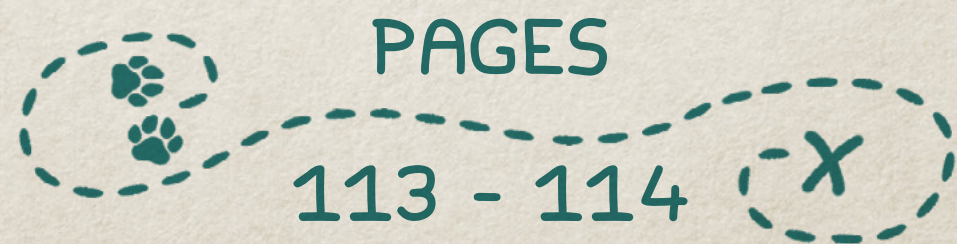


WITH LITTLE PAWS WE TODDLE AFAR

A Babyfur Regression Adventure

CHAPTER 6 *The Babysitters*

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With my laughing and squealing now replaced by silence, Zach slows the swing. "Is everything okay Asher? You got really quiet all of the sudden." He then laughs, "Do you already need another change Buddy?" I give him a frown and begin to pout, "No Zach, I don't need a change already... well... maybe I do. I don't know! That's not what's wrong with me! I just had the weirdest experience while you were swinging me." I tell Zach about my trip into space and how everything changed around me. How I went from being pushed in the swing to zipping around the great expanse while encountering aliens that looked like Raz. Zach begins to laugh hysterically. "Wow, Kiddo that's really quite the story! Maybe you should go into creative writing instead of archeology when you get back to your normal age." I begin to pout more after his teasing. "I'm not joking Zach! It seemed so real!" Zach laughs again, "Well Asher, the only conclusion I can make is that you're finally embracing the fact that you're a kid again. It sounds to me like you tapped into something that us adults, your twenty-one-year-old self included, lost as we grew up. You managed to tap into your raw imagination for the first time in years. That's something very special Asher." His words resonate with me as I think back to my big adventure. I think he may be right. My imagination actually ran wild for the first time in years. It was exhilarating, and I loved every minute of it! My pouting turns to a smile. "Thanks Zach! I think you are right. It was my imagination! I want to use it more!" Zach laughs, "Well, now that you're a kid again, you should let it run free while you can. Don't fight it, but also don't force it either. Just be laid back and enjoy yourself. Let us adults take care of the day-to-day stuff and worry about all of the problems the world forces on us. Enjoy being a carefree kid Asher, you get to experience something that the rest of us have only dreamt of.

Inspired by Zach's words, the only thing I can think to do is reach my little paws out while making a grabbing motion. Zach now knows what "grabby paws" mean. He walks around to the front of the swing, unbuckles me, lifts me up, and gives me a huge hug. I giggle, "Thanks Zach! You're pawesome!" He then sets me on the ground momentarily. "Now, about that diaper..." Zach pulls back the elastic waistband of my shorts, checks the current state of my damp diaper, then lets go, allowing it to pop back into place. He finishes his examination with a few light paw pats on my thickly padded butt. Zach announces, "Well, I think you're alright for now Squirt. One of us will change you before dinner." He then lifts me back up, but this time tosses me up onto his shoulders. "Alright Kiddo, lets fly over to Jess and Jenn and see what they're up to." I giggle and clap my paws together with delight. I yell out "I'm the Burger Baron Zach!" Zach laughs as he begins to make airplane noises while carrying me on his shoulders. I stick my arms out like airplane wings as he runs a serpentine path through the backyard. Eventually, my flight ends where Jess and Jenn are laying on the lawn. Funny though, this time my imagination didn't run wild. I had a blast being zipped around the yard by Zach, but there was no transformation, no morphing. Maybe it will happen more often as I embrace being little again?

Zach sets me down next to Jess and Jenn who are both laying on their backs and looking up into the sky as they enjoy the grassy lawn. My diaper crinkles loudly as I crawl up next to them and situate myself between the two tiger twins. Jess smiles at me. "Did you have a fun time playing on the swing set with Zach? I happily nod, "Uh huh! It was fun! So what are you guys doing?" Jenn now replies, "Watching the clouds, silly." I giggle, "So why are you two watching the clouds?" Jess decides to answer. "Because they look cool. If you stare at them long enough you'll start to see shapes that look like different things. See, that one looks like a bat, and that one looks like a skull, and that one there looks like a zombie!" Jenn laughs at her sister's description of the clouds. "Quit being so morbid Jess! She's wrong Asher! That one looks like a teddy bear, and that one looks like a unicorn, and that one looks like a butterfly!" As I giggle at both of their silly interpretations, Zach joins us. He lays down beside Jenn and stares up into the summer sky with the rest of us. He chuckles, "Well I think you are both wrong! See Asher, that one looks like a dragon, and that one looks like Asher's dad, and that one... well that one just looks like cotton candy!" I begin to giggle again as Zach lists off his silly cloud shapes. Jess looks over at me, "So what do you see in the clouds Asher?" I stare and watch the wispy balls of cotton float through the sky. I feel myself relaxing as I watch them. They are mesmerizing and calming. Then, once again my imagination breaks loose. I watch the clouds morph from billowy random puffs of white into well-defined shapes. I stare in awe, "Whoa! That one looks

like Leo from the DinoCats, and that one looks like Raz, and that one looks like my paci!" Suddenly feeling the need to have my pacifier, I grab it by the lanyard and shove the teat into my mouth. My three friends laugh at my cuteness as well as my description of the cloud shapes. Now contently sucking on my paci, I continue to watch silently as the clouds morph into more random shapes and float by. The warm summer air feels wonderful and the rays of sun kissing my body are relaxing. My thoughts overtake me as I continue to happily suck on my pacifier. *This is so cool! I really do like being a kid again! It's so much fun having my imagination back! Perhaps Zach was right. Maybe I will take a creative writing course when I'm back at the university... someday.*

