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FROM MY
PERCH

To all
children

FROM MY
PERCH
written by
and Anne
illustrated Connelly



Connelly publishing
company

Forward:

It is with great
pleasure that I
introduce you to a
very interesting
and creative piece
of literature!

Since I had the
privilege of having
the author in class
it is indeed a
double pleasure to
congratulate her on
a splendid work!

S.P.M. X

Chapter I

First let me introduce my-
self. I am a crow and I live on
B—— Ave., a quiet street
in F——. To outsiders it
seems quiet at least. From
my perch I see many things
that go on.

There are many incidents
to tell about, some of which
I will relate later. Right now
I will give you a picture of
the children. There are child-
ren of many different ages,
ranging from 3 weeks old to
12½ yrs old. Most of my sto-
ries are about the 11-13½ age
group.

I have lived in this neigh-
borhood for many years, long

2.

enough to know that every-
one plays together, espec-
ally in the summertime.
There have been many new
arrivals, who have in time
been accepted as one of the
crowd, but I will tell of the
old crowd.

Chapter II

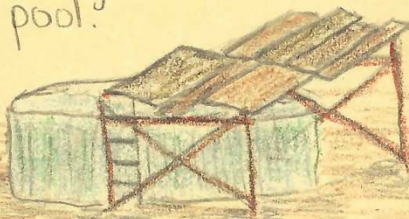
The following is an inci-
dent which I saw from one
of my many perches:

There was a game of
hide-and-go-peek (origi-
nally hide-and-go-seek)
going on in the woods and
all the older boys and girls
were playing. Since the
person who's it peeks,

3

naturally the players go out
of bounds.

One of the families had
recently added a room onto
their house and there were
still plenty of supports and
pieces of wood around. Out
of this, plastic, and heaven
only knows what else, they
made a "sunporch" which
hung over their 4 foot deep
pool.



Sunporch + Pool

4 Well, to get back to the subject, they were playing hide-and-go-peek and they couldn't find a hiding place within the boundaries, so being cheaters, they went out and they all hid on the sundeck. I don't know how they all fit on the 6ft. high, 4ft. wide, 5ft. long concoction.

It was a sight well worth seeing, the 12 of them piled on top of each other, decked with leaves for camouflage and hanging on for dear life. I knew that some of them should get off or they'd all fall off, but what could I do?

5 Then it happened! Someone sneezed and two of them went flying into the pool and three into the mud. They were pulled out of the pool dripping wet with nothing seriously the matter except 2 saturated kids and 2 colds. It was also the end of the sunporch!

Chapter III

After the sundeck episode there were still many braces around and a few long boards. The workmen had left three supports piled together

6 and locked. These were pretty sturdy. The boys took three of the heaviest and sturdiest of the boards and placed them at different heights on the 17 foot high structure. Then they went off to find some of their friends.



7 I followed them and saw them meet some other children in the street. They organized a game called "Capture the Flag" in which a bottle cap placed inside a football helmet is used as a flag.

Well, the boys used their "apartment building" as a fort and while the other team hid the "flag" they stood on the top floor peeking.

They were just about to scramble down by way of the other two floors when the top board slipped and the three boys were left dangling helplessly.

The other team heard their yells and came to their rescue. Somehow they managed to get the top board back in place, and the results of that episode were not serious. Of course, no one was allowed anywhere near the braces after that, because the parents heard their yells, too!

Chapter IV

On our street there is a river. To be exact it runs through our street. This is an old, old story concerning this river and the stone bridge over it.

This story is so old that the children who are now in 8th grade were in 2nd grade when it occurred.

There was one 2nd grade couple who were madly in love. The girl, L—, was a belle among the boys; The boy, B—, considered himself very lucky to be chosen for her spouse.

All the children in the neighborhood were very excited by the coming of the wedding. L— and B— were to be married under the bridge on the rocks the next week.

There were preparations before of course. Cookies

were stolen and kept in a paper bag in L—'s cellar, guests were invited, plans for a honeymoon were made, and L—'s bouquet was prepared. A "minister" was hired. Everything was ready. Then one helpful little guest invited L— and B—'s parents who put a stop to it, but to this day there are secret romances.

Chapter V

At this same river, down farther and years later there was a tree with an overhanging sturdy branch. The boys and girls got a long piece of rope and somehow

secured it to the branch. They tied a big knot at the bottom and this was their swing.



The swing happened to hang over one of the deepest spots in the river, from 2 to 4 feet deep. In the summer the kids wear cool clothing. They wear shirts, sometimes shoes or sandals and short pants. When they used the swing they took off their shoes (if they wore any) and dragged their feet in the water.

While waiting their turn the others would wade in the river. The person would be pushed off and caught again.

This all went very well until the lady across

the river got "peeved" according to the kids. When they didn't take it down she called the police and they were forced to take it down, but they had many other frolics at the river.

Chapter VI

One summer night at about 8:30 while I was in my willow tree perch the older children came out on the golf course for a game of keep away. Probably you know what this game is about, but for the benefit of those who don't: there are 2 teams and the object of the game is to

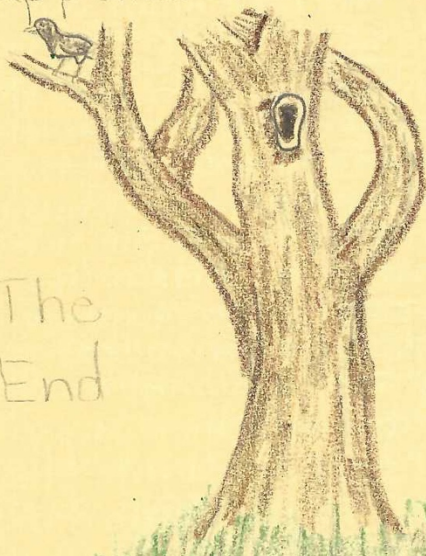
keep the ball away from the other team.

Well, you can imagine how much this annoyed the Country Club people, having their golf course ruined by a bunch of children. They had played there before and this time the people decided to do something about it. So the police were called and together with a man from the country club they went down near the children and got out of the truck. When he motioned to the children though, they scattered naturally. Some went into the swamp, some into the woods but a majority went over the fence and into the river.

They all escaped and the police man went home.

The next night the exact same thing happened until it got to escaping. This time everyone went over the fence. But the policemen were prepared and there was a policeman on the other side of the river. Knowing what to do, of course, they waded + ran up the river until the fence ended and then they disappeared into the land covered with bamboo, weeds, and small trees. The policemen couldn't follow them so they waited. Finally they left and the children went home, but many other

¹⁶ things of that nature
happened that summer.



The
End

Maple Tree Perch on
Street



Willow Tree Perch
on Golf Course



River waterfall and a
river perch.
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