

Nose Need to Panic

Cosmo was the Head Clown at Mr Fabuloso's Circus. He was the Ringmaster's pride and joy. The other clowns loathed him and so did some of the other circus folk because the Ringmaster gave him the best of everything: the best caravan, the strongest quickest horse and the brightest most colourful costume that fitted perfectly. His best friend though was Mr Wizz The Conjurer. Mr Wizz was the person who everyone liked the most out of all the circus folk. Everyone loved his magic. However, after a wizarding accident he was in a hospital on the other side of the county. Fortunately, a Ringmaster that was his boss's best friend decided to lend his conjurer whilst he was getting better.

The new magician, Master Click, was a very cunning man. As soon as he moved from his circus to Cosmo's he was told that he should stay well clear of Cosmo, but Click had a better plan. Cosmo was a very jolly man and so, to get to know Master Click better he arranged to meet him in his caravan before the show started. Click immediately obliged thinking that this was his chance to put the clown where he belonged and play a nasty trick and he thought that no one would ever suspect him.

The plan was simple. He would go into the clown's caravan at noon (taking his bottle of no good with him). When Cosmo wasn't looking he would pour the bottle of no good into his drink. And so he did; he thought that the poor clown didn't suspect a thing.

That night's performance went very well and everyone had a great time. Once he was back inside his caravan, Cosmo started taking all his clown clothes off and changed into his ordinary ones. He always took his nose off last because it has been in Cosmo's family for generations and it had been handed down through the family. It was very precious. But this time when he tried to pull it off he found that it was stuck. He pulled and pulled but there was no way that the nose would come off. He must have been tricked. Cosmo went to bed that night feeling upset and angry with himself. Why did he trust that conjurer? Why were people so mean to him when he was so friendly to everyone else?

The next day Cosmo tried again and this time he could wiggle it! He wiggled and jiggled until 'POP', it finally gave way and Cosmo was overjoyed. He stowed his special nose away in its box. However as he looked in the mirror, he found that his nose hadn't just come off but a new one had grown in its place and this time it was a *blue* one. This one would not budge either. Poor Cosmo didn't know what to do, he couldn't go out like that otherwise all of the other circus folk would laugh at him. Suddenly he had an idea. He knew who could help him.

Cosmo went to where the stable boys kept the horses. Unlike all the other circus folk who made mean remarks, they scattered when they saw him. He asked the boy at the gate if he could take his trusty horse, Filo, for a ride. The boy did not reply but just moved over to let him pass. Cosmo went to open his horse's stable. Filo, who was asleep when Cosmo arrived, reluctantly followed him back to his caravan. Cosmo was the man who always connected the horses to the caravans so he was a master at that sort of thing. In five minutes he had his horse and caravan ready to go. Filo, given to him by the Ringmaster of course, was the fastest and strongest horse out of all of the ones in the circus. Once they

were out in the open that would be useful, but they were still in the campsite so they would have to, very quietly, walk around the back and over the bridge that led onto a country lane. Quietly they walked past the caravans checking all the time that no one was watching. Then, they were onto the lane where they had ridden down to get into the campsite a few days before. Cosmo looked behind him and saw what he was going to miss for a few days but, he thought about his nose – this was all for a good reason.

After travelling east for a day and a half Cosmo saw upon the horizon a town where Mr Wizz was lying in bed, in a hospital, right in the centre of the densely packed houses and shops around the town square. He knew where to go but it was just the tricky situation of getting Filo and the caravan through the packed streets without anyone getting run over or hurt. Cosmo tethered Filo to a tree just outside the town and made sure that his caravan wouldn't roll into the road. He pulled on his rucksack and walked into the hustle and bustle trying hard to blend in with the crowd. But wherever he went people laughed and pointed at his blue clown nose. Once again just out of annoyance, he tried to pull his nose off. He felt it move, it broke open. Cosmo felt triumphant. He looked around to show off his normal nose but to his dismay people laughed at him even more. They were hysterical. Helplessly, he looked around and saw his reflection in a shop window. His mouth dropped open. His nose wasn't blue anymore. It had grown back *green*. Cosmo ran and he didn't stop until he was inside the hospital's reception.

Cosmo saw the Reception desk where an old lady sat reading through that day's newspaper. He looked around him. The ceiling was plastered with white and decorated with golden birds, some flying through the air and some perching on branches that were attached to golden trees that snaked down the walls towards the floor. He walked over towards the desk where the lady sat. She looked up and Cosmo could see that she was trying, and failing, very hard to not laugh out loud in front of him but she would hardly be able to hold it in for much longer.

He spoke in a firm voice but with a slightly hurt tone to it, "I am here to see Mr Albus James Wizz."

The old lady replied, trying very hard not to laugh, "Second floor, first door to the right."

Cosmo thanked her and went through the archway that led up the flight of steps. Once he was outside the door he felt a sudden warmth. He knew that he was close to getting his nose back. Cosmo knocked on the door, "Come in," said a drowsy voice that came from inside. He opened the door and went inside. There was a gasp and Mr Wizz jumped out of bed and ran over to Cosmo. He was wearing a dressing gown and he looked like he had not had a wink of sleep; he had big bags under his eyes.

"Cosmo, my good friend. What brings you to see me today?" Then he noticed Cosmo's nose and he realised. "Oh dear. What happened?"

Cosmo told him the whole story, how the other wizard came over and poured his potion into his drink and that he drank it up and he now had a nose that wouldn't go back to normal. Eventually, he managed to stop and Mr Wizz finally knew why Cosmo had come to see him. Mr Wizz got back into bed and Cosmo sat on a chair next to it.

Mr Wizz took a deep breath and explained. "Cosmo, I can't help you, I may be getting better by the day but I still don't have all my healing powers back."

Cosmo looked at him and realised that Mr Wizz had not smiled at all when he had been speaking to him.

Then he said, "You know what you need?" Mr Wizz looked at him blankly.

Cosmo went over in to the corner and quickly changed in to his clown's outfit. Then he jumped in front of the bed, and pulled out his fold-away bike and got on it. Straightaway he fell off. Mr Wizz howled with laughter and Cosmo smiled. He had cured Mr Wizz! All he needed was some laughter and the first person you need when you want to laugh at the circus... is a clown. Cosmo sat down next to the bed again.

Mr Wizz smiled and said "Now it's your turn."

He got out of bed and put on his wizarding robes and said, "Nose need to panic for I, Mr Wizz, am here."

Cosmo watched in amazement as Mr Wizz conjured a bottle out of nowhere, filled it with bright pink liquid and put it in front of Cosmo.

"Here," he said, "Drink this."

Cosmo drank and instantly he felt a warm tingling in his nose and suddenly a green sphere fell on to the sheets of the bed. He picked it up and looked at it. Then he rushed to the mirror on the opposite wall and shouted in triumph, "It is off!"

He shouted so loudly that Mr Wizz was surprised that none of the nurses or doctors came running in. Mr Wizz got all his bags together and then said, "I'm going to leave them a note." Once he had finished writing and he was satisfied with what he had done, he picked up one of his bags, and Cosmo picked up his nose and stowed it in his pocket. Then he picked up the other bags and followed Mr Wizz out the door.

Once outside, the pair headed up the street until they got to the place where they had left Filo and his caravan. While Cosmo was checking that they were ready to go Mr Wizz was stowing his bags away inside the caravan. When they were ready Mr Wizz turned to Cosmo and said "Let's go home." So Cosmo clicked his tongue and urged the horse on forwards.

When they reached the gates there was a shout from one of the circus folk. Then another and another until the Mr Fabuloso came running to find out what all the noise was about. When he saw Cosmo and Mr Wizz he was overjoyed. The circus folk were also very happy because they had discovered that Master Click had been playing tricks on all of them. He had put custard in Mr Fabuloso's hat. Put a spell on the juggler's juggling balls so they bounced all over the field and could not be caught. The spinning plates kept flying around the campsite, one almost breaking the lady trapeze artist's windows. He had unlocked the horses stable doors. The performing dogs had been changed into cats and when they climbed on top of the caravans to escape from the horses, he turned them back into dogs. They were barking madly as they were really scared of being so high. The human cannonball's canon instead of firing people had fired glitter all over the circus and it had gone down the caravan's chimneys. He had tied the tightrope walkers rope in knots and popped the unicyclist's tyres. He had filled the bands' brass instruments with soap and everywhere the flame thrower went to practice, a water sprinkler appeared putting out his fire.

Everyone had been tricked except Master Click and it had all started **once** he had come to the circus, **not** before.

Mr Wizz and Cosmo looked at each other and said in unison, "Nose need to panic, for we are here!"

After Mr Wizz had done some tricks of his own on Master Click, and Cosmo had rescued the dogs and the horses and helped the other acts, the mean trickster was sent back to his circus knowing that for the first time in his life he had been caught using his magic for the wrong reasons.

Life returned to normal, well almost. After Cosmo had ensured that Mr Fabuloso treated all his acts fairly, the circus folk were very kind to him. They realised that Cosmo had saved their favourite act and after all he did make their circus the funniest one of all.