



By DICK MILLER
Highland School Librarian

WHISTLE FOR DANGER, by Margery Facklam. Illustrated by W. T. Mars. Rand McNally & Co., 1962. \$2.95.

WHEN MARLIN PERKINS was curator of the Buffalo Zoo, he found his funds depleted before he could hire help for the Reptile House and so used volunteer high school students to do the job. The author was one of the volunteers and her experience was obviously a memorable one, because four years of college, a year of social work, a year of teaching General Science in high school, a husband, and five children later she used the experience as a background for this delightful story.

Seldom have fact and fiction been blended so successfully in a book for young people. The plot and its characters are all imaginary, but the information about the animals is as accurate as a person steeped in animal lore can make it. Bill and his cousin Corky, who has a girl's usual squeamishness about snakes, volunteer to devote their summer to working in the Reptile House. Their experiences are exciting and believable -- misadventures, of course, but satisfaction as well in a job well done.



DICK MILLER

This is an entertaining story for boys and girls as well as a true adventure in natural science.

FOUR ADULT "snake fearers" read the manuscript and felt no revulsion--only great interest, and an authentic thrill. Many other animals are met in these pages--from elephants to swans--and, as a matter of fact, the reader need have no particular interest in animals in order to enjoy this suspenseful story.

Margery Facklam could hardly be called a nomad. She was born in Buffalo and lived in the same house through all of her school life, within walking distance of grade school, high school, and the University of Buffalo. She continued to live there while teaching Science in high school and now lives in a suburb of Buffalo with her husband and their children. She says she grew up with the dream of exploring wild jungles and finding lost cities and went as far as Asbury Park, N.J. one summer to be a waitress, but she says she gets homesick if she's away for more than two days.

However, she has always been interested in animals and, as a child, turned to snakes instead of dancing school, and classes at the Natural History Museum instead of hours with a piano teacher. She and her brother had queer pets all over the house, she was a snake charmer in the Water Follies at high school, and an indigo snake helped her win first place in the Science Congress held annually at the Buffalo Museum of Science. For three years she earned her college tuition as mother to porcupines, mice, skunks, and rabbits who lived in the animal house on the campus of the University.

The author's husband teaches high school science, and at holiday time their big, old house is filled with alligators, guinea pigs, and hamsters that he brings home from school.

PIANO RECITAL A TRIUMPH



AWARD WINNING PUPILS shown with Anthony Thomas are (from left) Geraldine White, Donna Jackson, and Lynette Thomas, who received awards for showing the most progress. Winnifred Jackson (right) won the top award as the most outstanding performer. Winnifred also proved her versatility by rendering a delightful violin solo.



DOOLITTLE STAFF MEMBER, Shirley McDaniels, at right, is shown presenting flowers to Mrs. McGlothen--a tribute from the Recreation Center.



SPECIAL SURPRISE TREAT of the Recital was the "Fashions of the Day" show presented by Mrs. Shirley McDaniels and her lovely models recruited from the Doolittle Swiftsteppers and the Fashionette Girls Club--Pictured (l-r) are Narrator Irene Moore; Models Linda Cook, Gloria Collins, Patricia Scales, Jackie Morton, Kathy Fox, Alberta Fair, Elaine Fox and Bertha Banks. Models Elaine Fox, Gloria Collins, and Alberta Fair were outfitted with three complete ensembles by King Ladies Wear of 412 W. Bonanza.

Participating students on the program of Doolittle Recreation Center's 2nd Annual Piano Recital on the afternoon of June 5 were Patricia Wilson, Deborah and Michael Buckles, Vanessa Roberson, Eloise Jensen, Lorenzo Ormond, Maria McDonald, Van Anthony McGlothen, Winnifred and Donna Jackson, Korla Griffin, Geraldine White and Lynette Thomas.

Mrs. Grace McGlothen, piano instructor at the Center, under whose brilliant guidance these talented youngsters are trained, and who, now, has presented two tremendously successful recitals, opened the program with greetings to the audience before introducing Mr. Anthony Thomas who served as Master of Ceremonies, as well as appearing in a featured guest spot.

Following the program, all students were recipients of floral offerings and gifts from their proud parents.

Summer Reading Program

The annual Summer Reading Program and Story Hour for Kit Carson School children will begin June 21 and continue through July 28. Sessions will be held Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 1 to 3 p.m.

This program, sponsored by the Las Vegas Women Service League, is for children ages 6-10. Many new books and old favorites will be read. Walt Disney films will be shown to stimulate interest in reading.

REMEMBER--READING IS THE KEY--
The PLACE . . . KIT CARSON SCHOOL LIBRARY, JUNE 24 at 1 p.m.

Wins Five Scholarships

ATLANTA - (NPI)--The June graduating exercises at Booker T. Washington High school was a momentous occasion for Marian Alexis Smith, one of 402 seniors to win a diploma.

Not only was Marian valedictorian of her class, but she also was the recipient of the H.O. Smith Scholar Award, plus four-year scholarships from the National Merit Scholarship program, Howard University's National Competitive program, from Spellman and Bishop colleges.

With all these honors, she plans to enter Barnard college--the undergraduate school for women of Columbia University, New York--this fall.

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