### **BORIS VINOKUR**

## **THE WORLDWIDE**

### **ANIMAL FEAST**

**Real Fairy Tale** 

With attachments



Author's free verse retelling to English from Russian edition

#### **BORIS VINOKUR**

# The Worldwide ANIMAL FEAST

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#### Address to the reader

Initially, I wrote the fairy tale "A Feast for the Whole Animal World" in Russian in poetic form. After several publications of this version, I received a lot of feedback. Among them, there were wishes to translate it into English.

I decided to bring to your attention a free verse retelling of this tale. I added some new illustrations but saved the design of previous editions. Sample and cataloging numbers of Russian editions you can see on the page 114 of this book.

With deep respect, Boris Vinokur – author.

Dedicated to my beloved granddaughters Paula and Gabrielle and to the blessed memory of their grandmother, Galina.



### Introduction

Many years ago, when I was young, healthy, and full of energy, I often went to the forest to pick up berries and mushrooms. In the middle of the forest was located The Forest Academy for talented animals. I regularly attended this Academy and successfully studied different animal languages. In a short time, I established a warm friendship with all students from the Academy. I knew by name all the bears, squirrels, hares, and hedgehogs in the neighborhood. Since that time, all animals around the World have become my best friends.

Now, in a good hour of my life, I begin to tell my story about them.

#### Part 1

### **Three Bears**

More than other animals, I loved the family of three bears.

Most of all, I loved a baby bear named Sashutka.

Sashutka's Mother-bear was called Madame Eda.

She was a famous writer of fairy tales for children.

Eda was also The Animal Languages Grammar and Reading teacher at The Forest Academy. All animals from

forests, fields, and mountains loved her very much.

Sashutka's Father-bear was called Michael.

Michael was the best blacksmith in the neighborhood.

He did all kinds of ironworks.



The bears' house was new and made of oak.

It was large, beautiful, clean, and very cozy.

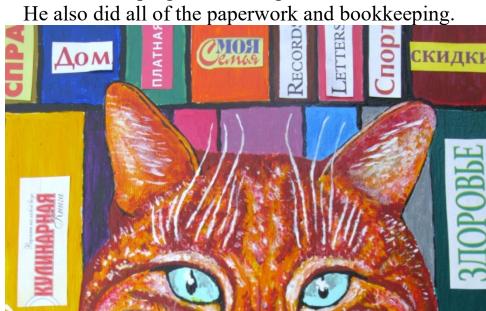
A wooden fence surrounded the yard.

A very thick pine forest grew around the mansion.

An orange cat by the name of

Le Purr de Meow was responsible

For housekeeping and farming the bears' household.



A watchdog named Barking Boss was in charge of Guarding the Bear Family's Homestead.



Nearby the bears' house flew a wide
And quite deep river.
Therefore, it was not far to go fishing
Or to gather water for household needs.
Pikes and other wild fish lived in that river.
Large families of beavers had populated the river
And they built a lot of dams and lodges in that area.

Eda told in one of her fairy tales, How three mermaids lured A steamship together with a crocodile On board into a whirlpool in the Middle of the deep-water river.



Our forest saw a lot of miracles and magic events; A lot of secrets it kept inside of its thick.

### Part 2

### **Barrel of Honey**



One day in the summer, Michael brought a barrel of honey from the Mosquito Market into the backyard. Together with the barrel of honey, he also brought a big teapot called Samovar.

Everyone could buy a lot of different goods at the Mosquito Market if they would save some money.



Eda and Sashutka were very excited, so They started singing a song and clapped their palms. Eda loudly shouted on the whole forest, "Hurrah, Hurrah!"

### Eda's song

#### Sweet Honey

Every bear loves sweet honey, Loves sweet honey, loves sweet honey, Even better than big money, Than big money, than big money.

We eat honey from a comb, From a comb, from a comb. Golden honey, fragrant honey Makes us strong, makes us strong, Makes us very, very strong, Very strong, very strong.

Sashutka went on to jumpstyle dance. He was dancing and singing. Being very initiative, he at some moment started to shout to all forest Inhabitants,

> "Animals and Birds from all places Of the entire World, Please come to us for a Feast!

> > We will make a Grand party For all of you. And we will treat you With fragrant sweet bee honey.

It will be very easy to find A way to our house!"

The joyful news was floating through forests and fields: "Three Bears are inviting all inhabitant
To a Grand Feast for tasting sweet honey."

The dense forest buzzed and boomed
From the very ground up to the sky,
Loudly repeating the invitation.
Animals, birds, and other living creatures –
From Giraffe to Donkey, from Tomtit to Eagle,
In the villages and the capitals –
Began to rush straight to the bears' house.

Someone came with valuable gifts, someone with flowers, Someone – only with a hungry empty belly. . . .



On that beautiful summer day
I was going with raspberries back to my home.
When I was approaching the road turn,
I suddenly noticed Eda opening the gate.

She said to me with a kind smile,
"Hello, Boya! How are you? \*
Please come to us! It will be a big feast.
Our entire class will gather.
We would like to have you with us,
Because all of us together are a close family."

I also was happy to meet with my friends
And I readily agreed to spend the night
In the bears' house.
So, I could help them in the coming early morning
To meet arriving guests.

Strictly following to my habit – Always to be very accurate in all my doings – I will precisely, in order describe Everything I saw at that event.

<sup>\*</sup>That's how the bears pronounce my name.

#### Part 3

### **Guests**

The miller – Mule– was a truly loyal friend of Michael. He was the very first who arrived in the morning. He owned a mill with a bakery near the almond grove.



Together with an oven, Mule brought a cart full of oatmeal cookies and pies. There were cookies, muffins, and pastries with almonds and cinnamon, jam, and with many other fillings, even with mustard – for every taste. Everyone could find something to enjoy. Also, there were a lot of different kinds of juices and sparkling water. Just eat and drink some water!

Especially for kids, Mule picked up many books with beautiful colored illustrations. He loved children very much – even more than his mill!



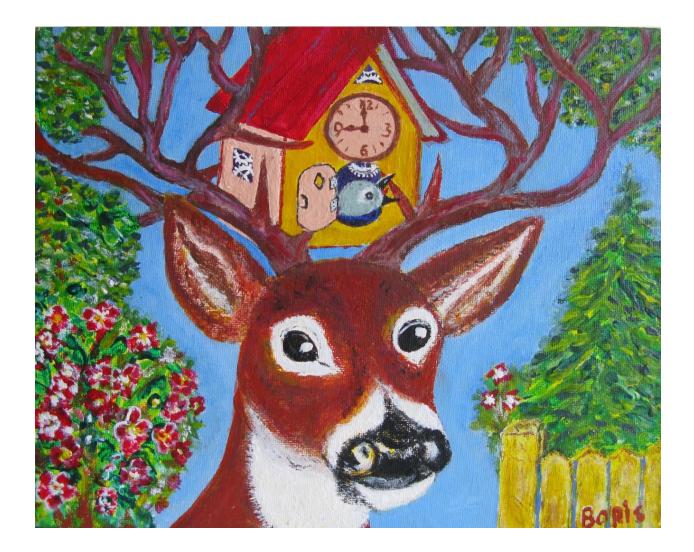
Unfortunately, not all books could fit into the cart: it was needed a steam locomotive with wagons for heavy loads. But, in those distant years, cargo trains did not run from the bakery to the bears' mansion.

Two baskets with valuable load has brought the girl friend of Mule – Horse.



Horse dressed like she was going to a Grand Ball. Her mane was all in braids. The barber combed her bang and tail in the latest fashion. Horse had participated in ballroom dance class and studied etiquette. Therefore, she learned all court manners. She brought in her basket not only books but also a big bouquet of red pleasantly-scented roses.

Deer slowly pompously approached the estate. He was trying to show himself as a very important person (in short - VIP).



Among Deer's wide horns was located a tall birdhouse. It was not a simple birdhouse but a Cuckoo clock with a complicated mechanism inside. The famous astrologer – Cuckoo Bird – controlled that clock mechanism. Cuckoo Bird provided accurate counting of hours and days according to the movement of the Sun and the Moon. She opened the door every hour and loudly announced the right time.

The birds were singing on the branches of trees tenderly and melodiously repeating Cuckoo's sounds. The famous "CO-CKOO" aired throughout all of the forest. All children in the world knew when they needed to get up, eat or go to bed.



Hedgehog and the cat by the name Kitty were close friends from very early childhood. Now, when they grew up, they became widely known as Mice's Patrons. They brought a basket full of cheesecakes and sat down next to the door.



An old Boar ran in the yard together with a skinny Roe. Boar was very hungry. He brought with him a big cooking pot to collect as much bee honey as possible, so he could fill his big empty belly fast.

Long-necked Goose with a sailor's gait slowly entered the yard, accompanied by Mother-Goose with paddle-like paws. A brood of chicks followed her.



"Gaggle-Gaggle," said Goose to the bears in the Goose Language.

"How wonderful you live in this corner of paradise!" In response to Goose, Sashutka said,

"Please sit down, buddy, on a tree stump, eat a fresh pie, and you will see something that you never could see even in a dream."

Goose even did not have time to swallow a piece of pie as he has heard the whistle blow, which indicated that a self-baking Magic Oven had baked a new pie. Long-necked Goose hissed,
"Should I believe my eyes?
Can a pie filled with jam
Fly out of the oven by itself?
I have swum through many rivers,
And I was an honored guest at the royal feasts,
But nowhere did I see
Self-baking ovens on carts!"
Eda answered,
"The self-baking Magic Oven
Our Sashutka made by himself
And just recently presented to Mule as a birthday gift.
That's why you couldn't see such a miracle until the moment when



Mama-Pig with manicure on hooves dragged two troughs:

One big, for herself, and the second, smaller, for piglets.



They followed her, carrying a lot of fresh bagels to eat with honey.

On a hillock, seven goat kids met piglets.

- "Maa-Maa where are you going, and why are you carrying so many bagels?"
- "Grunt-Grunt," answered piglet by the name Hrushik,
- "You need to clean your ears! Rumors spread throughout the forest: the bears are giving away honey!
- "Even the deaf could hear that a great feast scheduled for today! You tell it to your mom and follow after us.
- "We will be waiting for you near school number five.
- "Everyone knows about this school: a major is there singing.
- "I have been studying in this school since my birthday, and I trained my voice all the time. I even listen to tape cassettes with the recordings of famous songs from operettas.
- "Now, there is a selection for the Royal Children Court choir.
- "And I am sure: very soon I will sing in the Court choir.
- "Come quickly without delay! Bring microphones with you: we must have enough time to be listened up. And then, we will rush directly to the bears' house to taste fresh bee honey."

I would add from myself: Yes, Hrushik's dream has come true! I saw him in cartoons: he is a movie star now!

But let us go back to that time and Imagine the piglets and goat kids standing On the school stage with microphones in their paws. It was a very, very hard exam.

The selection was the strictest I've ever seen.

Nevertheless, all goat kids and Hrushik were Enrolled in the Royal Court Choir!

(I will notice between us — Every mother was happy.

And great-grandmothers — all at once — made a fashion show With their new beautiful dress).

The Sun was running across the sky.

Time also did not stand at the same point.

All participants of the exam went from the school scene

Straight to the bears' mansion. They did not want to be late for the feast.

Mama-Pig, nine piglets, Mother-Goat, and seven kids –

A real kindergarten – all together hurried,

Friend after friend to the bears' mansion.

Soon they have run into a clean, spacious yard.

"Grunt-Grunt – what space!"

"Maa-Maa-Maa – that's grace! Here we will feast!"

"Gaggle-Gaggle," Goose gaggles,

"Come in, guys, don't be shy!

"There is a Miracle Oven here, and you can eat whatever you want.

"I have been walking around it since the early morning and have eaten

Already forty cookies and pies.

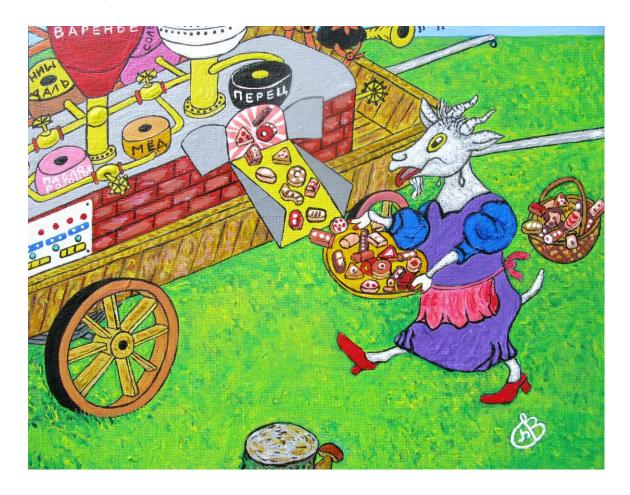
But the Miracle Oven never gets tired."

Mother-Goat admired and with wide-opened eyes shouted, "Miracle Oven! Miracle Oven!

Maa-Maa – such a miracle You couldn't find even in Bermuda! (There are such islands where miracles are countless).

"I've been to Bermuda, and I have seen a lot of wonders so, I can say now,

"Sure, You have a new world miracle!"



Following Mother-Goat,

Mama-Pig very fast repeated and repeated like a spoiled recorder, "Your Oven on wheels – a miracle, a miracle, a miracle, there are Even no questions, no questions, no questions."

I, versed in science, wanted to see the Forest Workshop where Sashutka made the Oven.

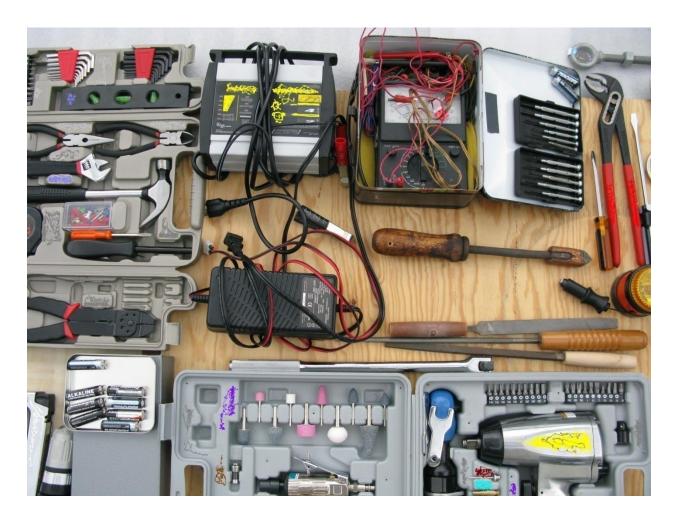
Although I have been familiar with tools since childhood like Sashutka, I was just spellbound when I saw this workshop.

There were: bolts and nuts, anvils and vices, wheels and washers, heavy hammers, and pliers of different types. There were batteries, motors, spare parts for cars, and ready-to-use play dough for models.

On the upper shelves were located whistles and tubes, colored wires, and many components for computers.

There was a robot by the nickname Friend who always kept the workshop very clean. (He worked as a servant).

There was order everywhere: all the boxes were in place, hand tools were laid in rows on the tables.



In the big tall kitchen cabinet, behind the glass door, was seen: on the upper shelf – different jams in wide glass jars and fillings for cookies in smaller ones;

on the middle shelf – the bag of flour, packages with sugar, salt, and spices.

On the bottom shelf of the cabinet was standing a bucket full of water.

A feeling took over me as if I got to a museum, where someone with a magic hand created a new miracle.

I left the workshop and saw the bank across the river.

Hares, squirrels, and monkeys were running but couldn't find A bridge to cross the river.

Green Frog in a white hat on the top of her head had jumped to Them and asked if they needed help.

When Frog cleared up the problem, she with an anxious voice, Has croaked-croaked-croaked with Beaver by cell phone.



(Fortunately, he always carried with himself a cordless telephone).

Mustachioed Beaver was a smart And an experienced builder. He had cut thick pine branches, And then, without any drawings, Very fast built the bridge for animals.



The mother of Michael had already milked the cows. She filled five barrels with fresh warm milk And covered them with a clean white table cloth.

Domestic orange cat Le Purr de Meow had been Sent to check the chicken house. He had a strict order – to count the eggs stock, So tomorrow, at dawn, He could make egg smoothies for children.



Treats on the tables were ready to be eaten. The last thing remaining was to arrange The dishes in their places.

Quickly I arranged the fruits and vegetables, greens, grains and bread products, tangerines and bananas, bell peppers and watermelons.

Then I placed specially ordered dishes: oriental thorn soup with corn cobs; herbal elixirs, birch juice and maple syrup, pineapple baked in a pumpkin with rice and raisins.

I placed stuffed pike prepared strictly according to the recipe from a cookbook in the center of the table.

Next were salmon kebabs, crayfish necks with vegetables, and shark fins.



Mule had baked Biscuit-chocolate cake for dessert in the shape of the Royal Palace and attached to it the label with words: "Made by Mule for Sashutka, his Mother and Father."

I whipped together the fresh sweet raspberries I just picked up in the forest with rowan syrup in an antique mixer. Then, into the raspberry mixture, I added chunks of ice. This cocktail prepared according to the old secret recipe of my family was always very liked by my friends.

Everything turned out beautifully: there were plenty of bright flowers around the home. I also placed spruce cones and many large, good-scenting yellow-red leaves in every corner.



Leo the Great, the king of animals from all forests and all fields, had deigned to come too, and he built a palace for himself, with a tower and cannons in the tall, thick walls.

The faithful guards very vigilantly guarded entrances at all time.

Two guard tigers were walking near the gate, They did not take their eyes off the king's tower: Lion with Lioness and their daughter — The Beautiful Princess — lived in it!



Leo was a very kind king. He always carried with him a chest, Full of golden things for his loyalists And gifts for children.

A lot of goods – jewelry, silver, And other riches Leo brought to the family of bears. All guests received copper coins too.

### Items of forest luxury – chariots and carriages,



Boots and sneakers, Even umbrellas in covers – Everything stood neatly in Places prepared in advance. A space ship named Flying Platter had parked at the edge of the forest near an oak tree.

It emitted a bright like a fiery bouquet during a firework.



But flying dishes, even at that old-time, were not miracles! Everybody knew about them. (Squirrels flew on them over the forest!)

And many of arrived guests were using the newest "things" – flying machines without pilots \* and carriages without horses!

<sup>\*</sup> Not to be confused with a helicopter (see below).

A flying machine is not a helicopter.

It is not an airplane too! It flies over the clouds driven by the winds.

\* \* \*

But the real miracle of those years
Was a spring-driven bike!
It had two springs built in the wheels,
That winded up like in a watch,
And it drove fast across the plains or flew in the sky.

For those who needed to climb on the mountain or high hill,
There were claws on the tires,
Like on the paws of the orange cat.
It could pass through swamps, float on seas and cross any river.
It also had wings, sails, and anchors behind the seat!

No engine, no gasoline, no water, and no fire needed! Wind up only two springs once every four days! Travel quietly without noise. There is no more smoke either. It's a miracle, real miracle – the clockwork spring-driven bike!

And Camel – our old friend – Arrived on it from Bermuda.



As a gift for the bears, he sent three of the same bicycles,

Together with the new garage, by his luggage.

You certainly haven't forgotten what Mother-Goat said,

"There are such islands where miracles are countless!"

It is impossible, without the excitement,
To describe that pandemonium:
Singing birds from different countries,
The bleat of goat kids, muttering of llamas. ...



The warm atmosphere of friendship and kindness was everywhere. There was also indescribable joy from meeting relatives and friends: Tiger talked to Donkey; Mouse played with Kitty. ... Many talented poets were reading their new amusing poems and verses. Famous artists performed spectacular shows which aroused the Admiration of all visitors.

Everyone said something: someone was serious, someone was joking.

The watchdog Barbos \* sniffed everybody.

He was interested only by the question:

"Who, where from, what have they brought to the feast?"



\* Barbos is short for a Barking Boss.

### Part 4

# THE FUN

It's good that it was summer. The Sun was warming; there was a lot of light everywhere. The Chief of Heaven – Brave Eagle – ordered a ban on rain or fog on that day.



At first, there was noise and din, a real hullabaloo! But at noon it became quiet: at this time we invited everyone to the tables. There was a place for everyone.

And the fun began!

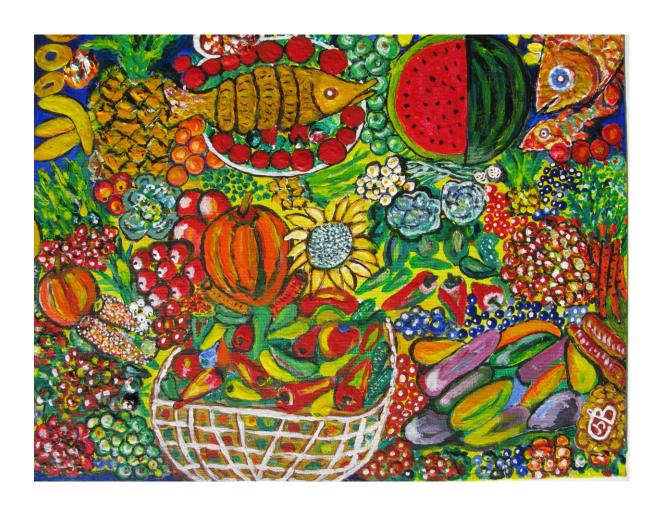
The famous Parrot began to cut a loaf of white bread.

He flew in from China, perfectly knew
A hundred and twenty languages, and always
Was ready to lead a funny conversation.

Eda took care of the guests: she was very polite to everybody
And served them with prepared tasty treats.

She poured a large spoonful of honey from a barrel Onto each of their plates.

When there was a need for any food, it was instantly Brought to guests on the service cart.



According to the custom of the forest, Eda brought a lot of flowers to all of the ladies: A rare kind of beautiful Gladioli and Orchids.

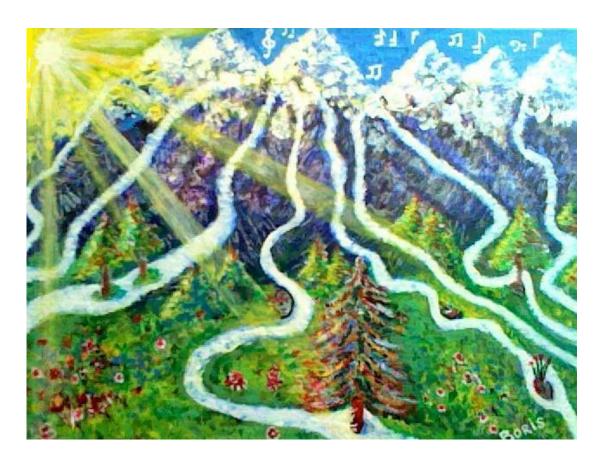


The Royal Children Court Choir, run by Gazelle, sang in a thousand frets about sweet honey and the scent of pine trees, about the noise of the forests and the quiet of the fields, about the rays of Sun in the clear sky.

All the guests froze for a moment. And that moment was so wonderful!

In that magical moment,
The Royal Court Choir
With its miraculous voices
Made snow on the caps of the mountains
To melt with sweet tears.

Streams of crystal clear water Were flowing from high mountains. The Sun was shining with a warm Golden smile over the Earth.



The chick named Capercaillie had squeaked three funny ditties, But when Hrushik sang a song, even King Leo shouted, "BRRRAVO!"

### Hrushik's song

I am singing, singing, singing, My funny merry song About a little Princess, I have dreamt For a year long.

> About magic beauty, That brings in paradise, About endless love to her, And how she is wise.

I am singing, singing, singing, About eyes like pearls, About a smile so charming, And about her golden curls.

> I am singing, singing, singing, My funny merry song About Lion's daughter, who I have dreamt of all my life long.

Let us sing my song – to honor The Leo famous name, His bravery, his wisdom, His regal crowned mane!

# Hrushik is singing



Michael, with a mighty bass, Read Eda's rhymes:

For kids from elementary grades – About flowers and flags; For older ones – about mermaids, Fish and flies, and a miracle By the name "Winnie the Pooh."

\* \* \*

Time was running out very fast. Cuckoo Bird in the little house was Knocking hard on the gears.

After Cuckoo had announced the new hour, She quickly closed the door And hid behind it.

Smoke was curling from the chimney, A whistle was blowing in the yard – This self-baking Magic Oven Has already baked a new pie. Then Donkey, a philosopher, started a scientific dispute About the Underwater World.



Not with a gray-haired Mustachioed Beaver, Not with Striped Newt, Not with Paddlefooted Goose, Not with Water Frog, But with the young Monkey – A dancer from ballet And an operetta actress – A theatrical star!

Donkey's interest was wide-ranging: From seals and dolphins to plants found in warm waters.



# Underwater World





But he got carried away with the question: "Do mermaids love honey?" And Monkey, as always, did not say yes, nor no. After all, she will never find the answer to such a serious question! To settle this dispute, Cat Fisher intervened in the conversation. He said confidently, "It is easy for us to check. We should invite a fish with a female head and shiny scales – Marina Mermaid – to the shore.



Let her in front of all of us answer the question:

"Does she love honey, or not?"

Donkey looked out the window, absorbed into deep thinking. He wanted to show off his smarts in front of everyone at the table. He calmly began to say,

"Yes, it is simple to invite Marina Mermaid, but it will be very troublesome.

Let us imagine: what will happen if, suddenly, the fish from the water supply system will follow her and start to jump from all of the faucets right into our tubs?

I have seen many times toothy pikes under running tap water at the Pelican's fish shop."



Cat Fisher meowed bravely,

"Oh, then I will be lucky! I love fish very much.

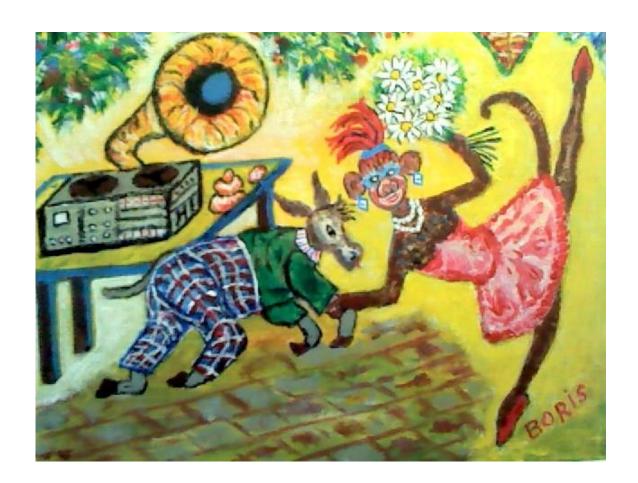
I, by myself, catch them in the river almost every day, and I can eat A large basin of fish every hour.



Hurry up to finish the dispute And invite Mermaid!"

Donkey didn't expect to receive such a firm and worthy answer. So, he quietly went to the very far corner with his tail pressed to his body.

Being hardly frustrated, he had eaten a piece of bitter mustard cake, Then he turned on the tape recorder and invited Monkey to dance the Tail-Waltz with him. \*



\* A fashionable dance among animals, when dancers wag their tails to the rhythm of the music. A beautiful sight!

When the music stopped
Donkey had bowed at Monkey's feet,
And he confessed that he fell in love with her.
Yes, yes – from the hooves to the ears!
He had given her a golden ring,
And asked the second question,
"Does she want to be a
Faithful wife to him, or not?"

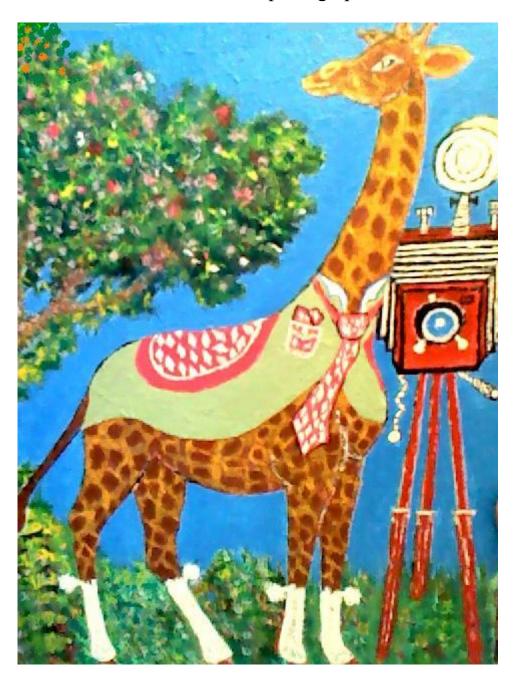
But the mischievous Monkey Had decided to tease Donkey. She gave him seven daisies: Let him look for the answer By himself in the petals!



Like a living TV antenna tower Giraffe stood above all.

He was a special VIP guest –

The filmmaker-photographer.



Giraffe, with an experienced sight, picked up Photo Models.

Then he asked them to say Cheese to make a pleasant smile

And not to blink their eyes until the

Photo flash went off.



Pulling quickly on the chain from the camera, he lit a bright light.

In two seconds, sharp, he handed a color portrait to the Model.

Giraffe was very polite to everybody.

He did not refuse to do anything,

And willingly agreed to produce the

Cartoon movie "Donkey With a Flower."



Sashutka, a glorious fluffy kid, approached every guest and gladly answered different questions about his latest inventions. Both old and young were happy to talk with him.

At some moment, while everyone was joyfully socializing, Sashutka announced a new game for kids. This game was called ATTRACTION.

He put toys and candies in bags or boxes: Only he knew what was in each particular one.

He pulled the rope along the fence. Then he randomly tied packages to the rope, Using the threads, as thin as a spider web.

No one participant could see and touch the threads, Until they approach any of them.

Let me briefly recall the essence of the game, (So, it will be easy for you to understand it): The leader of the game gives scissors

To all of the participants in the crowd

And he asks to hold the scissors in their paws.

Then he folds dark shawls in three folds and covers Their eyes.

After that, he turns everyone three times to confuse Their orientation and leads them to the line painted on The ground.

On the command: "START!" – go forward, Cut any thread you can find and get a gift!

The Sun was running across the sky.

Time also did not stand at the same point. Cuckoo in the little house was strongly Knocking on the wheels;

> Cuckoo announced the new hour, Quickly closed the door And hid behind it.

Father-Goat started to sing a song.
The Nightingale joined him,
But his voice didn't match Goat's voice, so
Nightingale blushed and fell silent.

Three funny little piglets
Were mocking Goat
Very loudly, but according to
The etiquette rules of the forest,
Although Father-Goat was offended,
He forgave this piglet trick,
Bowed to their Mama-Pig,
And he went away to Mother-Goat.

Smoke curled from the chimney, The whistle was blowing in the yard, Signaling that Magic Oven had baked a new pie. The feast in the forest was at its height,
When the hare by the name Harry suddenly
Remembered about Red Fox,
"Why isn't she here,
Where does she hide her red fluffy tail?
I am looking for her to dance the Tail-Waltz."

Not even three minutes had passed, as
The cloud looking pigeon appeared in the sky,
Sat on the window-sill
And knocked on the window.
That was the bluish Pigeon-postmaster.
He brought a greeting message
And a complimenting bow from Red Fox.



In a red-colored, urgent telegram, Were printed only three lines:

We are in a hurry to taste honey.

RED FOX, Mr. DILE – CROCODILE,

MOT – CIRCUS SPACE PILOT. \*

<sup>\*</sup> Mot is a famous astronaut well known in the animal world. The animal's name Mot corresponds to the human name Matthew (Matt) that means GIFT OF GOD.

#### Part 5

## **Mister Dile**

Goggle-eyed crocodile,
In the documents – Mr. Dile,
Once lived in the River Nile.
He had a huge tail:
Ten meters – full length.
Dile was friends with Red Fox,
He loved to travel, and he came to
Our woods with the goal
To see all the miracles he could meet.

About one such miracle Mr. Dile once heard from Camel.

For a long time, without taking his eyes off Camel, And with his mouth open, he was listening to all the stories About bee honey.

After listening to these stories, Mr. Dile said, "I also wish to try honey, At least once in my life!"

> Wasting no time, he started Looking for luck to make his Wish a reality.

Dile bought a ticket on a large cruise steamer-ship That sailed to Marti-city. (A little-known city, located on Island in the Ocean, where all the animals are Martians).



Dile couldn't find honey there, so he Quickly boarded a helicopter and headed to the swamps.

At the Serpentine Swamp
Was a piece of land that belonged
To hippopotamus by the name Mot.
There was a good-looking bungalow and
A hangar with special training equipment inside it.

Mot was a famous cosmonaut in the animal world. At that time, he worked in the traveling circus As Circus Artist-Pilot and was preparing for flights To the Moon.

Mot was reputed to be the kindest guy, and He offered to Mr.Dile to stay a little as a guest.



Dile did not refuse and agreed To stay for a couple of days: He wanted to find wonderful honey In that area. Doing morning exercises, Mot nibbled dill on His garden beds. While doing that, he listened to The radio. Among other news, he heard, "Three bears – Michael, Sashutka, Eda invite All animals to the Grand Feast."

"Bee Honey will be offered to everyone, Who will attend the Grand Feast."

Mot decided to go to this feast and,
As a very kind fellow,
He wanted to add some special effects to it.
He called up his friends who worked in the circus –
Zebras, elephants, horses, and others –
And assembled the traveling circus
In an hour or two.
"We can't be late!" Mot declared.
Friends arrived quickly.
Along the paths, among the swamps,
The circus went on a hike.
Mot took the geographic map with him,
So, he easily could find the right path.
Mot sent Dile to the feast by
Wind-flying machine. \*

<sup>\*</sup> Not to be confused with a helicopter!

If you have seen the Dandelion flower, How the slightest breeze carries it Around the world,



You can easily imagine what a flying machine is. This is a huge white balloon made of fluffs and voids. It is flying freely to sky-high heaven driven by wind. There are many compartments inside it. Each of them has two chairs and a bed for those who wish to fly comfortably around the world. (Then, of course, they need to sleep quietly at night and see pleasant dreams!)

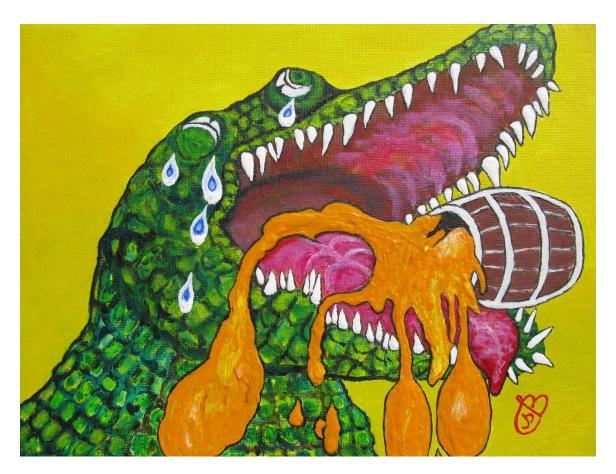
Sleep off in a flying machine, Cheerful and fresh, in all its glory, The Nile visitor came to Red Fox. He was very hungry And he hurried to the feast. (But to send a telegram, As we remember, He did not forget!)

With great agility Red Fox Had started the Three-wheeled motorcycle And drove in it Together with her friend – Crocodile by the name Dile.

From Fox's home gates Until the bears' mansion There was only one turn And the ride was very short.

Here's a desirable turn,
The small bridge, the pine tree at the
Driveway!
"Oh, how delicious the honey smells!"

Crocodile, not feeling his legs,
Jumped quickly over the doorstep
And opened his toothy mouth wide.
Dile never studied manners, therefore
Without any greetings, he
Ran immediately to
The barrel with honey.



In two clicks of his jaws, This greedy crocodile swallowed In a second the barrel with honey! The inhabitants of the forest started to cry and scream, "What a tragedy, what should we do, how should we be? Where else can we get honey?" Our three bears also cried. (The loudest, of course, was Eda). Her tears flowed like water out of a faucet: only hold big cups and collect them. Suddenly, our clever Sashutka said, as if jokingly, "Listen, our glorious guests! Let everyone who loves sweet honey follow me into the yard! I'll take a big ax."

\* \* \*

So think a minute,
"What did our Sashutka have in mind?"
One, two, three, four, five,
Let's start to think.
Those who will give the correct answer –
Are geniuses, no doubt about it.
To the rest of the readers – I give a hint:
Keep reading this fairy tale!"

\* \* \*

After waiting one minute,
Raising the ax high,
That is what Sashutka shouted
To everyone who had run into the yard,
"Let's disassemble the fence and chairs,
We will build hives for bees.
And those who have a thin voice —
Squeak like bee peep and
Call the bees to us.
Loudly shout to them:
Bees, bees, fly to us and bring
Your honey in these new hives!"

And bees with honey flew like bullets into every hive.



Bees flew into the hives,
And they were filling honeycombs with fresh
Fragrant honey.
His Highness Chinese Parrot, who knew
One hundred twenty animal languages,
Loudly squeaked to them in bee peeps,
"Welcome, welcome, welcome!"

Sashutka had opened the door to the house And invited the bees to the feast.

All the guests were happy again.
They joyfully ate fragrant honey
And praised smart Sashutka.
Yes, seriously, that was not a joke:
He suggested the very right way
To receive a lot of honey!
The backyard became more spacious
Because there was no fence anymore!

The Magic Oven smoked again
In the middle of the yard.
Firewood burned merrily,
All the whistles were whistling loudly,
Tasty pies and pastries flew out:
Triangles, circles, squares . . .

The guests were standing side by side, The pies were crunching in their teeth. The Magic Oven continued to bake, But never getting tired. Miller Mule was looking from afar,

"DID IT STILL HAVE ENOUGH FLOUR?"

Only sad Barbos
Tied up his swollen nose
And laid down
In his clean dog house.
He, forgetting about caution,
Barked loudly at the bees, at
The moment when Sashutka
Invited them to the table.
For such disrespect
Mother-Bee, without hesitation, had
Sank the sting into his nose,
Although she knew that he
Was a kind doggie.

\* \* \*

The Sun still caressed us,
But it didn't shine as much.
Time ran slower
And Cuckoo Bird in the little house
Had got a little tired too.
She weakly knocked on the wheels
And on chime bell hammers.
After Cuckoo had announced
The new hour, she closed
The door and hid behind it.

### Part 6

## CIRCUS

Suddenly, as out of nowhere,
Were heard the sounds of
Trumpets and violins.
Soon, the colorful carriages
Appeared among the birches.
The Traveling Circus with an orchestra
Approached, drowning out the noise of
Joyful fun.



Ahead of the whole parade In bright ribbons and awards The drummer walked –

The giant elephant by the name Elephantus.

On his spacious back was an African Cockatoo – The agile clown-conjurer. He Entertained everyone on the go.



Hare, Lynx, and Wolf with Gorilla Blew into the trumpets with all their might. And on violins, yes, yes – on violins, Without looking in the music sheets, Amazingly were playing Raccoon and Mink! The orchestra was conducted by Our famous maestro with a red scallop on his head – Motley Cockerel, a thin music connoisseur.



Everyone, of course, was distracted From a home feast and had switched Their attention to the Circus Performance, That led them to another world:
The world of lights and bright colors, The world of wonders of fairy tales, Dexterous tricks, magics, and Awesome amusements.
The guests immediately had stood up And ran to the lawn near the bears' yard. (All faster – the kids!)

Quickly was deployed the dome of the circus
In the middle of the lawn near the bears' mansion.
All of the lights were turned on.
Motley Cockerel had seated the musicians
In a triple circle with himself in the center.
Then he straightened his shiny scallop.



With a slow, smooth flap of colorful wings, He gave the signal to the orchestra So, they played music quietly For tightrope walkers. Carefully, slowly, like on the edge of a knife, Zebra walked on a tightrope. She balanced with her tail and led Camel, Who balanced with his hump.



After the trick is over, Zebra, together with Camel had jumped Off from the rope onto a trampoline, And the orchestra again started to play Fanfares loudly like thunder.

The horses, ponies started a waltz, The acrobats spun. . . .

The circus gunsmith – Rhino – had sounded up in a huge horn, and The cannon suddenly was rolled to the arena. We all held our breath.



The cannoneer – Fiery Cat, in boots and a black hat, Loaded the cannon.

A hippopotamus, in a suit of an

Astronaut approached the cannon.

That was our old acquaintance – Mot.

With a kind, gentle smile

He sat down into the moon rover,

Put on a protective helmet,

And sent an air kiss to the spectators.

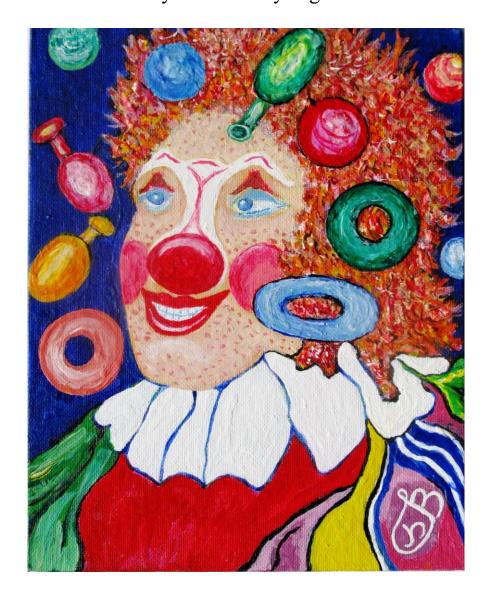
Mot put the lily flower in a pocket on his chest,

So that he wouldn't forget

The beauty of native swamps, while

Traveling in the sky and on the Moon.

The moon rover quickly drove into
The trunk of the cannon.
The drums were beating rapidly and loudly.
Fiery Cat decisively touched
A burning torch to the wick of cannon.
When white smoke and a column of fire
Had erupted from the cannon
Trees shook in the forest,
The Earth trembled.
After thick smoke had cleared,
The clownery immediately began.



At the same time, the bright star Was moving quickly To the Moon in the darkening evening sky.



The Chief Magician of Subterranean – Star-nosed Mole – Appeared with his shiny magic wand.

In front of all of us, he had quickly opened the sarcophagus with a Family of ancient lizards and revived eight mummies from it.

It's impossible to describe in these lines All of the lessons about ancient magic and Exciting, fantastic breathtaking practices.

For a whole hour, Ram-fakir was surprising The animal world with his miracles.



Here is one of them: a fully transparent glass box, Where a tiger was lying, He cut in two halves with an electric saw, but The tiger, alive and unharmed, jumped out of it! At an intermission, to the delight of all animals (and even bees!) Glorious Mot appeared again into the arena. He was bowing Low to us. He brushed the dust from the Moon off of himself With a blue velvet handkerchief.

Silver moondust flew in the air like dandelion fluff flies on A fresh light breeze in May.



The particles of silvery moondust were reflecting in the beams of Lights and the Moon seemed to become closer and dearer to us. When Mot handed Sashutka a direct ticket to the Moon, the Animals began to clap loudly, and the moonlight became warmer. By adding an autograph to the ticket, Mot took his leave.

## Colorfully adorned Peacock Importantly and proudly entered the arena.



As the tail beautifully spread,
Peacock loudly announced,
"We are offering a magic game,
Invented and performed by
Australian Kangaroo:
If any of you think of
A good wish here, with us,
It will come true now."

Australian Kangaroo, "Disciple of Eared Owls – Master of Children Dreams – Clairvoyant Without Glasses – Wizard of Computer Science – Professor of Calming The Bullies – The Doer of All Desires – Finisher of Started Works – Predictor And Healer – White Magic Teacher – Tutor of All Lessons – Sorcerer-Inventor – Teacher of Reading Books – Saint Sponsor of Mothers – And the Mentor of All Children," Began to show the rare known Witchcraft of distant lands. He said. "Everyone in the forest will now Fall asleep for five minutes And while in a dream, they will receive Everything that they once wished of."

Suddenly, loud snoring started In the forest, as if a waterfall was falling. (Only I was not sleeping, watching the animals).

Cuckoo Bird also dozed off
On a pillow in her house.
From that very day, the clock had been running
Five minutes late.

<sup>\*</sup> Accurately copied from the ID card hanging on the red ribbon around the Kangaroo's neck.

First of all, Kangaroo Had directed his gaze to Barbos's house, and The sting instantly fell out of Barbos's nose Because he dreamed of curing his nose.

Before Barbos had time to whisper,

"I want to go to the circus,"

An UNKNOWN POWER

Had caught, carried,

And sat him at the arena
In the same row,

Where was sitting Cockatoo.

Every one who, at least once dreamed, received that gift . . .

Only greedy Dile (for his bad behavior)

Did not receive anything.

He immediately was sent to a jail located

Somewhere in the distant desert.

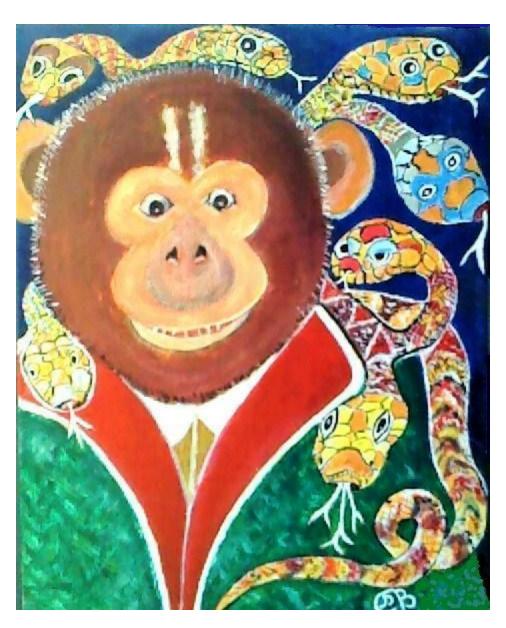
There he was ordered to read books About good behavior and to study manners In a small cramped special cage.

The animals slept for five minutes until
The time to stay awake had come.
Cuckoo in the little house
Started again to knock on the clock wheels
And on chime bell hammers.
She had announced the new hour,
Closed the door and hid behind it.

\* \* \*

At the end of the circus performance, a chimpanzee, The famous charmer by the name Shim appeared. (Shim is a wise person, the legendary hero of Eda's fairy tales). Shim, an expert in all the secrets of Nature, Showed, for the first time in the world, The seven-headed snake by the name Zemfira. She was executing commands Known only to him.

He spent thirty years
To reveal a big secret —
How to make seven heads
Obey the power of his words.



I'll tell you now who Shim was, what he did.

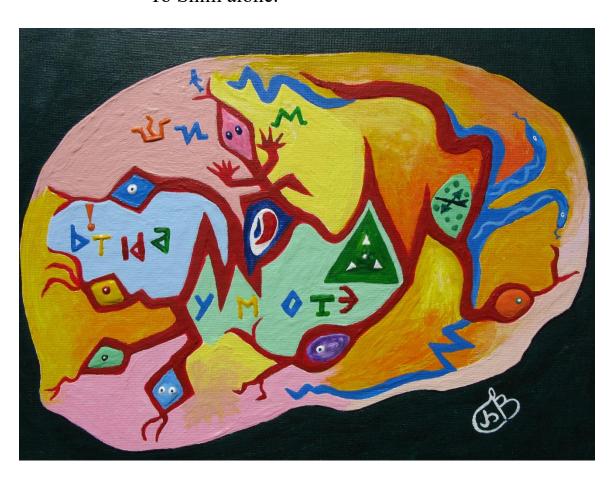
From his earliest youthful days
He tamed various reptiles, especially snakes.
When he had tamed the snakes
He studied their habits.

Shim from the inscription on the stone Learned a new MAGIC WORD. This WORD a Mountain Dragon by the name Serpent Gorynych scratched out in an Ancient snake language on hot molten sand In a secret place of his cave on Mount Kilimanjaro.



After the sand got cold, Serpent Gorynych had repeated the WORD, Then quickly looked at this WORD And breathed in IT a magical power From his fiery mouth.

Instantly the WORD became MAGICAL, It shone, sparkled, Incomprehensible to the mind, Not understandable to anyone, but To Shim alone.



With help of this MAGIC WORD Shim became very wise and powerful.

If someone will quickly and loudly Pronounce out this MAGIC WORD, And then think about the wish, Everything they want, in a moment Will come true right here. . . .

Eda in her books many times
Gives proof to this miracle,
Therefore, I know for sure
That this is true!
But not any bird or animal
Knew how to completely and accurately
Pronounce this MAGIC WORD.

Only Tiger Python
Knew few sounds from the
Beginning of the WORD.
So, he quietly hiss-hiss-whispered
Before lunchtime, when he forced rats
To jump into his wide opened mouth.

<sup>\*</sup> This scientific phenomenon is not entirely clear to humans until now. But wise Shim understood it!

Only Shim was able to Completely pronounce The MAGIC WORD According to all necessary Requirements. He became a great scientist: He climbed to the peaks Of the highest mountains, Dove into the deepest ocean depths. He was the Tsar's advisor; He tamed snakes for a good reason, Because snakes, Although they are not like us, Have a lot of wisdom too. But they hid their knowledge From us. Shim learned that wisdom And applied it for good: He became a famous doctor. He even made his new special medications. Shim always carried with him Honey with pollen. To those whose legs were hurting, Shim usually gave a half spoon Of bee honey with a cup of Warm goat milk.

Here is a wide-known famous expression Shim used to say,

"Do not swallow everything, That is in front of your nose, Know that medicine is poison. Benefit from using it, or danger – It all depends on the dose!" Shim, for many years in a row, Successfully used snake venom For the treatment of colds, And also applied it to cure The itching skin of aging animals Or small children.

Now I want to remind you: A snake with a goblet of poison Is a healer's symbol. But for this symbol, they used The snake with only one, But wise head.

Here is a sample of the symbol taken from the internet



Now, my friend, let's imagine, "What will happen if suddenly" \*
All doctors take the seven-headed
Snake as a symbol?!
Then, for sure, all children
In the world would never get sick!
Shim was the first to do it.
He is unique in everything. . . .

\* \* \*

<sup>\*</sup> The phrase by Donkey, which widely used in the animal world.

It is well known that time In the circus flies very quickly Because the Cuckoo knocks on Chime bell hammers very fast.

Suddenly Cuckoo had announced The new hour, closed the door, and Hid in her house.

Unfortunately, the thread of The fairy tale broke. Even Shim couldn't prolong it Without Eda's help.



The circus was over.
The trumpets fell silent.
We returned to the real world.
Musicians and circus actors
Were invited to the feast.
And again, milk and honey flowed
Like a wide river.
Three bears and all guests
Began a round dance with singing
A song about friendship and peace.



We danced and laughed all together, Everywhere were heard joyful songs. Each handed out the gifts to the other. We all felt like one big family and were THE BEST FRIENDS.

### ROUND DANCE SONG (Eda's lyrics, folk music)

We all love sweet honey, Sweet honey, sweet honey:

It gives us health, gives us wisdom, gives us strength.

May honey, fresh honey, golden and fragrant – The yummiest and valuable –

Straight from the honeycombs, straight from the honeycombs.

Everything in the forest is delicious: Raspberries, blackberries, and strawberries. But for us, honey is tastier. May honey, fresh honey, golden and fragrant –

If you want to dance and have fun,
If you want to successfully study at school,
Eat honey, drink honey, golden and fragrant –
Straight from the honeycombs, straight from the honeycombs.

Straight from the honeycombs, straight from the honeycombs.

If you do not want to have a cold in winter,
If you want to skate easy and fast,
Eat honey, drink honey, fresh and fragrant –
Straight from the honeycombs, straight from the honeycombs.

Eat honey yourself and with friends,
With milk and cereal, cookies or cakes,
Orange, buckwheat, fresh and fragrant –
Straight from the honeycombs, straight from the honeycombs.

Eat honey in the mornings and evenings
With oatmeal, with tea, and with doughnuts,
With berries, with fruits and pine nuts –
It gives us health, gives us wisdom, gives us strength.

### Wild Bee Honeycomb



I was there, drank honey too, And I received a lot of gifts. I have told in this book everything What I remember.

\* \* \*

### **Epilogue**

If someone, somewhere, will hear, see, think, Say, write, or in some other way assert that everything, Or one word or even one letter here is not true, then I will ask,

DID YOU STUDY IN THE FOREST SCHOOL? DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN THAT FEAST? And, if you are an honest person, you will Answer: NO.

## **BUT I WAS THERE** and truthfully told **Everything I saw.**

In proof of the "truthfulness" of everything said, I cite excerpts from Eda's fairy tales in the following Attachments 1 to 7. (Excerpts – because not all of her Fairy tales completely translated into human languages).

All photographs and drawings presented here were Done on the spot, and they also are strong evidence.

Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Magic Language"

... Only one problem Shim couldn't solve so far: "How this WORD should be Pronounced correctly?" After all, neither animals nor birds, Couldn't understand This strange language With such specific accents: Simple vipers' – hissing, Rattlesnakes' – thundering, Grass snakes' – terrible, Boas' – scary and chilling, Moreover, – magical! That's why it's so hard To pronounce their words, And no one can learn it Without voluntarily help Provided by the educated Professional Snakes' Language Teachers.

Shim . . .

Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Zemfira"

Shim played the flute
And with his magic trill
He bewitched many snakes.
Shim put them in a deep bag and
Prepared for a long journey
Back to home to tame them.
Suddenly Shim heard
Behind him a voice of a praying snake,
"Let them all go free,
I beg you very much.
And in return, I promise
Serve you with righteousness
And I'll teach you how to pronounce
THE MAGIC WORD."

(That was Zemfira's voice, Quiet, plaintive, like a moan, As if it heard from several sides at once). Shim looked around in surprise And even turned a little pale, When he noticed her beautiful eyes Among the leaves and branches.

"Zemfira?!" flashed in his mind. (Shim heard the stories about her Some time ago, but only now, So unexpectedly, for the first time He met her eye to eye).

Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Zemfira" (Continued)

Pretty, graceful, clever-headed . . . You don't often meet a snake with Seven heads, one smarter than another.

Was the different choice For the young snake-catcher, Who was looking for the MAGIC WORD ?!



Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Zemfira" (Continued)

Her shiny attractive beautiful eyes Sparkled like diamonds at the sunrise.

Eyes burn so captivatingly that Even poison could become honey! The glitter of lightning in broad daylight Filled Shim with hope and delight.

> His heart full of fire flame Beat and strived to break free, Even ready to drink the poison Of ivy tree . . .

Of course, Shim could not resist: He quickly released his prey, And went with Zemfira By his targeted way.

Together with her, he went to The school of snakes And studied diligently From the serpentine sages The secret meaning of their Ancient magic words.

Very soon . . .

### Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Mortal Combat"

... Shim was fully entwined All over by U-Daav. \* He already stopped breathing, But Zemfira, with renewed strength, Again began to rescue Shim out. Now she had squeezed of U-Daav's nasty mouth completely Until it became fully closed so, U-Daay was not able to hiss. Then she released Shim's throat and belly. After drinking half a glass of honey, Shim gradually came to life. He had picked up his flute behind The stone and with his magic trill Forced U-Daav to sleep forever.

Shim and Zemfira swore an oath To be friends for life, never be apart, And together teach the animals all The best manners and habits.

\* \* \*

A year passed almost invisibly . . .

\* U-Daay – the nickname of Giant Boa-bandit.

Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Tearful Crocodile"

. . . Green Crocodile – He was very insatiable. He always carried a huge bag That he held on his back. - What did he do, where did he go, And why did he carry the back bag? What was written on his name tag? He wandered through the woods, He swam on the lakes Looking for free goods. But he never studied anything. Only did steal everything. And wherever he had been, He ran into houses, grabbed Everything edible because He was incredibly greedy. He ate everything instantly. He put the remaining goods in his bag And then sold out after he Labeled items with his tag. That rogue greedy Crocodile Was also very cunning: When he grabbed and ate, his Tears like water were running. He swallowed and sobbed, So that his greed and nastiness Would be forgiven by everyone.

But at this time . . .

Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Three Mermaids, Patrol Cat and the Great Whirlpool"

### (Patter)

Once upon a time, three mermaids lived in A river at a Great Whirlpool under a high cliff.

Patrol Cat guarded them.

He was sitting on a tree branch and was watching All night to the horizon through binoculars. Suddenly, at sunrise, Patrol Cat noticed As a gigantic steamship with Greedy Crocodile On the board was approaching from the river Nile.



## Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Three Mermaids, Patrol Cat and the Great Whirlpool"

(Continued)

Patrol Cat had given a signal to the mermaids, And they, with a magic song, Lured a steamship together with Greedy Crocodile Straight into the Great Whirlpool . . .



Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Scary Witch"

Once upon a time, a witch lived In an old castle over a rock cliff. The witch was very scary: She had an ugly head and was named Vampiress.



## ATTACHMENT 6 Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Scary Witch"

(Continued)

Among all the witches of the world, The most dangerous was Vampiress. She was learning from the devils, How can she become more terrific And more harmful.

She dreamt of destroying All the animals and all the humans.

One day, on a very dark night,
This vicious Vampiress had
Taken the image of an unknown venomous snake,
So that harmful snake tricks
Stuck to her as if they were her own.

When the Moon was hidden by Thunderstorm clouds . . .

Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Queen of Beauty"

. . . In heavy rain,On a moonless night,Under the covering of darkness,The Evil Forces choseTheir Queen of Beauty.

In an empty castle, dilapidated, In a high attic, The ghosts were spinning – In the farthest cold corner.

In the middle, where it was warmer,
In the cracks of the chimney,
The spirits shone in trickles
Without too much fuss.
At the door, as usually,
The devils lined up in a row,
And drove with hot pokers of
All the "terrible beauties" to the parade.

# ATTACHMENT 7 Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Queen of Beauty" (Continued)

And to the window, to the astonishment of everyone, The nicely dressed witches came out in wigs and Shoes with high heels.



After watching the parade of beauties, the Judges – Ghost, Spirit, and seven devils – Had announced that in their world, Vampiress was Chosen to be the Queen!

Vampiress had raised her hands And proudly accepted the crown.

Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale "Queen of Beauty" (Continued)

Sharp at midnight, the Queen decided To show her power.
Therefore, she quickly began to write The very first decree of Her Majesty.

That decree stated:

I, Vampiress, declare, That from today I'll take upon myself To rule our Kingdom.

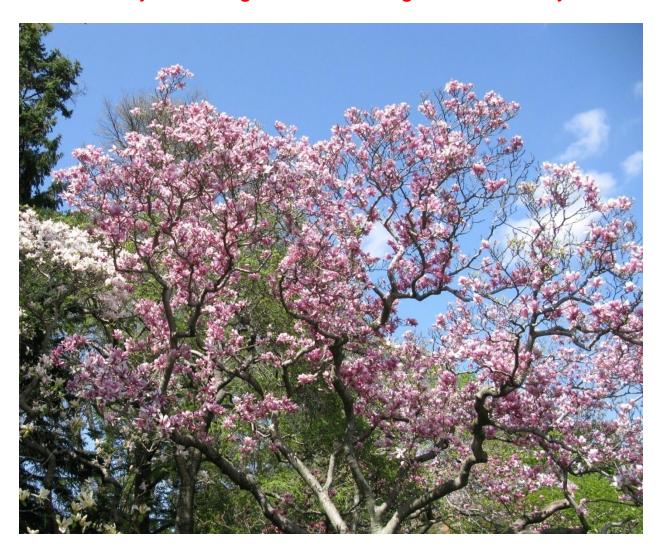
By my high decision –
Tomorrow, at seven o'clock in the morning,
I will transform all the Evil Forces

To the Forces of Friendship and Kindness.

Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale
"Queen of Beauty"

(Continued)

For everyone's joy, at that happy moment
The rain will end everywhere,
The Sun will come out from behind the clouds,
And send warm rays on trees and flowers
In my new kingdom – the Kingdom of Beauty.



Excerpt from Eda's fairy tale
"Queen of Beauty"

(Continued)

To always have sunny skies in this kingdom:

Never fight,

Always smile at each other,

Gain knowledge at school,

Have fun, sing songs,

Build cities and castles.



### Sample of Russian edition

### БОРИС ВИНОКУР



## Пир на весь звериный мир

Сказка-быль

с приложениями

## BORIS VINOKUR ANIMAL FEAST

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### THE END

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### **BORIS VINOKUR**

### Boris Vinokur

### **Briefly About Myself**

I was born on May 25, 1938, in the city of Vinnitsa, Ukraine. In 1960, I graduated with Honors from the Physics and Mathematics Department of Grodno Pedagogical Institute, Belarus.

From 1960 to 1962, I served in the army in Minsk, Belarus. From 1962 to 1992, I lived and worked in the city of Minsk. In 1970, I graduated from the Institute of Telecommunications in Moscow.

In the city of Minsk, I worked as a teacher in school, as well as a teacher in Mechanical Engineering College. I also worked as a senior engineer at a project institute,

and a leading engineer at a pilot plant.

I designed and implemented communication systems at power plants and in an automobile building industry in different regions of the former Soviet Union.

Since 1992, I have been living in the City of New York, USA. From the years 1993 to 2001, I worked for "Pergament" – The Total Home Center.

In 2010, I worked for the United States Census Bureau. Currently, I am retired.

New York, USA, 2021.

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