

Bungle Book Three

Maxie the Monkey

in

Tall Tails

by

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“Tall Tails”

One sunny afternoon, Maxie the Monkey was peeling a banana, when out of the blue he heard a squeaky voice: “Oh kind sir, please don’t eat me!”

Maxie looked all around to see where the voice was coming from but he couldn’t see anyone. He shrugged and was about to take a big bite when -

“EEEEEEEEEEEEEEK! Stop! Please don’t eat me!” The squeaky voice screeched. Maxie’s big ears rang like a bell and his huge eyes nearly popped out of his head: The banana was talking to him!

Maxie looked at the talking banana and stuttered:

“You can talk! Buh-buh-buh-but buh-buh-buh-bananas can’t tuh-tuh-talk!”

“Ah but I’m a magic banana!”

“It’s cold without my jacket,” the magic banana whimpered, his tiny banana teeth chattering, “but if you wrap me up again, I’ll grant you a wish.”

Maxie liked the sound of that so he carefully put the banana’s peel back on.

“That’s much better!” The banana squealed. “Now I’m all snug as a bug in a rug! What will your wish be master monkey?”

Maxie thought for a moment and then squealed with delight: “I want a big lolly pop!” He could almost taste the lollypop and he smacked his floppy lips with pleasure!

And the biggest lollypop you’ve ever seen, bigger than the sun, appeared like magic. Maxie stuck out his sloppy tongue and licked all over the lollypop and it was as yummy as yummy can be.

“And that’s why I didn’t eat my banana,” Maxie explained to his mother with big, innocent eyes, “and how I got this lollypop.”

Maxie’s momma monkey screwed up her lips and frowned:

“Hmmm, I think you’re telling tall tales Maxie. Magic bananas don’t exist.”

“No mum,” Maxie said, his voice all sweet like honey, “honest, it was a real magic banana.”

Maxie’s momma sighed: “You shouldn’t tell tale tales or nobody will believe you. Now go and have your bath, you little scamp.”

Maxie's hung on a branch over the cool paddling pool below. He didn't like baths, all cold and wet. Bleh!
Then all of a sudden, a shiny, silver disc swished out of the sky and floated near him.

On top of the disc was a glass dome and in the dome was a strange creature.
It was an alien from out of space!
The dome popped open and the alien aimed a ray gun at Maxie and he heard a voice in his head.

"Fear not furry creature, I come in peace!"
Maxie's knees rattled like a shaky skeleton:
"Wah-wah-wah-what do you want from me?"

The creature said: "I don't want anything from you big-eared being. I need your bath water to fuel my space ship. "

Maxie stopped shaking and smiled:
"Sure you can have my bath water if it'll help you get home."
The space creature grinned too:
"Many thanks earthling. I will return to my planet and tell them earth is a friendly planet."

A long pipe sucked up every drop of bath water like a great big straw and then the space ship flew off into the sky.

"And that's why I didn't have no bath papa!" Maxie said proudly. "I guess I'm a big hero for saving the earth."

Papa looked stern: "A big fibber is what you are young man. Aliens don't exist. Stop telling stories or you'll get in trouble! Now off to bed with you!"

The next day, Maxie was swinging from branch to branch on his way to school with his school bag was on his back.

Suddenly he heard a loud roar, then a loud "snap!" and the branch in front of him disappeared.

Maxie fell to the ground, rolled around like a wheel and crashed into a thick tree, getting a big bump on the top of his head.

When he looked up Maxie saw a giant Tyrannosaurus Rex with the branch in his big, sharp teeth.
The T-Rex was the meanest dinosaur of them all.

The T-Rex leaned close towards Maxie until they were almost eyeball to eyeball. Maxie could smell the T-Rex's stinky breath. Pyew!

The T-Rex roared: "I m the biggest, meanest, hungriest dinosaur ever and I'm starving and you're on the menu big ears!"

"Stop!" Maxie shouted. "You don't want to eat me!"

"Why not?" The T-Rex growled. "You look just the right size for breakfast."

"But I didn't have a bath yesterday and I'm all stinky and smelly."

The T-Rex wrinkled his nose: "Yuck, I don't want no stinky, smelly monkey! I just cleaned my teeth."

"I have got a nice lunch in my school bag," Maxie said and handed him the bag.

The T-Rex gobbled up his whole lunch.

Not only that but he ate Maxie's school bag too.

Then the T-Rex burped and disappeared into the jungle.

"And that's why I'm late for school Mr. Owl and why I haven't got my homework." Maxie told his wise old teacher.

Mr. Owl hooted and cocked a big round eye.

"I've heard some big stories but that one takes the cake! For being late and telling tales you have to stay after school. That should teach you a lesson young man!"

After school, Maxie was in a big rush because he was late and Momma was making his favourite dinner, banana fritters.

He was almost home and he could see the lights of his tree house shining through the branches. And he could already smell the banana fritters.

"Yummy yummy in my tummy!"

Maxie was in such a hurry that he didn't look where he was going and he ran right into a big sticky spider web. He tugged and pulled but he was stuck good.

"Help!" Maxie yelled: "Heeelp, I'm stuck!"

Momma and papa could hear him but they thought he was fooling around so they didn't pay any attention. His friends and neighbours heard him too but they just ignored him as well.

Then a great big black spider with hairy legs scuttled up to Maxie.

He was wearing football boots on all of his 6 legs.

"My name's Sid," said the hairy spider. "I love football and you ran right into my goal net."

Maxie yelled and hollered but nobody came.

Sid said: "Everybody's scared of me so I don't have no-one to play footy with. Will you play with me monkey mouth?"

Maxie nodded a bit uncertain but relieved that he wasn't going to become Sid's dinner.

Sid let Maxie go and they took turns at taking penalties. Sid won the game 6-3, scoring all his penalties by using a different leg each time.

Afterwards Maxie raced home and told his parents why he was late.

His papa grumbled: "You little rascal. I thought you'd learnt not to play tricks on people. Well, I'll teach you a trick; I'll make all your banana fritters disappear by eating them up myself.

Maxie went to bed with a grumbling tummy and all sad. Momma and papa didn't believe him because of all the tall tales he had told. From now on he was only going to tell the truth and that was no lie.

THE END