

TEN WORD TALES No. 8

Llama Drama

by The Story Spinner

CHAPTER 5



As everyone stood gloomily with Luciano on the pavement outside the Phoenix, a tiny hand patted Mama Llama. It was Tim, the tap-dancing tarantula. “What’s happening?” he asked. “I missed what the fireman said.”

“The Phoenix has to close. Luciano is heart-broken and we’ll all be very stuck with no jobs. We llamas were hoping to earn enough money from the show for the journey back home.”

Tim went over to Luciano and climbed up to speak in his ear. The llamas could see lots of talking and the waving of arms then the expression on Luciano’s face began to change to a grin. “Gather round everyone. Tim here has saved the day.”

Tim had a friend who worked at a theatre in Blackpool, The Grand. That theatre was going to close because they only had one act, a mermaid. No one was much interested in mythical creatures these days, and the mermaid was really a dolphin in disguise. Tim suggested Luciano should ring the theatre in Blackpool and move the show there for 3 months, while the Phoenix was repaired.

The performers all cheered, arrangements were made and the llamas found themselves, with all their friends, on a train going north.

Blackpool was brilliant. The show was a huge success and between performances there was time to walk on the beach and eat ice cream. The Llama family opened and closed every show and even the dolphin-mermaid was described as “delightful” in the papers.

On the last day of July, the show ended. The llamas packed their bags for Peru and left Blackpool, saying goodbye to all their new friends, inviting them to stay in the Andes if they ever came to South America. Four days later they were on board ship, the engines loud, the wind ruffling their coats and the girls munching Blackpool Rock, which was very bad for their teeth.

“We loved London,” said the girls. “But Blackpool was even better.”

“We had a Lovely Llama Drama,” said Mama Llama.

“Yes,” said Papa, “and now it’s time for home. Home is best.”

And all the others agreed.

