

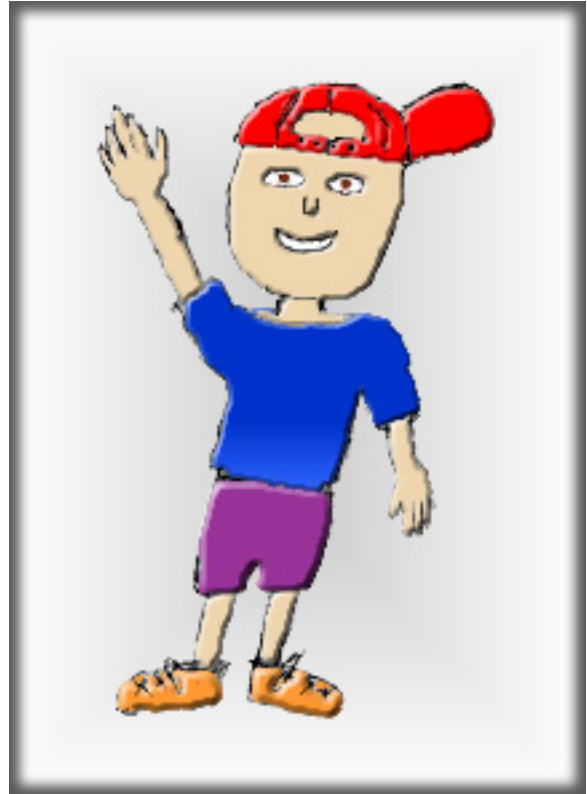
"Beyond the Edge of the Yard"

an original story

by

Ed Pines

Mark was a bright little boy and very curious. He enjoyed playing and exploring in the yard. Today was much more fun than other days.



He imagined that he was a great explorer finding new creatures and giving them names.

But it was close to dinner time and Mark knew his play time was about to end. It was then that Mark saw a shoe box beyond the edge of the yard. He knew he was not allowed to go

out of the yard. He could only imagine what he might find under that box. He started to walk to the box and just as he reached the edge



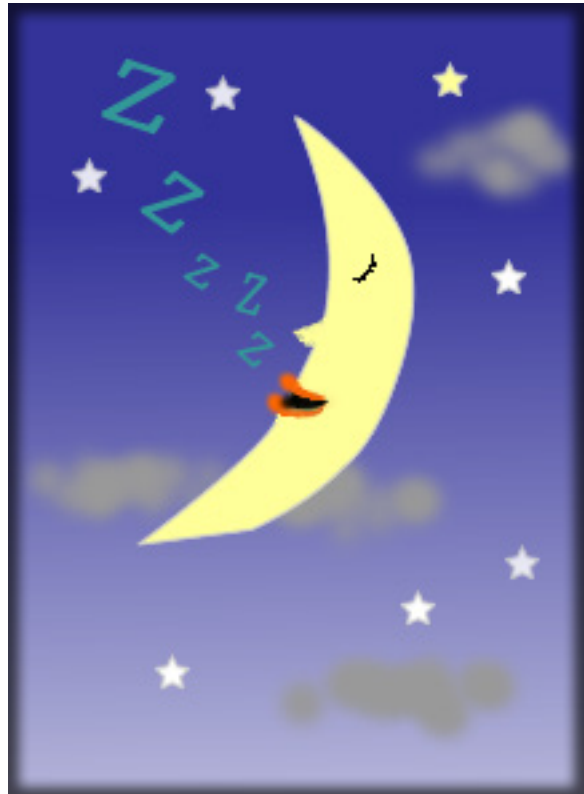
of the yard he heard his mom. "Mark, it is dinner time, come inside right now."

Mark looked at the shoe box and was sad that he would not find out what was under

that box today.

Trying to be a good boy, he listened to his mom and went inside for dinner.

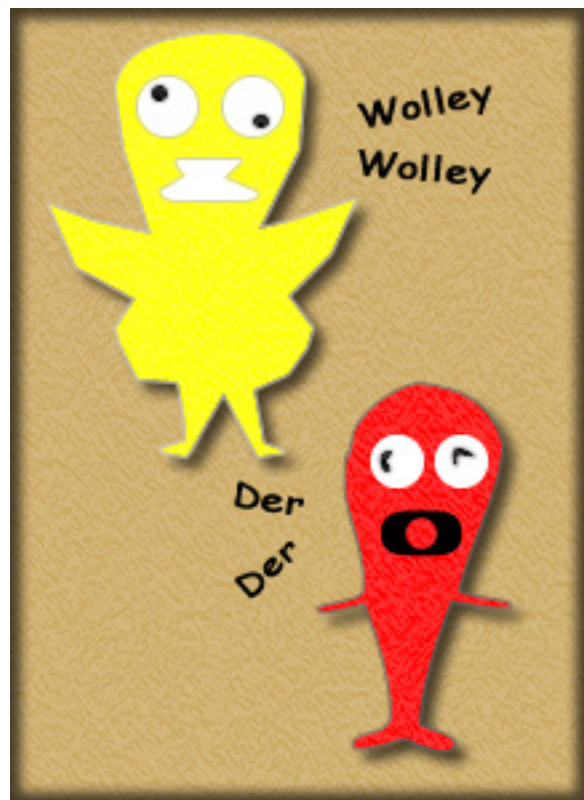
At dinner and the rest of the night, all Mark thought about was the shoe box and what might be under it. When it was time for bed, Mark decided that the next day he would go beyond the edge of the yard to see what was under the shoe box.



When Mark fell asleep that night, he had a dream. He dreamed he was playing in the yard the same way he had earlier that day and spotted the same shoe box. He ran to the shoe box and beyond the edge of the yard. He

lifted the shoe box and found two creatures.
One was yellow and the other red.

Mark heard both creatures make noises.
The yellow one sounded like "wolley-wolley,
wolley-wolley" and
the red one sounded
like "der-der, der-der".
They both had crazy
little eyes. Both
creatures were very
still but looked at



Mark as he looked at them. The little sounds
kept coming. "wolley-wolley" and "der-der"
was all Mark heard. Mark pointed at both and

said, "I will call you a Wolley and I will call you a Der".

Mark was so excited by what he found that he ran back to the house to tell his mom.

When he found his mom, he was about to tell



her. But Mark was waking up and heard his mom say, "time to wake up Sweetie." Mark blurted out, "Mom, mom, the shoe box had little creatures

under it! One was yellow and one was red."

His mom said, "Sweetie, you were dreaming."

We are going to have breakfast and then you can go out and play." Mark was still excited and told his mom all about the shoe box, the creatures, and his dream.

After breakfast, Mark ran out the door and beyond the edge of the yard. He flipped the



shoe box over and saw one yellow and one red leaf. Mark was sad that the creatures were not there.

The next day he went to school and told his teacher about the Wolley and the Der. She

said, "study hard and maybe someday you will be an explorer and find them." Mark listened and studied hard. Every year he got an 'A' in every class.



When Mark grew up, he became a famous explorer. He found and named new animals in green jungles and sandy deserts. But Mark always remembered that night and secretly hoped to find a Wolley or a Der just like he had found in his dream beyond the edge of the yard.

CREDITS

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