

Bungle Book One

Lex the Lion Cub
in
That Pesky Fly

by

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Lex the Lion Cub
in
"That Pesky Fly"

Lex is a lion cub. One day he will be the king of the jungle but now he's still young and full of mischief. Playing tricks on the other animals is his favourite pastime.

One day Lex had been up to mischief again.

He tied a knot in Elly the Elephant's trunk.

"Hi, hi!" He laughed merrily while Elly tried to untie her trunk.

He replaced one of Maxie the Monkey's cherries with a radish. The bitter taste made Maxie screw up his face so much that he looked like a wrinkly prune. Lex squealed with glee.

He crept up on Gerri the Giraffe and roared so loudly that he bumped his head on a branch in fright.

Nobody really liked Lex's jokes but that didn't bother Lex. He was having great fun!

While Rita the Rhino was having her nap, Lex dropped a wriggly ant in her nose. "Hat-chew, hat-chew!" She sneezed so hard that her horn almost fell off.

Lex howled with laughter but the other animals in the jungle didn't like his jokes. Not one bit.

In the afternoon Lex was sleepy from all his mischief. He curled up in the shadow of his favourite tree and was about to go to sleep when he heard a noise.

Bzzzzz-bzzzz-zzzzzzz

"Hey, what's going on?" He said annoyed. "I'm trying to get some sleep!"

The sound stopped. Lex closed his sleepy eyes again but a few seconds later:

Bzzz-bzzzzz-zzzzzz

He opened his eyes and saw a big, fat, hairy fly sitting on his nose.

"Hey, get out of here you pesky fly!" Lex growled.

But the cheeky, little fly wasn't impressed.

Bzzzzz-bzzzzz-zzzzz

Lex thrashed about madly but the fly was too quick for him.

"Aaaah!" Lex snarled angrily. "I can't sleep with all that noise!"

Lex tried to hit the fly again but he was too fast. Lex was so tired by now that his ears were starting to droop.

Lex thought: "Maybe one of the other jungle animals knows how I can get rid of this rotten fly."

Hey, there's Elly the Elephant.

"ello Elly," he called, "do you know how I can get rid of this noisy fly?"

Elly scratched behind her ear with her trunk and answered:

"Flies don't like water. You have to stand under a cold waterfall for half an hour."

"But I don't like water either," Lex whined, "and especially not cold water!"

"Well," Elly said, "that's just too bad because it's the only way!"

"Oh all right then," Lex sighed, "just as long I can get rid of that little pest!"

Lex ran to a waterfall and crouched under it. It was freezing cold. He was shivering all over and his toes were blue from the cold.

Lex's teeth were chattering: "T-t-t-that sh-sh-should be-be e-enough!" He shuddered.

He got out and shook his soaking coat but the fly landed merrily on his nose and gave it a good lick.

Bzzzzz-bzzz-zzzz

"Oh no!" Lex cried. "He's still here and now I'm sopping wet and cold. Boo-hoo!"

He raced to Maxie the Monkey and the fly tagged along.

Bzzzzz-bzzzzzz-zzzzz

"Maxie," Lex pleaded, "do you know how to make this nuisance buzz off?"

Maxie thought for a moment and then cried: "Buffalo poop!"

"Buffalo poop?"

"Yep, buffalo poop! You have to roll around in it. Flies hate buffalo poop to pieces!"

Lex pulled up his nose: "Yuck! You're sure about this?"

"Positive."

"Wellll, okay then," Lex said uncertainly, "as long as I get rid of this fly. "

Lex found a nice big pile of fresh buffalo poop. It was still steaming and smelt awful! He held his nose and rolled all around in it.

Afterwards, he could be smelt for miles around but the fly didn't seem to mind at all. In fact, he seemed to like the smell.

Bzzzzzz-bzzzz-zzzzz

Lex moaned and groaned.

"Nothing works! I'm freezing cold and now I smell like a stinky skunk as well. Bah!"

He walked off in a huff and then he saw Gerri the Giraffe.

"Hi there Gerri," Lex said, "do you know how to make flies go away? This one is driving me nuts!"

Gerri wrinkled his nose because of the smell coming off of Lex. He held his

breath and then answered:

"I know what you can do. You have to crawl through a thorn brush. The fly won't like that one bit I bet!"

Lex hesitated for a minute but he didn't have a better idea.
He'd sat under an ice cold waterfall and that didn't help.
He'd rolled around in buffalo poop and that was no good either.

Lex found a big thorn brush and crawled through it as carefully as he could. But no matter how careful he was he kept pricking himself on the sharp thorns.
When he came out on the other side he was scratched all over.

"Ow, ow, ow," he wailed but - **bzzzz-bzzzz-zzz** - the fly was still buzzing around!

Lex started blubbing in rage. Nothing helped!

Then along came Rita the Rhino.

"What's the matter?" She asked.

"I feel so terrible," Lex sniffed.

"All I want to do is go to sleep but this rotten fly won't let me.
I've tried everything!

I sat under a freezing waterfall and went blue with cold.

I rolled around in buffalo poop and now I stink like a skunk.

I crawled through a thorn brush and got all scratched.

But nothing helps.

I'm so tired and miserable. I just want to go to sleep!"

"I've got a good idea," Rita said. "Why not go find Kismet the frog. Frogs love big fat flies to eat."

"That's a great idea," Lex cried as he raced off as fast as he could to find Kismet the frog.

Kismet was sunbathing on a big water-lily in the pond.

"Hey Kismet," Lex yelled, "are you hungry?"

Kismet was always hungry and he croaked loudly.

"Well jump up here on my head," Lex said, "cos here comes your dinner!"

Kismet jumped on Lex's head, settled down between his ears and waited patiently. Then the curious fly flew closer to get a better look.

Bzzzz-bzzzz-zzzz

All of a sudden, Kismet's long, slippery tongue shot out and - whack! - caught the fly in mid air. Kismet gobbled him all up in one gulp!

"Croooooak, croooak!" Kismet exclaimed happily, his tummy all full.

"Yip-pee, yip-pee!" Lex yelled with joy, "Free at last! Hooray!"

He raced as fast as he could to his tree and curled up.

"Now I can finally go to sleep," he yawned.

Lex had just closed his eyes when he heard a noise.

"Croooak!"

THE END

