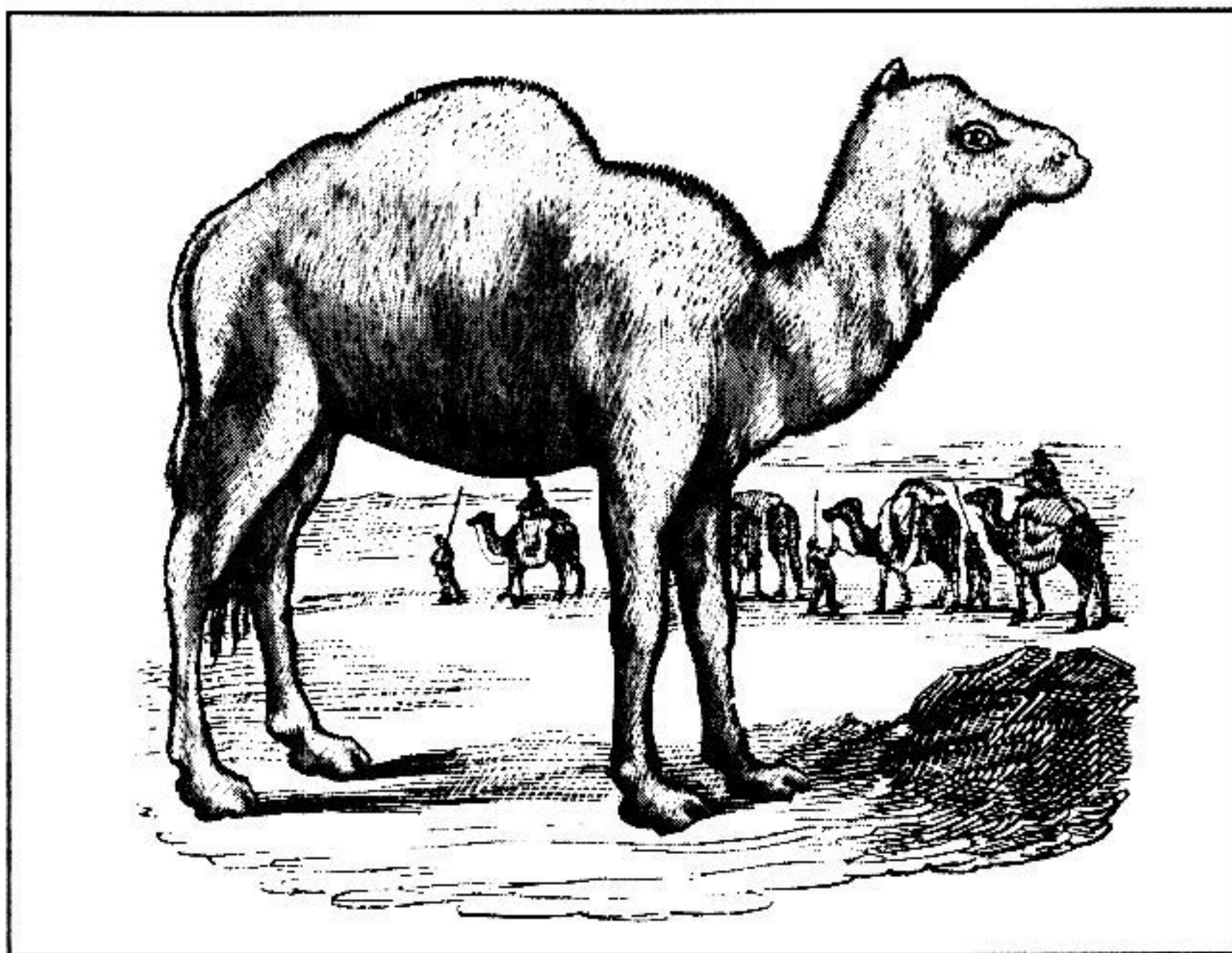
Activities

While Reading

Say true, false or I don't know.

1. The Whale ate all the fishes in the sea.
2. The small Clever Fish swam behind the Whale's ear, because the Whale didn't want to see him.

3. The Whale found a Sailor in the middle of the sea.
4. The Sailor had blue trousers on and blue suspenders.
5. The Whale swallowed the raft the Sailor was sitting on.
6. When the Sailor found himself inside the Whale, he became very noisy.
7. The Sailor was very hungry and cold inside the Whale.
8. The Whale liked to hiccough.
9. The Whale followed the Clever Fish's advice.
10. The Sailor reached home inside the Whale.



Part Two

HOW THE CAMEL GOT HIS HUMP

Now this is the next tale, and it tells how the Camel got his big hump.

In the beginning of years¹, when the world was so new, and the Animals just began to work for Man, there was a Camel, and he lived

¹ In the beginning of years — В самые первые годы (На заре жизни)

in the middle of a Desert because he did not want to work. He was very lazy and idle; and when somebody spoke to him he said “Humph!”¹ Just “Humph!” and nothing more.

On Monday morning the Horse came to him, with a saddle on his back and said, “Camel, O Camel, come out and work like the rest of us².”

“Humph!” said the Camel; and the Horse went away and told the Man.

Then the Dog came to him, with a stick in his mouth, and said, “Camel, O Camel, come out and work like the rest of us.”

“Humph!” said the Camel; and the Dog went away and told the Man.

Then the Ox came to him and said, “Camel, O Camel, come out and work like the rest of us.”

“Humph!” said the Camel; and the Ox went away and told the Man.

At the end of the day the Man called the Horse and the Dog and the Ox together, and said, “Three, O Three, I am very sorry for you; but the Camel in the Desert doesn’t work. He

¹ **Humph!** — Пф! (восклицание, выражающее насмешку и презрение)

² **like the rest of us** — как все мы

has not come here and I am going to leave him alone. So you must work double time¹ to do his work, too."

The Horse, the Dog, and the Ox were very angry; and they held a very important meeting; and the lazy Camel came and he laughed at them. Then he said "Humph!" and went away again.

Soon there came along the Djinn of All Deserts.

He was travelling in a cloud of dust (Djinns always travel in a cloud of dust because it is Magic), and he stopped to talk with the Horse, the Dog, and the Ox.

"Djinn of All Deserts," said the Horse, "is it right for anyone to be idle, when the world is so new and there is so much work to do?"

"Of course not," said the Djinn.

"Well," said the Horse, "there's an animal in the middle of your Desert, with a long neck and long legs, and he hasn't done any work since Monday morning. He doesn't want to work."

"Whew!"² said the Djinn. "That's my Camel, I am sure that is my Camel. What does he say about it?"

¹ **work double time** — работать вдвое больше

² **Whew!** — Фью! (восклицание, выражающее удивление)

"He says 'Humph!'" said the Dog, "and he doesn't want to work."

"Does he say anything else?"

"Only 'Humph!'" said the Ox.

"Very good," said the Djinn. "I will punish him if you wait a minute."

The Djinn travelled away in his cloud of dust, and flew across the Desert. He found the Camel who was standing idle near a pool of water.

"My dear friend," said the Djinn, "why don't you work, when the world is so new and there is so much work to do?"

"Humph!" said the Camel.

The Djinn sat down and began to think a Great Magic.

"The Horse, the Dog, and the Ox work hard because the world is so new," said the Djinn. "They had to work double time because you were idle. I am going to punish you."

"Humph!" said the Camel.

"Don't say that silly word again," said the Djinn; "you say it too often. Now, listen to me, Camel. You must work."

And the Camel said "Humph!" again. And when he said it he looked at his back, and he saw that his back began to puff up into a great big hump.

“Do you see that?” said the Djinn. “That’s your own hump¹. You have got it because you did not work with other animals. Today is Thursday, and you’ve done no work since Monday when the work began. Now you are going to work.”

“How can I,” said the Camel, “with this hump on my back?”

“You haven’t worked for three days,” said the Djinn. “With this hump on your back you will be able to work now for three days without eating because you can live on your own hump and don’t say that I never did anything for you. Come out of the Desert and join the Horse, the Dog, and the Ox. And work hard!”

And the Camel came out of the Desert and joined the Horse, the Dog, and the Ox. And from that day to this the Camel always wears a humph (we call it “hump” now, not to hurt his feelings); but he has never caught up with the first three days² at the beginning of the world. And he has never learned how to behave.

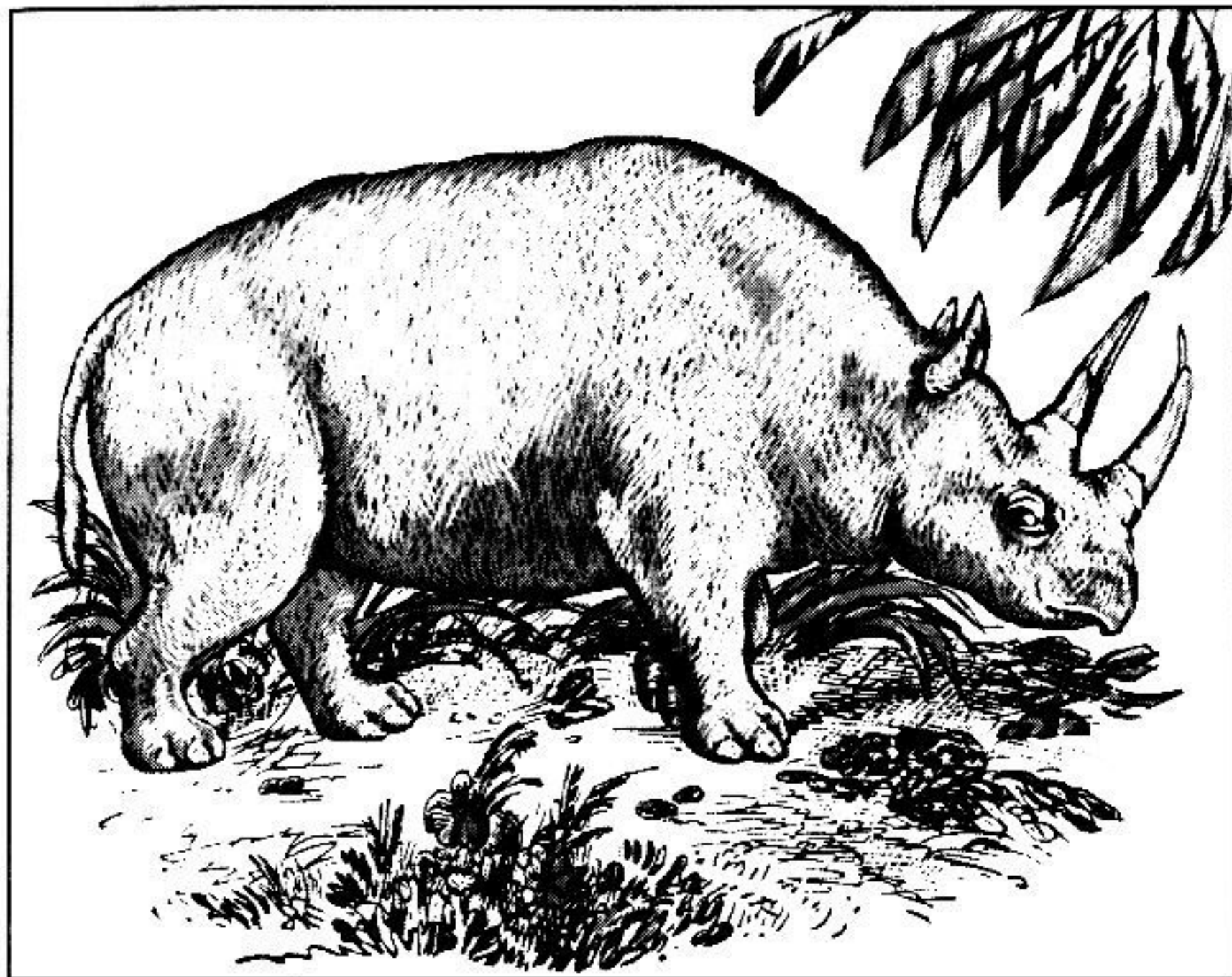
¹ **your own hump** — твой собственный горб (Слова humph и hump похожи, не так ли? Киплинг показывает, что горб у верблюда появился из-за его праздности и высокомерия.)

² **he has never caught up with the first three days** — он так и не наверстал те три дня

While Reading

Complete the sentences.

1. When somebody spoke to the Camel, he said _____.
2. First the Horse came to him, with a _____ on his back.
3. Then the Dog came to him, with a _____ in his mouth.
4. Then the Ox came to him and said _____.
5. You must work _____ time to do his work.
6. The Horse, the Dog, and the Ox were very _____ and the held a very important _____ in the middle of the Desert.
7. Djinn was travelling in a cloud of _____ across the _____.
8. He found the Camel who was standing idle near a _____.
9. The Horse, the Dog, and the Ox work hard because the world is so _____.
10. With this hump on your back you will be able to wok for three days without _____.



Part Three

HOW THE RHINOCEROS GOT HIS SKIN

Once upon a time, on an island in the middle of the Red Sea, there lived a Parsee¹. And the Parsee lived there with nothing but his hat on and his knife and a cooking-stove (you must never touch it).

¹ a Parsee — монах-отшельник из древнеперсидской религиозной секты в Индии

And one day he took flour and water and sugar and things, and made a cake, which was two feet across and three feet thick (that's magic!)¹. And he put it on the stove and he baked it and he baked it till it was all done brown and smelt wonderful.

But just as he was going to eat it, he saw a Rhinoceros coming up to him. The Rhinoceros had a horn on his nose, two piggy eyes, and few manners. In those days the Rhinoceros wore its skin quite tight, without any folds. All the same², he had no manners then, and he has no manners now, and he never will have any manners. He said, "How!" and the Parsee left that cake and climbed to the top of a palm-tree. And the Rhinoceros hit the cooking-stove with his nose, and the cake fell out, and he put the cake on the horn of his nose, and he ate it, and he went away.

Parsee came down from his palm-tree and put the stove on its legs and sang the short song:

¹ two feet across and three feet thick (that's magic!) — два фута в ширину, три фута в высоту (Фут — английская мера длины, равная примерно 30 см. Точные размеры пирога убедительное доказательство его волшебной силы.)

² All the same — Тем не менее

Them that takes cakes
Which the Parsee-man bakes
Makes dreadful mistakes.¹

And there was a great deal more in that
than you would think.²

Because, five weeks later, the weather got very, very hot, and everybody took off all the clothes they had. The Parsee took off his hat and the Rhinoceros took off his skin. In those days he had three buttons on his skin and could easily put it on and take it off. So he went to the beach, carrying it over his shoulders, and then he left it on the beach and went straight into the water.

And he never said anything about the Parsee's cake, because he never had any manners, then and nowadays.

¹ Them that takes cakes
Which the Parsee-man bakes
Makes dreadful mistakes. —

О, как не прав был тот,
кто съел пирог,
что Парс испек.

(один из возможных вариантов стихотворного перевода)

² And there was a great deal more in that than
you would think. — И это значило гораздо больше,
чем ты можешь подумать.

One day the Parsee found Rhinoceros's skin, and he smiled one smile that ran all round his face two times. Then he danced three times round the skin. Then he went home and put some cake-crumbs in his hat, for the Parsee never ate anything but cake, and didn't clean his house too often. He took that skin, and he shook that skin, and he scrubbed that skin, and he rubbed that skin¹. Finally it was full of old, dry, tickly cake-crumbs. Then he climbed to the top of his palm-tree and waited for the Rhinoceros to come out of the water and put it on.

And the Rhinoceros did. He put it on and buttoned it up with the three buttons, and it tickled like cake-crumbs in bed. Then he wanted to scratch, but that made it worse; and then he lay down on the sands and rolled and rolled and rolled, and every time he rolled the cake-crumbs tickled him worse and worse and worse. Then he ran to the palm-tree and rubbed and rubbed and rubbed himself against it. He rubbed so much and so hard that he rubbed his skin in-

¹ he shook that skin, and he scrubbed that skin, and he rubbed that skin — он потряс эту шкуру, он поскреб, он потер эту шкуру (снова использован стилистический прием ритмических, рифмованных повторов)

to a great fold over his shoulders, and another fold underneath, where the buttons used to be (but he rubbed the buttons off), and he rubbed some more folds over his legs. And he got very angry, but it didn't make any difference to the cake-crumbs¹. They were inside his skin and they tickled. So he went home, very angry and very scratchy; and from that day to this every rhinoceros has great folds in his skin and a very bad temper (remember the Rhinoceros have cake-crumbs inside!).



Activities

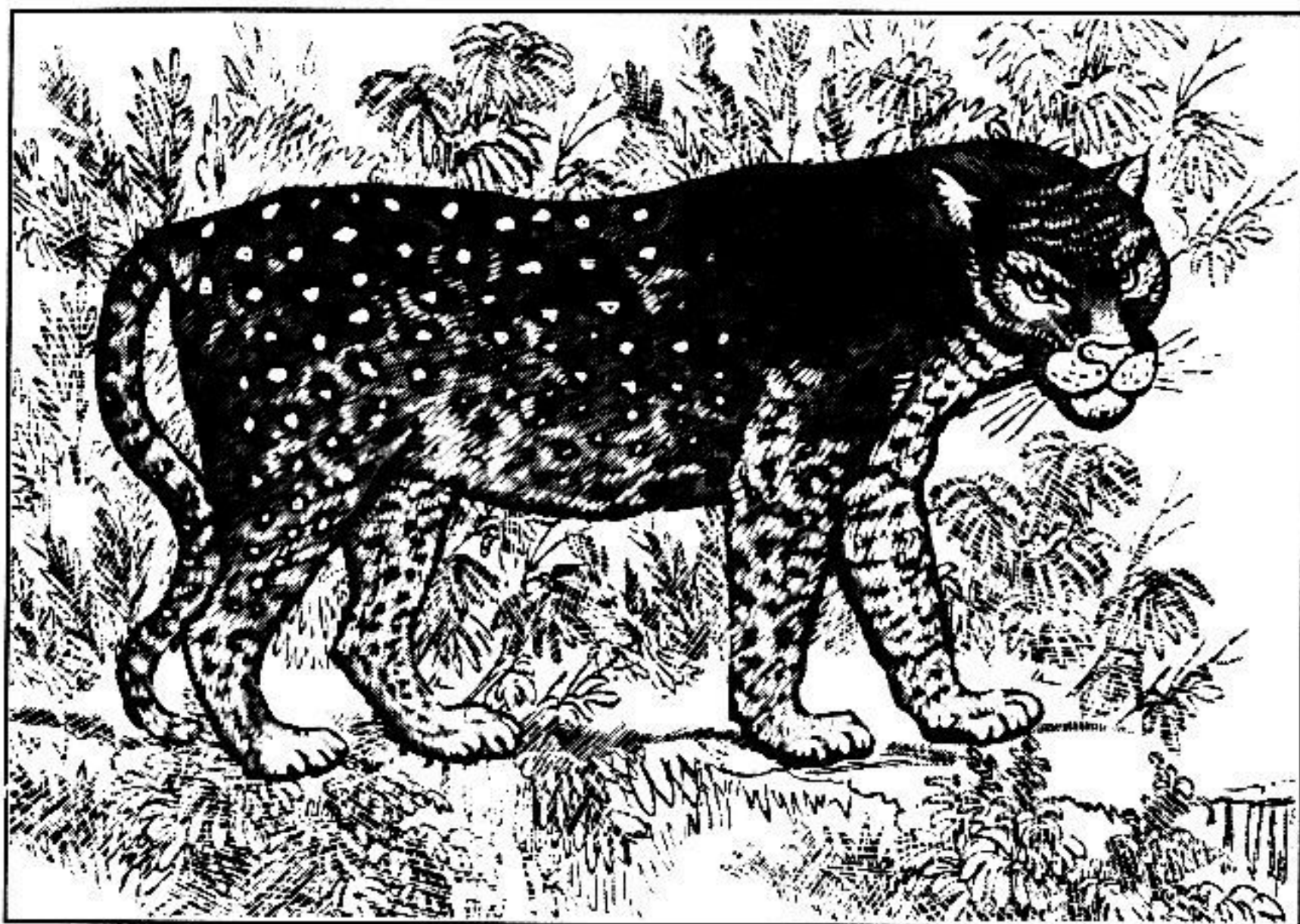
After Reading

Explain why:

1. the Parsee climbed to the top of the palm-tree when he saw a Rhinoceros.

¹ it didn't make any difference to the cake-crumbs — на крошки это не произвело ни малейшего впечатления

2. the Rhinoceros was carrying his skin over his shoulders.
3. the Rhinoceros never said anything about the Parsee's cake.
4. the Rhinoceros left his skin on the beach.
5. the Parsee smiled when he found Rhinoceros's skin on the beach.
6. the Parsee had a lot of cake-crumbs all around his home.
7. the Parsee put the cake-crumbs into the Rhinoceros's skin.
8. the Rhinoceros rolled and rolled and rolled on the sand when he put on his skin full of cake-crumbs.
9. three buttons from the Rhinoceros's skin went off.
10. the Rhinoceros had a bad temper.



Part Four

HOW THE LEOPARD GOT HIS SPOTS

Once upon a time the Leopard lived in a place called the Desert.

Remember it was a very hot, yellow Desert, where everything was of sandy-yellowish¹ colour. The Giraffe and the Zebra and the Antelope and many other animals lived there; and they were sandy-yellow-brownish all over.

¹ **sandy-yellowish** — желтовато-песочного (Английский суффикс *-ish* является уменьшительным, подобно русскому *-ова, -ева*.)

The Leopard was the sandiest-yellowest-brownest of them all, and the colour of his skin was like the yellowish-greyish-brownish colour of the Desert.

This was very bad for the Giraffe and the Zebra and the rest of them, because he could hide behind a yellowish-greyish-brownish stone or in the yellowish-greyish-brownish grass, and when the Giraffe or the Zebra or the Antelope or the Deer came by, he frightened them to death. He did it many times indeed!

And, also, there was an Ethiopian. He was a greyish-brownish-yellowish man that time and he lived in the Desert with the Leopard. They hunted together. They were so good hunters that animals didn't know where to jump¹. They didn't indeed!

After a long time they learned to run away from anything that looked like a Leopard or an Ethiopian; and by and by (the Giraffe began it, because his legs were the longest) they went away from the Desert. They ran for days and days and days till they came to a great for-

¹ **didn't know where to jump** — зд. не знали, куда податься (Английское идиоматическое выражение *to see which way the cat jumps* — выжидать, пока положение определится — используется в прямом, а не в переносном значении.)

est, full of trees and bushes and stripy, speckly, patchy-blatchy shadows¹, and there they hid. For days and for days and for days they were standing half in the shade and half out of it, and the shadows of the trees were falling on them.

So by and by the Giraffe grew spotty, and the Zebra grew stripy, and the Antelope and the Deer grew darker, with little stripes on their backs. So, though you could hear them and smell them, you could not see them.

They had a beautiful time in the stripy, speckly, patchy-blatchy shadows of the forest. The Leopard and the Ethiopian ran about the greyish-yellowish Desert, wondering where all their breakfasts and their dinners and their teas had gone². At last the Leopard and the Ethi-

¹ **stripy, speckly, patchy-blatchy shadows** — полосатые, пятнистые, крапчато-пятнистые (**stripy** — полосатый, **speckly** — крапчатый, **patchy-blatchy** — измененное ради рифмы слово **blotchy** — пятнистый)

² **where all their breakfasts and their dinners and their teas had gone** — куда подевались их завтраки, обеды и полдни (Читатель, несомненно, улыбнется, так как существительные breakfast, dinner, tea использованы во множественном числе для обозначения животных, которые служили им пищей.)

opian grew so hungry that they ate rats and rabbits, and then at last they went to the Baboon — the dog-headed, barking Baboon, who is the Cleverest Animal in all South Africa.

The Leopard said to the Baboon (and it was a very hot day), "Where have all the animals gone?"

And the Baboon winked. He knew.

Then the Ethiopian said to the Baboon, "Can you tell me where all the Fauna is now?"

And the Baboon winked. He knew.

Then the Baboon said, "The animals have gone into other spots. And my advice to you, Leopard, is to go into other spots¹ as soon as you can!"

And the Ethiopian said, "This is very fine, but I want to know where the aboriginal Fauna has migrated²." (The Ethiopian always used long words. He was not a boy but a man!)

¹ **to go into other spots** — фразеологизм, обозначающий «покрыться пятнами», воспринимается Леопардом дословно, т. е. «пойти в другие места»

² **where the aboriginal Fauna has migrated** — куда мигрировала местная фауна (Юмористический эффект достигается за счет использования книжной лексики и «взрослых» слов.)

Then the Baboon said, "The Fauna has joined the Flora¹, because it was high time for a change! And my advice to you, Ethiopian, is to change as soon as you can!"

The Leopard and the Ethiopian went to look for the Flora and the Fauna, and after many days they saw a great forest full of trees. And the shadows of the trees were stripy, speckly, patchy-blatchy shadows.

"What is this," said the Leopard, "that is so dark here, and yet so full of little lights?"

"I don't know," said the Ethiopian, "but I think it is the Flora. I can smell Giraffe, and I can hear Giraffe, but I can't see Giraffe."

"That's strange," said the Leopard. "I think it is because we have come into the dark forest out of the sunshine. I can smell Zebra, and I can hear Zebra, but I can't see Zebra."

"Wait a little," said the Ethiopian. "It's a long time since we have hunted them. Maybe, we have forgotten what they look like."

"Oh," said the Leopard. "I can remember them very well. Giraffe is about seventeen feet high², and it is golden-yellow from head

¹ **Flora** — флора, мир растений

² **about seventeen feet high** — около 17 футов ростом, т. е. примерно 5,5 м

to foot; and Zebra is about four and a half feet high¹, and it is of a greyish-yellowish colour from head to foot."

"Oh," said the Ethiopian, and he looked into the shadows of the forest. "But why can't we see them? They must show up² in this dark place like yellow bananas on a black plate."

But they didn't. The Leopard and the Ethiopian hunted all day; they could smell their breakfasts and hear them, they never saw one of them.

"It is strange," said the Leopard at last, "let us wait till it gets dark. This daylight hunting is a scandal!"

So they waited till it got dark, and soon the Leopard heard a noise, and he jumped at the noise³, and it smelt like Zebra, and when he knocked it down it kicked like Zebra, but he couldn't see it. So he said, "Be quiet, O you person without any form. I am going to sit on your head till morning, because there is something about you⁴ that I don't understand."

¹ **about four and a half feet high** — около 4,5 футов ростом, т. е. примерно 1,4 м

² **show up** — выделяться, четко виднеться

³ **jumped at the noise** — бросился на шум

⁴ **there is something about you** — есть в тебе что-то такое

Then he heard a loud noise, and the Ethiopian said, "I've caught a thing that I can't see. It smells like Giraffe, and it kicks like Giraffe, but it has no form."

"Sit on its head till morning as I am doing," said the Leopard.

So they sat down on them till bright morning-time, and then the Leopard said, "What have you at your end of the table, Brother?"

The Ethiopian thought and said, "I think it is Giraffe; but this animal is not orange-brownish from head to foot as the Giraffe was in the Desert. It is covered all over with brown spots. What have you got at your end of the table, Brother?"

And the Leopard said, "I think it is Zebra; but this animal is not greyish-yellowish from head to foot as the Zebra was in the Desert. It is covered all over with black stripes. What have you done to yourself, Zebra? Don't you know that when you were in the Desert I could see you ten miles off? And now you have no form."

"Yes," said the Zebra, "but this isn't the Desert. Can you understand it?"

"Yesterday I couldn't. How did it happen?"

"Let us up," said the Zebra, "and we will show you."

They let the Zebra and the Giraffe get up; and the Zebra went to some little bushes where the sunlight fell stripy¹, and the Giraffe went to some tall trees where the shadows fell spotty.

"Now watch," said the Zebra and the Giraffe. "One — two — three! And where's your breakfast?"

The Leopard looked and looked, the Ethiopian looked and looked, but they could see only stripy shadows and spotty shadows in the forest, but not a Zebra or a Giraffe. They hid themselves in the shadowy forest.

"Ha! Ha!" said the Ethiopian. "That was a good trick! Take a lesson by it², Leopard. Well, we must do something. I'm going to do what the Baboon advised me. He told me to change; and as I've nothing to change but my skin I'm going to change that."

"What to?" said the Leopard.

"To a nice blackish-brownish colour, with a little red in it. Then they won't see me in the stripy, speckly, patchy-blatchy shadows of the forest."

So the Ethiopian took some paint and painted his skin black and brown, with a lit-

¹ fell stripy — падал полосками

² Take a lesson by it — Извлеки из этого урок

tle red in it. The Leopard looked at him in surprise: for the first time in his life he saw how a man was changing his skin.

"But what about me?" he said, when the Ethiopian covered his last little finger with his fine new black skin.

"Can you remember what the Baboon advised you to do? He told you to go into spots."

"So I did," said the Leopard. "I went into other spots as fast as I could. I went into this spot with you."

"Oh," said the Ethiopian, "the Baboon didn't mean spots in South Africa. He meant spots on your skin."

"What's the use of that?¹" said the Leopard.

"Think of Giraffe," said the Ethiopian. "Or if you like stripes, think of Zebra. Spots and stripes are very useful as you see."

"Oh," said the Leopard. "I don't want to look like Zebra."

"Well, make your choice," said the Ethiopian, "because I should like to go hunting with you, but if you look like a yellow ba-

¹ What's the use of that? — Какая от этого польза?

nana on a black plate, I shall go hunting without you."

"I'll take spots, then," said the Leopard, "but don't make them too big. I don't want to look like Giraffe — no, I don't."

"I'll make them with the ends of my fingers," said the Ethiopian.

Then the Ethiopian put his five fingers close together (there was a lot of black paint on his new skin) and wherever his five fingers touched Leopard they left five little black spots, all close together¹, you can see them on any Leopard's skin.

"Now you are a beauty!" said the Ethiopian. "You can lie on the ground and look like a heap of little stones. You can lie on the rocks and look like a piece of rock. You can lie in the tree and look like sunshine that falls through the leaves. Think of that and be happy! Now we are going to hunt."

So they went away and hunted happily for many years. That is all.



¹ all close together — близко друг к другу

Activities

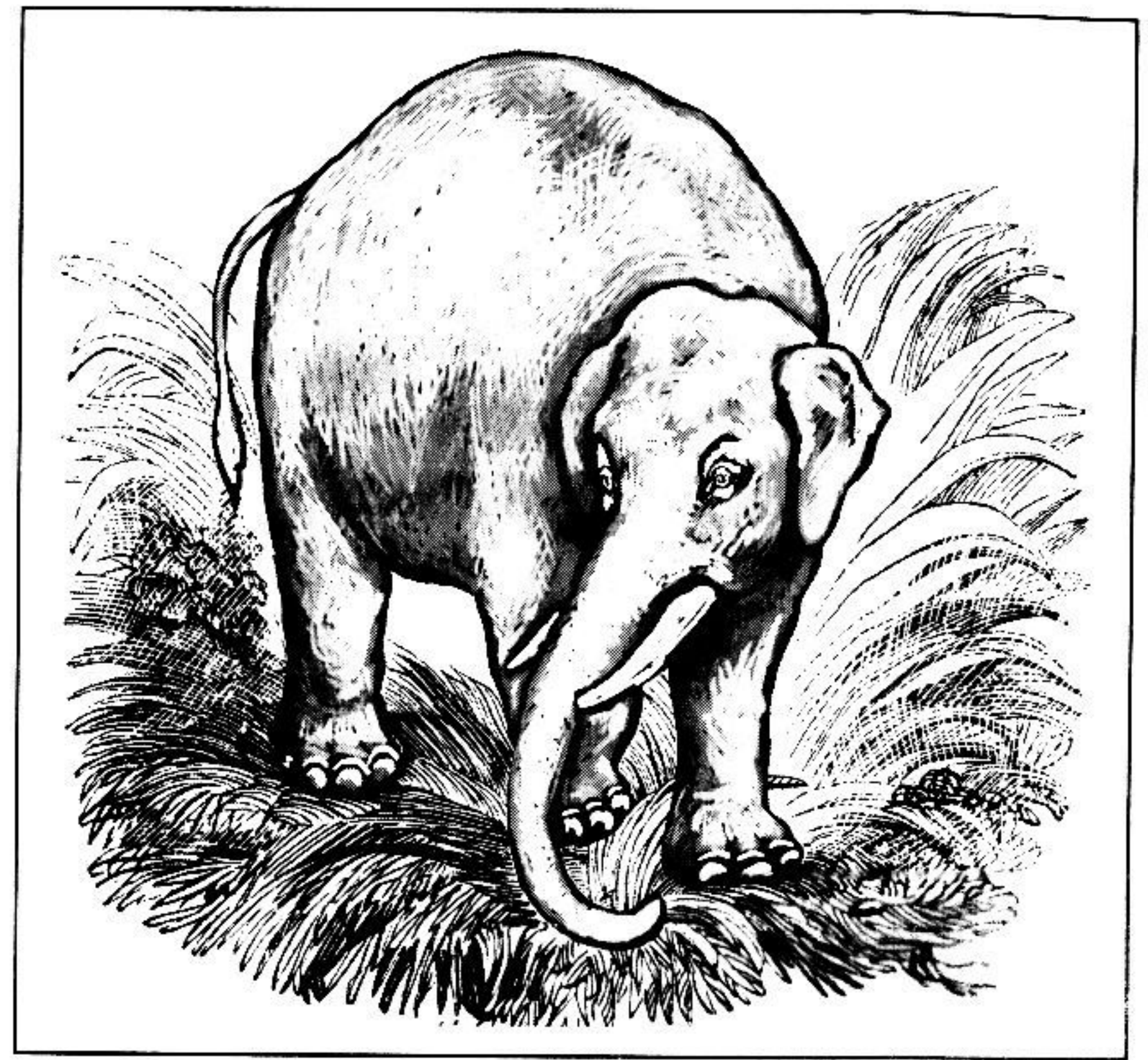
While Reading

Make the right choice.

1. Once upon a time the Leopard lived in a place called _____.
 - a) the Forest
 - b) the Field
 - c) the Desert
 - d) the Mountain
2. And, also, there was an Ethiopian who was _____ that time.
 - a) greyish-brownish-yellowish
 - b) bluish-greenish-greyish
 - c) greyish-reddish-blackish
 - d) bluish-blackish-brownish
3. The animals ran for days and days and days till they came to a great _____.
 - a) river
 - b) forest
 - c) sea
 - d) desert

4. At last the Leopard and the Ethiopian grew so _____ that they ate rats and rabbits.
 - a) cold
 - b) tall
 - c) old
 - d) hungry
5. The dog-headed Baboon was _____ Animal in all South Africa.
 - a) the Oldest
 - b) the Strongest
 - c) the Most Beautiful
 - d) the Cleverest
6. The Baboon advised the Ethiopian _____.
 - a) to follow the Leopard
 - b) to go into other spots
 - c) to go hunting
 - d) to change
7. The Ethiopian and the Leopard couldn't see the animals in the great forest because _____.
 - a) they forgot what the animals looked like

- b) they came into the dark forest out of the sunshine
c) the animals grew stripy and spotty
d) the animals changed their forms and sizes
8. The Ethiopian said, "I have nothing to change but my _____."
- a) clothes
b) shoes
c) skin
d) spots
9. "I'll take spots, then," said the Leopard, "but don't make them too _____."
- a) small
b) wide
c) stripy
d) big
10. Now you can see _____
_____ on any Leopard's skin.
- a) little black spots
b) big blue spots
c) long brown stripes
d) five small black spots



Part Five

THE ELEPHANT'S CHILD

A long time ago the Elephant had no trunk. He had only a blackish nose, as big as a boot, that he could move from side to side; but he could not pick up things with it.

But there was one Elephant — a new Elephant — an Elephant's Child — who was full

of curtiosities¹, and so he asked so many questions! And he lived in Africa, and he filled all Africa with his questions. He asked his tall aunt, the Ostrich, why her tail grew just so, and his tall aunt the Ostrich spanked him with her hard, hard foot. He asked his tall uncle, the Giraffe, what made his skin spotty, and his tall uncle, the Giraffe, spanked him with his hard, hard foot. And still he was full of curtiosities! He asked his aunt, the Hippopotamus, why her eyes were red, and his aunt, the Hippopotamus, spanked him with her big, large foot; and he asked his hairy uncle, the Baboon, why melons were sweet and juicy, and his hairy uncle, the Baboon, spanked him with his hairy, hairy foot. And still he was full of curtiosities! He asked questions about everything that he saw, or heard, or felt, or smelt, or touched, and all his uncles and his aunts spanked him. And still he was full of curtiosities!

One fine morning this curious Elephant's Child asked a new fine question. He asked, "What does the Crocodile have for dinner?" Then

¹ **curtiosities** — любопытная вежливость или вежливое любопытство (слово *curtiosity*, по-видимому, образовалось при слиянии слов *curiosity* — любопытство и *courtesy* — вежливость)

everybody said, "Hush!" in a loud voice, and they spanked him, without stopping, for a long time. When that was finished, he saw Kolokolo Bird¹, sitting in the middle of the tree and he said, "My father has spanked me, and my mother has spanked me; all my aunts and uncles have spanked me for my curtiosities; and still I want to know what the Crocodile has for dinner!"

Then Kolokolo Bird answered, "Go to the banks of the great grey-green, greasy² Limpopo River, and find out."

That very next morning, this curious Elephant's Child took a hundred pounds of bananas, and a hundred pounds of sugar-cane, and seventeen melons, and said to all his dear families, "Good-bye. I am going to the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River to find out what the Crocodile has for dinner." And they all spanked him once more for luck.

Then he went away, eating melons all the time, till at last he came to the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River.

¹ **Kolokolo Bird** — вымышленное название птицы

² **great greengreen, greasy** — огромной, зловонной, серо-зеленой (Эпитеты объединены аллитерацией, поэтому при переводе важно сохранить рифму и ритм.)

Now you must know and understand that till that very week, and day, and hour, and minute, the curious Elephant's Child had never seen a Crocodile, and did not know what a Crocodile was like.

The first thing that he found was a Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake.

"Excuse me," said the Elephant's Child most politely, "but have you ever seen such a thing as a Crocodile?"

"Have I seen a Crocodile?" said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake. "What will you ask me next?"

"Excuse me," said the Elephant's Child, "but could you kindly tell me what he has for dinner?"

Then the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake came down from the rock, and spanked the Elephant's Child with his long, long tail.

"That is strange," said the Elephant's Child, "because my father and my mother, and my aunt, the Hippopotamus, and my uncle, the Baboon, have all spanked me for my curiosities — and I think this is the same thing¹."

So he said good-bye very politely to the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake, and went on, eat-

ing melons, till he came up to a log of wood lying near the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River.

But it was really the Crocodile, and the Crocodile winked one eye — like this!

"Excuse me," said the Elephant's Child most politely, "but have you seen a Crocodile anywhere about?"

Then the Crocodile winked the other eye, and lifted half his tail out of the water; and the Elephant's Child stepped back, because he did not want any spanking anymore.

"Come nearer, Little One," said the Crocodile. "Why do you ask such things?"

"Excuse me," said the Elephant's Child most politely, "but my father has spanked me, my mother has spanked me, my tall aunt, the Ostrich, and my tall uncle, the Giraffe, my aunt, the Hippopotamus, and my hairy uncle, the Baboon, and the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake; and so, I don't want to be spanked any more."

"Come nearer, Little One," said the Crocodile, "because I am the Crocodile."

Then the Elephant's Child said, "You are the Crocodile! Will you please tell me what you have for dinner?"

"Come nearer, Little One," said the Crocodile, "and I'll tell you."

¹ I think this is the same thing — мне кажется, история повторяется

Then the Elephant's Child put his head down close to the Crocodile's mouth, and the Crocodile caught him by his little nose, which up to that very week, day, hour, and minute, had been no bigger than a boot.

"I think," said the Crocodile — and he said it between his teeth, like this — "I think today I will begin with the Elephant's Child!"

At this, the Elephant's Child said, speaking through his nose, like this, "Led go! You are hurtig be!"¹

Then the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake came down from the bank and said, "My young friend, if you do not now and at this very moment, pull as hard as you can, it is my opinion that this gentleman in the elegant green jacket" (and by this he meant the Crocodile) "will get you into the waters of great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River before you say Jack Robinson"².

¹ **Led go! You are hurtig be!** — Одпустите бедя! Бде больно! (*Слоненок говорит в нос* Let go! You are hurting me!)

² **before you say Jack Robinson** — разг. ты и ахнуть не успеешь (*Комический эффект достигается тем, что высокий стилистический тон Питона сменяется разговорно-фамильярным.*)

This is the way Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snakes always talked.

Then the Elephant's Child pulled, and pulled, and pulled, and his nose began to stretch. And the Crocodile pulled, and pulled, and pulled. And the Elephant's Child's nose kept on stretching, and the Elephant's Child pulled, and pulled, and pulled, and his nose kept on stretching; and the Crocodile pulled, and pulled, and pulled, and at each pull the Elephant's Child's nose grew longer and longer — and it hurt him so much!

Then the Elephant's Child felt very tired, and he said through his nose, which was now nearly five feet long, "This is too butch for be!"¹

Then the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake went round the Elephant's Child's legs, and pulled, and the Elephant's Child pulled, and the Crocodile pulled; but the Elephant's Child and the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake pulled hardest; and at last the Crocodile let go of the Elephant's Child's nose with a sound that you could hear all up and down the Limpopo.

¹ **This is too butch for be!** — Эдо ус слиском! (*Слоненок говорит в нос* This is too much for me!)

Then the Elephant's Child sat down most hard and sudden¹; but first he said "Thank you" to the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake; and next he put cool banana leaves round his poor nose, and put it in the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo to cool.

"What are you doing that for?" said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake.

"Excuse me," said the Elephant's Child, "but my nose is badly out of shape², and I am waiting for it to shrink."

"Then you will have to wait a long time," said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake. "Some people do not know what is good for them."

The Elephant's Child sat there for three days waiting. But his nose never grew any shorter. You can see and understand that the Crocodile pulled it out into a trunk same as all Elephants have today.

At the end of the third day a fly came and before he knew what he was doing, he hit that fly dead with the end of his trunk.

¹ sat down most hard and sudden — как стоял, так и сел и больно ударился

² badly out of shape — очень сильно изменил форму

"Advantage number one!" said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake. "I wonder if you could do a thing like that with your nose as big as a boot? Try and eat a little now."

Before he thought what he was doing the Elephant's Child put out his trunk and took a lot of grass, put it into his own mouth.

"Advantage number two!" said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake. "I wonder if you could do a thing like that with your nose as big as a boot? Don't you think the sun is very hot here?"

"It is," said the Elephant's Child, and before he thought what he was doing he took some mud from the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo, and put it on his head.

"Advantage number three!" said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake. "Now how do you feel about being spanked again¹? How would you like to spank somebody?"

"I should like it very much indeed," said the Elephant's Child.

"Well," said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake, "you will find that new nose of yours very useful to spank people with."

¹ how do you feel about being spanked again — что ты теперь думаешь насчет тумаков

"Thank you," said the Elephant's Child, "I'll remember that; and now I think I'll go home to all my dear family and try."

So the Elephant's Child went home across Africa. When he wanted fruit to eat he pulled fruit down from a tree, instead of waiting for it to fall as he used to do¹. When he wanted grass he picked the grass up from the ground, instead of going on his knees as he used to do. When the flies became too noisy he broke off the branch of a tree and they flew away; and he made himself a new, cool mud-cap when the sun became hot. When he felt lonely walking through Africa he sang to himself down his trunk, and the noise was the loudest.

One dark evening he came back to all his dear families, and said, "How do you do?" They were very glad to see him, and immediately said, "Come here and we will spank you!"

"Pooh," said the Elephant's Child. "I don't think you know anything about spanking; but I do, and I'll show you."

And so he did.

"O Bananas!" said they, "where did you learn that, and what have you done to your nose?"

¹ as he used to do — как прежде

"I got a new one from the Crocodile on the banks of the grey-green, greasy Limpopo River," said the Elephant's Child. "I asked him what he had for dinner, and he gave me this to keep."

"It looks very ugly," said his hairy uncle, the Baboon.

"It does," said the Elephant's Child. "But it's very useful," and he picked up his hairy uncle, the Baboon, by one hairy leg, and off he went.

Then that bad Elephant's Child spanked all his dear families for a long time. He pulled out his Ostrich aunt's tail; and he caught his tall uncle, the Giraffe, by the hind leg; and he shouted at his aunt, the Hippopotamus, and blew bubbles into her ear when she was sleeping in the water after meals.

At last things grew so exciting¹ that his dear family went off one by one in a hurry to the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River, to get new noses from the Crocodile.



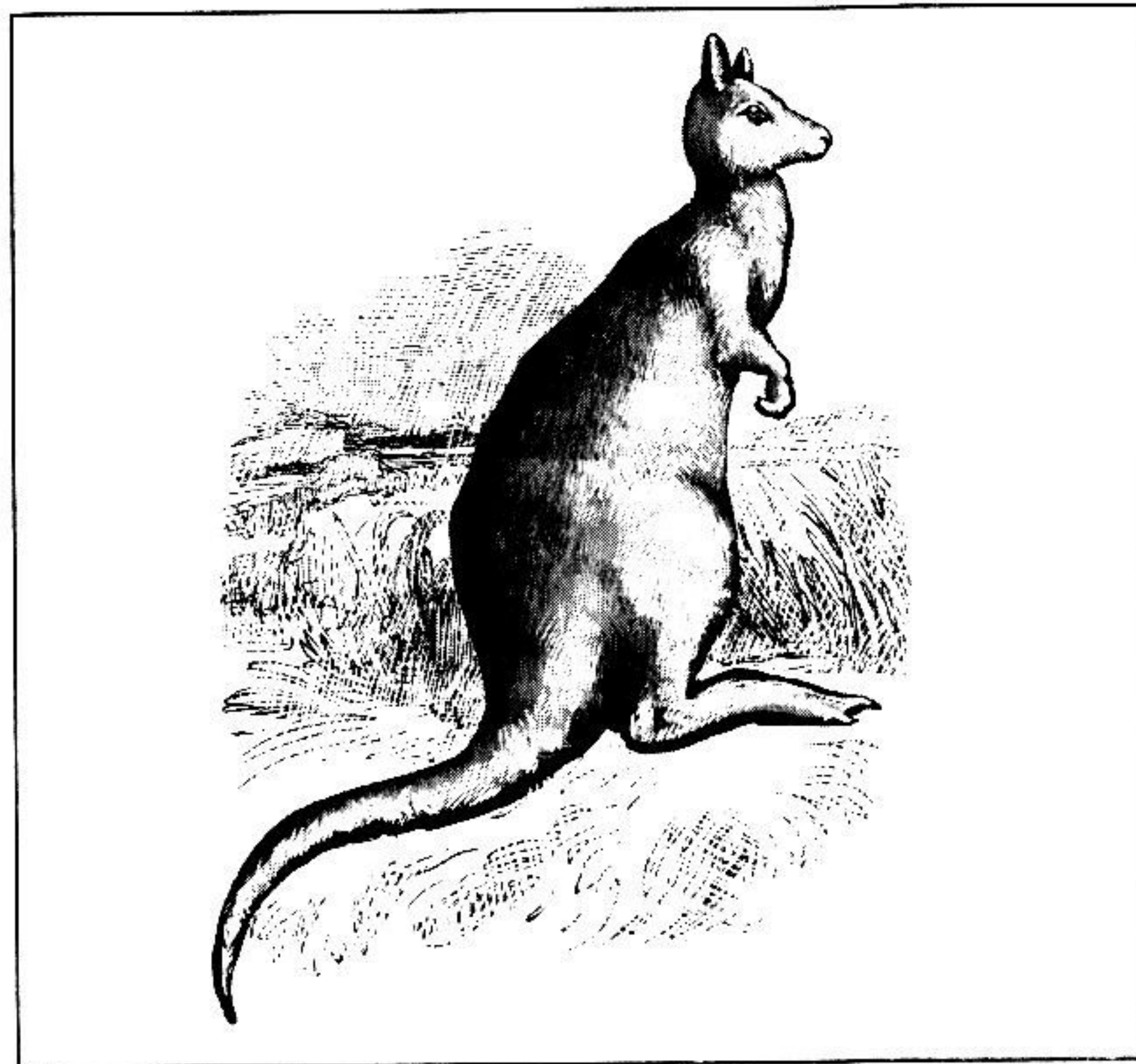
¹ things grew so exciting — дело приняло такой забавный оборот (Слово exciting — забавный лишь добавляет изрядную долю юмора к происходящему.)

Activities

After Reading

Who in this story:

1. had a blackish nose at the beginning of the story and a trunk at the end of it?
2. was very curious and asked a lot of questions?
3. had a lot of relatives that spanked him every day?
4. spanked the Elephant's Child?
5. was hairy?
6. advised the Elephant to go to the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River?
7. was very polite?
8. winked his eyes?
9. spoke through the nose?
10. went to the banks of the Limpopo River to get new noses from the Crocodile?



Part Six

THE SING-SONG¹ OF OLD MAN KANGAROO

Not always the Kangaroo looked like he does now. A long time ago he was a Different Animal with four short legs. He was grey and

¹ The Sing-Song — 30. Сказание (Баллада)

wooly¹ and very proud of himself and he liked to dance very much.

One day he danced in the middle of the Great Sandy Desert and went to the Little God Nqa at six before breakfast, saying, "Make me different from all other animals by five this afternoon."

Up jumped Nqa from his sand chair and shouted, "Go away!"

He was grey and he was woolly, and he was very proud of himself: he danced in the middle of Great Hills of Australia, and he went to the Middle God Nquing.

He came to Nquing at eight after breakfast, saying, "Make me different from all other animals; make me, also, wonderfully popular by five this afternoon."

Up jumped Nquing from his hole in the long thick grass and shouted, "Go away!"

He was grey and he was woolly, and he was very proud of himself: he danced in the middle of Australia, and he went to the Big God Nqong.

He came to Nqong at ten before dinner-time, saying, "Make me different from all other

animals; make me popular and wonderfully run after¹ by five this afternoon."

Up jumped Nqong from his bath in the lake and shouted, "Yes, I will!"

Nqong called Dingo — Yellow-Dog Dingo — always hungry, dusty in the sunshine, and showed him Kangaroo. Nqong said, "Dingo! Wake up, Dingo! Do you see that gentleman dancing over there? He wants to be popular and wonderfully run after.² Dingo, make him so!"

Up jumped Dingo — Yellow-Dog Dingo — and said, "What, that cat-rabbit?"

Off ran Dingo — Yellow-Dog Dingo — always hungry, ran after Kangaroo.

Off went the proud Kangaroo on his four little legs like a rabbit.

He ran through the Desert; he ran through the mountains; he ran through the salty lakes; he ran through the sandy hills; he ran through the fields; he ran through the forests; he ran till his front legs ached.

¹ **run after** — такой популярный, что за ним все бегают

² **He wants to be ... run after.** — Он хочет, чтобы... за ним бегали. (*Каламбур, возникший из фразеологизма бегать за кем-либо. Нконг делает вид, что понимает слова кенгуру буквально.*)

¹ **wooly** — шерстистый

He had to!¹

Still ran Dingo — Yellow-Dog Dingo — always hungry, never getting nearer, never getting farther, ran after Kangaroo.

He had to!

Still ran Kangaroo — Old Man Kangaroo. He ran through the high trees; he ran through the short trees; he ran through the long grass; he ran through the short grass; he ran till his hind legs ached.

He had to!

Still ran Dingo — Yellow-Dog Dingo — hungrier and hungrier, never getting nearer, never getting farther; and they came to the Wollgong River.

Now, there wasn't any bridge, and there wasn't any boat, and Kangaroo didn't know how to cross it; so he stood on his legs and hopped. He hopped like a Kangaroo.

He had to!

First he hopped one yard²; then he hopped three yards; then he hopped five yards; his legs growing stronger; his legs growing longer. He

¹ **He had to!** — А что еще ему оставалось делать!

² **a yard** — ярд (мера длины, равная примерно 1 метру)

hadn't any time for rest or for drink, and he wanted them very much.

Still ran Dingo — Yellow-Dog Dingo — very much surprised, very much hungry, and wondering what in the world or out of it¹ made Old Man Kangaroo hop.

For he hopped like a cricket or a new rubber ball on a nursery floor.

He had to!

He hopped on his hind legs; he stuck out his tail for a balance-weight² behind him.

He had to!

Still ran Dingo — Tired-Dog Dingo — hungrier and hungrier, very much surprised, and wondering when in the world or out of it would Old Man Kangaroo stop.

Then came Nqong from his bath in the salty lake, and said, "It's five o'clock."

Down sat Dingo — Poor-Dog Dingo — always hungry, dusty in the sunshine, tired out.

¹ **what in the world or out of it** — не понимая, какие же силы, небесные или земные (*Куплинг соединяет два устойчивых выражения what on the earth и out of this world, таким образом подчеркивая крайнее удивление Дунго.*)

² **stuck out his tail for a balance-weight** — выставил хвост в качестве противовеса

Down sat Kangaroo — Old Man Kangaroo — stuck out his tail like a milking-stool behind him, and said, “That’s finished!”

Then said Nqong, who is always a gentleman, “Why aren’t you thankful to Yellow-Dog Dingo? Why don’t you thank him for all he has done for you?”

Then said Kangaroo — Tired Old Kangaroo — “He made me leave my home, he didn’t let me have my meals; he has changed my legs so I’ll never get back.”

Then said Nqong, “Didn’t you ask me to make you different from all other animals, as well as to make you very truly run after? And now it is five o’clock.”

“Yes,” said Kangaroo. “I thought you would do with magic, but this is a practical joke¹.”

“Joke!” said Nqong, from his bath. “Say that again and I’ll call Dingo and he will run your hind legs off.”

“No,” said the Kangaroo. “Legs are legs, and you needn’t change them so far and so often. I only meant to explain to Your Lordliness²

¹ a practical joke — грубоватая шутка, розыгрыш

² I only meant to explain to Your Lordliness — Я просто хотел объяснить Вашей Милости

that I’ve had nothing to eat since morning, and I’m very hungry.”

“Yes,” said Dingo — Yellow-Dog Dingo, — “I am just in the same situation. I’ve made him different from all other animals; but what may I have for my tea?”

Then said Nqong from his bath, “Come and ask me about it tomorrow, because I’m going to wash.”

So they were left in the middle of Australia, Old Man Kangaroo and Yellow-Dog Dingo, and each said, “That’s your fault.”



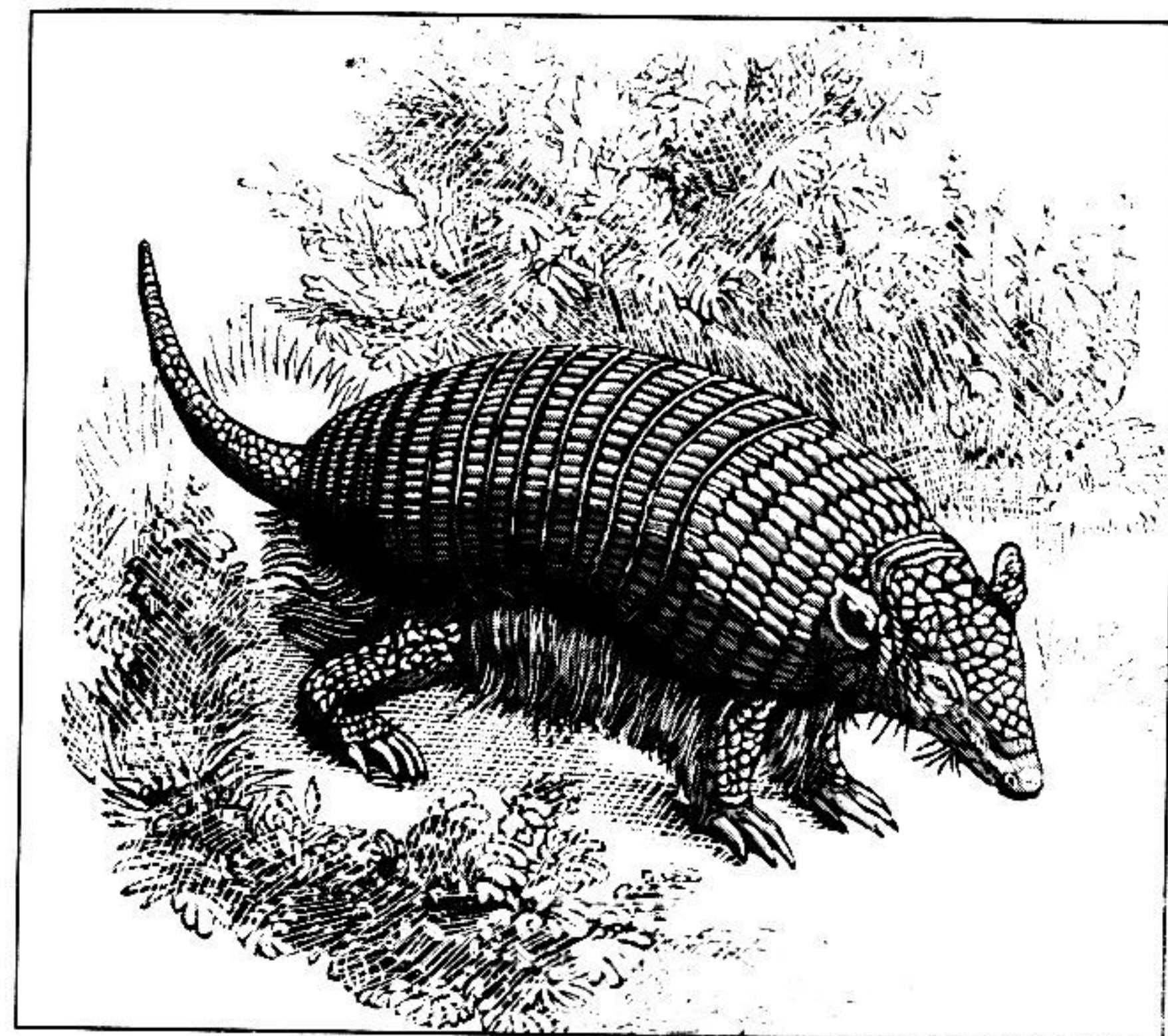
Activities

While Reading

Who in this story said it? Why? What was going on in the story when these words were said?

1. Go away!
2. Make me different from all other animals!

3. Dingo, make him so!
4. What, that cat-rabbit?
5. Why aren't you thankful to Yellow-Dog Dingo?
6. I thought you would do it with Magic, but this is a practical joke.
7. Legs are legs, and you needn't change them so far and so often.
8. I have made him different from all other animals; but what may I have for my tea?
9. Come and ask me about it tomorrow, because I'm going to wash.
10. That's your fault.



Part Seven

THE BEGINNING OF THE ARMADILLOS

This is another story of the Far-Off Times¹. In the very middle of those times was a Stick-

¹ the Far-Off Times — Далекое-предалекое Вре-
мена

ly-Prickly¹ Hedgehog, and he lived on the banks of the Amazon River. And he had a friend, a Slow-Solid Tortoise, who lived on the banks of the Amazon River too.

But also, in those Far-Off Times, there was a Painted Jaguar, and he lived on the banks of the Amazon; and he ate everything that he could catch. When he could not catch rabbits or monkeys he ate frogs and mice; and when he could not catch frogs and mice he went to his Mother Jaguar, and she told him how to eat hedgehogs and tortoises.

She said to him so many times: "My son, when you find a Hedgehog you must drop him into the water and then he will uncoil, and when you catch a Tortoise you must scoop him out of his shell² with your paw."

One beautiful night on the banks of the Amazon, Painted Jaguar found Stickly-Prickly Hedgehog and Slow-Solid Tortoise. They could not run away, and so Stickly-Prickly curled up

¹ **Stickly-Prickly** — постоянный эпитет ежика, постепенно превращающийся в его имя; prickly — колючий, stickly — слово, образованное Куплингом от слова to stick — торчать.

² **scoop him out of his shell** — выцарапать его из панциря

into a ball, because he was a Hedgehog, and Slow-Solid Tortoise drew in his head and feet into his shell as far as they would go because he was a Tortoise.

"Now listen to me," said Painted Jaguar, "because this is very important. My mother said that when I meet a Hedgehog I must drop him into the water and then he will uncoil, and when I meet a Tortoise I must scoop him out of his shell with my paw. Now which of you is Hedgehog and which is Tortoise?"

"Are you sure¹ of what your Mummy told you?" said Stickly-Prickly Hedgehog. "Didn't she tell you that when you uncoil a Tortoise you must shell him out of the water with a scoop, and when you paw a Hedgehog you must drop him on the shell?"

"Are you sure of what your Mummy told you?" said Slow-Solid Tortoise. "Didn't she tell you that when you water a Hedgehog you must

¹ **Are you sure...** — Дальнейший разговор Ягуара с Ежом и Черепахой построен на конверсии. Искжая смысл слов Мамы-Ягуарихи, Еж и Черепаха стараются запутать Ягуара. Слова shell, water, paw превращаются в глаголы; а глаголы to scoop и to drop становятся существительными.

drop him into your paw, and when you meet a Tortoise you must shell him till he uncoils."

"I don't think it was at all like that," said Painted Jaguar, but he felt a little puzzled; "but, please, can you say it again?"

"When you scoop water with your paw you uncoil it with a Hedgehog," said Stickly-Prickly. "Remember that, because it's important."

"But," said the Tortoise, "when you paw your meat you drop it into a Tortoise with a scoop. Why can't you understand?"

"You are making my spots ache," said Painted Jaguar; "and besides, I don't want your advice at all. I only wanted to know which of you is Hedgehog and which is Tortoise."

"I shan't tell you," said Stickly-Prickly. "But you can scoop me out of my shell if you like."

"Aha!" said Painted Jaguar. "Now I know that you are Tortoise. You thought I wouldn't scoop you out! Now I will." But the moment Painted Jaguar touched Stickly-Prickly, his paw was just filled with prickles. Away went Stickly-Prickly into the bushes, where it was too dark to find him. "Now I know he isn't Tortoise at all. But" — and then he thought again — "how do I know that this other is Tortoise?"

"But I am Tortoise," said Slow-Solid. "Your mother was quite right. She said that you must scoop me out of my shell with your paw. Begin."

"You didn't say she said that a minute ago," said Painted Jaguar. "You said she said something quite different."

"Well, you mean you say that I said that she said something quite different, I don't see that it makes any difference; because if she said what you said I said she said, it's just the same as if I said what she said she said. On the other hand, if you think she told you not to uncoil me with a scoop, not with your paw, I can't help that, can I?"

"But you said you wanted to be scooped out of your shell with my paw," said Painted Jaguar.

"If you think again, you'll find that I didn't say anything like that. I said that your mother told you to scoop me out of my shell," said Slow-Solid.

"What will happen if I do?" said the Jaguar.

"I don't know, because I've never been scooped out of my shell before; but if you want to see me swim away, drop me into the water."

"I don't believe it," said Painted Jaguar. "You've mixed up all the things my mother told me to do with the things that you asked

me whether I was sure that she didn't say, till I don't know whether I'm on my head or my painted tail; and now you come and tell me something I can understand, and it makes me more mixy¹ than before. My mother told me to drop one of you two into the water, and as you seem so nervous to be dropped I think you don't want to be dropped. So jump into the Amazon and be quick about it."

"I warn you that your Mummy won't be pleased. Don't tell her I didn't tell you," said Slow-Solid.

"If you say another word about what my mother said —" the Jaguar answered, but he didn't finish the sentence. Slow-Solid quietly jumped into the Amazon, swam under water for a long way, and came out on the bank where Stickly-Prickly was waiting for him.

"Safe we are," said Stickly-Prickly. "I don't like Painted Jaguar. What did you tell him?"

"I told him the truth. I told him that I was a Tortoise, but he didn't believe it, and he made me jump into the river to see if I was, and I was, and he is surprised. Now he's gone to tell his Mummy. Listen to him!"

¹ it makes me more mixy — у меня все перепуталось (mixy — детское слово)

They could hear Painted Jaguar calling his Mother among the trees and the bushes by the side of the Amazon, till his Mummy came.

"Son, son!" said his mother, "what has happened?"

"I tried to scoop something with my paw, and now my paw is full of prickles," said Painted Jaguar.

"Son, son!" said his mother, "by the prickles in your paw I see that it was a Hedgehog. You have dropped him into the water, haven't you?"

"I did that to the other animal; and he said he was a Tortoise, and I didn't believe him, and it was quite true, and he jumped into the Amazon, and he won't come up again, and I haven't anything at all to eat. They are too clever on the Amazon for poor me!"

"Son, son!" said his mother, "now listen to me and remember what I say. A Hedgehog curls himself up into a ball and his prickles stick out. By this you may know the Hedgehog."

"I don't like this old lady," said Stickly-Prickly. "I wonder what else she knows?"

"A Tortoise can't curl himself up," Mother Jaguar went on. "He draws his head and legs into his shell. By this you may know the Tortoise."

"I don't like this old lady at all!" said Slow-Solid Tortoise. "Even Painted Jaguar can't forget it. It's a great pity that you can't swim, Stickly-Prickly."

"Don't talk to me," said Stickly-Prickly. "Listen to Painted Jaguar!"

Painted Jaguar was sitting on the banks of the Amazon saying to himself:

"Can't curl, but can swim —
Slow-Solid, that's him!
Curls up, but can't swim —
Stickly-Prickly, that's him!"¹

"He'll never forget it," said Stickly-Prickly, "Slow-Solid, I'm going to try to learn to swim. It may be useful."

"That's a good idea!" said Slow-Solid; and he helped Stickly-Prickly to learn how to swim.

¹ Can't curl, but can swim —
Slow-Solid, that's him!
Curls up, but can't swim —
Stickly-Prickly, that's him! —
Плавает, не гнется —
Черепахой зовется!
Не плавает, сгибается —
Ежом называется!

(один из возможных стихотворных вариантов перевода)

"You'll make a fine swimmer! A little more practice will make you a regular whale," said Slow-Solid. "Now, I'm going to learn to curl up. It may be useful."

Stickly-Prickly showed him how to do little curls and finally Slow-Solid curled up a little.

"Great! You can curl up. Won't Painted Jaguar be surprised!"¹ said Stickly-Prickly.

"Great!" said Slow-Solid, "You can swim. Won't Painted Jaguar be surprised!"

They went on with their exercises, each helping the other, till morning came. Then they saw that they became quite different: the prickles of Stickly-Prickly had melted into one another and that early morning he looked like a pine-cone.

"Stickly-Prickly," said Tortoise after breakfast, "I am not what I was yesterday; that's the result of the exercises. I think I look like a pine-cone too as you do. Won't Painted Jaguar be surprised! Let's go and find him."

By and by they found Painted Jaguar and he was so surprised that he fell three times backwards over his painted tail² without stopping.

¹ Won't Painted Jaguar be surprised! — То-то удивится Расписной Ягуар!

² fell three times backwards over his painted tail — три раза перекувыркнулся через свой собственный хвост

"Good morning!" said Stickly-Prickly. "And how is your dear Mummy this morning?"

"She is quite well, thank you," said Painted Jaguar, "but you must excuse me if I do not now tell your name."

"That's unkind of you," said Stickly-Prickly. "At this time yesterday you tried to scoop me out of my shell with your paw."

"But you hadn't any shell. It was all prickles¹," said Painted Jaguar. "I know it was. Just look at my paw!"

"That's unkind of you. At this time yesterday you told me to jump into the waters of the Amazon," said Slow-Solid. "Don't you remember what your mother told you?"

"Can't curl, but can swim —
Stickly-Prickly, that's him!
Curls up, but can't swim —
Slow-Solid, that's him!"

Then they both curled themselves up and rolled round and round Painted Jaguar till he felt sick.

Then he called his Mother.

"Mother," he said, "there are two new animals in the forest, and the one that you said

¹ It was all prickles — Ты был весь в иголках

couldn't swim, swims, and the one that you said couldn't curl up, curls; and both of them are scaly all over¹ and, besides, they are rolling round and round, and I am sick with it."

"Son, son!" said Mother Jaguar, "a Hedgehog is a Hedgehog, and can't be anything but a Hedgehog; and a Tortoise is a Tortoise, and can never be anything else."

"But it isn't a Hedgehog, and it isn't a Tortoise. It's a little bit of both, and I don't know its name."

"Everything has its name," said Mother Jaguar, "I should call it 'Armadillo' till I found out the real one. And I should leave it alone²."

So Painted Jaguar did as his Mother told him; but the curious thing is that from that day to this no one on the banks of the Amazon has ever called Stickly-Prickly and Slow-Solid anything but Armadillo. There are Hedgehogs and Tortoises in other places, of course (there are some in my garden); but the real old and clever animals, with their scales one over another

¹ are scaly all over — с ног до головы покрыты чешуей

² I should leave it alone — я бы оставила его в покое

er, like pine-cone scales, that lived on the banks of the turbid Amazon in the Far-Off Days, are always called Armadillos.



Activities

While Reading

Who said these words, and to whom? Who or what were they talking about?

1. My dear, when you find him, you must drop him into the water and then he will uncoil.
2. You are making my spots ache and besides, I didn't want your advice at all.
3. She was quite right. She said that you must scoop me out of my shell with your paw. Begin.
4. Well, you mean you say that I said that she said something quite different, I don't see that it makes any difference; because if she said what you said I said she said, it's just the same as if I said

what she said she said. On the other hand, if you think she told you not to uncoil me with a scoop, not with your paw, I can't help that, can I?

5. So jump into the Amazon and be quick about it.
6. Safe we are, but I don't like Painted Jaguar. What did you tell him?
7. Son, son! By the prickles in your paw I see that it was him. You have dropped him into the water, haven't you?
8. They are too clever on the Amazon for poor me!
9. I don't like this old lady. I wonder what else she knows?
10. Can't curl, but can swim —
Slow-Solid, that's him!
Curls up, but can't swim —
Stickly-Prickly, that's him!



Part Eight

HOW THE FIRST LETTER WAS WRITTEN

Once upon a most early time¹ was a Primitive Man. And he lived caviy in a Cave, and he wore very few clothes, and he couldn't read

¹ Once upon a most early time — Когда-то давным-давно (Киплинг соединил устойчивое выражение *once upon a time* и словосочетание *most early*, подчеркнув давность происходящих событий.)

and he couldn't write and he didn't want to. His name was Tegumai Bopsulai, but we will call him Tegumai, for short. And his wife's name was Teshumai Tewindrow, but we will call her Teshumai, for short. And his little girl-daughter's name was Taffimai Metallumai, but I'm going to call her Taffy¹. And they were all three very happy.

As soon as Taffy could run about she went everywhere with her Daddy Tegumai, and sometimes they didn't come home to the Cave till they were hungry, and then Teshumai Tewindrow said, "Where in the world² have you two been to? Why are you so dirty? Really, my Tegumai, you're no better than my Taffy."

One day Tegumai Bopsulai went to the Wagai River to get some fish for dinner, and Taffy went too. Tegumai's spear was made of wood with shark's teeth at the end. It was a very good spear but he broke it.

"There is a lot of fish here! What should I do?" said Tegumai.

¹ Taffy — слегка измененное имя старшей дочери Киплинга Josephine — Effie

² Where in the world — Где же это (устойчивое словосочетание, употребляемое для усиления эмоциональной окраски)

"There's your big black spear at home," said Taffy. "Let me run back to the Cave and ask Mummy to give it to me."

"It's too far for your little fat legs," said Tegumai. "We must make the best of a bad job."¹ He sat down and began to mend the spear. Taffy sat down too, with her toes in the water, and thought very hard. Then she said:

"I say, Daddy, isn't it terrible that you and I don't know how to write, is it? We can't send a letter for your black spear!"

Just then a Stranger-man came along the river, but he was a Tewara, and he did not understand Tegumai People. He stopped and smiled at Taffy, because he had a little girl-daughter at home. Tegumai went on mending his spear.

"Come here," said Taffy. "Do you know where my Mummy lives?"

And the Stranger said "Um!"

"Silly!" said Taffy, "I only want him to do what I want him to do and he doesn't understand me."

The Stranger-man — a Tewara he was — sat down on the grass and thought, "This is a very

¹ **We must make the best of a bad job.** — зѡ. Придется нам с тобой как-нибудь выкручиваться.

wonderful child. She makes faces.¹ She must be the daughter of that Chief who is so great that he doesn't look at me." So he smiled most politely.

"Now," said Taffy, "I want you to go to my Mummy, because your legs are longer than mine, and you won't fall into the river, and ask for Daddy's black spear."

The Stranger-man (*and* he was a Tewara) thought, "This is a very, very wonderful child. She shouts at me, but I don't understand a word of what she says. But if I don't do what she wants, I think that the Chief will be angry." He got up and found a big piece of bark and gave it to Taffy. He did this to show that his heart was as white as the birch-bark²; but Taffy didn't quite understand. "Oh!" said she. "Now I see! You want my Mummy's address? Of course I can't write, but I can draw pictures. Can I have the shark's tooth, please?"

The Stranger (and he *was* a Tewara) thought, "This is a very, very wonderful child. My shark's tooth is magic, and I know that nobody can touch it."

¹ **She makes faces.** — Она корчит рожицы.

² **that his heart was as white as the birch-bark** — что на сердце у него нет черных мыслей, и душа у него белая как береста

So he gave Taffy the shark's tooth, and she said, "Now, I'll draw you some beautiful pictures! You can look over my shoulder. First I'll draw Daddy fishing. It isn't very like him¹; but Mummy will know because his spear is broken. Well, I'll draw the spear that he wants. It looks as if it was sticking in the Daddy's back², but that's because the piece of bark is not big. That's the spear I want you to bring; so I'll draw a picture of me. My hair doesn't stand up like I've drawn, but it's easier to draw that way. Now I'll draw you. I think you're very nice really, but I can't make you nice in the picture, so I'm sorry."

The Stranger-man (and he was a Tewara) smiled. He thought, "I think a big battle is going somewhere about, because this girl has drawn the Chief with spears in his back. I think she wants me to call all the great Chief's people to help him."

"Look," said Taffy, "now I've drawn you, and I've put the spear into your hand. Don't

¹ It isn't very like him — Не очень-то похож получился

² It looks as if it was sticking in the Daddy's back — Кажется, что оно торчит из папиной спины

forget to bring it. Now I'll show you how to find my Mummy's living-address¹. You go on and on till you come to two trees (those are trees), and then you go over a hill (that's a hill), and then you come into a swamp full of beavers. I've drawn only their heads, and that's all you'll see of them². Be careful! Don't fall in the swamp! Then our Cave... It isn't as high as the hills, but I can't draw things very small. That's my Mummy near our cave. She is beautiful. She is the most beautiful Mummy. You don't think I have drawn her beautiful, do you? Please don't forget about the spear! I have drawn the black spear *outside* the cave, but it's *inside* really. You will show the picture to my Mummy and she will give it to you. I have drawn my Mother with her hands up because I know she'll be so pleased to see you. Isn't it a beautiful picture?"

The Stranger-man (and he was a Tewara) looked at the picture and he said, "If I do not bring Chief's people to help him, he will be killed by his enemies. Now I see why the great Chief doesn't look at me! He knows that his en-

¹ living-address — адрес (детское выражение)

² that's all you'll see of them — ведь только их ты и увидишь

emies are hiding in the bushes and will see the letter. That's why he has turned his back, and the wonderful child has drawn the terrible picture showing me his difficulties¹. I will get help for him from his tribe."

He did not even ask Taffy the road, but ran off like the wind, with the birch-bark in his hand.

"Don't ask me questions," said Taffy to her Daddy, "and when you know all about it, and you'll be surprised. You don't know how surprised you'll be, Daddy!"

"Very well," said Tegumai, and went on fishing.

The Stranger-man — did you know he was a Tewara? — ran and ran, till he found Teshumai Tewindrow at the door of her Cave. She was talking to some other Primitive ladies who had come in to a Primitive lunch. Taffy looked like Teshumai, so the Stranger-man smiled politely and gave Teshumai the picture.

When Teshumai saw the picture she cried out and flew at the Stranger-man. The other Primitive ladies at once knocked him down²

¹ showing me his difficulties — изображающую все его трудности

² knocked him down — повалили его на землю

and sat on him in a long line of six, while Teshumai pulled his hair. "Now I understand everything," she said. "He has stuck my Tegumai all full of spears¹, and poor Taffy was afraid of him and her hair stands all on end; and now he brings me that terrible picture! Look!" She showed the picture to all the Primitive ladies sitting on the Stranger-man. "Here is my Tegumai with his arm broken; here is a spear in his back; here is a man with a spear ready to throw; here is another man throwing a spear from a Cave, and here are a lot of people" (they were Taffy's beavers really, but they did look rather like people) "coming up behind Tegumai. Isn't it shocking!"

"Most shocking!" said the Primitive ladies, and they called together all the chiefs of the Tegumai people, who told the Stranger-man to lead them down to the river and show them where poor Taffy was.

By this time the Stranger-man felt a little nervous with six Primitive ladies sitting on him. He did not understand a word they were saying but he led them back to the bank of the Wagai River, and there they found Taffy sit-

¹ He has stuck my Tegumai all full of spears — Он утыкал моего Тегумая копьями

ting on green grass, and Tegumai fishing with his mended spear.

"Well, you *have* been quick!" said Taffy. "But why did you bring so many people? Daddy dear, this is my surprise. *Are* you surprised, Daddy?"

"Very," said Tegumai; "but I think there will be no more fishing today. Why, the dear, kind, nice, clean, quiet Tegumai People¹ are here, Taffy?"

And so they were. First of all walked Teshumai Tewindrow and the other Primitive ladies. Behind them came the poor Stranger-man. Behind them came the Tegumai People. They were all there, dancing and shouting, and Tegumai thanked them a lot.

Then Teshumai Tewindrow ran down and kissed Taffy indeed.

"I can see you haven't brought my Daddy's black spear," said Taffy. "And what *are* you doing to my nice Stranger-man?"

But Teshumai Tewindrow didn't answer her question. "Where are the bad people who speared you, my darling?" she asked her daughter.

¹ the dear, kind, nice, clean, quiet Tegumai People — милые, добрые, красивые, чистенькие и спокойненькие тегумайцы (Эти определения передают растущее раздражение Тегумая.)

"There weren't any," said Tegumai. "My only visitor this morning was the poor Stranger-man that you are trying to kill. Aren't you well, or are you ill?¹ O Tegumai People?"

"He came with a terrible picture," said the Head Chief, "a picture that showed you were full of spears."

"Er — um — That was me who gave him that picture²," said Taffy.

"You!" said the Tegumai People all together. "You?"

"Taffy dear, I'm afraid we are going to have a little problem," said her Daddy and he put his arm round her.

"Explain! Explain! Explain!" said the Chief of the Tegumai People, and he hopped on one foot.

"I wanted the Stranger-man to bring Daddy's spear, so I drew the picture," said Taffy. "There was only one spear, not many. I drew it three times to make sure³. Now I can see that

¹ Aren't you well, or are you ill? — С тобой все не в порядке или не все в порядке? (Две части этого вопроса обозначают одно и то же, в результате чего и создается юмористический эффект.)

² That was me who gave him that picture — Так это же я дала ему картинку

³ to make sure — для ясности

they look as if they stuck into Daddy's head — the birch-bark was too small! And those things that Mummy called bad people are my beavers. I drew them to show him the way through the swamp; and I drew Mummy near the Cave looking pleased because he is a nice Stranger-man, and *I* think you are just the stupidest people in the world," said Taffy. "He is a very nice man!"

Nobody said anything at all for a long time, till the Chief laughed; then the Stranger-man (who was a Tewara) laughed; then Tegumai laughed till he fell down; then all the People laughed more and worse and louder. The only people who did not laugh were Teshumai Tewindrow and all the Primitive ladies. They were very polite to all their husbands, and said "idiot!" ever so often.

Then the Chief of the Tegumai People cried and said and sang, "O Taffy, you have made a Great Invention!"

"I didn't want to! I only wanted Daddy's black spear," said Taffy.

"Never mind.¹ It is a Great Invention, and some day men will call it writing. Now it is only pictures, and, as we have seen today, pictures are not always easy for understand-

¹ Never mind. — Все равно.

ing. But a time will come, O Babe of Tegumai, when we shall make letters — all twenty-six of them — and when we shall be able to read as well as to write, and then we shall always say exactly what we mean without any mistakes!"

"I shall be glad of that," said Taffy, "but today you've brought all spears of the Tegumai People but you've forgotten my Daddy's black spear."

Then the Chief cried and said and sang, "Taffy dear, the next time you write a picture-letter, send a man who can talk our language with it, to explain what it means¹. As you can see, it's very bad for the Tegumai People, and, as you can see, it surprises the stranger."

From that day on, very few little girls have ever liked learning to read or write. Most of them like to draw pictures and play about² with their Daddies — just like Taffy.



¹ who can talk our language, to explain what it means — который умеет говорить на нашем языке, чтобы он смог разъяснить, что обозначают картинки

² to play about — играть неподалеку

Activities

After Reading

Find the right answer.

1. What was Tegumai Bopsulai like?
 - a) He lived in the forest.
 - b) He couldn't read and he couldn't write.
 - c) He had no children.
 - d) He was short and wore no clothes.
2. What is not true about the Tegumai family?
 - a) Tegumai's wife was beautiful.
 - b) Their daughter Taffy was never dirty.
 - c) Their daughter Taffy couldn't draw.
 - d) Tegumai went fishing with his spear.
3. Why did Tegumai not let his daughter Taffy go home and bring him his black spear?
 - a) There was no fish in the river that day and he didn't need a spear.
 - b) They were a long way from their Cave.

- c) His daughter's legs were too fat for that.
 - d) He decided to send a letter.
4. What is true about a Stranger-man?
 - a) He was a very ugly man and everybody was afraid of him.
 - b) He couldn't speak the Tegumai language.
 - c) He didn't like Taffy.
 - d) He was not polite.
5. What did Taffy ask the Stranger-man to do?
 - a) She asked him to draw a picture of the beaver-swamp.
 - b) She asked him to write a letter to her Mummy.
 - c) She asked him not to shout at her.
 - d) She asked him to bring Tegumai's black spear.
6. What did Taffy draw her picture with?
 - a) with a pencil
 - b) with a shark's bone
 - c) with a black spear
 - d) with a shark's tooth

7. What picture did Taffy draw?

- a) It was a portrait of her family.
- b) It was a picture-letter.
- c) She couldn't draw well, so the picture was very poor.
- d) She drew a very big colourful picture.

8. What did Taffy draw in the picture?

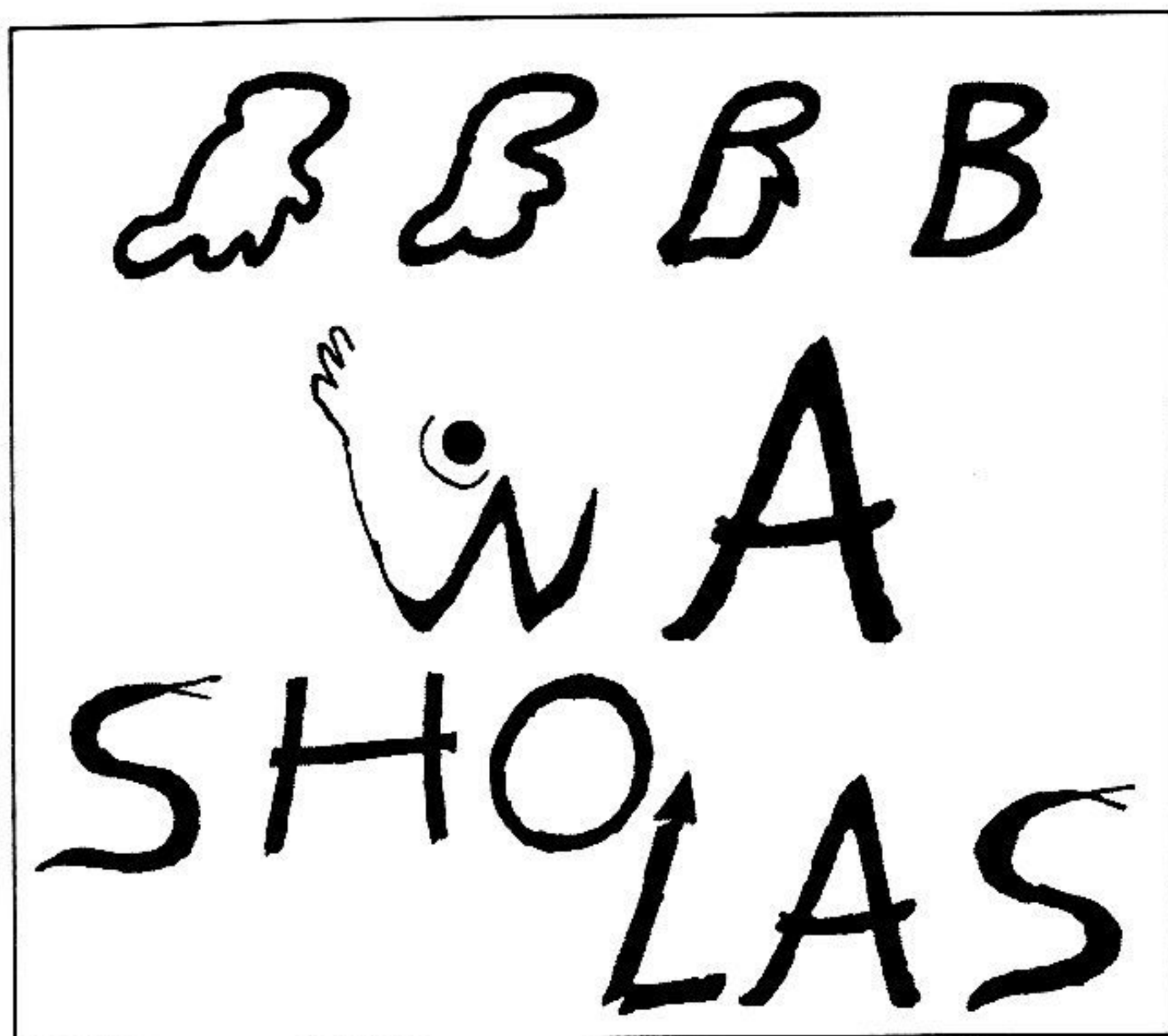
- a) She drew a battle.
- b) She drew some bad people in the swamp.
- c) She drew her Daddy full of spears.
- d) She drew her Mummy with her hands up.

9. Why did all the Tegumai People come to the river where Tegumai and his daughter were fishing?

- a) They brought him his black spear.
- b) They were very hungry and wanted to get some fish for dinner.
- c) They wanted to help Tegumai and his daughter.
- d) They wanted to kill the Stranger-man there.

10. What mistake did Taffy make in her picture?

- a) She drew too many spears in her picture.
- b) She drew her Mummy with no hair.
- c) She didn't draw their Cave.
- d) She didn't draw beavers.



Part Nine

HOW THE ALPHABET WAS MADE

The week after Taffy made that little mistake about her Daddy's spear and the Stranger-man and the picture-letter and all, she went fishing again with her Daddy.

When Tegumai was busy fishing, Taffy had an idea and she said, "Daddy, I've thought of a secret surprise. You make a sound — any sound."

"Ah!" said Tegumai. "Will that do to begin with?"¹

"Yes," said Taffy. "You look just like a carp-fish with its mouth open. Say it again, please."

"Ah! ah! ah!" said her Daddy. "But what for?"

"It's part of my secret surprise. Please, say *ah*, Daddy, and keep your mouth open. I'm going to draw a carp-fish's mouth wide-open."

"What for?" said her Daddy.

"Don't you see?" said Taffy. "That will be our little secret surprise. When I draw a carp-fish with his mouth open in our Cave, you will remember that ah-sound. Then we can play that it was me jumped out of the dark and surprised you with that noise² — same as I did in the forest last winter."

"Really?" said her Daddy. "Go on, Taffy."

"Oh!" she said. "I can't draw a carp-fish, because it is difficult for me but I can draw

¹ Will that do to begin with? — Это подойдет для первого раза?

² we can play that it was me jumped out of the dark and surprised you with that noise — у нас будет такая игра: вроде я выскакиваю из темноты и пугаю тебя этим криком

a carp-fish's mouth. Well, here's a carp-fish's mouth, and that means *ah*." And she drew this.



"That's not bad," said Tegumai, "but you've forgotten the feeler across his mouth. Look here, Taffy." And he drew this.



"Now I'm going to draw it too," said Taffy. "Will you understand this when you see it?" And she drew this.



"Oh, yes," said her Daddy, "Ah!"

"Now, make another sound," said Taffy, very proud.

"Yah!" said her Daddy, very loud.

"Hm," said Taffy. "That's a double sound. The end part is *ah*; but what can we do about The first part?"

"It sounds like the carp-fish-mouth sound. Let's draw some more carp-fish and join them," said her Daddy.

"No. If they're joined, I'll forget. Draw it separate.¹

Draw his tail. If he's standing on his head the tail will come first. I think I can draw its tail well," said Taffy.

"A good idea," said Tegumai. "Here's a carp-fish tail of the *yer*-sound." And he drew this.



"I'll try now," said Taffy. "Remember I can't draw like you, Daddy." And she drew this.



"Now, make another sound, Daddy."

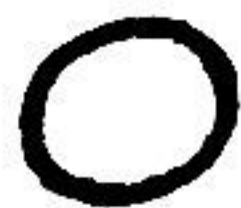
"Oh!" said her Daddy, very loud.

"That's an easy sound," said Taffy. "You make your mouth all round like an egg. So an egg will do for that."²

¹ Draw it separate. — Нарисуем по отдельности.

² So an egg will do for that. — Так что яйцо вполне подойдет.

"You can't always find eggs. We'll have to draw something round like an egg." And he drew this.



"Oh dear!" said Taffy, "what a lot of sound-pictures we've made — carp-mouth, carp-tail, and egg! Now, make another sound, Daddy."

"Ssh!" said her Daddy.

"That's quite easy," she said, drawing something. "It's the sound a snake makes, Daddy, when it is thinking and doesn't want anybody around. Let's make the *ssh*-sound a snake. Will this do?" And she drew this.



"There," she said. "That's another secret surprise. When you draw a snake near the door of your Cave, I'll know that you're thinking hard or are very busy; and I'll come in most mousy-quiet¹. And if you draw it on a tree near the river when you're fishing, I'll know you want me to walk most mousy-quiet."

¹ most mousy-quiet — тихо, словно мышка

"You are right!" said Tegumai. "And there's more in this game than you think¹. Taffy, dear, I think that your Daddy's daughter has found out the big secret of the world."

"Why?" said Taffy, very surprised.

"I'll show," said her Daddy. "What's water in the Tegumai language?"

"Ya, of course, and it means river too — like Wagai-ya — the Wagai River."

"What is bad water that makes you sick if you drink it — black water — swamp-water?"

"Yo, of course."

"Now look," said her Daddy. "When you see these pictures near the beaver-swamp..." And he drew this.



"Carp-tail and round egg. Two sounds together! Yo, bad water," said Taffy. "Of course, I will not drink that water because I know that the water is bad. Oh, Daddy, we must tell Mummy, quick!" and Taffy danced all round him.

¹ there's more in this game than you think — эта игра гораздо важнее, нежели ты думаешь

"Not yet," said Tegumai; "Let's see. Yo is bad water, but so is food cooked on the fire, isn't it?" And he drew this.



"Yes. Snake and egg," said Taffy. "So that means dinner's ready. When you see these pictures on a tree you will know it is time to come to the Cave. So do I."

"That's true too!" said Tegumai. "But wait a minute. I see a problem. So means 'come and have dinner', but *sho* means the drying-poles where we hang our hides¹."

"Terrible drying-poles!" said Taffy "I hate helping to hang heavy, hot, hairy hides!² I am afraid a little. What can happen when you draw the snake and egg? I can think it means dinner

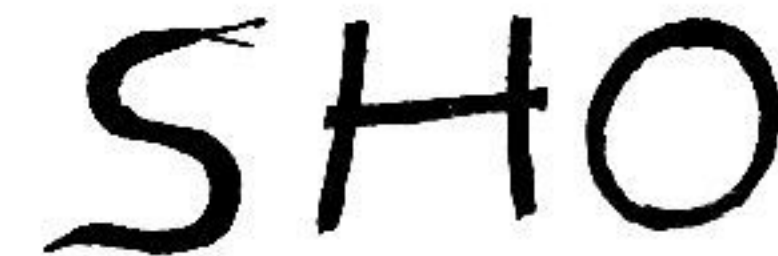
¹ the drying-poles where we hang our hides — сушильные жерди, где мы вешаем шкуры для просушки

² I hate helping to hang heavy, hot, hairy hides! — Ненавижу помогать развешивать тяжелые, жаркие, мохнатые шкуры! (Киплинг использует прием аллитерации — все слова начинаются с 'h'.)

and come home. But my Mummy will tell me to help her with hot hairy hides!"

"You will get very angry. So will Mummy. We must make a new picture for *sho*. We must draw a spotty snake that says *sh-sh*, and you must remember that our first snake says only *ssss*."

"But I can't draw spots," said Taffy. "And you can forget to draw them one day and Mummy would catch me. No! Let's draw a picture of drying-poles for sure. I'll put them near the snake. Look!" And she drew this.



"Now I'll make a new sound with a snake and drying-pole sound in it. I'll say *shi*. That's the Tegumai for spear, Taffy." And he laughed.

"Don't make fun of me," said Taffy, as she thought of her picture-letter and the Stranger-man's hair. "You draw it, Daddy!"¹

"I'll draw a line for my spear." And he drew this.



¹ You draw it, Daddy! — Сам рисуй это, папочка!

"Please, make some more sounds."

"Er-hm!" said Tegumai, looking up. "We'll say *shu*. That means sky."

Taffy drew the snake and the drying-pole. Then she stopped. "We must make a new picture for the last sound, mustn't we?"

"*Shu-shu-u-u-u!*" said her Daddy. "Why, it's just like the round-egg-sound made thin. We'll open a little hole at the end of the round egg to show how the *O*-sound runs out all thin, *ooo-oo-oo*. Like this." And he drew this.

U

"Oh, that's lovely! Go on," said Taffy. Her Daddy went on drawing till he drew this.

SHUYA

"Don't look up, Taffy," he said. "Try to understand what that means in the Tegumai language. If you can, we've found the Secret."

"Snake — pole — broken-egg — carp-tail and carp-mouth," said Taffy. "*Shu-ya*. Sky-water (rain)." Just then a drop fell on her hand, for the day was grey and cloudy. "Why, Daddy, it's raining. Is *that* what you wanted to tell me?"

"Of course," said her Daddy. "And I told it you without saying a word, didn't I?"

"Well, I'll always remember now. *Shu-ya* means rain, or 'it is going to rain'. Why, Daddy!" She got up and danced round him. "When you go out before I get up, you can draw *shu-ya* on the wall, I will know it is going to rain and I will take my coat on. Wouldn't Mummy be surprised!¹"

Tegumai got up and danced. (Daddies sometimes did those things in those days.) "More than that! More than that!" he said. "When I want to tell you it is not going to rain much and you must come down to the river, what will I draw? Say the words in Tegumai first."

"*Shu-ya-las, ya maru*. (Sky-water ending. River come to.) How many new sounds! I don't see how we can draw them."

"But I do — but I do!" said Tegumai. "Just wait a minute. We've got *shu-ya* all right, haven't we? But this *las* is a problem. *La-la-la!*"

"There's the *sh*-sound at the end and the carp-mouth *ah*-sound before the snake — *as-as-as*. We only want *la-la*," said Taffy.

¹ Wouldn't Mummy be surprised! — То удивится!

"I know it, but we have to make *la-la*. And we're the first people in all the world who've ever tried to do it, Taffy!"

"Well," said Taffy, rather tired. "*Las* means breaking or finishing or ending, doesn't it?"

"So it does," said Tegumai. "*Yo-las* means that there's no water in the tank for Mummy to cook with."

"And *shi-las* means that your spear is broken."

"*La! La! La!*" said Tegumai.

"I've got an idea! I will draw your spear all broken — this way!" And she drew this.



"The very thing¹," said Tegumai. And he drew this.



"Now for *maru*. *Mum-mum-mum*. We say it with our mouths closed. So we'll draw a shut mouth like this." And he drew this.

¹ The very thing — То, что надо



"Then the carp-mouth open. That makes *Ma-ma-ma!* But what about this *rrrr*-sound, Taffy?"

"It sounds all edgy¹," said Taffy.

"You mean all sharp at the edges, like this?" said Tegumai. And he drew this.



"But we don't want all those teeth: only put two."

"I'll only put in one," said Tegumai. "I think the easier we make our sound-pictures, the better for everybody." And he drew this.



"Now we've got it," said Tegumai, standing on one leg. "I'll draw them all in a line."

And very carefully he drew them all without stopping.

¹ edgy — зазубренный

SHUYALASYAMARU

"*Shu-ya-las ya-maru*," said Taffy, reading it out sound by sound.

"That's enough for today," said Tegumai. "Besides, you're getting tired, Taffy. Never mind, dear.¹ We'll finish it all tomorrow."

So they went home, and all that evening Tegumai and Taffy sat near the fire, drawing *ya*'s and *yo*'s and *shu*'s and *shi*'s on the wall and laughing together till her Mummy said, "Really, Tegumai, you're worse than my Taffy."

"Please don't mind," said Taffy. "It's only our secret surprise, Mummy dear, and we'll tell you all about it; but *please* don't ask me what it is now, I will tell you later."

So her Mummy didn't; and bright and early next morning Tegumai went down to the river to think about new sound-pictures, and when Taffy got up she saw *Ya-las* (water is ending or running out) drawn outside the Cave.

"Um," said Taffy. "Daddy didn't come here but he tells me to get more water for Mummy to cook with."

¹ Never mind, dear. — Ничего, милая.

She went to the river and brought some water for cooking. Then she ran down to the river again and saw her Dad.

"Now we are going to draw new sound-pictures," said her Daddy, and they had a nice time with a beautiful lunch in the middle. When they came to *T*, Taffy said that as her name, and her Daddy's, and her Mummy's all began with that sound, they should draw a sort of family group of themselves holding hands¹. That was all very well to draw once or twice; but when it came to drawing it six or seven times, Taffy and Tegumai drew it less careful, till at last the *T*-sound was only a thin long Tegumai with his arms out to hold Taffy and Teshumai. You can see from these three pictures how it happened.



Many of the other pictures were really beautiful at the beginning; but when they were drawn again and again, they became easier. Taffy turned the *sh*-snake into the other way

¹ family group of themselves holding hands — семья, держащаяся за руки

for the *Z*-sound, to show it was saying in a soft and gentle way



and they just made a twiddle for *E*, because it came into the pictures so often



and they drew pictures of the Beaver of the Tegumai People for the *B*-sound



and because it was a nasty, nosy noise, they just drew noses for the *N*-sound, till they were tired



and they drew a picture of the big lake-pike's mouth for the *Ga*-sound



they drew the pike's mouth again with a spear behind it for the *Ka*-sound; and they drew a picture for the Wagai River for the nice windy-windy *Wa*-sound



and so on and on so till they had drawn all the sound-pictures that they wanted, and there was the Alphabet, at last.

And after thousands and thousands and thousands of years, the fine old easy, understandable Alphabet — A, B, C, D, E, and the rest of them — got back into its proper shape again for all children to learn when they are old enough.

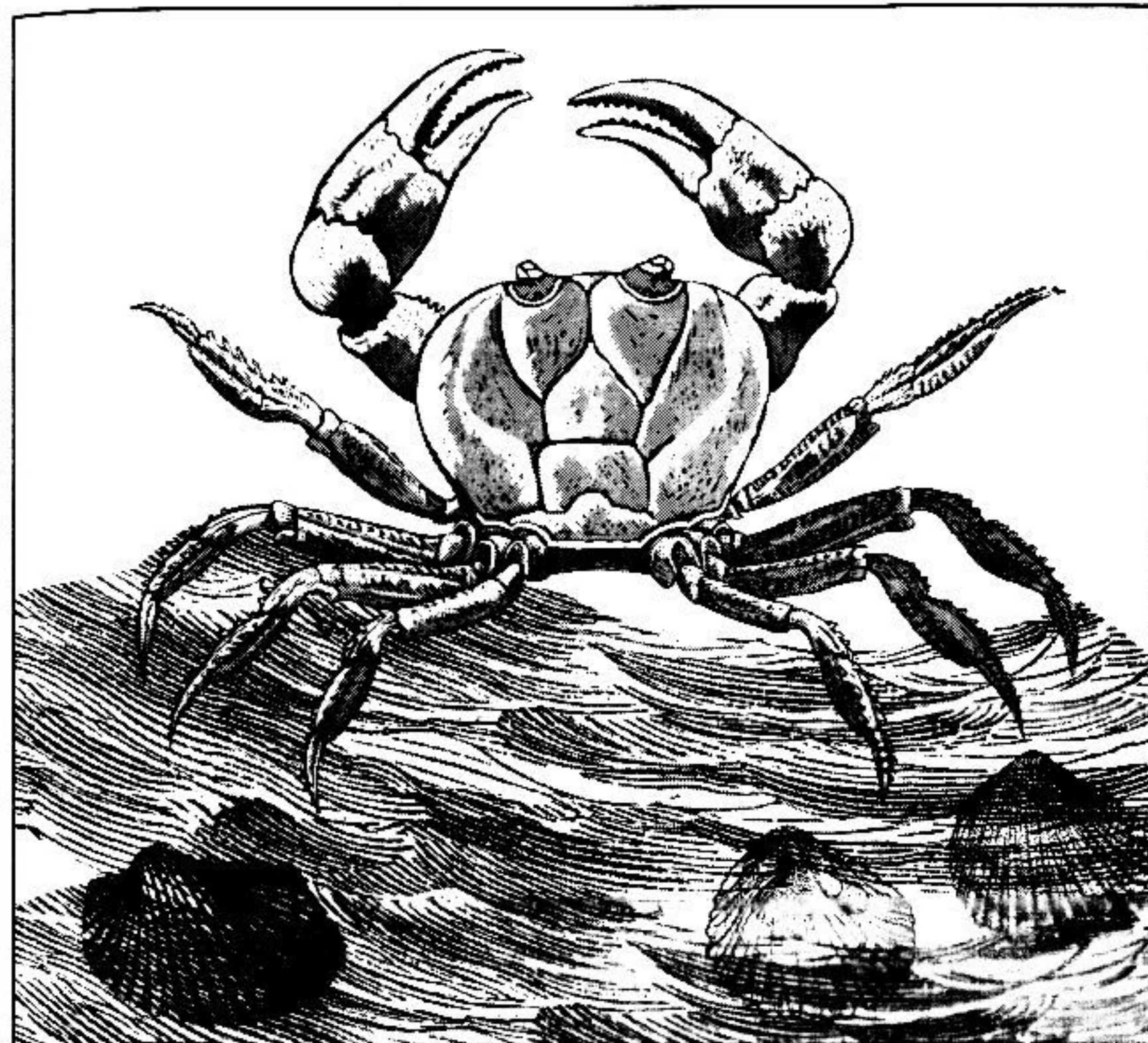
But *I* remember Tegumai Bopsulai, and Taffimai Metallumai and Teshumai Tewindrow, her dear Mummy, and all the days gone by. And it was so — just so — a long time ago — on the banks of the big Wagai River!



While Reading

What sound-pictures were Taffy and her Daddy thinking about when they said these words?

1. So an egg will do for that or something round like an egg.
2. We'll open a little hole at the end of the round egg to show how the O-sound runs out all thin.
3. It's the sound a snake makes when it is thinking and doesn't want anybody around.
4. You look like a carp-fish with its mouth open.
5. Let's draw a picture of drying-poles and put them near the snake.
6. Here is a carp-fish's tail.
7. I will draw the spear broken!
8. We say it with our mouths closed.
9. It sounds all edgy but we don't want all those teeth, so I'll only put one.
10. Our names begin with that sound, so let's draw a sort of family group holding hands.



Part Ten

THE CRAB THAT PLAYED WITH THE SEA

Before the Far-Off Time came the Time of the Very Beginning; and that was in the days when the Eldest Magician was getting Things ready. First he got the Earth ready; then he got the Sea ready; and then he told all the Animals

that they could come out and play. And the Animals said, "O Eldest Magician, what shall we play at?" and he said, "I will show you." He took the Elephant and said, "Play at being an Elephant¹." He took the Beaver and said, "Play at being a Beaver." He took the Cow and said, "Play at being a Cow." He took the Turtle and said, "Play at being a Turtle." One by one he took all the animals and told them what to play at.

But in the evening, when everybody got tired, there came up the Man with his little girl-daughter sitting on his shoulder, and he said, "What is this play, Eldest Magician?" And the Eldest Magician said, "Ho, Son of Adam, this is the play of the Very Beginning; but you are too clever for this play." And the Man said, "Yes, I am too clever for this play; but don't forget to make all the Animals to be obedient to me."

Now, while they were talking together, Pau Amma the Crab, who was next in the game, left them and went into the sea, saying to himself, "I will play my game alone in the deep waters, and I will never do what this son of Adam will tell me to." Only the little girl-daughter saw him go away. The play went on and the Eldest

¹ Play at being an Elephant — Играй в слона

Magician decided to walk about the world to see how the Animals were playing.

He went North and he found the Elephant stamping with his feet in the nice new clean earth.

"*Kun?*" said the Elephant meaning, "Is this right?"

"*Payah kun,*" said the Eldest Magician, meaning, "That is quite right"; and the rocks around became the great Himalayan Mountains¹, and you can find them on the map.

He went East, and he found the Cow in the field, and she licked her tongue round a whole forest at a time², and swallowed it.

"*Kun?*" said the Cow.

"*Payah kun,*" said the Eldest Magician; and that place became the great Indian Desert³, and the other became the Desert of Sahara, and you can see them on the map.

He went West, and he found the Beaver making a beaver-house across the great rivers.

"*Kun?*" said the Beaver.

¹ the Himalayan Mountains — Гималаи

² she licked her tongue round a whole forest at a time — она враз слизнула языком целый лес

³ the Indian Desert — Возможно, имеется в виду плоскогорье Декан в Индии.

"*Payah kun*," said the Eldest Magician; and the fallen trees and the still water became the Everglades in Florida¹, and you may see them on the map.

Then he went South and found the Turtle playing in the sand and the sand and the rocks flew through the air and fell far off into the sea.

"*Kun?*" said the Turtle.

"*Payah kun*," said the Eldest Magician; and the sand and the rocks became the most beautiful islands of Borneo, Celebes, Sumatra, Java, and you can see them on the map!

By and by the Eldest Magician met the Man on the banks of the Perak River, and said, "Ho! Son of Adam, are all the Animals obedient to you?"

"Yes," said the Man.

"Is all the Earth obedient to you?"

"Yes," said the Man.

"Is all the Sea obedient to you?"

"No," said the Man. "Once a day and once a night the Sea runs up the Perak River and

drives the water back into the forest and into my house; once a day and once a night it runs down the river and draws all the water after it, so that I can't use my canoe. Is that the play you told it to play?"

"No," said the Eldest Magician. "That is a new and a bad play."

"Look!" said the Man, and as he spoke the great Sea came up the mouth of the Perak River, till all the dark forests and the Man's house were full of water.

"This is wrong. Let's go and see who is playing with the Sea," said the Eldest Magician. They took the canoe; the little girl-daughter came with them. Then the Sea began to run back and back and the Eldest Magician stood up and shouted, "Ho! Which one of you is playing with the Sea?"

Then all the animals said together, "Eldest Magician, we play the plays that you taught us to play — we and our children's children. But not one of us plays with the Sea."

Then the Moon rose over the water, and the Eldest Magician said to the old man who sits in the Moon with a fishing-line because he hopes one day to catch the world, "Ho! Fisherman of the Moon, are you playing with the Sea?"

¹ the Everglades in Florida — Эверглейдс (огромная заболоченная местность в южной части Флориды, в настоящее время является национальным заповедником)

"No," said the Fisherman, "I am fishing and I hope to catch the world some day; but I do not play with the Sea." And he went on fishing.

Then the little girl-daughter put up her little soft brown arms and said, "O Eldest Magician! When my father talked to you at the Very Beginning, and I saw one animal go away into the Sea and you didn't teach him his play."

And the Eldest Magician said, "How clever are little children! What was that animal like?"

And the little girl-daughter said, "He was round and he was flat; and his eyes grew upon stalks; and he walked sideways like this¹; and he was covered with strong shell."

And the Eldest Magician said, "How clever are little children who speak the truth! Now I know where Pau Amma went!"

Finally they came to the place called Pusat Tasek — the Heart of the Sea — where grows the Wonderful Tree and its nuts are magic. Then the Eldest Magician put his arm into the deep warm water, and under the roots of the Wonderful Tree he touched the broad back of Pau Amma the Crab.

¹ he walked sideways like this — он ходил боком, вот так

"Ah!" said the Eldest Magician. "Now I know who is playing with the Sea"; and he said, "What is your play, Pau Amma?"

And Pau Amma answered, "Once a day and once a night I go out to look for my food. Once a day and once a night I return. Leave me alone!"

Then the Eldest Magician said, "Listen, Pau Amma. When you go out from your cave the waters of the Sea go into Pusat Tasek, and all the beaches of all the islands are left dry, and the little fish die. When you come back and sit in Pusat Tasek, the waters of the Sea rise, and half the little islands go down the sea-water, and the Man's house is wet."

Then Pau Amma laughed and said, "I did not know I was so important. I think I will go out seven times a day, and the waters shall never be still¹."

And the Eldest Magician said, "Pau Amma, come up and we will talk about it."

"I am not afraid," said Pau Amma, and he went up. There was nobody in the world so big as Pau Amma — because he was the King Crab of all Crabs. He was taller than the smoke of three volcanoes! When he was coming up

¹ the waters shall never be still — и не видать вам тихой воды

through the leaves of the Wonderful Tree, one of its great magic nuts went off and the little girl-daughter saw it and pulled it in the canoe.

"Now," said the Magician, "make a Magic, Pau Amma, to show that you are really important."

Pau Amma tried his best but he could do nothing because he was nothing more than a Crab, and the Eldest Magician laughed.

"You are not important at all, Pau Amma," he said. "Now, let me try," and he made a Magic with his left hand — with just the little finger of his left hand — and Pau Amma's hard, blue-green-black shell fell off him, and Pau Amma was left all soft — soft as the little crabs that you sometimes find near the sea-water.

"Indeed, you are very important," said the Eldest Magician. "Shall I ask the Man to cut you with his knife?"

And Pau Amma said, "Please, give me back my hard shell and let me go back to Pusat Tasek, and I will only go out once a day and once a night to get my food."

And the Eldest Magician said, "No, Pau Amma, I will *not* give you back your shell, for you will grow bigger and prouder and stronger, and perhaps you will forget your words, and you will play with the Sea once more."

Then Pau Amma said, "What shall I do? I am so big that I can only hide in Pusat Tasek, and if I go anywhere else, all soft as I am now, the sharks will eat me. And if I go to Pusat Tasek, all soft as I am now, I can never get out to get my food, and so I shall die."

"Listen, Pau Amma," said the Eldest Magician because he felt sorry for the Crab. "Well, I can make every stone and every hole in all the seas a safe Pusat Tasek for you and your children for always."

Then Pau Amma said, "That is good, but I haven't decided yet. Look! There is that Man who talked to you at the Very Beginning. It was his fault you hadn't taught me my play. What will *he* do for me?"

And the Man said, "I can make a Magic, and both the deep water and the dry ground will be a home for you and your children — so that you shall be able to hide both on the land and in the sea."

And Pau Amma said, "I haven't decided yet. Look! There is that girl who saw me running away at the Very Beginning. What will *she* do for me?"

And the little girl-daughter said, "I can make a Magic and you will get a pair of scissors, very sharp and strong, so that you and

your children can eat cocoa-nuts when you come up from the Sea; or you can dig a Pusat Tasek for yourself with the scissors when there is no stone or hole near by; and when the earth is too hard, by the help of these same scissors you can run up a tree."

And Pau Amma said, "I haven't decided yet, for, all soft as I am, these gifts would not help me. Give me back my shell, O Eldest Magician, and then I will play your play."

And the Eldest Magician said, "I will give it back, Pau Amma, for eleven months of the year; but on the twelfth month of every year it shall grow soft again, to remind you and all your children that I can make magic; I am afraid that if you can run both under the water and on land, you will grow too brave; and if you can climb trees and crack nuts and dig holes with your scissors, you will grow too greedy, Pau Amma."

Then Pau Amma thought a little and said, "I have made my choice. I will take all the gifts."

Then the Eldest Magician made a Magic with the right hand, with all five fingers of his right hand, and Pau Amma grew smaller and smaller and smaller, till at last there was only a little green crab swimming in the water near

the canoe, crying in a very small voice, "Give me the scissors!"

And the girl-daughter picked him up, and sat him in the bottom of the canoe and gave him her scissors. He opened them and shut them, and said, "I can eat nuts. I can crack shells. I can dig holes. I can climb trees. I can find a safe Pusat Tasek under every stone. I did not know I was so important. *Kun?*" (Is *this* right?)

"*Payah kun,*" said the Eldest Magician, and he laughed and little Pau Amma jumped into the water.

The Man said, "Now we must go back to Perak, and that is a very difficult work. It will take us a lot of time..."

"You are lazy," said the Eldest Magician. "So your children shall be lazy. They shall be the laziest people in the world. They shall be called the Malazy — the lazy people"; and he looked at the Moon and said, "O Fisherman, here is the Man too lazy to get home. Pull his canoe home with your line, Fisherman."

And the Fisherman let his line down till it touched the Sea, and he pulled the whole deep Sea along, till the canoe came into the mouth of the Perak River again.

"*Kun?*" said the Fisherman of the Moon.

"*Payah kun*," said the Eldest Magician. "See now that you pull the sea twice a day and twice a night for ever to help the Malazy fishermen. But be careful not to do it too hard, or I shall make a Magic on you as I did to Pau Amma."

Then they all went up the Perak River and went to bed.

Now listen careful!

From that day to this the Moon has always pulled the Sea up and down and made what we call the tides. And he is always very careful, because of the Eldest Magician.

And Pau Amma? You can see when you go to the beach, how all Pau Amma's babies make little Pusat Taseks for themselves under every stone on the sands; you can see them with their little scissors; and in some parts of the world they live on the dry land and run up the palm-trees and eat cocoa-nuts, exactly as the girl-daughter said. But once a year all Pau Ammas must take off their hard shell and be soft. They will never forget what the Eldest Magician can do with them. And so it isn't good to kill or hunt Pau Amma's babies just because old Pau Amma was stupid and rude a very long time ago.

Oh yes! And Pau Amma's babies hate when you take them out of their little Pusat

Taseks and bring them home. That is why they bite you with their scissors, and it serves you right¹!



Activities

After Reading

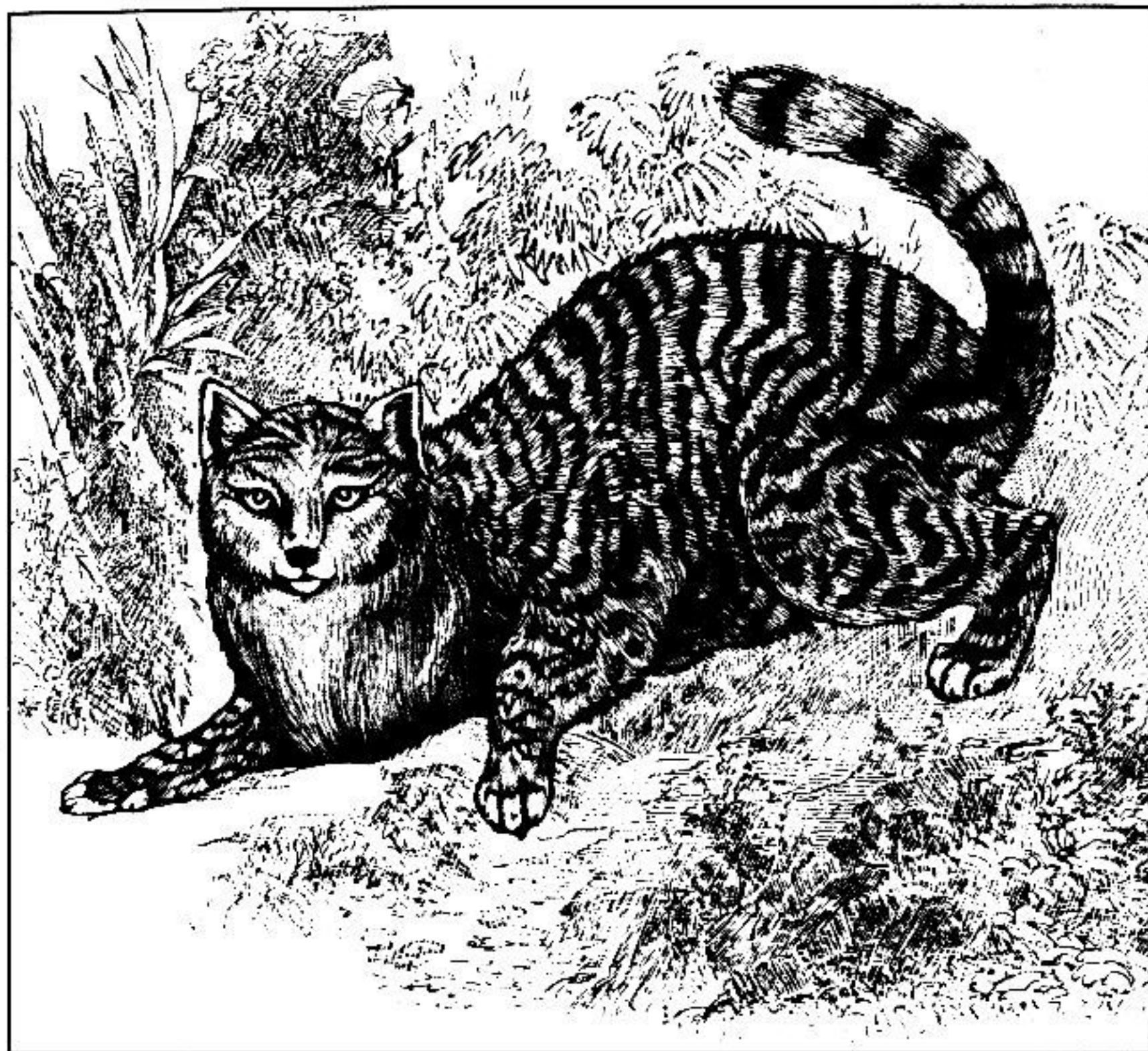
Put the passages in the right order.

1. The Man thought that it was a very difficult work to go back home and the Eldest Magician had to ask the Fisherman to pull the canoe home. When they came home the Eldest Magician told the Fisherman to play that game twice a day to help the Malazy fishermen.
2. The Eldest Magician put his arm into the deep warm water and under the Wonderful Tree he found the Crab. The Crab told the Eldest Magician and the Man what game he played but he couldn't make a Magic.

¹ it serves you right — так тебе и надо

3. One day the Eldest Magician met the Man who told him that the Sea was not obedient to him and that was a bad play. The Eldest Magician decided to go and find out who was playing with the Sea. The daughter of the Man told about the Crab who had gone away into the Sea.
4. The Eldest Magician made a Magic and the shell of the Crab fell off. The Crab was left all soft and it was too dangerous for him to live in the Sea full of sharks. But he was too big to hide anywhere but in Pusat Tasek.
5. From that day to this the Moon has always pulled the Sea up and down and made what we call tides.
6. The Eldest Magician got the Earth and the Sea ready. One by one the Eldest Magician took the animals and told them what to play at. Pau Amma the Crab didn't want to play the game that the Eldest Magician was going to give him so he went into the sea and hid in its deep waters.
7. The Eldest Magician, the Man and his little daughter felt sorry for the Crab and told him about the gifts they could

give him. The Eldest Magician made the Crab very small and he turned every stone and every hole into a safe Pusat Tasek for the Crab; he also gave back his strong shell for eleven months of the year. The Man made both deep water and dry land home for the Crab. The little girl-daughter gave him scissors to crack nuts.



Part Eleven

THE CAT THAT WALKED BY HIMSELF

It all happened when the Tame animals were wild. The Dog was wild, and the Horse was wild, and the Cow was wild, and the Sheep was wild, and the Pig was wild and they walked in the Wet Wild Woods by their wild

lones¹. But the wildest of all the wild animals was the Cat. He walked by himself, and all places were alike to him².

Of course the Man was wild too. He was terribly wild. He wasn't tame till he met the Woman, and she told him that she did not like living in his wild ways. She found a nice dry Cave; and she put some clean sand on the floor; and she made a nice fire at the back of the Cave; and she said, "Wipe your feet, dear, when you come in, and now we'll keep house."

That night they ate wild sheep roasted on hot stones with wild pepper; and wild duck with wild rice and wild cherries. Then the Man went to sleep happily; but the Woman sat up near the fire, she took the bone of the shoulder of sheep and she made a Magic. She made the First Singing Magic in the world.

Out in the Wet Wild Woods all the wild animals gathered together because they saw the light of the fire a long way off, and they wondered what it meant.

¹ by **their wild lones** — *зд. дико одинокие (Куплинг отделил 'а' от слова alone, сопроводив его определениями their wild.)*

² **all places were alike to him** — *зд. он бродил везде, где ему вздумается*

Then Wild Horse stamped with his wild foot and said, "O my Friends and O my Enemies, why have the Man and the Woman made that great light in that great Cave?"

Wild Dog lifted up his wild nose and smelled the smell of the roast sheep and said, "I will go up and see and look, and say; for I think it is good. Cat, come with me."

"No!" said the Cat. "I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me. I will not come."

"Then we can never be friends again," said Wild Dog, and he ran to the Cave. But when he went away the Cat said to himself, "All places are alike to me. Why should I not go too and see and look?" So he followed Wild Dog softly, very softly, and hid himself where he could hear everything.

When Wild Dog came to the Cave he felt the beautiful smell of the roast sheep, and the Woman heard him, and laughed, and said, "Here comes the first. Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, what do you want?"

Wild Dog said, "O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy, what is this that smells so good in the Wild Woods?"

Then the Woman took a roasted sheep-bone and threw it to Wild Dog, and said, "Wild

Thing out of the Wild Woods, taste and try." Wild Dog tried it, and it was the tastiest, and he said, "O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy, give me another."

The Woman said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, help my Man to hunt and guard this Cave at night, and I will give you as many roast bones as you need."

"Ah!" said the Cat, listening. "This is a very clever Woman, but she is not so clever as I am."

Wild Dog came into the Cave and said, "O my Friend and Wife of my Friend, I will help your Man to hunt, and at night I will guard your Cave."

"Ah!" said the Cat, listening. "That is a very foolish Dog." And he went back through the Wet Wild Woods waving his wild tail, and walking by his wild lone. But he never told anybody.

When the Man waked up he said, "What is Wild Dog doing here?" And the Woman said, "His name is not Wild Dog any more, but the First Friend, because he will be our friend for always and always and always. Take him with you when you go hunting."

Next night the Woman cut great green fresh grass, and dried it before the fire, so that

it smelt wonderful, and she sat near the Cave and she made the Second Singing Magic in the world.

Out in the Wild Woods all the wild animals wondered what had happened to Wild Dog, and at last Wild Horse stamped with his foot and said, "I will go and see and say why Wild Dog has not returned. Cat, come with me."

"Nenni!" said the Cat. "I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me. I will not come." But all the same he followed Wild Horse softly, very softly, and hid himself where he could hear everything.

When the Woman heard Wild Horse coming up to the Cave, she laughed and said, "Here comes the second. Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, what do you want?"

Wild Horse said, "O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy, where is Wild Dog?"

The Woman laughed and said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, you did not come here for Wild Dog, but for the sake of this good grass¹."

And Wild Horse said, "That is true; give it to me to eat."

¹ for the sake of this good grass — ради этой великолепной травы

The Woman said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, if you wear what I give you, you will eat the wonderful grass three times a day."

"Ah!" said the Cat, listening. "This is a clever Woman, but she is not so clever as I am."

Wild Horse said, "O my Mistress, and Wife of my Master, I will be your servant for the sake of the wonderful grass."

"Ah!" said the Cat, listening. "That is a very foolish horse." And he went back through the Wet Wild Woods, waving his wild tail and walking by his wild lone. But he never told anybody.

When the Man and the Dog came back from hunting, the Man said, "What is Wild Horse doing here?" And the Woman said, "His name is not Wild Horse any more, but the First Servant, because he will carry us from place to place for always and always and always. Ride on his back when you go hunting."

Next day, Wild Cow came up to the Cave, and the Cat followed, and hid himself just the same as before; and everything happened just the same as before; and the Cat said the same things as before; and when Wild Cow had promised to give her milk to the Woman every day for the sake of the wonderful grass, the Cat

went back through the Wet Wild Woods waving his wild tail and walking by his wild lone, just the same as before. But he never told anybody.

And when the Man and the Horse and the Dog came home from hunting and asked the same questions same as before, the Woman said, "Her name is not Wild Cow any more, but the Giver of Good Food. She will give us the warm white milk for always and always and always, and I will take care of her while you and the First Friend and the First Servant go hunting."

Next day the Cat waited to see if any other Wild Thing would go up to the Cave, but no one moved in the Wet Wild Woods, so the Cat walked there by himself; and he saw the Woman milking the Cow, and he saw the light of the fire in the Cave, and he smelt the smell of the warm white milk.

Cat said, "O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy, where did Wild Cow go?"

The Woman laughed and said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, go back to the Woods again, because we have no more need of either friends or servants."

Cat said, "I am not a friend, and I am not a servant. I am the Cat who walks by himself, and I wish to come into your Cave."

Woman said, "Then why did you not come with First Friend on the first night?"

Cat grew very angry and said, "Has Wild Dog told tales of me?"

Then the Woman laughed and said, "You are the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to you. You are neither a friend nor a servant. You have said it yourself. Go away and walk by yourself in all places alike."

Then Cat said, "Must I never come into the Cave? Must I never sit by the warm fire? Must I never drink the warm white milk? You are very clever and very beautiful. You should not be cruel even to a Cat."

Woman said, "I knew I was clever, but I did not know I was beautiful. So I will make a bargain with you.¹ If I say one nice word to you, you may come into the Cave."

"And if you say two nice words to me?" said the Cat.

"I never shall," said the Woman, "but if I say two nice words, you may sit by the fire in the Cave."

"And if you say three words?" said the Cat.

¹ So I will make a bargain with you. — Я заключу с тобой сделку.

"I never shall," said the Woman, "but if I say three words, you may drink the warm white milk three times a day for always and always and always."

Then the Cat said, "Now let the Curtain of the Cave, and the Fire at the back of the Cave, and the Milk-pots that stand near the Fire, remember what my Enemy and the Wife of my Enemy has said." And he went away through the Wet Wild Woods waving his wild tail and walking by his wild lone.

That night when the Man and the Horse and the Dog came home from hunting, the Woman did not tell anything about the Cat.

Cat went far and far away and hid himself in the Wet Wild Woods by his wild lone for a long time till the Woman forgot all about him. Only the Bat that lived inside the Cave knew where Cat hid; and every evening Bat would fly to Cat with news of what was happening.

One evening Bat said, "There is a Baby in the Cave. He is new and pink and fat and small, and the Woman is very fond of him."

"Ah," said the Cat, listening, "but what is the Baby fond of?"

"He is fond of things that are soft and tickle," said the Bat. "He is fond of warm

things to hold in his arms when he goes to sleep. He likes to play with such things."

"Ah," said the Cat, listening, "then my time has come."

Next night Cat walked through the Wet Wild Woods and hid very near the Cave till morning-time, and Man and Dog and Horse went hunting. The Woman was busy cooking that morning, and the Baby cried. So she carried him outside the Cave and gave him some stones to play with. But still the Baby cried.

Then the Cat put out his soft paw and touched the Baby, and the Cat rubbed against its fat knees and tickled it under its fat chin with his tail. And the Baby laughed; and the Woman heard him and smiled.

Then the Bat that lived hung in the Cave said, "O my Hostess and Wife of my Host and Mother of my Host's Son, a Wild Thing from the Wild Woods is most beautifully playing with your Baby."

"A blessing on that Wild Thing¹," said the Woman, "because I was a busy woman this morning and he has done me a service."

¹ A blessing on that Wild Thing — Будь благовенна та Дикая Тварь

That very minute and second the dry horse-skin Curtain fell down, because it remembered everything. And when the Woman went to pick it up, the Cat was sitting inside the Cave.

"O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy and Mother of my Enemy," said the Cat, "it is I: for you have spoken a nice word about me, and now I can sit in the Cave for always and always and always. But still I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

The Woman was very angry and took up her spinning wheel and began to spin.

But the Baby cried because there was no Cat around, and the Woman could not hush it.

"O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy and Mother of my Enemy," said the Cat, "shall I show you a Magic that shall make your Baby laugh as loudly as he is now crying?"

"Do so," said the Woman, "because I am very tired of his crying but I will not thank you for it."

She tied the thread to the little clay spindle-whorl and dropped it on the floor, as the Cat told her. The Cat ran after it and played with it till the Baby laughed loudly, and they played together till the Baby grew tired and went to sleep with the Cat in his arms.

"Now," said Cat, "I will sing the Baby a song that shall keep him asleep for an hour." And he began to purr, loud and low, low and loud, till the Baby fell fast asleep. The Woman smiled as she looked down upon the two of them, and said, "That was wonderfully done. No question but you are very clever, O Cat."

That very minute and second the Fire went off because it remembered everything; and when it was on, the Cat was sitting close to the fire.

"O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy and Mother of my Enemy," said the Cat, "it is I: for you have spoken a second nice word about me, and now I can sit by the warm fire in your Cave for always and always and always. But still I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

Then the Woman was very, very angry, and put more wood on the fire and took a big sheep-bone and began to make a Magic. She didn't want to say the third nice word about the Cat. It was not a Singing Magic, it was a Still Magic; and by and by the Cave grew so still that a little mouse went out of a corner and ran across the floor.

"O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy and Mother of my Enemy," said the Cat, "is that little mouse part of your Magic?"

"Ouh! Chee! No indeed!" said the Woman, and she dropped the big sheep-bone and jumped upon the chair in front of the fire because she was very afraid of mice.

"Ah," said the Cat, watching, "can I catch the mouse and eat it if you please?"

"Yes," said the Woman, "eat it quickly and I will be thankful to you."

Cat made one jump and caught the little mouse, and the Woman said, "A hundred thanks. Even the First Friend is not quick enough to catch little mice as you have done. You must be very clever."

That very moment and second the Milk-pot that stood by the fire broke in two pieces, because it remembered everything; and when the Woman jumped down from the chair, the Cat was drinking the warm white milk that lay in one of the broken pieces.

"O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy and Mother of my Enemy," said the Cat, "it is I: for you have spoken three nice words about me, and now I can drink the warm white milk three times a day for always and always and always. But still I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

Then the Woman laughed and set the Cat a bowl of the warm white milk and said, "O

Cat, you are as clever as a man, but remember that your bargain was not made with the Man or the Dog, and I do not know what they will do when they come home."

"What is that to me?" said the Cat. "If I have my place in the Cave by the fire and my warm white milk three times a day I do not care what the Man or the Dog can do."

That evening when the Man and the Dog came into the Cave, the Woman told them all the story of the bargain, while the Cat sat by the fire and smiled. Then the Man said, "Yes, but he has not made a bargain with me." Then he took off his boots and he took up his little stone axe and a piece of wood and a hatchet (that is five altogether), and he put them on the floor and he said, "Now we will make our bargain. If you do not catch mice when you are in the Cave for always and always and always, I will throw these five things at you whenever I see you. And so shall all Men do after me.¹

"Ah," said the Woman, listening, "this is a very clever Cat, but he is not so clever as my Man."

¹ And so shall all Men do after me. — И так же будут поступать вслед за мною другие мужчины.

The Cat counted the five things and he said, "I will catch mice when I am in the Cave for always and always and always; but still I am the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

"Not when I am near," said the Man. "I don't like your last words so I am going to throw my two boots and my little stone axe (that makes three) at you whenever I meet you. And so shall all Men do after me!"

Then the Dog said, "Wait a minute. He has not made a bargain with me or with all Dogs after me." And he showed his teeth and said, "If you are not kind to the Baby while I am in the Cave for always and always and always, I will hunt you till I catch you, and when I catch you I will bite you. And so shall all Dogs do after me."

"Ah," said the Woman, listening, "this is a very clever Cat, but he is not so clever as the Dog."

Cat counted the Dog's teeth and he said, "I will be kind to the Baby while I am in the Cave, as long as he does not pull my tail too hard, for always and always and always. But still I am the Cat that walks by himself, and all places are alike to me."

"Not when I am near," said the Dog. "I don't like your last words and I am going to hunt you up a tree whenever I meet you. And so shall all Dogs do after me."

Then the Man threw his two boots and his little stone axe (that makes three) at the Cat, and the Cat ran out of the Cave and up a tree; and from that day to this three Men out of five will always throw things at a Cat whenever they meet him, and all Dogs will follow the Cat. But the Cat keeps his side of the bargain too.¹ He will kill mice, and he will be kind to Babies when he is in the house, just as long as they do not pull his tail too hard. But when he has done that, and when the moon gets up and night comes, he is the Cat that walks by himself, and all places are alike to him. Then he goes out to the Wet Wild Woods or up the Wet Wild Trees or on the Wet Wild Roofs, waving his wild tail and walking his wild lone.



¹ But the Cat keeps his side of the bargain too. — Но и кошка верна своему слову.

Activities

While Reading

Complete the sentences with the names of the characters — the Woman, the Baby, the Cat, the Man, Wild Dog, Wild Horse, Wild Cow.

1. _____ walked by himself, and all places were like to him.
2. _____ wasn't tame till he met the Woman, and she told him that she did not like living in his wild ways.
3. _____ made the First Singing Magic in the world.
4. Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, help _____ to hunt and guard this Cave at night, and I will give you as many roast bones as you need.
5. His name is not _____ any more, but the First Friend, because he will be our friend for always and always and always. Take him with you when you go hunting.
6. _____ promised to give her milk to the Woman every day for the sake of the wonderful grass.

7. _____ knew she was clever, but she did not know she was beautiful.
8. _____ is new and pink and fat and small, and the Woman is very fond of him. He is fond of warm things to hold in his arms when he goes to sleep."
9. Then _____ put out his soft paw and touched the _____, and he rubbed against its fat knees and tickled it under its fat chin with his tail.
10. _____ was very tired of his crying.



Part Twelve

THE BUTTERFLY THAT STAMPED

This is a story — a new and a wonderful story — a story quite different from the other stories — a story about the Most Wise Suleiman-bin-Daoud-Solomon the Son of David.

There are three hundred and fifty-five stories about Suleiman-bin-Daoud; but this is not

one of them. It is the story of the Butterfly that Stamped.

Now listen carefully!

Suleiman-bin-Daoud was very clever. He understood what the beasts said, what the birds said, what the fishes said, and what the insects said. He understood what the rocks said deep under the earth; and he understood what the trees said. He understood everything; and Balkis, his Head Queen, the Most Beautiful Queen Balkis, was nearly as clever as he was.

Suleiman-bin-Daoud was strong. On the third finger of his right hand he wore a ring. When he turned it once, Djinns came out of the earth to do whatever he told them. When he turned it twice, Fairies came down from the sky to do whatever he told them; and when he turned it three times, the very great angel Azrael came and told him the news of the three worlds: Above — Below — and Here.

And yet Suleiman-bin-Daoud was not proud. He didn't like to show off, and when he did he was sorry for it. Once he tried to feed all the animals in the world in one day, but when the food was ready an Animal came out of the deep sea and ate it up. Suleiman-bin-Daoud was very surprised and said, "O Animal, who are you?" And the Animal said, "O King! I am the small-

est of thirty thousand brothers, and our home is at the bottom of the sea. We heard that you were going to feed all the animals in all the world, and my brothers sent me to ask when dinner would be ready." Suleiman-bin-Daoud was more surprised than ever and said, "O Animal, you have eaten all the dinner that I made ready for all the animals in the world." And the Animal said, "O King, live for ever¹, but do you really call that a dinner? Where I come from we each eat twice as much between meals." Then Suleiman-bin-Daoud said, "O Animal! I gave that dinner to show what a great and rich king I was, and not because I really wanted to be kind to the animals. Now I am ashamed², and it serves me right." Suleiman-bin-Daoud was a very clever man. After that he never forgot that it was silly to show off; and now the real story part of my story begins.

He married nine hundred and ninety-nine wives, besides the Most Beautiful Balkis; and they all lived in a great golden palace in the middle of a lovely garden with fountains. He didn't really want nine hundred and ninety-nine wives, but in those days everybody married ever

¹ O King, live for ever — O, бессмертный царь

² I am ashamed — мне стыдно

so many wives, and of course the King had to marry ever so many more just to show that he was the King.

Some of the wives were nice, but some were terrible, and the terrible wives quarrelled with the nice ones and made them terrible too, and then they all quarrelled with Suleiman-bin-Daoud, and that was terrible for him. But Balkis the Most Beautiful never quarrelled with Suleiman-bin-Daoud. She loved him too much. She sat in her rooms in the Golden Palace, or walked in the Palace gardens, and was truly sorry for him.

Of course he could turn his ring on his finger and call up the Djinns and they could turn all those nine hundred and ninety-nine quarrelsome wives into white mules of the desert or greyhounds or pomegranate seeds; but Suleiman-bin-Daoud didn't like showing off. So, when they quarrelled too much, he only walked by himself in one part of the beautiful Palace gardens and stayed there alone.

One day, when they quarrelled for three weeks — all nine hundred and ninety-nine wives together — Suleiman-bin-Daoud left the Palace and among the orange-trees he met Balkis the Most Beautiful. And she said to him: "O my Lord and Light of my Eyes, turn the ring upon your finger and show these Queens that you

are the great and terrible King.” But Suleiman-bin-Daoud shook his head and said, “O my Lady and Delight of my Life, remember the Animal that came out of the sea and made me ashamed before all the animals in all the world because I showed off. Now, if I show off before these Queens, I’ll be very ashamed.”

And Balkis the Most Beautiful said, “O my Lord and Treasure of my Soul, what will you do?”

And Suleiman-bin-Daoud said, “O my Lady and Content of my Heart, I will do nothing like that.”

So he went on between the lilies and the roses that grew in the garden, till he came to the Camphor Tree¹ of Suleiman-bin-Daoud. But Balkis hid among the tall irises and the bamboos and the red lilies behind the Camphor Tree, because she wanted to be near her own true love, Suleiman-bin-Daoud.

Presently two Butterflies flew under the tree, quarrelling.

Suleiman-bin-Daoud heard one say to the other, “How can you talk to me like this? Don’t you know that if I stamped with my foot all Suleiman-bin-Daoud’s Palace and this garden here would disappear?”

¹ Camphor Tree — камфарное дерево

Then Suleiman-bin-Daoud forgot his nine hundred and ninety-nine bothersome wives, and laughed, till the Camphor Tree shook, at the Butterfly’s words. And he held out his finger and said, “Little man, come here.”

The Butterfly was very frightened, but he flew up to the hand of Suleiman-bin-Daoud, and he said very softly, “Little man, you know that all your stamping wouldn’t bend one blade of grass¹. What made you tell that awful lie to your wife? I am sure, she is your wife.”

The Butterfly looked at Suleiman-bin-Daoud and saw King’s clever eyes, and he put his head on one side and said, “O King, she is my wife; and you know what wives are like.”

Suleiman-bin-Daoud smiled and said, “Yes, I know, little brother.”

“We must keep them in order²,” said the Butterfly, “and she is always quarrelling with me. I said that to quiet her.”

And Suleiman-bin-Daoud said, “I think it will. Go back to your wife, little brother, and let me hear what you say.”

¹ all your stamping wouldn’t bend one blade of grass — от твоего топания и травинка не шевельнется

² We must keep them in order — Мы должны держать их в послушании

Back flew the Butterfly to his wife and she said, "He heard you! Suleiman-bin-Daoud himself heard you!"

"Heard me!" said the Butterfly. "Of course he did. I meant him to hear me."

"And what did he say? Oh, what did he say?"

"Well," said the Butterfly, "between you and me, my dear, he asked me not to stamp."

"Oh!" said his wife, and sat quite quiet; but Suleiman-bin-Daoud laughed till the tears ran down his face.

Balkis the Most Beautiful stood up behind the tree among the red lilies and smiled to herself, for she had heard all this talk. She thought, "If I am clever I can save my Lord from these quarrelsome Queens," and she held out her finger and whispered softly to the Butterfly's Wife, "Little woman, come here."

Up flew the Butterfly's Wife, very frightened, and Balkis told her in her soft voice, "Little woman, do you believe what your husband has just said?"

The Butterfly's Wife looked at Balkis, and saw the Most Beautiful Queen's clever eyes, and said, "O Queen, you know what men are like."

And the Queen Balkis put her hand to her lips to stop her smile, and said, "Little sister, I know."

"They get angry," said the Butterfly's Wife, "over nothing at all, but we must quiet them, O Queen. If it pleases my husband to believe that I believe he can make Suleiman-bin-Daoud's Palace disappear by stamping his foot, I'm sure I don't care. He'll forget all about it tomorrow."

"Little sister," said Balkis, "you are quite right; but next time he begins to boast, take him at his word¹. Ask him to stamp, and see what will happen. We know what men-folk are like, don't we? He'll be very much ashamed."

Away flew the Butterfly's Wife to her husband, and in five minutes they were quarrelling worse than ever.

"Remember!" said the Butterfly. "Remember what I can do if I stamp my foot."

"I don't believe you," said the Butterfly's Wife. "I would like to see it with my own eyes. Stamp now!"

"I promised Suleiman-bin-Daoud that I wouldn't," said the Butterfly.

"You couldn't bend a blade of grass with your stamping," she said. "Stamp! Stamp! Stamp!"

Suleiman-bin-Daoud, sitting under the Camphor Tree, heard every word of this, and he

¹ take him at his word — поймай его на слове

laughed as he had never laughed in his life before. He forgot all about his Queens: he forgot about the Animal that came out of the sea; he forgot about showing off. He just laughed, and Balkis, on the other side of the tree, smiled because her own true love was so happy.

Presently the Butterfly, very hot indeed, came to Suleiman and said, "She wants me to stamp! She wants to see what will happen, O Suleiman-bin-Daoud! You know I can't do it, and now she'll never believe a word I say. She'll laugh at me to the end of my days!"

"No, little brother," said Suleiman-bin-Daoud, "she will never laugh at you again," and he turned the ring on his finger — just for the little Butterfly's sake — and four huge Djinns came out of the earth!

"Djinns," said Suleiman-bin-Daoud, "when this gentleman on my finger stamps his left front foot you will make my Palace and these gardens disappear. When he stamps again you will bring them back carefully."

"Now, little brother," he said, "go back to your wife and stamp."

Away flew the Butterfly to his wife, who was crying, "Stamp! Stamp now! Stamp!" Balkis saw the four Djinns take the gardens with the Palace in the middle, and she said, "At last

Suleiman-bin-Daoud will do for the sake of Butterfly what he ought to have done long ago for his own sake¹, and the quarrelsome Queens will be frightened!"

Then the Butterfly stamped. The Djinns threw the Palace and the gardens a thousand miles into the air, and everything grew black. The Butterfly's Wife was flying in the dark and crying, "Oh, I'll be good! I'm so sorry I spoke! Only bring the gardens back, my dear husband, and I'll never quarrel again."

The Butterfly was as frightened as his wife, and Suleiman-bin-Daoud laughed so much that it was several minutes before he could speak to the Butterfly, "Stamp again, little brother. Give me back my Palace, most great magician."

"Yes, give him back his Palace," said the Butterfly's Wife, still flying about in the dark. "Give him back his Palace, and please no more magic today."

So he stamped once more, and that moment the Djinns brought down the Palace and the gardens. The sun shone on the dark-green orange-leaves; the fountains played among the pink

¹ what he ought to have done long ago for his own sake — то, что давным-давно должен был сделать для собственного спасения

Egyptian lilies; the birds went on singing; and the Butterfly's Wife lay on her side under the Camphor Tree saying, "Oh, I'll be good! I'll be good!"

Suleiman-bin-Daoud could hardly speak for laughing¹.

Then came a terrible noise, for all the nine hundred and ninety-nine Queens ran out of the Palace shouting and calling for their babies. And the Cleverest Balkis went to meet them and said, "What is your trouble, O Queens?"

They stopped and shouted, "What is our trouble? We were living peacefully in our golden Palace, when suddenly the Palace disappeared, and we were left sitting in a thick darkness; and Djinnns moved around in the darkness! That is our trouble, O Head Queen, and we are most troubled on that trouble, for it was a troublesome trouble, unlike any trouble² we have known."

¹ could hardly speak for laughing — едва мог говорить от смеха

² we are most troubled on that trouble, for it was a troublesome trouble, unlike any trouble — как никогда мы взволнованы от подобного волнения, ибо это было самое волнительное волнение из всех волновавших нас ранее (*Повторение однокоренных слов не только подчеркивает комический эффект, но и убеждает в сильной взволнованности цариц.*)

Then Balkis the Most Beautiful Queen, almost as clever as the Most Wise Suleiman-bin-Daoud himself, said, "It is nothing, O Queens! A Butterfly has a quarrelsome wife and our Suleiman-bin-Daoud decided to teach her a lesson, for that is not good to be quarrelsome."

But the Queens didn't believe her and Balkis asked them to go to the garden. There under the Camphor Tree they saw Suleiman-bin-Daoud with a Butterfly on his hand, and they heard him say, "O wife of my brother in the air, remember after this to please your husband in all things. Remember, he can stamp his foot again. Go in peace!" and he kissed them on the wings, and they flew away.

Then all the Queens except Balkis — the Most Beautiful Balkis, who stood apart smiling — thought, "If these things are done when a Butterfly is not pleased with his wife, what shall be done to us?"

Then they put their hands over their mouths, and they went back to the Palace most mousy-quiet.

Then Balkis — the Most Beautiful Balkis — went through the red lilies to the Camphor Tree and said to Suleiman-bin-Daoud,

"O my Lord and Treasure of my Soul¹, we have taught the Queens with a great teaching."

And Suleiman-bin-Daoud, still looking at the Butterflies playing in the sunlight, said, "O my Lady, when did this happen? I have just had a small talk with a Butterfly in the garden."

Balkis said, "O my Lord and Treasure of my Soul, I hid behind the Camphor Tree and saw it all. It was I who told the Butterfly's Wife to ask the Butterfly to stamp, because I hoped that for the sake of the Butterfly you would make some great Magic and that the Queens would see it and be frightened." And she told him what the Queens said and thought.

Then Suleiman-bin-Daoud stood up from the soft grass he was sitting on and said: "O my Lady and Sweetener of my Days², I made the Magic for the sake of a joke and for the sake of a little Butterfly, and it saved me from the quarrelsome Queens! Tell me, O my Lady and Heart of my Heart³, how did you come to be so clever?"

¹ O my Lord and Treasure of my Soul — O, мой господин и сокровище моей души

² O my Lady and Sweetener of my Days — O, моя госпожа и улада моих дней

³ O my Lady and Heart of my Heart — O, моя госпожа, сердце моего сердца

And Balkis the Queen, beautiful and tall, looked up into Suleiman-bin-Daoud's eyes just like the Butterfly, and said, "First, O my Lord, because I loved you; and secondly, O my Lord, because I know what women are like."

Then they went up to the Palace and lived happily.

But wasn't it clever of Balkis?



Activities

While Reading

Who in this story said it? Why? What was going on in the story when these words were said?

1. O King, live for ever, but do you really call that a dinner?
2. How can you talk to me like this? Don't you know that if I stamped with my foot all Suleiman-bin-Daoud's Palace and this garden here would disappear?
3. What made you tell that awful lie to your wife? I am sure, she is your wife.

4. Well, between you and me, my dear, he asked me not to stamp.
5. Little woman, do you believe what your husband has just said?
6. You couldn't bend a blade of grass with your stamping. Stamp! Stamp! Stamp!
7. She wants me to stamp! She wants to see what will happen, O Suleiman-bin-Daoud! You know I can't do it, and now she'll never believe a word I say. She'll laugh at me to the end of my days!
8. Djinns, when this gentleman on my finger stamps his left front foot you will make my Palace and these gardens disappear. When he stamps again you will bring them back carefully.
9. Oh, I'll be good! I'm so sorry I spoke! Only bring the gardens back, my dear darling husband, and I'll never quarrel again.
10. We were living peacefully in our golden Palace, when suddenly the Palace disappeared, and we were left sitting in a thick darkness; and Djinns moved around in the darkness!

1) Look through the list of all the tales. What story would you tell to somebody who:

1. is lazy and idle?
2. is rude and doesn't say "Thank you" after the meal?
3. doesn't like curious children?
4. is too proud of himself?
5. wants to be very popular and important and run after?
6. doesn't listen to his mother carefully?
7. doesn't want to learn foreign languages?
8. doesn't want to learn to read and to write?
9. doesn't want to change either his ideas or the way he/she looks?
10. is too quarrelsome?

2) In some stories you meet children or even babies. Sometimes they are humans but sometimes they are animals. What do they all have in common? How important are they? Why did the writer create them? What character do you look like? What makes you think so?

3) If you like “Just So Stories”, you can try your hand in writing the story yourself. You can write about everything you want. What name would you give to your story? “How the Chimpanzee Lost His Tail”? “The Beginning of the Bats”? “How the School Was Made”? Whatever the name, do not hesitate to have a try!

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