

# The Zoo On The Loose

Rylie Bushnell



A Larkspur Lane Books Original



The Zoo on the Loose  
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One sleepy night,  
as the stars hung low,  
the big zoo gate swung open and ...  
OH NO!



Three lions came creeping  
down quiet Oak Street,  
And what did they find?  
Mr. Smith's barbecue meat!  
"Yum!" roared Papa,  
"Yum!" purred Mom — and the cub  
licked the grill with a sticky paw...  
YUM!



The zebras pranced  
through Mrs. Percy's peas,  
munching her cucumbers  
right down to the seeds.  
A mama, a papa, & one stripy tot —  
they ate every veggie  
the garden had got!



Up to the windows  
the giraffes needed no stool,  
they nibbled warm muffins  
on the counter to cool

It didn't take long  
'til the treats were all gone  
they finished each morsel,  
each and every crumb!



The snakes slithered in  
through the little cat door  
They found a big pot of spaghetti –  
and more!

"Ssssss," sang the family  
(two big and one small),  
as they slurped the long noodles  
and meatballs and all.



The pandas plopped down  
on the porch's wood chairs,  
gobbling bamboo  
and a basket full of pears.  
The little cub burped,  
then it patted its tum –  
"This town," sighed the pandas,  
"is ever so yum!"



When morning arrived,  
the whole town awoke  
to lions and zebras –  
was this a big joke?!  
Giraffes in the windows!  
And snakes in the hall!  
The pandas, all snoring –  
they'd eaten it all!



But clever young Maya  
knew just what to do—  
a trail of fresh snacks  
was the cleverest clue!  
Past carrots and muffins  
and meatballs, too,  
they followed her home—  
sleepy, full...  
...back to the zoo.



The keeper came running  
and locked the gate tight,  
and the animals dreamed  
of their funny, full night.  
And if you walk by,  
you just might hear them say...  
"Can you PLEASE open the gate again  
...someday?"

# The End

Stories that wander somewhere wonderful.



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