

Stories **on** Stage

Script

Hello Sun

A True African Travel Tale
(Script adapted from the story)

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Hello Sun

Characters:

Zeb

Malinda Martha

Clicky, the camera

*Mama Simba, cubs, lioness, and tourists
(all these are optional...can be imagined)*

Zeb: Hello. Hello. I'm Zabron Elias, the safari guide from the He He tribe of southern Tanzania. But everyone calls me Zeb.

Malinda Martha: Hi, Zeb.

Zeb: Good morning, Malinda Martha. Are you ready for today's game drive?

Malinda Martha: I just have to tuck Clicky in my backpack.

Clicky: It sure is bouncy in Malinda Martha's backpack. I bet the Landrover is bound for a game drive in the Ngorongoro Crater. I can hardly wait. After all, I have the greatest eye in the land. Hurry, hurry, Malinda Martha. Give me light. Lend me a hand. Get me out of this backpack.

Zeb: Look at old Mama Simba lying by the side of the road basking in the sun. She doesn't even see our Landrover pulling to a stop.

Malinda Martha: She's asleep to the world.

Clicky: But thanks to Mama Simba, I'm out of the backpack...helping Malinda Martha snap a picture.

Zeb: (pointing) Look! Look! I see something moving in the grasses.

Malinda Martha: Clicky, it's time to use your zoom lens. There's something almost hidden in the grasses fifty yards away.

Clicky: Point away, Malinda Martha. I can click my shutter as long as you feed me. I'll soon be hungry for that extra film in your backpack.

Malinda Martha: Look, a lion cub!

Zeb: Only a week old.

Clicky: Wow, all the grasses are in my viewing range now. I can see everything. I like my wide angle.

Malinda Martha: Another head is popping up...and another! Clicky, let's zoom in on the cubs snuggling up to Mama Simba to nurse.

Clicky: This feels great, if I do say so... counting the seconds, grabbing light, focusing, maximizing my depth of field, capturing images...living up to my potential. Good morning, sun. I see you finally decided to shine. You know I have the greatest eye in the land. Give me light. Lend me a hand. I record memories for my fun. I'm ready for the cubs to run. Again, I say, good morning, sun.

Malinda Martha: There are so many Landrovers charging up. Look at the tourists peering through their binoculars and clicking their shutters. Their point-and-shoot cameras don't zoom like Clicky's.

Zeb: The engines on the Landrovers turn on and off, off and on, and away they go. Hardly stopping to take a breath.

Malinda Martha: How can the tourists just ride on? It's too exciting to drive on now.

Zeb: Well, Malinda Martha, we won't drive on. We'll watch. We'll wait.

Malinda Martha: Look! Look, Zeb!
A lioness from the pride is coming up
the road.

Zeb: At a slow steady pace.

Malinda Martha: Clicky, you can zoom
in on the cubs as they pop up out of
the grasses to follow the lioness.
One...two...three...four. FOUR CUBS!

Clicky: My shutter is getting a real
workout. I'm having a busy day.
Well, hello, noonday sun. You know
I have the greatest eye in the land.
Give me light. Lend me a hand.
I record memories for my fun. I'm ready
for the cubs to run. Hello, noonday
sun.

Malinda Martha: Look, Zeb, Mama
Simba and her cubs are running to
the brook at the side of the road.

Zeb: No wonder the road is filling up
with Landrovers. But as you can see,
Mama Simba and her cubs ignore
the tourists and their clicking shutters.

Malinda Martha: They're so cool.

Zeb: The cubs are thirsty. See how
they drink from the brook. They'll follow
Mama Simba and the other lioness up
the road for a couple of miles...
before they cut across the grasslands
to the stream. Mama Simba will find
a fresh wildebeest kill for dinner
so she can produce fresh milk
for her cubs.

Zeb: The lion pride is walking on across
the grasslands, so it's time to turn
the Landrover around.

Clicky: Wow, the lion pride is even out
of MY range.

Malinda Martha: I'll just tuck Clicky
and his record of the day safely away
in my backpack.

Clicky: And I'll snuggle with the images
I've captured for Malinda Martha's photo
album...images for her to share with her
friends at home...images that she will
always hold in her heart. Goodbye sun...
You know I have the greatest eye in the
land. Thank you for giving me light and
lending me a hand so I can record
memories for my fun. But for now,
I'll rest my eye, as day is done.
Goodbye, sun.