Pinky goes to the Zoo



Pinky goes to the Zoo

by Steven Tabor

Cover art: Emilie Tabor

Editing: Mayme Tabor

Illustrations: Maya Sullivan



It was the weekend, and Pinky the flower had just woken up.

She looked up and the sun was shining, oh so bright, right in her eyes.

Then she looked up again and there was Freya!

"Good morning" said Freya.

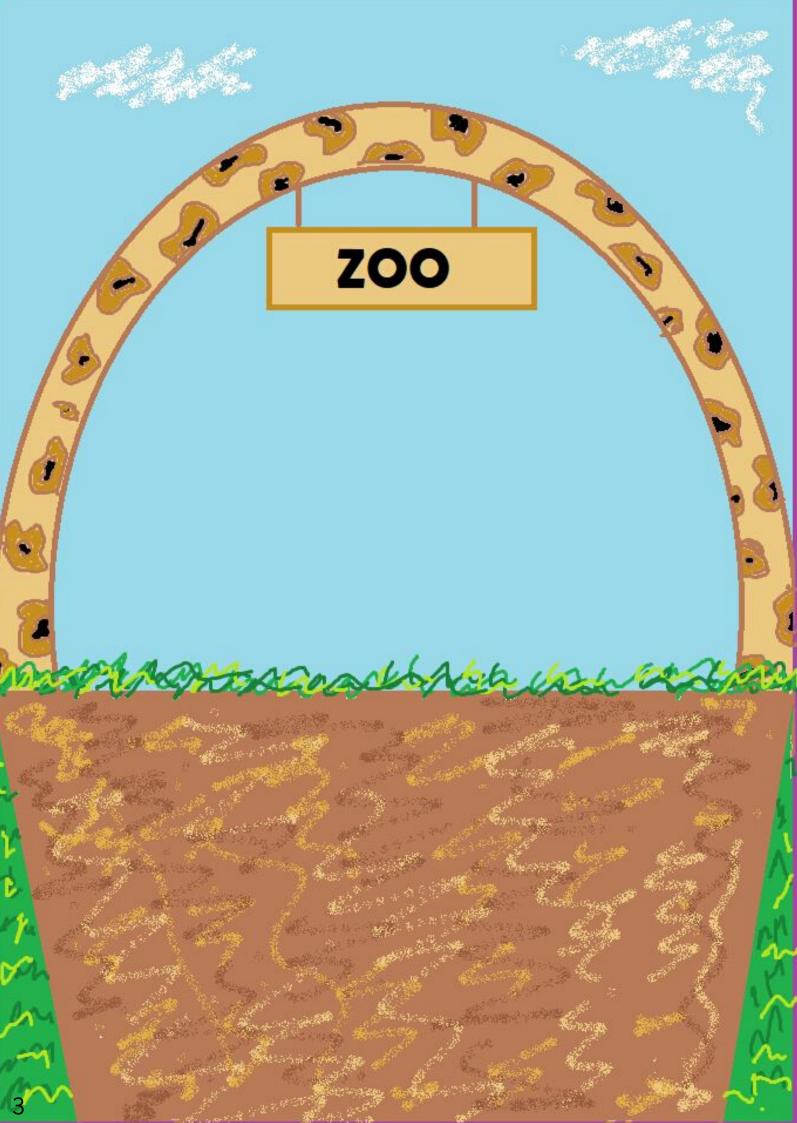
"Pinky, today is a special day because my papa is going to take me to the Zoo. Do you want to come along too?"

"That would be fantastic", said Pinky. "I can be ready in a flash".

And before you could count to ten, Pinky, Freya and Freya's papa were driving down the big road to the zoo.

After about a half hour in their big blue car, they reached the Zoo.

Already it was busy with little children and their parents.



The first thing that
Pinky and Freya saw
was a big fence with a
grass field and an
oh so tall Giraffe
who was eating some
leaves from a tree.

"Hey Mr. Giraffe", called Pinky. "How are you today".

"Well, I guess I'm ok",
Mr. Giraffe answered,
with his mouth still a bit full from
all the tree leaves he was eating.

"Are you ok up there?", yelled Pinky.

She yelled because it was pretty far from where the little pink flower was standing, to the top of the tree where

Mr.Giraffe was eating leaves.

"Well", replied Mr. Giraffe, "I'd really like to go for a long walk, and stretch my legs".

"I can understand that", said Pinky.

"I don't see why you need to be locked up, because you surely won't hurt anyone".

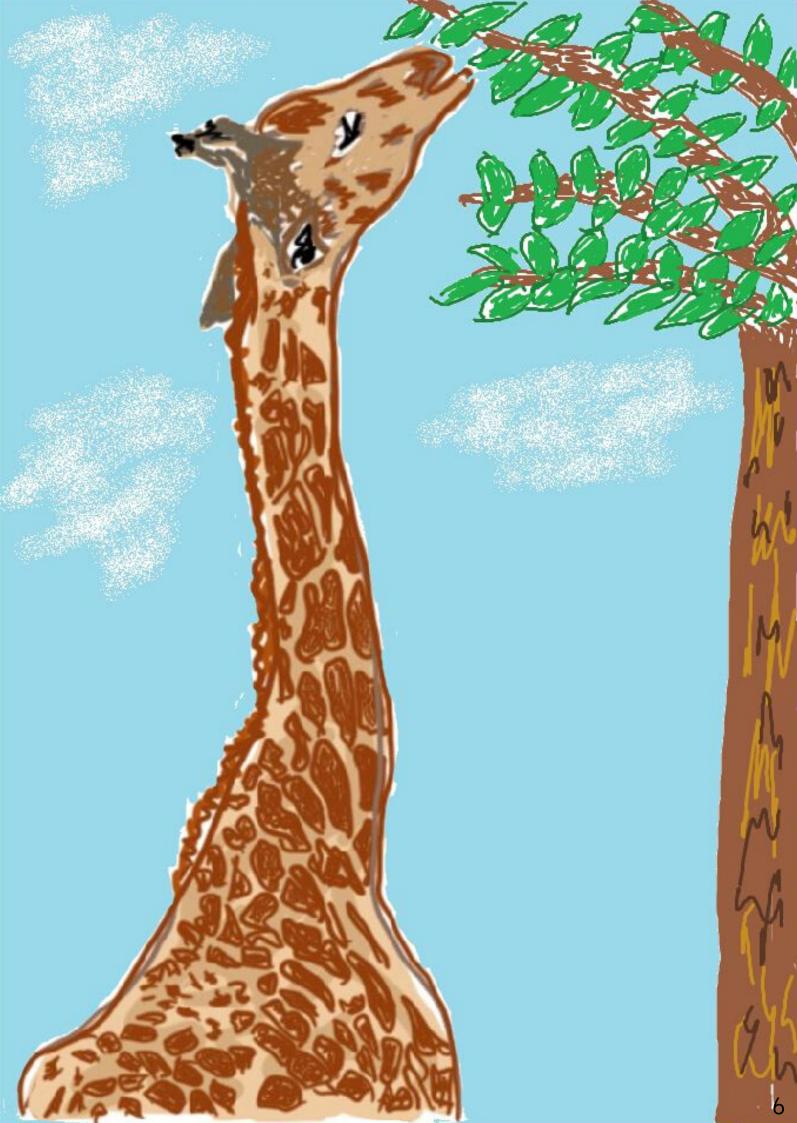
"That's true", said Mr. Giraffe,

"But I guess the zoo people don't know that."

"Ah well", said Pinky, "don't be too sad. It's a nice, sunny day, and so many nice children will come to visit you."

"Yes they will," added Freya, "and they know that you are so very sweet".

"Thank you Pinky and Freya.
That does cheer me up."
And with that Mr. Giraffe went back to eating his leaves



After that Freya, her Papa and Pinky walked on to the next fence.

This one was even bigger than the last.

From a distance, it looked like there were a group of big purple Elephants behind the fence, but as they got closer, they could see that they were also a little bit orange.

"Hi there Elephant", Freya called out.

"Hi there little girl", the elephant replied.

"My name is Freya and my friend is Pinky the Flower.

Nice to meet you".

"Same here", said the Elephant,

"And my name is Eddie."

"Wow, you are soooo big", said Pinky.

"What do you do all day here".

"Not too much", Eddie answered.

"You see, there's not too much space here behind the fence, and we Elephants mainly hang out watching the little children who come to watch us.

But in the jungle, where I come from, we could walk for days and days and meet one friend after another".

"Oh", said Freya, "that's a pity, but at least here you get to be friends with the little children that come to visit you" "Yes, that is true", answered Eddie, who waved his long snout, gave Pinky and Freya a big wink and plodded slowly across the grass field.



After leaving the elephants,
Freya, Papa and Pinky walked on a bit more.
Then they came to a big, strong cage,
with a dusty floor, a few big rocks, and
a little water pond in the corner.
There, on top of the rocks
sat a very big golden lion.

"Hi Mr. Lion", called Freya and Pinky at the same time.

"Just call me Leo", answered the Lion.

"And you can call her Pinky", answered
Freya while pointing at the little flower.

"And you can call her Freya", answered
Pinky while pointing at the little girl.

"Leo, you are so fierce and strong", said Pinky.

"That's true," answered Leo.

"In the jungle I was a King,
but here in the zoo,
the zoo keepers are in charge."

That's not fair, thought Pinky. No,that's really not fair at all, thought Freya.

Then the two friends, and Freya's Papa walked over to a small café where Freya's papa went to get each of them a special treat.

Pinky turned to Freya and said, "Freya, I don't understand why all these animals have to be behind fences or in cages."



"In my garden, the butterflies are free to come and go as they please, and they are so nice and colorful, and they don't bother anyone."

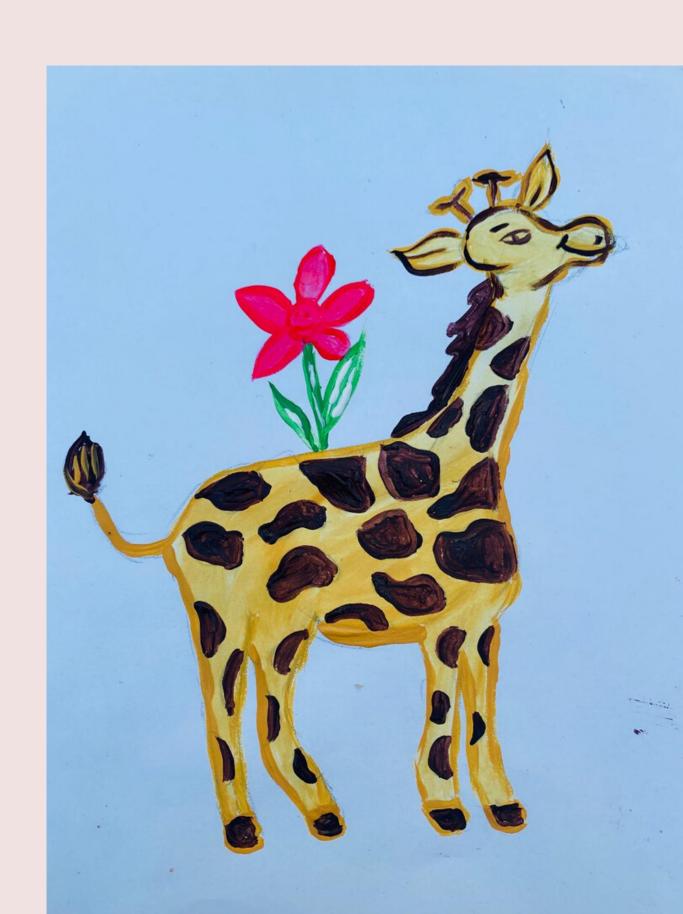
Freya thought about this for a minute, and then she said to Pinky:
"I enjoy visiting the zoo very much, and the animals do have a nice life here, but it's sad that they have to live in a cage or behind a fence".

Then Pinky and Freya thought long and hard about what they had seen that morning in the Zoo.

Pinky and Freya discovered that being free was very important, not just to people, or to little flowers, but also to animals, big and small.

Right then and there,
Pinky and Freya decided
that they would tell
all their friends
to be kind to the animals
to help them live free,
and to make a
nice home for them,
wherever that might be.

Bye bye big animals!!! said Pinky and Freya



Pinky goes to the Zoo