

Just Like Dad

“Dad, when I grow up, I want to be just like you,” Simba said to his father.

Mufasa nuzzled his son's head gently. “All in good time, son,” he said.

Just then, Simba's friend Nala bounded up to them. “Come on, Simba!” she called. “Let's go play by the river!”

On their way, Simba stopped abruptly. “Listen to this,” he said. He threw his head back and roared as loudly as he could. Then he looked at her expectantly. “Do I sound like my dad?”

Nala tried unsuccessfully to suppress a giggle. “Not quite,” she said.

Soon they reached the river. The waters were high as a result of the recent rains. Simba found a quiet pool at the side and stared down at his reflection. “Do you think my mane is starting to grow?” he asked Nala.

Nala sighed. “Maybe a little,” she replied. “But, Simba, what's the big rush? Let's just have fun being young!”

Simba was eyeing a tree branch that extended over the raging river. “Well, I may not be as big as my dad yet, but at least I'm as brave as he is!” he shouted, and raced up to the tree. Climbing its gnarled trunk, he began walking along the branch over the water.

Nala hurried over. She heard a loud crack.



“Simba!” she yelled. “Come back here! The branch is going to break!”

But Simba couldn't hear her over the loud waters. Nala bounded away to get help.

Simba felt the branch begin to sag. “Uh-oh,” he said to himself. Suddenly the whole thing broke off and Simba tumbled into the water. The current was strong, and he struggled to swim toward shore. He was running out of strength, and he realized he might not make it.

Then he felt himself being lifted out of the water and tossed onto the bank. Dripping and coughing, he looked up—and right into the angry eyes of his father.

“Simba!” thundered Mufasa. “There's a big difference between being brave and being foolish! The sooner you learn that, the better chance you will have of growing old!”

Simba hung his head. Out of the corner of his eye, he saw Nala, pretending not to overhear. “I'm . . . sorry, Dad,” he said softly. “I just wanted to be brave like you.”

His father's gaze softened. “Well,” he said. “As long as we're soaking wet, why don't we go to a quieter part of the river and do some swimming?” He looked over to where Nala was sitting. “Come on, Nala!” he called. “Come with us!”

“Yippee!” cried the cubs, and they all went off together.



像爸爸一樣

「爸爸，我長大以後，要像你一樣。」辛巴對爸爸說。

木法沙用鼻子輕輕擦口兒子的頭說：「當然會的，兒子。」

這時，辛巴的朋友娜娜跳了過來，向辛巴說：「走啊！辛巴！我們一起去河邊玩吧！」

在途中，辛巴突然停了下來。「聽聽這聲音。」他說。他把頭轉回去，竭盡全力大吼了一聲。然後他用期待的目光看口

娜娜說：「我的吼叫聲像我的爸爸嗎？」

娜娜不禁咯咯地笑起來。「不太像。」她說。

他們很快就來到了河邊。由於最近經常下雨，河水漲了起來。辛巴在河邊找到了一片平靜的水潭，盯口自己的倒影看。「你看我的鬃毛開始長出來了嗎？」他問娜娜。

娜娜嘆了口氣。「有一點吧！」她回答道。「可是，辛巴。為甚麼要那麼急？年輕不是很快樂嗎？」

辛巴正盯口一根樹枝，這樹枝伸展到了湍急的河流上方。

「我雖然還沒有爸爸那樣高大，但至少我和他一樣勇敢！」他大聲的說口並向那棵樹跑去。辛巴爬上了那扭曲的樹幹，沿口河水上的那根樹枝走去。

娜娜很焦急。她聽到了樹枝的斷裂

聲。「辛巴！」她大聲叫了起來。「快回來！樹枝要斷了！」

由於水流聲音很大，辛巴聽不到娜娜的叫聲。娜娜跳了出去尋求幫助。

辛巴感到樹枝開始下垂。「哎呀！不好了！」他自言自語的說道。口噤一聲，樹枝突然斷了，辛巴跌進了水中。水流很急，他掙扎口向岸邊游去。但在還沒到岸邊時，辛巴已經筋疲力盡了，他覺得這次可能要完了。

這時他感覺到有人將他拖出水面並帶到岸上。他渾身滴口水，大聲咳嗽口，當他抬起頭時，正好碰到父親那生氣的目光。

「辛巴！」木法沙怒吼口。「勇敢和愚蠢，它們差別很大！這個道理你明白得愈早，你才能成熟得愈快！」

辛巴垂下了頭。在眼角處他看到了娜娜，她裝作沒有聽到。「很……抱歉，爸爸。」他輕聲地說。「我只是想和你一樣勇敢。」

他父親的目光變得柔和起來。「好了。既然我們已經濕透，不如到這條河的平靜處去游泳！」他說。同時他向娜娜坐口的地方望去，大聲說：「快過來，娜娜！一起走吧！」

「萬歲！」兩個小傢伙興奮地叫口，他們一起出發了。



Chore de Force

Cinderella watched as a blue-and-pink-tinted bubble floated up from her bucket. “Isn't that pretty?” she said as she watched the bubble float higher and higher and finally pop into nothingness. Gus and Jaq and all the rest of Cinderella's mouse friends nodded in agreement.

“I bet it would be fun to float around in a bubble all day! I could see whole cities at a time, bounce on clouds, and soar with the birds,” Cinderella said dreamily. Her bird friends chirped happily. They liked the idea of sharing the skies with her.

“What am I doing?” Cinderella suddenly said. “I should stay focused on my chores.” She finished cleaning the windows and prepared to mop the floor.

Cinderella plunged the mop into a bucket of sudsy water, then dragged it across the floor. At first, she felt worn out. Then it occurred to her, as the mop slid across the slippery floor, “This is like dancing! How I love to dance!” Gus and Jaq followed suit as Cinderella twirled around the room with the mop. “How fun!” she cried happily.

“Oh, my.” Cinderella caught herself. “Did I say that aloud?” Maybe I just need to get away from all these bubbles, she thought. Ironing should do the trick!

She was ironing away and humming merrily to herself when she realized how dark the sky had grown.

“Look at the time!” Cinderella

exclaimed. “I've been daydreaming the day away and haven't even started dinner.”

Cinderella hurried to the kitchen where she chopped and minced and grated and stirred. “I don't know where this day has gone,” she fretted as she added ingredients to her stepsisters' favorite soup. “I've gotten absolutely nothing done!” And just then, Cinderella's stepsisters, Anastasia and Drizella, barged into the kitchen.

“Where's my laundry?” barked Anastasia.

“Done,” Cinderella said.

“And my ironing?” Drizella added.

“Done,” Cinderella replied again.

“Did you mop the floors?”

“Wash the windows?”

“Make our dinner?”

“Done, done, done!” Cinderella said gaily.

The sisters marched out of the kitchen muttering with displeasure.

And there Cinderella stood, all alone in the kitchen once more. As she stirred the pot of soup, she thought, I guess I did get a lot done, after all! She twirled across the room in celebration—and Jaq and Gus and the rest of her mouse friends joined right along with her.



做家務的原動力

仙蒂看到一個藍色和粉紅色相間的氣泡從水桶中飄浮起來。「真漂亮！」

仙蒂說道，葛斯、傑克還有其他的老鼠朋友們都點頭同意她的說法。仙蒂邊說邊看口，這個氣泡愈飛愈高，最後「啪」地爆裂了，化為烏有。

「我敢肯定說留在氣泡裡整天四處飄浮一定會很有趣！我能一下子看到整個城市，在雲彩上跳躍，與鳥兒一起飛翔。」仙蒂幻想口這些

情景。她的鳥兒朋友們輕快地叫口。它們都喜歡她的這個主意，希望與她共同分享美麗的天空。

「我在幹甚麼？」仙蒂突然說道，「我應該集中精神去做我的雜務。」她擦完了窗戶，便去準備拖把。

仙蒂把拖把放進盛滿肥皂水的水桶裡，然後拿出拖把來。開始時她覺得精疲力盡，但期後她發現當拖把在光滑的地板上滑動時，「這就像是在跳舞一樣！我是多麼喜歡跳舞啊！」她拿口地拖在房間裡

起舞，葛斯和傑克也跟口轉起來。「真好玩！」她開心的大聲說。

「哎呀！」仙蒂突然停了下來。「我的聲音是不是太大了？」她想她需要遠離這些肥皂泡，去燙衣服也許是一個好方法！

在仙蒂燙衣服時，她愉快地哼口歌，在不知不覺間，天已經黑了。

「時間不早了！」仙蒂驚醒過來。「我今天一直在作白日夢，現在還沒開始做晚飯呢！」

仙蒂趕緊跑到廚房，切菜、剝肉、磨粉、攪拌。「我不知道這一天是怎麼過來的。」她一邊發愁地說，一邊在湯裡加上配料，這是她同父異母的姐妹們最喜歡的湯。「我甚麼事都沒完成！」正在這時，安蒂和狄茜闖入了

廚房。

「我的衣服洗了嗎？」安蒂咆哮地問。

「洗了。」仙蒂說。

「我的衣服燙過了嗎？」狄茜說。

「燙了。」仙蒂答道。

「地板拖好了嗎？」

「窗戶擦乾淨了嗎？」

「晚飯做好了嗎？」

「做了，做了，做了！」仙蒂快樂地說口。

兩姐妹走出了廚房，嘟噥口嘴，滿臉不高興。

現在廚房裡又只剩下仙蒂一個人了。她攪口鍋裡的湯，想口不管怎麼樣，原來今天確實做了不少事情！她在房間裡起舞，旋轉口慶祝起來，而傑克、葛斯和那些老鼠朋友們也跟口轉了起來。

