

Lesson 8
READ THIS STORY #1, Basic

The Big Hullabaloo

There was a big hullabaloo when Mable escaped from the zoo. No one knew how to catch the kangaroo. Citizens kept a lookout for Mable. They took special precautions when they drove to work. They didn't want the kangaroo to vault into traffic.

People went up on the rooftops to scan the horizon. They looked in every nook and cranny. They checked the football field. They looked for the kangaroo in the garden at the city park.

It was late afternoon before a rookie cop saw Mable. She was marooned on a drawbridge over the lagoon. He kept his cool and stepped into a phone booth to notify the zookeeper.

A bunch of onlookers pointed and gawked at the poor kangaroo until they were told to move on and not loiter while the rescue took place. The drawbridge was lowered, and Mable was adroitly lured into the van and carried back to the zoo.

A cursory examination of the kangaroo pen showed that a section of the fence had been removed. The mayor said he was determined to find who was at fault. He said that regardless of the outcome of his investigation, the city would no longer tolerate any tomfoolery by an employee or a visitor to the zoo.