

**SCENE 1 (N&LP&Grown-up\*2)**

(lights on, we can see the narrator and two grown-ups, the grown-ups are **reading some books**)

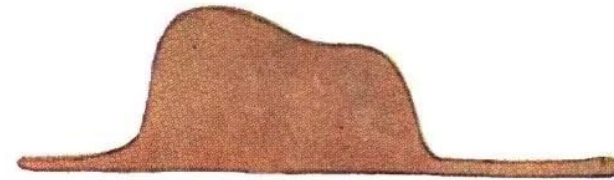
**Narrator:** Once when I was six years old I saw a picture in a book, called True Stories from Nature. It was a picture of a boa constrictor in the act of swallowing an animal. In the book it said:

"Boa constrictors swallow their prey whole, without chewing it.

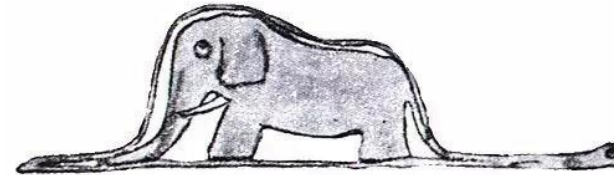
After that they are not able to move, and they sleep through the six months that they need for digestion." And after some work with a colored pencil I made my first drawing. Drawing Number 1. It looked something like this: (he shows to the audience the drawing)

And I decided to show it to the grown-ups.

(a pair of adult people appear on scene)



1



2

**Narrator:** Is this drawing frightening?

**Grown-up:** "Frightening? Why should anyone be frightened by a hat?"

**Narrator:** It's not a picture of a hat! It's a picture of a boa constrictor digesting an elephant!

(he looks desperate, the grown ups resume reading)

**Narrator** (looking at the audience): Since the grown-ups were not able to understand it, I made another drawing. Drawing Number 2 looked like this: (he shows to the audience the second drawing)

**Narrator**: And now.... Does this drawing frighten you?

**Grown-up**: You'd better stop drawing and devote yourself instead to geography, history, arithmetic, and grammar.

(the grown ups pick their books and leave the stage)

**Narrator**: So, at the age of six, I gave up what might have been a great career as a painter. Grown-ups never understand anything by themselves, and it is tiresome for children to be always explaining things to them. Then, I chose another profession, and learned to pilot airplanes. In my trips, whenever I met once a grown-up who

seemed intelligent, I tried the experiment of showing him my Drawing Number 1. I would try to find out, so, if this was a person of true understanding. But, whoever it was, he, or she, would always say: "That is a hat." Then I would never talk to that person about boa constrictors, or forests, or stars. And the grown-up would be greatly pleased to have met such a sensible man.

**PILOT**: I've been on this **desert** since my plane broke down, I won't run out of drinking water until I repair the engine and leave this unfriendly place.

Since I landed I've seen nothing but sand. How come I see people? No doubt you must be a mirage.

(keeps on **repairing the engine**; suddenly he sees The Little Prince approaching him)

PILOT- And what's this? Look at this funny little boy! He looks like a prince! Is he another mirage? Look at him! He's coming closer and closer...

(The Little Prince approaches the Narrator and starts a conversation)

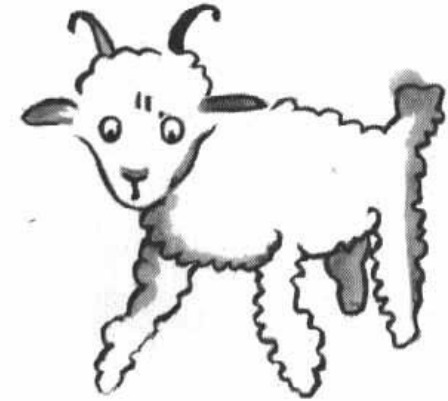
LP - If you please, draw me a sheep!

PILOT- What!?

LP - Draw me a sheep!

PILOT - But I can't draw!

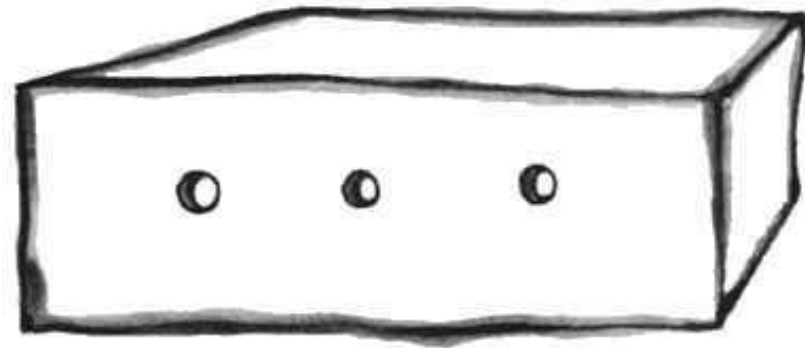
LP - It doesn't matter. Draw me a sheep!



(The pilot draws a sheep)

LP - I don't like this one. It's too old. I want the one that will live for a long time.

(The PILOT, after doing some thinking, draws a box)



PILOT - This is only his box. The sheep you asked for is inside.

LP (satisfied) - That's the way I wanted it! Do you think that this sheep will need a great deal of grass?

PILOT - Why?

LP - Because where I live everything is very small...

PILOT - There will surely be enough grass for him. It's a very small sheep that I've given you.

LP - Not so small. Look! He's gone to sleep...

PILOT - So...what are you doing here?

LP - And you? Do you live on this desert? What is that object?"

(Pointing to the plane)

PILOT - That is not an object. It is an airplane. My airplane

LP - What! You dropped down from the sky?

PILOT - Yes

LP - That's funny

(The little prince started laughing and the narrator gets mad at him)

LP - So you, too, come from the sky! Which is your planet?

PILOT - Do you come from another planet?

(LP does not reply. He tossed his head gently looking at the plane)

LP: The truth is that on that you can't have come from very far away..."

PILOT: My little man, where do you come from? Where do you want to take your sheep?

(After a reflective silence he answered)

LP: The good thing about the box, my sheep can use it as his house.

PILOT: I will give you a string, too, so that you can tie him during

the day.

(The little prince answered in shock)

LP: Tie him! What a queer idea!

PILOT: But if you don't tie him, he will get lost.

(LP laughs)

LP: But where do you think he would go? Where I live, everything is so small!!!! (He says sadly)

## SCENE 2(LP&Pilot)

(The Little Prince, looking at the drawing):

LP - Does a sheep eat flowers, too?

PILOT - A sheep eats anything.

LP - Even flowers that have thorns?

PILOT- Yes, even flowers that have thorns.

PILOT - Then the thorns, what use are they?

(The PILOT is busy repairing the engine. The Little Prince repeats his question)

LP - The thorns, what use are they?

PILOT - Flowers have thorns just for spite!

LP - Oh! I don't believe you! Flowers are weak. They're naïve. They want to protect themselves as much as they can.

PILOT - My little man...I'm sorry but I'm busy with matters of consequence. I have to fix my engine.

LP (outraged) - You talk just like the grown-ups! You confuse everything! You don't understand I'm worried about my flower! (He

starts sobbing)

### SCENE 3 (LP&Rose)

LP - I come from a distant planet where I lived with volcanoes, a few baobabs and my flower. It's very unique, I mean my flower, unlike the plants I'd seen before. First I thought it was a new kind of a baobab. Until the day she woke up, yawned and said:

(The Rose, yawning)

R - I'm awake. I beg that you'll excuse me. My petals are still all disarranged.

LP - Oh! How beautiful you are!

R - Really? I was born at the same moment as the sun.

LP - Is there anything I could do for you?

R - I guess so. If you could bring me some water. I think it's time for breakfast.

(The Little Prince brings some water in a can)

R - Oh, thank you. And one more thing... I'm terrified of droughts. Could you find some screen for me?

LP - A screen?

R - It's very cold where you live so at night I want you to put me under a glass globe. You see, draughts are my only trouble (coughing). Except for them, I'm scared of nothing, not even tigers. I have thorns to protect myself.

(The Little Prince shows how he tends the Rose; waters her, puts a glass globe to shelter her, looks at her with admiration and

affection; then he says):

LP - I'm leaving the planet. And maybe I'll never get back here. It's quite possible. I'm here... to say goodbye.

(The Rose makes no reply)

LP - Goodbye!

R - I've been silly. I 'm very sorry. Try to be happy...

LP (shows surprise)

R - (After a while) Of course I love you. It's my fault that you haven't known it before. But it doesn't matter now. You decided to go away...so go.

LP - But who's going to look after you? Put the glass globe around you, water you and talk to you...?

R - Don't worry about me. I'll keep in touch with caterpillars and

later get acquainted with the butterflies. Now go. I don't want you to see me crying...

(Back to the Narrator)

LP - I shouldn't have run away from my Rose. She had only few thorns to protect herself. But then, when I was leaving her, I was too ignorant to know... how to love her.

#### SCENE 4 (N&LP&King&Queen)

Narrator: On the morning of his departure our little prince put his planet in perfect order. He cleaned out volcanoes, his volcanoes were so small that he used them for heating his breakfast. On our planet we are obviously much too small to clean out volcanoes. That

is why they bring a lot of trouble every now and then. The little prince also pulled up some tiny baobabs. He believed that he would never want to return. But on this last morning, when he watered the flower for the last time, and prepared to place her under her glass globe, he realized that he was very close to tears.

(Little prince looks at the audience)

LP- So I left and first visited the King's Planet.

K - Here is a subject!

N - How can you call me a subject if you've never seen me before?

QUEEN - Approach, so that I may see you better.

(The Little Prince approaches, yawning)

K - It's impolite to yawn when you see a queen and a king. I forbid you to do so.

LP - I can't help it.

Queen - Ah...then I order you to yawn.

LP - But I can't yawn anymore!

K - Then I order you sometimes to yawn and sometimes not.

LP - Can I sit down?

Queen - I order you to do so.

LP - Will you excuse my asking you a question?

K - I order you to ask me a question!!!

LP - Over what do you rule?

K - Over everything. Over all the planets and stars.

LP - And do the stars obey you?

K - Certainly they do.

LP - So could you do me a favor and order a sunset? I'd love to see



one now!

**Queen** - He can order that but we must wait until the conditions are favorable.

**LP** - When will that be?

**K** - In the evening. And you'll see how well I'm obeyed.

**LP** - I'm sorry but I can't wait. I have to set out on my journey again.

**Queen** - Oh, don't go! We will make you a minister!

**LP** - Thank you but I have to go. So you should order me to be gone by the end of one minute.

**LP** (leaving with a sigh, to the audience) - The grown ups are very strange.

## SCENE 5(N&LP&Drunkard)

**Narrator**: The next planet was inhabited by a drunkard. This was a very short visit.

(The Little Prince meets a man sipping a beer)

**LP** - What are you doing there?

**D** - I'm drinking.

**LP** - Why are you drinking?

**D** - So that I may forget.

**LP** - Forget what?

**D** - Forget that I'm ashamed.

**LP** - Ashamed of what?

D - Ashamed of drinking!

LP - (leaving, to the audience) - The grown-ups are very, very odd.

## SCENE 6(N&LP&BM)

Narrator: The planet belonged to a businessman. This man was so much occupied that he did not even see the little prince when he arrived.

(The Businessman is smoking a cigar, busy counting)

B.M. - Three and two make five. Five and seven make twelve. Twelve and three make fifteen...

LP (interrupting) - Good morning. What are you doing?

B.M. (impatiently) - During the fifty-four years that I've inhabited this planet, I've been disturbed only three times. The first time was twenty-two years ago, when some goose fell from goodness knows where and I made four mistakes in my addition. The second time, eleven years ago, I was disturbed by an attack of rheumatism. I don't get enough exercise. The third time, well, it's now!

LP - What do you do with the stars?

B.M. - What do I do with them? I own them!

LP - How come?

B.M. - Well, they belong to me, because I was the first person to think of it. When you find a diamond that belongs to nobody, it's yours. When you discover an island that belongs to nobody, it's yours. When you get an idea before anyone else, you take out a

patent on it: it's yours. So with me: I own the stars, because nobody else before me ever thought of owning them.

LP - Yes, that's true. And what do you do with them?

B.M.- I administer them. I count them and recount them. It's difficult. But I'm a man who's naturally interested in matters of consequence.

LP - I own a flower. I used to water it every day.

(The Businessman gets back to counting; The Little Prince goes away saying):

LP- The grown-ups are really extraordinary.

## SCENE 7(N&LP&Rose\*5&Fox)

NARRATOR: The LP arrives in a garden full of roses and...

LP: Good morning.

ROSES: Good morning.

LP: And who are you?

ROSES: We are roses.

LP: You all look like my flower. My flower told me that she was the only one of her kind in all the universe. And here are five of you, all alike, in one single garden! So i all I ever had was just a common rose...?(Starts crying and leaves)

(The Little Prince keeps on walking and meets the **Fox** on his way)

**NARRATOR:** It was then that the fox appeared

**F** - I'm a fox.

**LP** - Come and play with me.

**F** - I can't play with you. I'm not tamed.

**LP** - What does that mean, 'tame'?

**F** - What are you looking for?

**LP** - I'm looking for friends. What does that mean, 'tame'?

**F** - It is when you do what other people want you to do.

**LP** - To do what other people want you to do even when you don't

want to do it or when you don't understand why?

**F** - Just that. To you I'm nothing more than a fox like a hundred thousand other foxes. But if you tame me, then we'll need each other. To me you'll be unique in all the world. To you I'll be unique in

all the world...

**LP** - I'm beginning to understand. There's a flower... I think that she's tamed me.

**F** - Please, tame me!

**LP** - I want to, very much, but I haven't much time. I have friends to discover, and many things to understand.

**F** - People buy things already made in shops. But there's no shop where you can buy friendship. If you want a friend, tame me.

**LP** - What must I do to tame you?

**F** - You must be very patient. First you'll sit down at a little distance from me, like that, in the grass. I'll look at you and you'll say nothing. Words are the source of misunderstandings. But you'll sit a little closer to me, every day.

LP - I think we're friends already. But now it's time for me to go.

F - Can't you stay a little longer? If you go, I'll cry!

LP - It's your own fault. I never wished you any sort of harm. You wanted me to tame you!

F - Yes, that is so. Before you go I want to tell you a secret: It's only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.

LP - What is essential is invisible to the eye...

F - It's the time you've wasted for your rose that makes your rose so important.

LP - It's the time I've wasted for my rose...

F - You become responsible, forever, for what you've tamed. You're responsible for your rose.

LP - I'm responsible for my rose. (The Prince repeats the Fox's words and sets out on his journey)

## SCENE 8 (N&LP&Pilot)

NARRATOR: The LP backs to pilot's planet.

(The pilot is busy fixing.)

LP: It is a good thing to have had a friend, I am very glad to have had a fox as a friend...but I am thirsty, too. Let us look for a well. Water may also be good for the heart... The stars are so beautiful, my planet is so beautiful, and the desert is so beautiful...

PILOT: Yes, the house, the stars, the desert, what gives them their beauty is something that is invisible!

LP: I am glad that you agree with my fox.

(The LP fell asleep and the PILOT takes him in his arms and starts walking until morning, while he is walking he says:)

PILOT: What I see here is nothing but a shell. What is most important is invisible, what moves me so deeply, about this little prince who is sleeping here, is his loyalty to a flower, I feel the need of protecting you ...little Prince.

(They found the well, at daybreak and The little prince is talking to the pilot next to the well)

LP: You know what? Men travel in trains, but they don't know what they are looking for. Why do they do it?

(The LP touched the well's rope, and set the pulley to working. And the pulley made a rusty sound)

LP: Do you hear? We have wakened the well, and it is singing.

PILOT: Leave it to me. It is too heavy for you.

(The pilot pulls up the bucket and offers some water to the LP)

LP: I am thirsty for this water, give me some to drink...

(He drinks water with a super happy face, a face of gratitude)

LP: The men in your planet grow many roses in the same garden and they don't find what they are looking for.

PILOT: No, they don't.

LP: And what they are looking for could be found in one single rose, or in a little water if they looked with their heart.

PILOT: Yes, that is true.

LP: Now you must work. You must return to your engine. I will be waiting for you here. Come back tomorrow evening...

## SCENE 9(N&LP&Pilot)

**Narrator:** the following evening I went to see the little Prince, he looked happy.

**LP:** I am glad that you have found what was the matter with your engine, Now you can go back home.

**PILOT:** How do you know about that?

**LP:** (happy) I'm going back home too...(sad) It is much farther... it is much more difficult... (pause) Tonight, it will be a year... my star can be found right above the place where I came to the Earth, a year ago...

**PILOT:** Yes, I know...

**LP:** Before I leave I have to tell you something, what I'm telling you now is a present that you have to keep forever.

**PILOT:** Your smile is the biggest present you can give me.

**LP:** I am happy that NOW you appreciate the little things from life. Listen to me please, remember that I will be in one of those stars, remember that I will be laughing in that little one (he points towards a little star). When you look at the sky at night... you-- only you-- will have stars that can laugh!

(The **Rose** enters slowly, the Little prince and her hold hands and smile, the Pilot looks very, very sad and he cries)

**LP:** Good bye my dear friend

(AND HE LEAVES WITH THE ROSE)

**PILOT:** Good bye Little Prince, I shall never forget you, Good bye

little Prince.

(He leaves in the opposite direction)

(The narrator comes in immediately so that the rhythm of this moment is not cut)

**NARRATOR:**

I have thought about my Little Friend, about my Little Prince. The most important person in my life, the child who taught me to see with the eyes of the heart.(The narrators point to the ground)

And, if a little man appears who laughs, who has golden hair and who refuses to answer questions, you will know who he is. If this happens, please send me a message telling me that he has come back.

**THE END**