

**By Uncle Ed (aka Leila's Grandpa)**

**Christmas 2022**

**The cousins were excited to go to the zoo.  
Not just any old zoo, but the Zoo Boogaloo.**

**Sophia and Aniston were filled with such joy.  
And everyone smiled, every girl every boy.**



**They climbed in the bus, to start their vacation.  
Buddy told all the others, "It will be a sensation!"**

**Peyton agreed. “The animals dance and they sing.”**

**“It’s the friendliest zoo, we will love everything.”**



**And Kody said, “This will be oh so much fun.”**

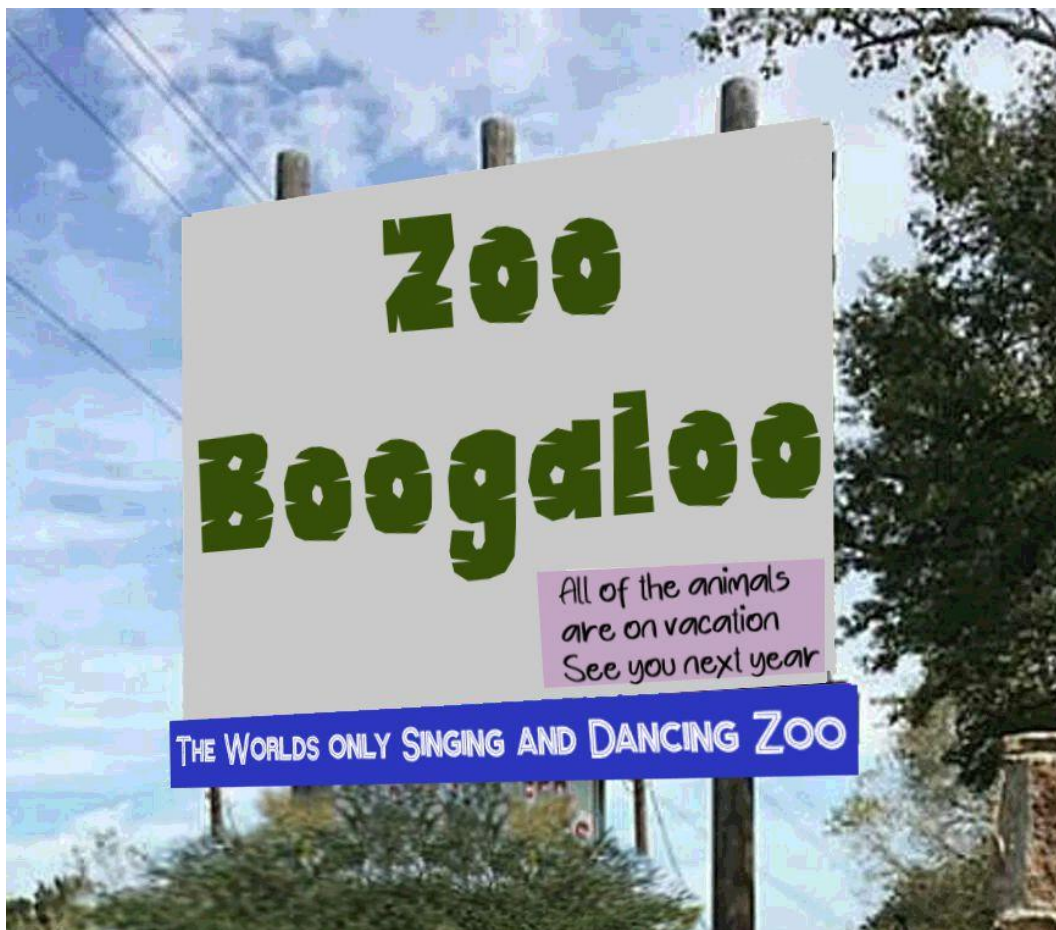
**And then Caleb added, “Fun for everyone!”**

**But Case was the first one to see it, then Tom saw it too.**

**There on the sign as they entered the zoo.**

**“Look at that.” Case said. “It is quite clear.”**

**“They left for the holidays, won’t be back til next year!”**



**Kai, Noah and Evan had tears on their faces.**

**Leila tried to calm them, "There are other cool places."**

**But Tom and Frankie and even Andrew,**

**Said "We won't get to see the Zoo Boogaloo."**

**Eddie the Horse heard the younger ones crying.**

**"There's problem," He said. "There can be no denying."**

**He heard young Dominick yell out, “Oh, no.”**

**And, “Oh, no. Oh, no. Oh, no. and Oh, N000000!”**

**Violet was upset, “We’ve come such a long way.”**

**Caitlin said. “Here we are and now it’s closed for the day!”**



**Eddie the horse was alone at Zoo Boogaloo.**

**Everyone's gone, Slimy the Snake was gone too!**

**So, he put on the zookeeper's hat and her shades.**

**"I'll pretend I'm the zookeeper. It's an easy charade."**



**“One carrot per person gets them into the zoo.  
And who doesn’t love carrots? I know that I do!”**





**The four youngest, Dominick, Evan, Noah and Kai.**

**Found a big bag of carrots and Buddy said, “My oh my!”**

**“There are plenty of carrots for us all to get in.”**

**“But will we see all the animals?” asked a puzzled Kaitlin.**

**Eddie the horse hadn’t thought this all through.**

**“What will they see at the Zoo Boogaloo?”**

**Then he had an idea, his best one today.**

**And said to the cousins, "Come right this way."**

**He gave each a map, that showed all the places,**

**Where animals danced, there was joy on their faces.**



**They looked at the map, and walked to the spot.**

**Where the bison all live. Will they be there or not?**

**Frankie wondered aloud, “Will they sing? Will they dance?”**

**Tom said, “Will they play ball. You think there’s a chance?”**

**And out came a bison, he looked kind of weird.**

**He looked like a horse with big hair and a beard.**



**“Hi!” Said the Bison. “I’m here at the zoo.”**

**“And I’m happy to see each one of you.”**

**And he trotted around the best that he could,**

**Leila said, “Sing a song, it’d be great if you would.”**

**“Burrrrrrrrrrp.” Sang the Bison, ending with a winnie.**

**“For a Bison” Aniston said, “He’s pretty skinny.”**

**Next, they went to the place where the zebras all wandered.  
They only saw one, he looked strange they all pondered.**



**This zebra, when dancing, didn't move like he ought.  
He galloped along it looked more like a trot.**

**But the cousins continued to the next habitat.**

**Hoping they'd see a big scary wild cat.**

**When they saw her, again something didn't seem right.**

**Violet explained, "This lion looks odd in daylight."**



**This lion could dance, he could break, lock and pop.**

**But when he growled, he meowed, Sophia said, "Stop."**



**"That isn't a growl, its like a house cat."**

**Buddy agreed. "No ones scared much at that."**

**But Kai, Noah, and Evan and Dominick, too.**

**Loved everything at the Zoo Boogaloo.**

**Bad dancing and singing made each one of them laugh.**

**They loved all the animals and wanted to see a giraffe.**

**And see one they did. It was a giraffe with two heads.**



**“I guess two heads are better than one.” Peyton said.**

**Andrew shouted, “Doesn’t anyone notice, it’s just a disguise?”**

**But, the boys just enjoyed that giraffe with four eyes.**



**Then Kody laughed too, and that got everyone giggling.**

**Then the next thing they see is a horsed face snake wiggling.**



**There was only one stop left on the tour.**

**So, the cousins continued, as confused as before.**

**They went round the bend to the elephant's home.  
They all wanted to see where the big animal roams.**



**But this time, it was truly quite clear.  
This wasn't a regular elephant here.**

**“Wait a second, I think I know what’s going on.”**

**Caleb said. “That’s Eddie with different hats on.”**

**And Eddie took off his hat and said, “Yes, its true.”**

**“I just wanted to give a great day for all you.”**



**“So, I pretended to be a bison, lion, giraffe and snake too.**

**A zebra and an elephant at the Zoo Boogaloo.**

**“You’d all come a long way and the carrots are good.”**

**“So, I pretended to be animals and act like they would.”**

**“Because they are all gone, no one is here.”**

**“And they won’t come back until early next year.”**

**But Case said, “Hey, you’re an animal aren’t you?”**

**“Can you sing and dance for the Zoo Boogaloo?”**

**And so, he sang and he danced and a ukulele he played.  
With Old MacDonald, Chicken Dance, and What the Fox Say.**



**And he ended his show with the favorite song in his head.  
The theme song from the TV show called Mr. Ed.**

***A horse is a horse of course of course***

***And no one can talk to a horse of course.***

***That is of course unless the horse is the famous Mister Ed!***

***Go right to the source and ask the horse.***

***He'll give you the answer that you'll endorse***

***He's always on a steady course. Talk to Mister Ed!***

***People yakkity-yak a streak and waste your time of day,***

***but Mister Ed will never speak unless he has something to say!***

***A horse is a horse of course of course***

***and this one'll talk 'til his voice is hoarse.***

***You've never heard of a talking horse? Well, listen to***

***this... "I am Mister Ed!"***

**And all of cousins smiled and gave a big cheer.**

**This was the best zoo the group saw this year.**

**Cause Eddie the Horse had saved their vacation,**

**By making this zoo the best zoo in the nation.**

**After all, what other zoo has an Eddie the Horse,**

**Who made this a great trip for the cousins, of course.**