

You Wouldn't Read About It



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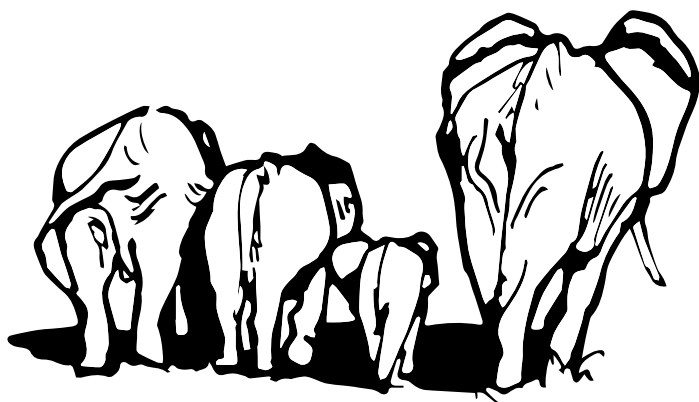
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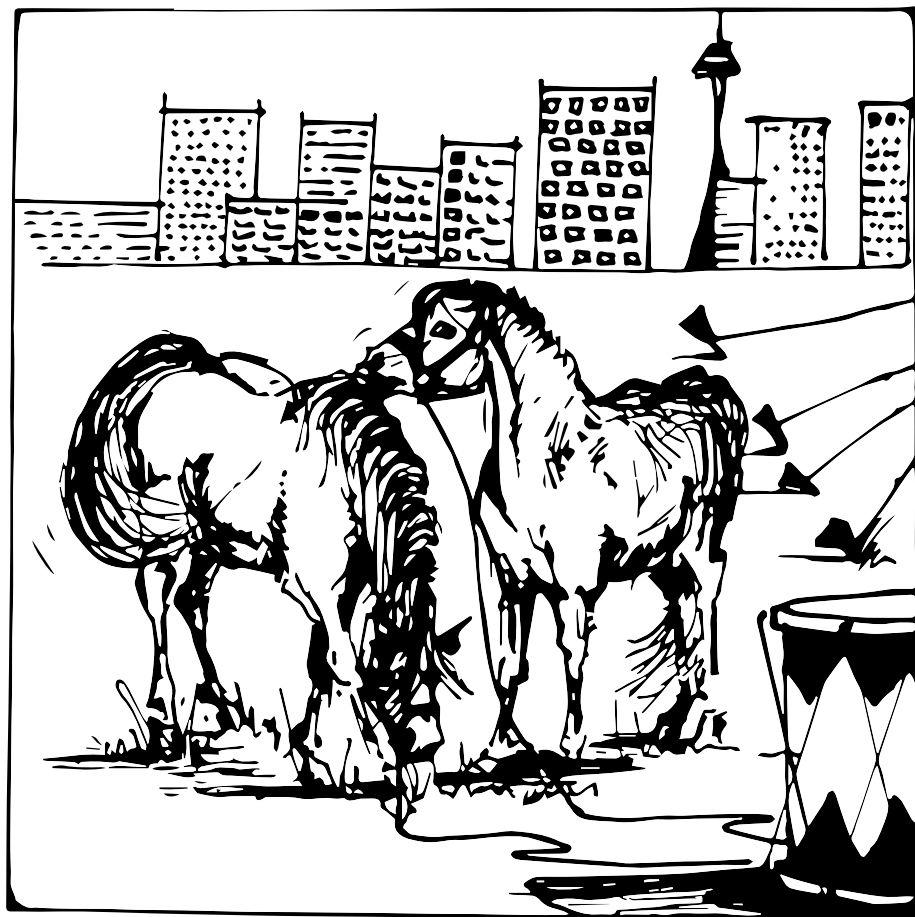
You Wouldn't Read About It

Written by Kath White

This is a story about an elephant,
a Mini and leaving the scene of an accident.



This really happened.



The circus came to Sydney
and set up their big top
in Prince Alfred Park.

It's a big park with Moreton Bay
figs and a lot of mown grass.



They tethered all the tame animals
there on the grass – camels,
donkeys, horses and four great grey
elephants just beside the caravans.

Because there was no parking space
left in the narrow streets, they let
people park their cars on the grass too,
just near the circus people's caravans.

A friend of ours went to the circus



and parked his car on the grass.

It was a red Mini Minor.

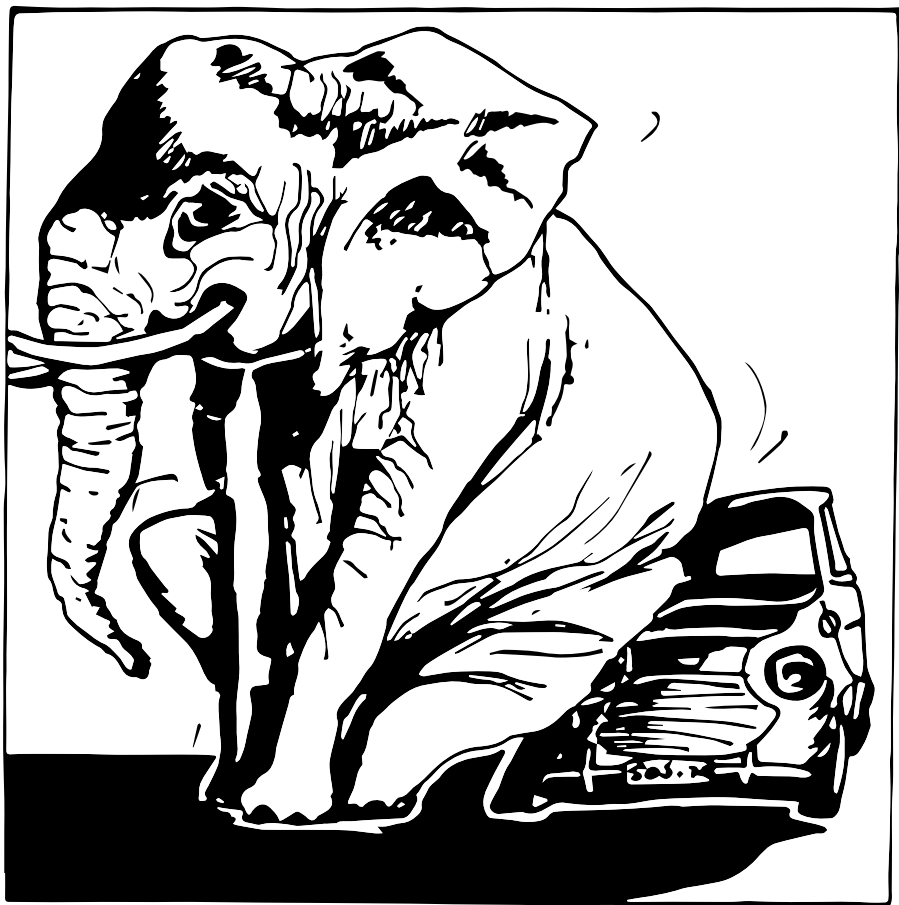
It was late when he came back
and the crowds had gone.

His car was still there –

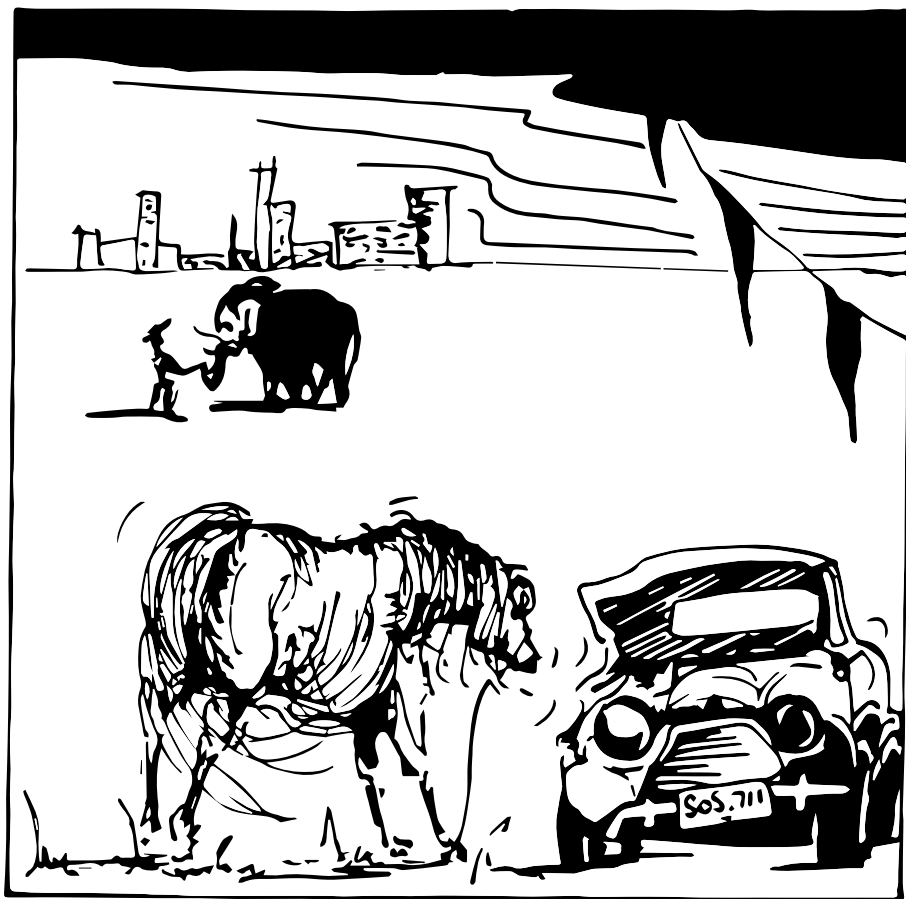
but ...

it was rather squashed!!

An elephant was sitting on it!



Of course he complained
and they led the elephant away.

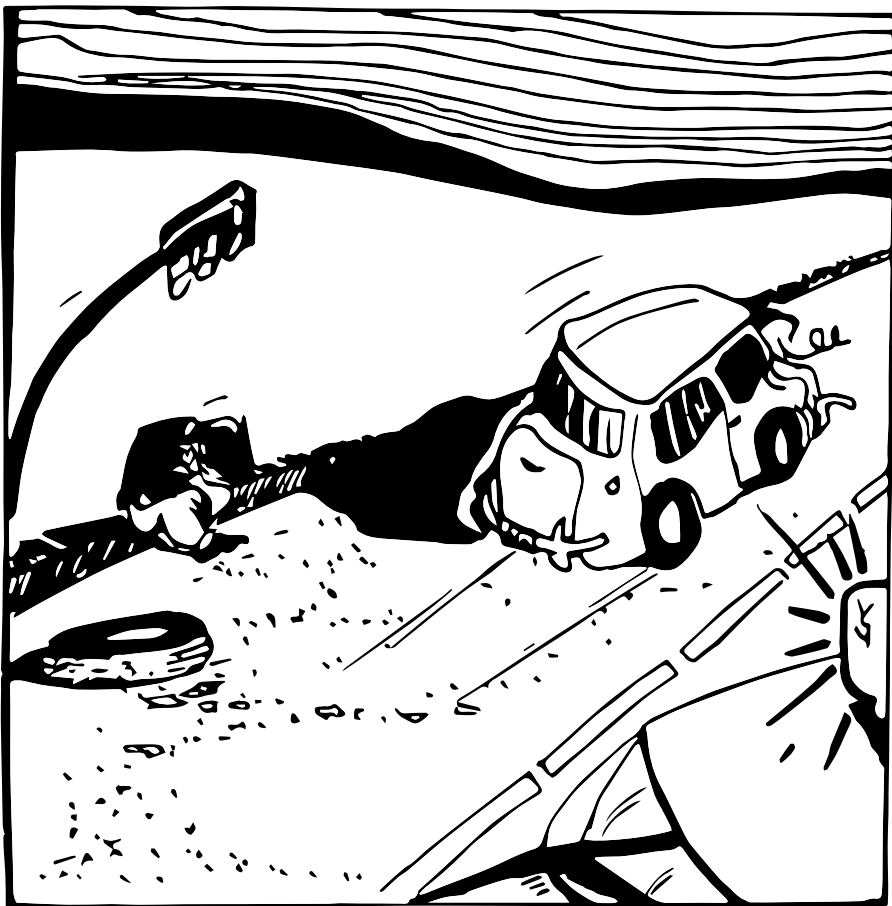




The car could still be driven.

The circus people gave him their card
so that he could get the panel-beating
done, and charge it to the circus.

So he set off for home.



At a main intersection on the Princes Highway, there was a big accident in which a number of cars were involved.

The police and ambulances had just arrived.

Our friend drove slowly past the accident and continued on his way at normal speed.

In his rear-vision mirror he saw a
police motorbike speeding after him.

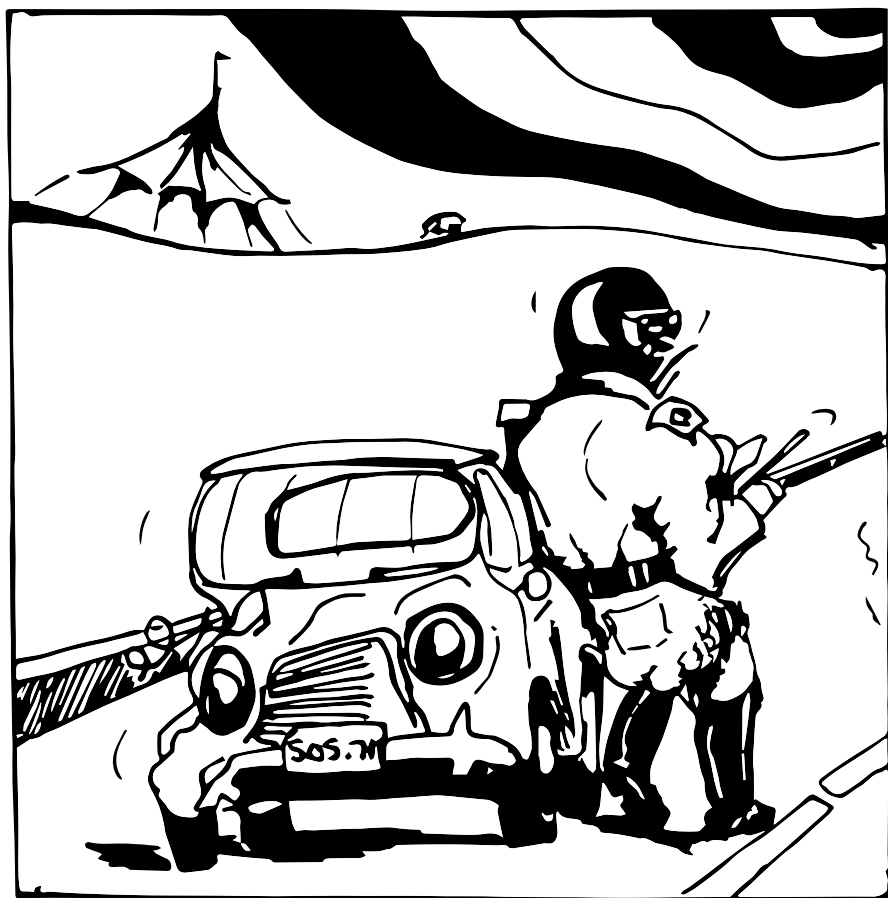
He pulled over to let it pass
but it veered in front of him
and flagged him to stop.

The policeman got off.

“Why are you leaving the scene
of an accident?” he asked.

“Because I wasn’t involved”,
our friend said.

“Well, how do you explain the state of your car?”, demanded the policeman, looking at the crumpled Mini.



“An elephant sat on it”, our friend said.

The policeman
stopped being polite.

“OK, Wise guy”, he snarled.

“Come round to the station,
and you’ll soon change your tune.”

So our friend had to drive
around to the police station.

“But it’s true”, he protested.

“An elephant really did sit on my
car. This really happened. Here
is the circus people’s card.

“Ring them up and ask them.”

The policeman rang the circus.

“Yes, one of our elephants
did sit on a Mini today”,
the circus man said.

“That elephant has been trained
to sit on big red drums.”



25 Stories

Written by learners and published
as a resource for others to share
on their learning journeys

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, the Adult Literacy and Basic Education (ALBE) Resources Unit in Devonport, Tasmania, published over 50 stories that had been written by learners as part of their literacy learning program. The writers were closely involved in the production of their stories, with the understanding that the resources would be made available for other learners, teachers and tutors. Since their initial publication there has been continuing interest in the stories, that contain relevant content and appropriate reading levels for adult learners. They are widely used by individuals and organisations across Australia as reading resources and as models for writing.

25 Stories is a selection of those works that have been republished and made available to download, free of charge from the Tasmanian Council for Adult Literacy (TCAL) website, www.tcal.org.au. Each story has been assigned an Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) level for reading and writing.

TasTAFE and TCAL wish to thank the original writers, illustrators, learners, teachers and publishers who have generously made these stories available for others to share.

