

GREEDY SAM

Long time ago, all the animals lived together like a family in a city called Animas. They were called Animasians. Their king was an old eagle. His palace was high in the sky. From there he watched over the city.

One night, the king could not sleep. He paced around in his room.

“My birthday is in two days. How can I make it special?” He paced some more.

Suddenly he stopped. “I have it!”

“Kenton!” He screamed.

Kenton was an old parrot. He had been the King’s messenger since he was a young parrot.

“Yes, your majesty!” Kenton stood by the door, rubbing his sleepy eyes.

“I will invite all the animals of my kingdom to my birthday! Go and tell them at once!” the king said.

“But, your majesty, it’s midnight.” Kenton said.

“First thing in the morning, then! Hahaha!” The king laughed and his big belly wobbled.

Before sunrise, Kenton flew over Animas screaming. “Hear ye! All Animasians, you are all invited to the birthday of King Edmund.”

Ramon, the bear and the oldest in Animas, called the Animasians for a meeting.

" Fellow Animasians, the king has invited us to his birthday in two days. The only way to the palace is through the mountain which meets the clouds. It is fourteen days walk. What shall we do?"

"We'll fly," Zandra, the hawk answered, excited.

Sam the turtle frowned, "Is that right? How about us that can't fly?"

"I didn't mean it that way." Zandra felt embarrassed.

" I have it," Lisa, a young dove said. She jumped from her seat.

"What if the birds contribute feathers to animals without wings? Then they can make wings for themselves." Lisa smiled with pride.

"Not so fast, miss genius!" Sam said. "You birds do not have enough feathers to help elephants, horses and giraffes fly."

"I was only trying to help." Lisa struggled to stop tears in her eyes.

Barabas the beaver stood up. He adjusted his thick glasses. "What if we select some animals to go and represent us?"

There was silence. Barabas had always felt that nobody listened to him. This silence confirmed it, he thought to himself.

"I think that Barabas is right," Ramon said.

Barabas smiled. Somebody had finally listened to him.

All the Animasians in the room agreed.

Animals were selected to receive feathers. Among them was Sam the turtle.

They made themselves wings and flew around Animas testing their new wings.