

HOW THE ZUNI CHILDREN ESCAPED FROM THE APACHES.



CALIZO was seven years old, and his sister Tunilla was five. They lived in the little city of Zuni, in New Mexico. Zuni is on a little hill in a wide valley, and there are gardens of corn and other food plants near by. The Zuni people is a little nation living all alone. There are as many children in a big New York school-house as all of the people of Zuni together.

The Zunis were very much afraid of the Apaches, who were a big tribe of wild Indians. There were thousands of Apaches, and it was not easy for the people of Zuni to protect themselves from them. So the Zunis built themselves stone huts on the Mountain of Thunder, and when the Apaches came to kill

They Thought They Heard Indians.

them and carry away their corn and deer skins and blankets and silver ornaments, they would leave their little city in the valley and run to the stone huts on the mountain, where the Apaches could not get them.

One day Calizo and Tunilla wandered a long way from home, and they were playing in the corn gardens all alone. On their way home they came to a little hill, and from it they could see the Zuni village. They saw all the people running toward the stone huts on the mountain, so they knew the Apaches were coming. Calizo and Tunilla did not know what to do, for they could not run fast enough to catch up with their parents. Then they thought they'd run to their home in the valley and hide somewhere till the Apaches went away. At last Calizo dragged Tunilla back into the corn garden, and said they'd hide there. So they crept way in among the high cornstalks. Calizo told Tunilla not to be afraid, because the wild Indians wouldn't think of hunting there for any one.

They stayed there all day, very much afraid to come out. They got very hungry and thirsty, and Tunilla cried for a drink, but Calizo said: "Don't cry, or the Indians will find us. Be brave and wait till night, and we'll steal out and get all the water we want."

When it was very dark they crept to the river and had a good drink; then they started for the Zuni village. There were no lights there, and they couldn't find any one. The Apaches had burned and broken and smashed everything they could. The children stumbled about among the ruins till they found what was left of their own home. The Zunis don't have any doors like ours to go into their houses, but they put ladders against the walls and climb in at a hole up high like a window. Calizo found a ladder, and he and Tunilla climbed into the house.

They listened in the dark, and thought they heard some one breathing. They were nearly frightened to death, thinking it might be one of the dreadful Apaches waiting to catch some one. They listened and listened, and hardly dared to move.

Then Calizo said: "I'm starving, and Tunilla will die of hunger if I don't find something to eat very soon. I've gone to the cupboard in the dark lots of times, and I know I can find it now."

Tunilla was afraid to be left alone, so she held Calizo's hand and followed him. They could hear their own hearts beating, pit-a-pat, louder than the strange breathing. Then all of a sudden Calizo stumbled over a bed that had been rolled over on the floor by the Apaches. Poor little Tunilla gave a sharp cry and fell down, too. They thought the Apache, or whoever was breathing so loud in the next room would wake up in such a noise and catch them sure, but nobody stirred, and the breathing went on just the same.

So Calizo and Tunilla got up carefully and crept along again in the dark toward the cupboard. Slowly and carefully they crept along till they came to the right place, and then Calizo reached up to get something to eat. Then he almost cried out as if he had touched an Apache in the dark, for the cupboard was gone.

Tunilla nearly cried when Calizo told her. She was so tired and hungry that she sank right down on the floor where she was and cried herself to sleep. Calizo held her hand and said he would keep awake and watch in case the Apaches came, but he was so tired and hungry, too, that he fell fast asleep before he knew it.

When Tunilla and Calizo awoke next morning the sun was shining into the house through the high window and door.

"Why, we're not in our own home at all," said Calizo, very much surprised. He looked cautiously out of the window and he didn't see any Apaches. Tunilla sat up and rubbed her eyes and began at once to cry for a drink and something to eat. Calizo found a jug of water, but the cupboard was empty. There wasn't even a crumb in it. They hunted over the house again, but all they found was six kernels of corn. A big dragon fly on the wall winked and blinked at them when they ate it.

"Let's go to our house and see if we can't find something to eat," said Calizo. So they climbed down the ladder and went to their home, but the Apaches hadn't left a scrap of anything there. Everything was knocked topsy-turvy by the Apaches, and they couldn't even find any clothes among the ruins. Then they searched among the other houses, but they couldn't find anything to eat there either. And all the while, whenever there was the least little noise anywhere, they jumped up nearly frightened to death, for they thought it might be one of the Apaches coming to carry them off.

At last they climbed up on a high house and looked toward the Thunder Mountain. They saw moving objects and were very much frightened again, for they knew the objects were Apaches trying to break into the stone huts of the Zunis high up on the mountain.

By this time Calizo and Tunilla were so faint with hunger that they could scarcely move. Calizo wanted to lie down, but he knew he must be brave and keep up so as to watch over Tunilla. Tunilla said that if she couldn't get something to eat she must have another drink, so they went back to the house, where they had slept and where they knew there was some water in a jar. This time it was very hard for them to climb up the ladder, because they were so weak. After they had taken a drink they sat down on the bed and talked about the Apaches. Calizo said the Apaches would go away when they found they could not break into the stone houses. "Then," he declared, "we'll get all we want to eat, and we'll live in our own house again."

But they were so tired that even while they were talking they fell asleep. When they woke up in the morning they were so hungry; they'd search the house again in hopes of finding something that looked as if it could be eaten, but all they found was six grains of corn again. They were scattered over the floor in the same place, and the same big dragon fly was winking and blinking at them from the wall when they picked up the kernels and began to ravenously eat them.

The two children were so weak and hungry on this day that they did not venture down the ladder, but sat in the window and watched the Apaches trying to break into the Zunis' stone huts on Thunder Mountain.

When night came they dropped asleep again. Tunilla was too tired and hungry to cry and Calizo could hardly speak. When they woke up in the morning they ran to the place where they had found the corn, and there were six more kernels—four for Tunilla and two for Calizo. And there, as usual, was the big dragon fly, winking and blinking at them in the sunlight of the opposite wall.

"Does the dragon fly bring them to us?" asked Tunilla. "I don't know," said Calizo. "Maybe they drop out of the brush on the ceiling. There's where the corn is dried. But I don't see any up there." And he looked at the ceiling hungrily, hoping more corn might drop.

Suddenly there was a noise on the ladder outside. Tunilla gave a cry. Calizo said "Apaches!" and grabbed her to run. Before he could move a head came through the door. Then both children gave a loud scream, for it was their father. He brought them something to eat, and in a little while their mother came. Then they were too happy for anything, and told all about the hungry, scary time they had had.

"And we'd have starved to death," declared Tunilla, "if the dragon fly hadn't brought us the six grains of corn every day."

Her mother asked all about the dragon fly, and when they were settled again in their own home she made a beautiful dragon fly out of pretty colored cloth and bright, gay feathers, and hung it in her house. When anybody asked her about it she said it was a picture of the dragon fly that had saved her children from starving.

And then Calizo and Tunilla would tell all about the dragon fly and how it helped them when the Apaches came.

"DON'TS" FOR MOTHERS.

An infant should be given no food containing starch until it cuts its teeth. Starchy foods include biscuits, corn flour, tapioca, sago, rice, potato, etc. An infant cannot digest any of these until its teeth are cut.

Violent noises and rough shakings or tossings are hurtful to a baby, and should be avoided as much as possible.

Infants should never be put into a sitting posture until they are at least three months old, when they will probably sit up of their own accord. They should be carried flat in the nurse's arms, as if the little back is at all curved it may lead to curvature of the spine or chest disease.

Until children are six or seven years old they should have twelve hours' sleep every night. In addition to this a nap for two hours, either in the morning or afternoon—especially in hot weather—will do a great deal toward keeping them bright and well.

NEWSPAPER BED SPREADS.

When bedclothing is not sufficiently warm, two or three newspapers spread between the blankets will secure a comfortable night. This is a hint worth remembering by those who travel much and who do not carry about a supply of rugs.

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