

## How to Talk to Animals

In the bustling seaside town, the autumn trees waved in the soft breeze like an open stream and led you to Hotel Les Panereu. The moonlight shone through like a laser beam lighting up the whole reception. The sapphire sofas puffed back up as guests head back up to their rooms. On the shelves are copies of every book that has ever been written but one book is missing. Three hundred years ago someone hid the cover in the janitor's closet and the book slowly vanished. The book was called How to Talk to Animals.

At night when the guests are fast asleep the cabinets come to life, shadows of people chatter through the cabinets. Steam from the kettle whistles like an arrow through the window like dynamite. The smell of fresh meat drifts out of pages. In a cabinet of Greek history books in a book called "Dionysus" (the wine God) lived a boy named Jasper. Jasper was the only one who knew about the book. One night he rode out on his horse Mark, he took him to an unknown place. The horse ran off and gave him a book cover. When he went to look for the book there was a dust filled gap. "No matter what" announced Jasper, "We will find that book and we will never be lonely again,"

For four long tiring years, Jasper and Mark searched for the book. They searched in the messy forgotten laundry, they also looked in bathroom as empty as a playground at night, their footsteps echoed as they moved around, he peered in every plant pot sitting on the balcony. It was always the same no one talking to animals they did not know about the book. Then, one night, Mark and Jasper came across four Japanese women, old, tired, grey with bright green flowing dresses dancing in the wind. Surely they didn't know about the book? "Do you want some macaroons?" said the first. "Greetings to our world!" said the second. "You have come for the book haven't you little one?" said the third. She handed him an old battered book. The stumbled title read "How to Talk to Animals." Jasper read aloud. "But..." he began.

"Just follow me," said the forth. Before Jasper could finish. Jasper followed the ladies into a sparkling emerald lime like door.

The four ladies lead Jasper into a sapphire river bank, with leaves that dance through the wind, water lily's drifted through the river, salt flows into your mouth. The ladies waded through the river with Jasper waddling behind like a good puppy. "Where are you taking me?" asked Jasper. "To the animal god," whispered the lady. Eventually, they came across a crumbled bridge, and there sat the animal god, as brown and dull as dead grass. Mark had a long conversation with the animal god about the book. "He doesn't want you to read it and neither do I. You see I thought animals would be my friend, but no, I thought I could save lives, but, they disobeyed me. I thought I could have exotic pets, though they teased me as much as my friends did I hated all of it," replied the animal God. Jasper and Mark rode to the edge of the river. And then that got him wondering "Why didn't he bin the book?" he muttered. The next time he saw the animal god he asked "Why didn't you burn the book? I shall not read it!" "Good for you! You are smarter than me. By the way the book was immortal," replied the animal god. And he led Jasper down the hill and home.