

Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

BY MARY GRAHAM BONNER

THE LEOPARD

"What do you think of us as you pace back and forth, back and forth, over that zoo cage of yours?" asked a little girl as she stood before the leopard's cage in the zoo.

"Your eyes look far over my head," she continued, "and you look as though you were thinking of something interesting."

"Won't you tell me, please, Mr. Leopard?"

But the leopard went on walking, and the leopard continued to look over her head, and would not look at her.

For he was not thinking of little girls, or of one special little girl who was trying to talk to him as she stood before his cage admiring him and wondering what his story was.

He was thinking of other things.

Then, as the little girl still stood watching him, he began to roar.

His great mouth opened and his eyes looked angrier than ever. They looked so wild, so very wild.

He was telling his story though, even if the little girl could not understand the words he used.

They were the words used by leopards, their own language, and which, if turned into English, went something like this:

"I was so quick. Oh, I was so quick. When they charged at me I was ready. I used to hunt. I used to kill."

"Oh, those days when I was wild, when I could be as wild as I chose."

"Oh, those days when I used to hunt. I used to think, yes, I used to think how I would escape if anyone or anything came upon me suddenly."

"I moved so quietly and quickly. I knew just how to go about doing things."

"Those were the good old days when I was free, way, way off from the zoo."



"Won't You Tell Me, Please, Mr. Leopard."

and people and children and keepers and crowds who rudely stare at me!

"What do I care for the crowds who stare?"

"Nothing!"

"I look over their heads. I won't show them the honor of looking at them, for they are beneath me."

"They can't hunt as I have hunted, they can't move so quickly and so cleverly, they can't hide and seek except in a foolish, childish way!"

"I am glad I'm not a child."

"I'm glad I'm not a grown-up."

"I'm glad I'm not a keeper."

"But those are almost the only things I am glad about."

"For I long for the freedom of the forests and the jungles."

"I long for the stillness and the noises that are beautiful."

"I hate these clattering noises that are here. Silly, clattering noises of people and their actions."

"And here in the zoo my happiest hours are spent in thinking of the wild days, the glorious wild days."

"Those wild days are what I am thinking about when I look over the heads of the people who come to the zoo."

"I am dreaming of the days that are gone and wondering if ever again I will see the parts of the world that aren't filled with clattering noises made by people, inhabited by people."

"I don't like people and their silly voices and their silly stares and their silly looks."

"I don't see anything to this world which they call the civilized world—I hear them talking about it."

"No, I don't see anything to it at all."

"I shall continue to look over the heads of every one of you."

"At least I can do that!"

Teaching the Office Boy

The office boy rushed into the boss' office with his hat on one side of his head and shouted, "Hey, boss! I want to get off to go to the ball game."

"William," said the boss, "that's no way to ask. Sit here at the desk and I will show you how."

He went from the room and returned with his hat in his hand, saying, "Please, Mr. Smith, may I go to the ball game this afternoon?"

"Sure," said Billy, "here is 50 cents for a ticket."

Rheumatism, Not Sympathy

Teacher—Willie, did your father whip you for what you did in school yesterday?

Willie—No, ma'am; he said the licking would hurt him more than me.

Teacher—What nonsense! Your father is too sympathetic.

Willie—It's not sympathy, ma'am; it's rheumatism.—Exchange.

Mooresboro Wedding Secret Over A Year

Miss Katie Smart and Mr. Wayland Greene Were Married in Spartanburg in August 1924.

Handsomely engraved announcements have been issued announcing the wedding of Miss Katie Lou Smart to Mr. Wayland Greene which took place a year and four months ago. The announcement reads as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. Arhuthoot Leander Smart announce the marriage of their daughter Katie Lou to Mr. James Wayland Greene, on Thursday, August the fourteenth nineteen hundred and twenty-four Mooresboro, North Carolina.

It is understood that this prominent couple was married in Spartanburg in last August 1924 and that the desire of the couple to keep it a secret until now was a perfect success. The bride remained at her home at Mooresboro serving as book-keeper for her father who manages the Mooresboro Cotton Oil Co. She is a very pretty and popular young lady, while Mr. Green is now and has been holding a lucrative position with the Georgia Railway Light and Power Company at Atlanta, Ga., for several years. The couple left this week for Atlanta where they will make their home.

North Carolina Cities Growing.

(Salisbury Post)

We do not know how substantial are the facts the newspapers are publishing relative to city growth. These figures which have been printed from time to time giving the growth of all larger North Carolina towns may not be exact, but they are derived from following a very fair method of reaching true facts. So we may say that there is not a very wide difference between these figures and what the most exacting count would reveal.

This week Salisbury and Charlotte figures were given. The figures given for our own home town indicate a large growth as do those which the Charlotte papers hold up for the Mecklenburg capital. Any one can look over this city and tell that it is growing, growing in every direction, developing in more ways than one and this far-reaching development is bringing in good people to live.

So many who takes a jaunt over North Carolina can tell that all these young cities are growing. Industry is springing up everywhere, and becoming firm and productive of material wealth. That indicates more people. The schools are bulging. A new school house is scarcely finished until there is need of additional room and equipment to take care of the children knocking at the doors.

Everywhere large expenditures are being made in street construction. New avenues are laid out and homes come with a new day's sun. It's everywhere and no one can overlook it. So, when the newspapers get from a source that is capable of making a very careful estimate of population based on these evidences of growth, they may be set down as fairly accurate near enough to speak in confidence.

Our familiarity with Salisbury will give any of us reason to know and appreciate the fact that the city is growing day by day; larger and we believe better, too.

Lexington Dispatch Calls Star Article

Lexington Dispatch. The Cleveland Star, now changed from semi-weekly to tri-weekly, in the course of an editorial on advertising rates and circulation makes this statement:

"The Star's circulation thrice a week is less than a hundred short of four thousand, a circulation which we believe no other paper can boast of in North Carolina."

The Star is to be pardoned if it boasts a little of its fine circulation. It is a good paper and deserves the fine support it gets. But if The Star editor will run over to Lexington on Press day we believe the Dispatch can show him that he covered a little too much territory in putting his circulation above that of any other local newspaper in the state.

The Star, however, is arguing the point that experts who have studied the situation from every angle have worked out a scale of local advertising charges on a basis of circulation that they hold should be charged to the paper is to get its due. On the basis of this scale, The Star asserts it is giving its local advertising patrons a bargain through charging them 21 cents an inch less than the scale sanctioned by the National Editorial association. On the same basis the Dispatch's local advertising rate is an even bigger bargain.

Minister "Lays" Ghost.

(The Pathfinder.)

In Leicestershire, England, is an old rectory, an old fashioned, rambling building which has served in the past as a residence of some of the nobility of the county and, according to tradition, has been the scene of several tragic deeds. For some thirty years the people living in the vicinity of the old house had been annoyed by what they considered ghostly demonstrations. The servants about the place firmly insisted that the house was haunted and a number of visitors declared that while staying in the house they had had strange experiences which could not be explained by attributing them to natural agencies.

The rector of a neighboring parish who had once slept in the house declared that he was alarmed in the early morning hours by a violent tugging at the bed clothes. Although he held an as tightly as he could the clothes were pulled off the bed. When he lighted a candle he found nothing wrong and the door was still securely locked. A careful, systematic search failed to furnish any explanation of the strange occurrence. Another person who occupied the room at another time reported a like experience.

Then a strange thing happened. Another minister, garbed in the habiliments of his office, entered the haunted apartments and commanded the spirits to depart "in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost." Ever since this exorcism, it is said, no ghostly manifestation of any kind has been seen by any one.

Science has determined the freezing point of almost everything except the feminine knee.

In this great democratic land, even the scandals of the middle class get front page position.

Gifts with a Holiday Spirit

WITH ONLY A FEW MORE DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS, GIFTS MUST BE SELECTED QUICKLY. NO DIFFICULTY, HOWEVER, IN FINDING SUITABLE ARTICLES IF YOU SHOP HERE. SUGGESTIONS FOR GIFT GIVING ARE DISPLAYED ON EVERY HAND TO MAKE YOUR SHOPPING EASY.

Rain or Shine UMBRELLAS

Your gift of an umbrella selected here will carry pride of possession because of its beauty. Large assortment silks and gloria—
\$3.50 \$4.95 to \$10

HANDKERCHIEFS For The Family

Like friends we never have too many. Stocks are at their Christmas best. For children, for men and for ladies.
25c 35c 50c to \$1

S - H - S VANITIES

The high school girl will delight in getting one of these Vanities on Christmas day. High school colors and monogram. Singles **\$1** doubles **\$1.50**

MEN'S BATH ROBES

Warm wooly robes. In rich colors. Packaged single in neat Christmas boxes. Reasonably priced.
\$7.50 to \$12.50

NECKTIES

For men and boys. In new assortments. Many of them have just been received. Beautiful patterns in Christmas boxes.
50c to \$1.50

HUMMING BIRD HOSE

In Individual Christmas Boxes
\$1.50 PAIR

If it's for a Miss or woman, one can never go wrong in selecting Humming Bird hosiery for gift. It's the one gift that finds ready use and universal appeal. In complete range of new and wanted shades.

HANDSOMELY FITTED BAGS

It will give her genuine comfort during her travels for years to come. The fittings are new and attractive. Linings to match the toilet outfit.
\$22.50 to \$45

SANTA'S HEADQUARTERS FOR FRUITS, CANDIES AND NUTS

Santa should visit a real fruit, candy and nut store because we sell these things exclusively.

CANDIES, 15c POUND AND UP

Real home-made fruit cocoanuts, peanut brittle and peanut bar, coconut brittle and bar, stick candy, fudge, bon bons, all assortments of chocolates from 15c pound up.

FANCY BOX CANDIES

Get a fancy box of candy. Prices range from 40c to \$5.00.

FRUITS BY BOX OR DOZEN

Buy your fruits by the box and dozen. Sweet seal oranges, at lowest prices, fancy apples by the dozen or box, bananas, tangerines, nut, grapes, figs and dates.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

of fruits, nuts and candies make suitable gifts. Baskets of different sizes reasonably priced.

SHELBY CANDY KITCHEN

Next to Union Trust Company

PRE-HOLIDAY Sale Of Millinery

Tomorrow
DRASTIC MILLINERY CLEARANCE
\$1, \$2, \$3 AND \$4
(Values to \$15.00)

Choice of 75
HATS
\$1, \$2, \$3 AND \$4
(Up to \$15.00 Values)

EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE HATS POSSESS THAT DISTINCTION ONLY FOUND IN THE MORE EXPENSIVE MILLINERY, WHICH THEY ARE. THEY HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO THIS LOW FIGURE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR TWICE-A-YEAR DRASTIC CLEARANCE POLICY. HATS OF ALL SIZES, OF ALL FAVORED MATERIALS AND TRIMMINGS. COLOR RANGE IS DIVERSIFIED.

W. L. Fanning & Co.