

Enrique's Story / שמעון אגסי

Part I

"Enrique, Enrique, wake up!" said Maria my wife the other night, shaking my shoulder, "What happened to you?"

Waking up, all my body is shaking, sweat all over my pillow, trying to understand where I am, I mumbled:

"Thank God, Maria, you woke me up in the middle of my worst dream I have ever had in my life."

"Yes", she said, "you were shouting and screaming all night, and when I woke you up I was sure that some Kaimans are tearing your body apart!"

"Oh no, it was even worse", I said. "I had in my dream this group of ten Israelis, and all what I promised them did not come true:

I promised them they will fish Piranhas, but all the Piranhas went a holiday.

I promised them I'll catch a Kaiman, but all the Kaimans have left the Amazon.

I promised them to see a loath, but all the loathes have vaporized into thin air.

I promised them to see this half Turkey/half Kakadoo bird, but it turned into a rubber tree.

And worst of all, the minute you woke me up, they asked me if there are going to be more Israelis in the Eco-Park Lodge, and I said "No way!!"



Part II

"Thank God, Maria, you woke me up. But still, I am going to meet them in the morning, what should I do??"

"Don't you worry, my dear Enrique," Maria said, "I will pray for you, and when you meet them in the morning, be confident, tell them whatever you wish, and my prayers will make it come true!"

Carried up by Maria's prayers, I got up smiling in the morning, took a shower, shaved my face, put on my Eco-Park shirt, and rowed my canoe to the Lodge.

And here I am, standing in front of this ten-Israelis group in the lobby, and giving them my best dream I could ever wished for, as our plan for today:

"You are going to have today the most beautiful wheather", I started my prophecy,

"and you are going to see this wonderful fishermen's village, who turn into farmers in low water seasons,

and then you are going to see those Pink Amazon Dolphins,

and then you are going to hug a five meters long Ananconda,

and then you will see this little kid holds the largest fish in the Amazon,

and then you will fish two Piranhas within five minutes,

and then you will watch the most beautiful Amazon Lillies,

and then you will watch three monstrous Kaimans eating meat, and six vultures around them fighting to get a piece for their own,

and most important of all -

This group of thirty-Israelis you saw yesterday will leave the Eco-Park and you will be the ONLY Israelis there!"

At this point my breath chocked. I felt that somehow my wishes were too ambitious.

But NO - Thank God, my Maria's prayers were so powerful, that ALL my wishes came true on that day!!

All - but one.

Although this group of thirty-Israelis left the Eco-Park, Maria's prayers were not powerful enough to prevent from another group of forty Israelis to come in...