

Bill Vaggeloglou

THE ZEBRAS OF KALAMARIA

by Bassilis Vaggeloglou

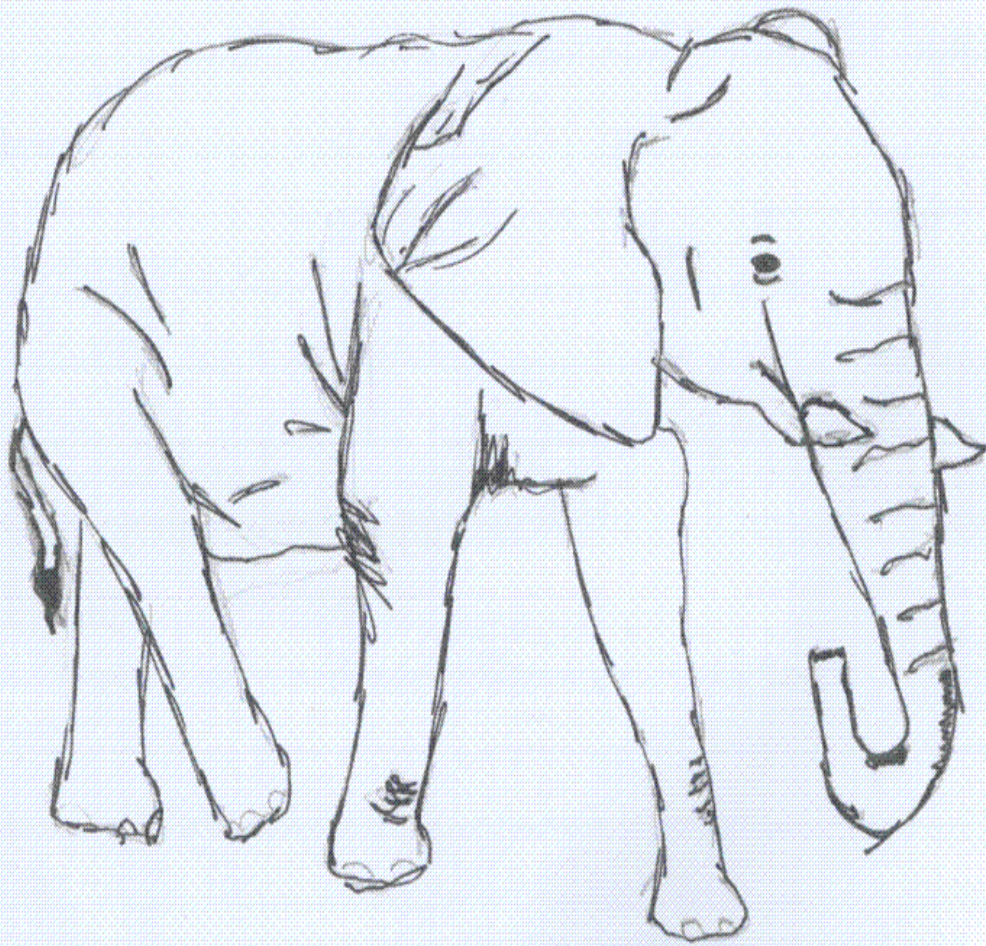
In ancient Greece all the zebras were brown. But one day, they went to the city Thessaloniki for holiday. They visited the White Tower, saw the tower of OTE and so many other places too. One of them was the magic place of Kalamaria. When the citizens of Kalamaria saw those lovely zebras, they wanted to take them as their pet animals. But, not knowing how, they held a meeting.

“We cannot take them as our pets”, someone yelled, “they are huge! We must think of something else”. And so, they stayed there and continued talking and yelling and thinking hard about these beautiful zebras. Then, as they were starting to get desperate, someone spoke: “I have come up with an idea! What if we painted them black and white to match the colours of our team? Then, everyone in Kalamaria would want them”!

And so they did! And there was not one single citizen who did not admire the zebras and their unique beauty! But the zebras liked it too! They were roaming around the city and all were almost worshiping them! So, they decided to stay a bit longer!

But one day came that was different from the others. The sun was cloudy and it was so cold. Nobody was prepared for the imminent disaster. At noon, the citizens of a nearby city attacked them and killed most of them. The citizens of Kalamaria tried to save their precious zebras and so, they set them free! Our now striped zebras tried to start a new life in the US but once they got there, they realized that the people there also wanted to have them for their own. They wanted to use them for their benefit and take advantage of them.

The lovely zebras felt disappointed and sad. They had lost their friends in ancient Greece and they did not know what to do. Just then, one of them remembered the words of an elder from Kalamaria, who had told them that they ought to get to Africa should anything bad happened. And they did go to Africa! And they lived happily ever after!



Kostas Kritikos



HOW THE ELEPHANT GOT HIS HUGE TRUNK

by Kostas Kritikos

Once upon a time, there was an elephant named Jack. Jack lived happily with the other animals in a village in the jungle. His village was beautiful, with tall mountains, big trees and a long river.

One day, while all the animals were laying down and enjoying the sun, Jack saw black smoke coming from the mountains. So, he decided to run and see what happened. But before he did so, he tried to inform all the other animals in the village that they had to leave before it was too late! Meanwhile, the fire was getting stronger and stronger and there were many animals trapped.


“What should we do? If we cross the river, we will fall inside and drown! If we try to climb the mountain we will burn alive”! Jack thought. He kept trying to find a solution but he couldn’t! “I wish I had the power to save my family, friends and the village”! he wished with all his heart!

Just then, his nose started to become bigger and bigger and he knew what he had to do. He started panderling water again and again until he put the fire out.

The next day, he woke up but his nose had turned into a trunk! But he didn’t care because he had saved his precious village! He now was the superhero of the village and everyone called him ‘the firefighter of the woods’!

And they lived happily ever after.



Anna Larentzaki 

THE UGLY ZEBRA

by Anna Larentzaki

Once upon a time, there was a zebra that was different from all the other zebras. This zebra had black fur and was very ugly. Her name was Roshinante. Because she was different, all the other zebras had banished her to the wild part of their land, while the rest of the animals lived happily in the Savannah. As you can understand Roshinante was very unhappy and lonely.

Then, one day, King Darvinous and Queen Alkioni wanted to find good and worthy husbands for their daughter, Annie.

So, the King decided to organize a riding game. The man who would win, would have the Kings and Queen's blessings to marry their dear daughter.

Among the suitors, there was a kind and worthy man, who unfortunately did not own a horse because his family was really poor. This man was called Don Killanos. But, another suitor had the same problem. His name was Stanin Smith and sadly, he was an evil and conniving man, also known as evil Smith.

The games began on a Saturday and our two riders had not found their horses yet. The next day, Don Killanos went to the wilderness to walk and think what he was to do. But Smith saw him and thinking that he might know where the horses are, followed him to where the ugly zebra lived. Then, Smith came up with an evil plan, he would stay hidden until Don Killanos had found the perfect horse and then he would steal it from him. He even had a sharp knife in his pocket.

And so it happened. Don Killanos had indeed found a horse but as soon as Smith saw him, he took his knife out and the two men fought with all their strength. Even though Don Killanos had lots of knife wounds, he still kept fighting to save his horse, but Smith, being stronger and sneakier, won the fight and took his horse.

The next morning, just when the crucial race was about to begin, the ugly zebra, having witnessed the whole scene with the two men, approached Don Killanos and said: "I can help you win the race. I am black, so everyone will think that I am just an ugly horse; unless I am too ugly for you too". Don Killanos looked at the zebra and could not believe that he could understand what she was saying! Right away he knew that this zebra had some sort of magic in her, and hurried on to accept her offer. "Of course I will let you be my horse! It would be my honor! Thank you!" and the two of them hurried to the palace where the race was taking place.

Luckily, when they arrived, the King was calling the suitors to take their places for the race. Suddenly, Don Killanos and Roshinante appeared and took their places too. The race began and the two men did their best to win the race and the way to the Kings daughter! Both of them kept riding and riding until the King stopped them to announce the winner. It was Don Killanos with Roshinante! "How can I thank you, my kind Roshinante," said the man; just then he came with an idea! "wait a minute, I've got an idea! I will paint white stripes on your back as a symbol of the happiness that you have brought me! And so he did. But when he was finished, a weird thing happened. The stripes became one with the zebra's fur and Roshinante became the most beautiful zebra in the Savannah!

At last, Annie, Don Killanos and Roshinante lived happily ever after!



Myrto Louka



A PIG's TALE

by Myrto Louka

Once upon a time, a little pig was born. But this pig was different from all the other pigs. But what did the pig have that made it so special?

Well, if we go way back into the past, we will discover that all the animals of the past did not have any colour apart from white, black and grey.

Many people were trying hard to find that one animal which had a different colour. Those first scientists were simple people who tried to find it, but failed.

Then, one day, a small child with all the anticipation and stubbornness of her young age, started a long travel believing that SHE would be able to what no one else could!

The sweet child kept looking until nightfall. Then, she managed to find a quiet place in the forest to rest so that she could continue her search early in the morning.

The warm sun rose and our girl started looking for the rare animal again.

As she was walking deeper into the forest, she felt something behind her.

Suddenly she turned and saw an animal resembling today's pig. She hadn't realized it yet, but she was standing across the first pink pig.

I hope now everyone will understand that pigs, although dirty, have a very unique history!

THE END



BAOBAB

by Ina Panagari

Once upon a time, under a Baobab tree in Africa, a giraffe gave birth to a beautiful baby. But, when the other giraffes saw it, they knew something was wrong and they started whispering: "Look at that baby! Look how small it is! That is not right! This baby is not like the rest of us"! The newborn baby was indeed too small! But the baby's parents weren't paying attention to what the other giraffes were saying. They loved their little one very much and so, they decided to name her Baobab which means 'the tree of life'.

Some years had passed but Baobab still hadn't grown much. Our little giraffe couldn't hang out with the other giraffes because they were making fun of her and her height and this made her really sad. But Baobab, being stubborn, would not give up easily! The next day she put on a big smile and asked the other giraffes one last time!

"Could I play with you today? I too am one of you and I would love to spend more time with you"

"Leave us alone Baobab", the other giraffes said. "You are not one of us. You are too short to hang out with us".

Baobab hadn't felt more alone in her whole life, but she never let her feelings show. She just left without saying anything to them.

On her way home, she happened to overhear some shamans talking about a magic tree on the other side of Africa, whose branches could grant any wish you had if you managed to cut them.

Once Baobab heard that, she knew what she had to do. She would find that tree and make wish! This thought made our little giraffe very happy! This way her parents wouldn't feel sad and she would finally be able to be like the rest of the giraffes. She could finally feel she belonged somewhere!

So, at midnight, having the moon as her guide, Baobab began her long journey. Many days had passed before she reached the legendary forest of Nairobi. As she was walking along the forest, she saw a monkey running for her life. A jaguar was after her and was about to catch and kill her when Baobab distracted the jaguar and saved the poor monkey's life.

"Thank you my friend" said the monkey, "I owe you my life! If it hadn't been for your bravery, I would have been eaten by that jaguar! But, where are you going? How did you end up in Nairobi"?

Baobab explained everything to her new and only friend.

The monkey really felt for her and promised to help her find that magic tree.

And the two of them had many adventures together! They went across rivers with dangerous crocodiles, they managed to escape from evil hunters and many more!

Finally, they found the tree! They knew it was the magic tree the two shamans had been talking about because its branches were tall and its leaves were silver gold and green! Once she saw it, our sweet Baobab started running. She climbed it with the help of her friend, cut one of its gleaming branches and wished with all her heart to grow tall!

Suddenly, she started growing taller and taller and by the end of this metamorphosis she was tall and beautiful! The magic tree had granted her wish but she had also found a true friend by her side and together they started the long journey back home, under the hot African sun.

THE END



GREY AND THE COLOURFUL PARROT

by Helen Perraki

Once upon a time, there was a parrot whose colour was grey. One day, he decided to go for a walk with his friends. They had been playing for hours before the grey parrot started drifting in the forest.

Suddenly, his tail got caught in a hunter's trap! He tried to move his wings and fly away from the trap, but to no avail. He was screaming with all his strength, but unfortunately his friends couldn't hear him.

A few hours later, he heard whispers and listened to footsteps.

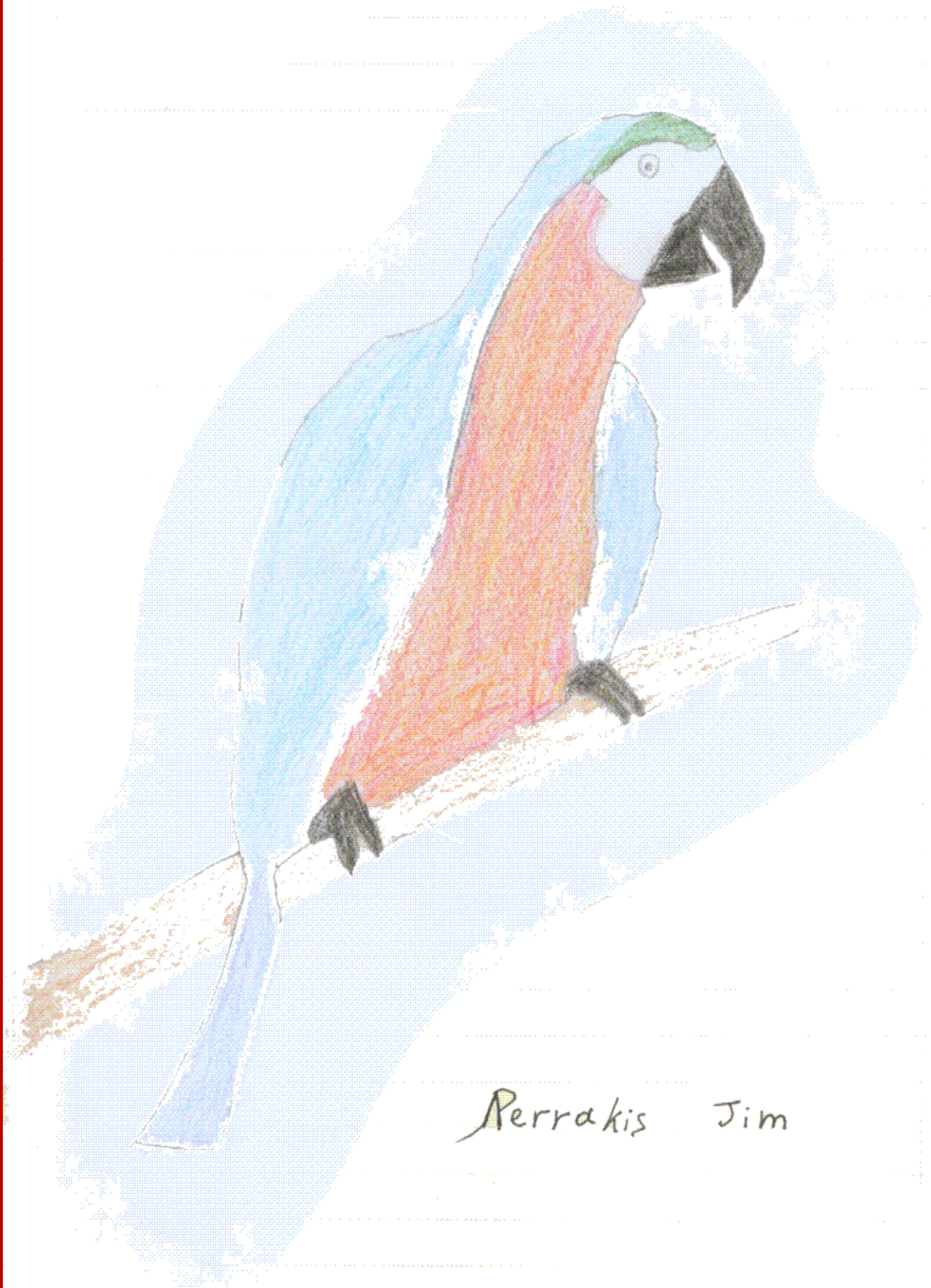
Someone was coming. It was the two men who had set the trap. One of them was carrying an ugly cage. The other was holding some car keys and whistling a strange tune. They took the parrot and put him in the cage. Then, they locked it and carry it to the car. Our little friend was terrified because they were leaving their location-the forest he knew and loved!

When the little grey parrot looked out of the car window he saw many people. "Oh, no", he thought, "we must be going to the city"!He hated the humans because it was them who had killed his mother when he was little.

The car was going faster and faster, but then, it suddenly stopped in an uninhabited place where all the houses were demolished. The two men got out of the car and they took the cage with them. They went up some stairs leading to a dark place where there was an old and dusty library. Right in the middle of the room there was an old rocking chair and on it there was a strange old woman. Next to her, there was a wooden table with many tubes on it. Inside the tubes the grey parrot saw the most amazing thing! The tubes were full of some sort of liquids whose colours had not been known to any being of this earth! The two men gave the old lady the cage and left the same way they had got in. the old woman gently placed the cage on the table and said" The time has come, my little friend! Soon I will make you so beautiful, all the other birds will admire you"! Then, she put all the colorful liquids inside a cauldron and started mixing them. She then took the cage to put it inside but noticed that the grey parrot was really scared. "Don't be scared, little fellow, everything is going to be alright soon ", she said in a soothing voice. The parrot relaxed and trusted her to put the cage inside the cauldron.

When the old woman took the cage out, our parrot was different! He had all the bright colours of the rainbow on his feathers! He was extraordinarily beautiful! Then, the woman opened the cage's door and set the beautiful parrot free! The little bird flew happily back to his father and friends because he understood that he now was the most beautiful bird in the whole world!

And they lived happily ever after!



Perrakis Jim

THE COLOURFUL DOVE

by Dimitris Perrakis

Once upon a time there was a grey frensh bird. Ever since he was little, this bird had always wanted to go to Italy, but not knowing how to go there, he decided to go to his friend the Owl, which was wise, and ask her how he could get there. The Owl gave him a map! "Take this map, but be very careful not to lose it because this is the only way you can go where you want"! She said and then flew away.

The frensh bird took the map and started flying as fast as he could!

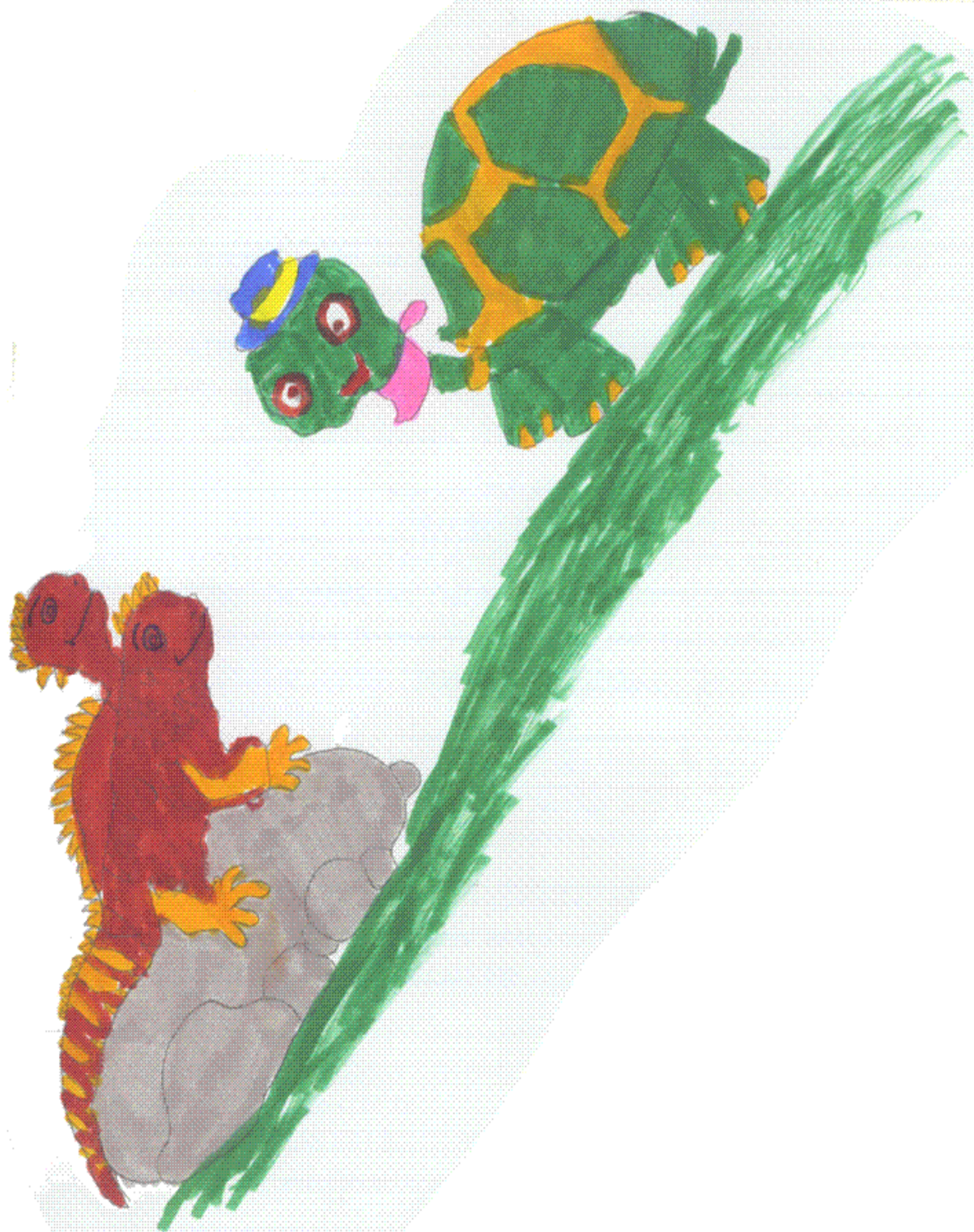
Unfortunately, on the way, there was strong wind and he dropped the map into some leaves. The bird started poking the leaves with his beak trying to find the lost map. But with doing so, he woke a thorny hedgehog which lived there. "Who dares to wake me from my nap"? Said the hedgehog angrily. "I'm just a frensh bird and I'm trying to get to Italy, but I've lost the map the Owl gave me! Can you help me find it"? Cried the bird. "hmmm", said the hedgehog, "I can help you but only if you take me on your wings first! I want to see what the world looks like from up above! Will you do me this favor"? "Of course my little friend! Let's go"!

And so they started flying together! The little hedgehog was really pleased with this new view of the world, but he soon understood that his thorns were hurting the bird, and asked him to get him down again. "My friend, you've made me really happy and you kept your end of the deal! Now, it's my turn to help you find your precious map"! Quickly, he disappeared in the leaves and a few minutes he was holding the map! "I can't thank you enough! I hope we will meet again my little friend"! Said the frensh bird. Then, he grabbed the map gently and went with his quest!

On his way, our little friend helped many friends and they all gave him a coloured leaf! First, he met a sparrow with a broken wing which wanted to fly to his family and the little frensh bird took him on his wings! To thank him, the sparrow gave him a green leaf and left! Then, he heard a ladybug crying for help! A snake was about to eat her! Our bird flew fast and saved her from the snake! To thank him, the ladybug gave him a red leaf! The bird took the second leaf and on went with his travel! But, on the way, he heard someone screaming. He decided to fly down and see what was going on! When he got down, he saw a lion which was very sad because he had stepped on a splinter! "Don't worry beautiful lion, I will take the splinter out of your foot with my beak if you let me"! "If you take it out, I will give you a magic leaf"! The bird took out the splinter which was hurting the lion and the lion gave him a yellow leaf!

At last, our friend arrived to Italy! There, he asked to find the most famous painter of the time! When he flew to his house, the famous artist asked him what it was he wanted. Our friend told him all about his long journey and his friends' gifts and the clever artist agreed to give the little bird what he wanted only if he would give him the leaves he took from his journey! The frensh bird agreed and right away the painter started mixing colours! When he was done, our little bird was changed! He was no longer grey! On it, it had all the bright colours of the leaves his friends had given him! He was turned into a parrot!

THE END



Sohn Poulos

TORTOISES AND THEIR SMALL HEAD

by John Poulos

Once upon a time, there was a very poor tortoise which was wandering with her sack in the forest trying to find some food for her children. While she was searching, she met a monkey which took pity on her and invited her inside her house to spend the night.

But as soon as the monkey fell asleep, the tortoise could not resist, and stole some nuts and figs the monkey had saved for herself. At dawn, the desperate tortoise grabbed her sack and started her long journey back to her children.

On the way, she met a fox and asked her if she had any food because she was starving. The fox said she didn't have any and so the tortoise went on her way. But the suspicious fox had noticed the sack the tortoise was carrying and decided to hide behind a big oak tree and wait. After a while, the tortoise opened the sack and ate some of the nuts and figs she had stolen from the monkey.

Having seen that, the fox quickly ran to let the monkey know about the tortoise's betrayal. The monkey got furious and went off to find and punish the sneaky tortoise.

Meanwhile, while the tortoise was going her way, she met a two headed lizard. The lizard was starving and asked her if she had some food to give her. At once, the tortoise opened her sack and gave her some of her figs and nuts.

Right this moment, the furious monkey appeared cut off the head of the poor tortoise and gave it to the fox. When the lizard saw that, she cut off one of her head and sew it to the tortoise's neck. And ever since all tortoises have a small head and a wrinkled neck.

THE END



Katerina Paulau

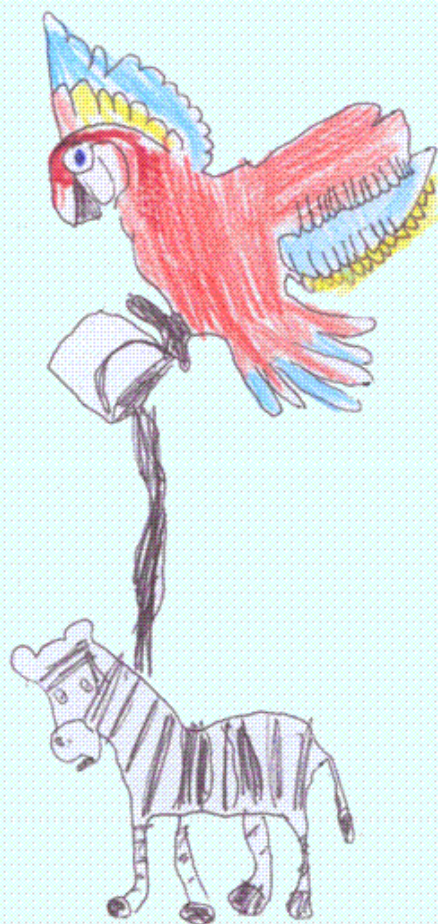
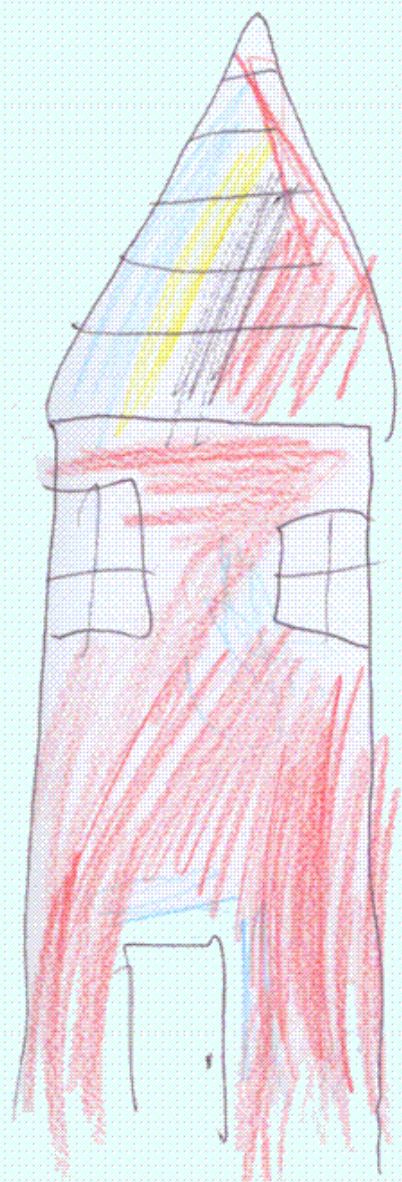
THE ZEBRA AND THE TORTOISE

by Katerina Poulou

A long long time ago, all the zebras of the world were white. But, then, one day, a very unique zebra was born. This zebra had a very distinct colour. She was neither black nor white. She had stripes of both colours all over her body. When she grew up, her parents took her to the animal school. There, all the other animals were teasing and making fun of her. They would take her food and throw it away or even worse, push her and throw her down. Every day, when she got back from school, our little zebra would go to her room and cry for hours. Her parents were hopeless! They didn't know what to do! So, one day they gathered all the courage they had, and spoke to their zebra daughter. She told them that nobody liked her at school and that she had to go to the other side of the forest to live alone.

What the zebra told them broke their heart, but they agreed. So, the next day, they had reached their destination. Right away, the little zebra left to explore the new part of the forest. As she was galloping, she met a good hearted tortoise and asked her kindly if she wanted to be her friend. The tortoise raised her little head and said: "You are the only one who has ever asked me that question! All the other animals won't talk to me because I have a blue mark on my shell! You see, I am different, just like you! Of course I will be your friend"! Ever since, the two animals have been good friends and lived happily knowing that they have one another! They even went back to their village and made a fresh start teaching the other animals that being different doesn't mean being bad!

THE END

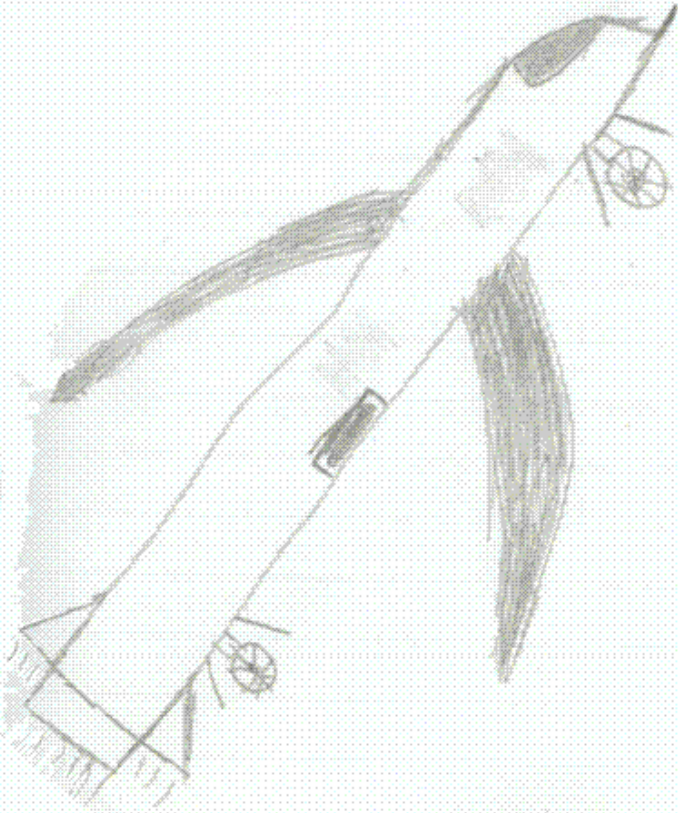
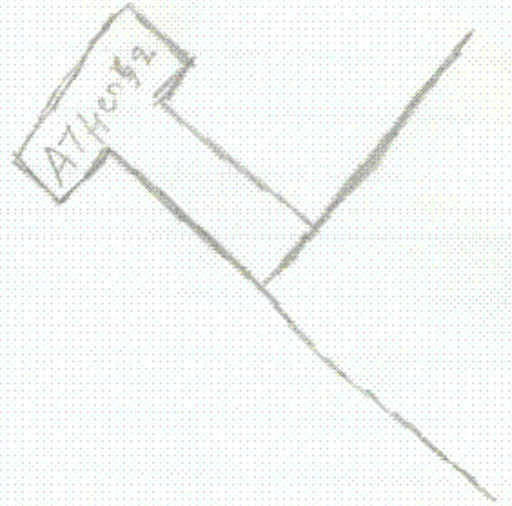
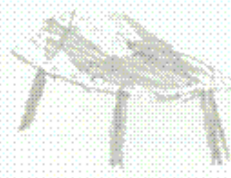


THE ZEBRA AND THE WITCH

by Nick Ravani

Once upon a time there was a zebra which lived in a zoo. It was a very happy zebra and all the other animals really loved her. But what they loved more, was to listen to her talking about the time when she got her stripes. The story went as this: Many years ago, I lived alone with my friend John. One day, we were painting the house of our neighbour witch when suddenly I stumbled and fell inside the bucket with the paint. When I managed to stand up, there were stripes all over my body! How odd! When the wise witch saw my transformation, she cast a spell on all the zebras in the world! She spoke some magic words and from that minute on all zebras have stripes just like mine!

THE END



Alex
Shehou



THE ZEBRA AND THE SHIELD OF JOKER

by Alex Shehou

Once upon a time there was a very brave zebra, which everyone called Marios. Marios had a strong brother, Alex and together they protected all the zebras of their tribe. One day, as they were sitting around the fire telling stories, their grandpa told them a very strange one. He told them that a long time ago zebras were not white, they were striped. He also said that an evil man called Joker had stolen the magic shield that could help them get their stripes back.

The next day, without delay, our two brave zebras got on their grandfather's secret plane, batplano and started a journey that lasted for a month and a day. The batplano landed on an area nearby Joker's land, Athens 2 where they stayed hidden until nightfall. When the night had come, Marios and Alex went to the area of Rigas, which was owned by Joker and had a fortifier. The two brothers crept inside and took the shield that belonged to them back to their tribe. And ever since, all the zebras got their stripes back.

THE END



HOW DID ZEBRAS GET THEIR STRIPES

by Alexis Takoumakis

Once upon a time in a village far far away, lived a beautiful young zebra. But this zebra was different from the zebras we know of today. You see, in those past years all zebras had a shiny white fur. So, our little white zebra lived peacefully in the small village, but she was very unhappy. Her parents had been killed by hunters- she herself had been saved by a miracle – leaving her all alone.

One day, while running, she noticed a man sitting on a big rock. He was a hungry and thirsty man who had been attacked by some violent hunters. Our zebra got really scared! "This man must be a hunter and he came back to kill me as well", she thought and so, she started running as fast as she could!

The next day, she had forgotten about the man and went as usual to find something to eat. There, she saw the man again, sitting at the exact same spot! The man was starving and was trying to eat insects! "This man can't be a hunter", she thought. "He can't even find food for himself! I have to help him"! So, she stayed close to him and camped in a cave nearby to see if the man would be able to walk back home. But the man was so exhausted he couldn't walk at all! "What should I do?", thought the zebra. And then she had an idea! "I will collect some fruits and nuts to give him", and so she did.

When the morning came, the man was desperate. "I am going to die here, I have no food and no water and I feel so exhausted!" Right this moment, he heard the white zebra coming towards him. He got scared and took a few steps backwards. But our zebra stopped, put the fruits and nuts in front of the man, went back to the cave and waited to see if the man would eat. The tired man understood that the zebra was friendly and ate everything she had brought him.

From this moment on, the zebra and the man became best friends! They did everything together! They collected their food and ran wild! Our friends always hunted together and their favorite meat was deer! They swore that they would always protect each other! For example, when a mean hunter tried to attack the man, he quickly rode the zebra's back and together they started running until the hunter had lost them! Another time, the same hunter tried to kill the zebra, but as soon as the man saw it, he made a fire so strong that the hunter got terrified and ran away.

Some time had gone by and our two friends were having a great time! But then came a harsh and long draught to the village. The trees didn't have many fruits, many animals died while others had to find someplace else to migrate to. The white zebra and the man did not want to leave though. So, they stayed. But they couldn't find anything to eat for a long time and they were getting desperate. Then, one day our zebra was hallucinating and tried to kill and eat the man! The man quickly immobilized her and to punish her, he took a piece of coal he had in his pocket and drew black stripes on her back!

Ever since, whenever zebras gave birth, the child had black and white stripes to remind them of that unique friendship with the man.

THE END



Chrysanthi
Fouta

HOW DID ZEBRAS GET THEIR STRIPES

by Chrysanthi Fouka

Once upon a time there was a beautiful white zebra whose name was Zozefina. Zozefina lived happily in the wild savanna with her white son, Frodi.

One day, while Frodi was playing with his friends, Zozefina decided to go to the forest to search for food because she was very hungry. The forest was full of playful squirrels which were always tossing nuts to each other! When they saw Zozefina they felt sorry for her and decided to help her! So, they gathered some leaves and gave them to her. But those were no ordinary leaves, they had magic in them. Zozefina did not know that and, being very hungry, she ate them straight away! She even kept some for her sweet son, Frodi.

Zozefina thanked her new friends and went for a walk near the pond Frodi and his friends were playing. She was looking at the colourful fish when she heard Frodi screaming!

“Mum! What happened? You’re not white anymore! You’re filled with black stripes!”

“You mustn’t tell lies Frodi! Come on, eat some leaves! You must be very hungry!”

The moment Frodi ate the leaves, black stripes started appearing all over his body too. Zozefina was speechless.

“What will we do mum?” Frodi cried. “I don’t want to be different from my friends. They will tease me!”

Zozefina, stopped for a moment to think, and then she said:” Don’t worry son! I’ve got an idea! We will give those magic leaves to all your friends and their parents! This way, we will all be the same”. Without wasting any time, the two of them explained to their friends what had happened and gave them the magic leaves! They ate them with pleasure and within a few moments they all had black stripes! And they loved them! And they lived happily ever after!

The end!