

# CHRISTIAN PICKERING VAN NESS WALLS

1970 —

Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls was born on February 16, 1970, in Cabrini Hospital, Seattle, Washington, USA. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls' favorite activity as a child was kissing girls. This was difficult because Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls had a long nose made longer by warm nose tugs from native in Africa. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls kissed his first girl at age four. The earth moved. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls had girlfriends throughout grade school. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls loved girls and women. Wanted them physically. Emotionally. And as friends. As long as he can remember. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls first job was delivering the local newspaper at age 9 in Ballard, Seattle, Washington, USA. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls enjoyed this job very much. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls got to ride his bike. Scope the neighborhood. Find good hiding places. And would sometimes convince a friend to come along. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls found collecting the newspaper delivery payments enjoyable except for a particular house of narrow concrete steps through overgrown plants. The householders were waiting every month for Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls to ring their doorbell. They would open the door and before paying Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls. Present their homely daughter to Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls. The earth did not move. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls believed they were setting him up for a planned marriage or showing her what a boy looked like. Like most children of Christian missionaries in darkest Africa who were doted on in their toddlerhood by warm crocodile smile natives who hugged all children with their eyes and gave them happy nose tugs. Pickering Van Ness Walls could not understand that a homely girl was ignored by most school children and would cry every night because she had no friends. Her parents were trying to help her loneliness hurt. She would stand silent and Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls would make missionary small talk with the parents to avoid the girl. It happened every month and Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls considered it a creepy experience. He considered giving them the newspapers for free and paying for it out of his tips. Now he realizes that despite his idolization of girls. He was insensitive to the poor girls hunger for friends as his Christian missionary parents' idea of human empathy was selling copies of The Jesus Good News. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls' mother was born to two strict Methodists in Seattle, Washington, USA. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls' equally fucked up religious father was born to two zany advanced tongue speaking strict Pentacostals in Seattle, Washington, USA. As a small child Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls lived in Francistown, Botswana, Africa. It is landlocked and straddles the Tropic of Capricorn in the center of the Southern African plateau between latitudes 17 and 27 and longitudes 20 and 30 east. It is bordered by South Africa in the south and southeast. Zambia and Zimbabwe in the northeast and east. Namibia in the north and west. The natural beauty of Botswana is found in its land formations: Wilderness. Wildlife. Cultural diversity. The land is flat with gentle undulations and occasional rocky outcrops. In the north-west the Okavango River drains inland from Angola to form the Okavango Delta. The Okavango Delta is one of the largest inland deltas in the world. It provides sustenance to a rich profusion of wildlife. And it is still in its natural state unspoiled and unpolluted. It attracts thousands of tourists throughout the year from all over the world. In this Delta dryland mingles with wetland. It has marsh. River grasslands. Riverine forests of palms. Islands. Flood plains. Lagoons. Okavango Delta is an Oasis situated within the Kalahari Desert and is part of the larger geographical network which embraces Moremi Game Reserve. Chobe National Park Makgadikgadi. Nxai Pans. Mababe Depression. Botswana's great grey green greasy Limpopo river all set about with fever trees is where that profound incipient scientist the elephant's child got its trunk. After Botswana, Africa. Little Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls lived in Oregon and Washington, USA. As a child Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls loved his first articulated memory wherein he realized he was Self aware. Content. Happy. He created a spirit circle surrounding himself of broken bricks. Sticks. Rocks. Scrap metal. In the dirt. He clearly recalls realizing. This is fun. I am happy. And I am aware of these things. The earth moved. This occurred in Francistown, Botswana. At the age of two and one half. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls does not remember any thought of Jesus Christ in this occurrence and so is led to believe that this is where he had. As many a native warmth suffering little missionary at an early age. Gone native. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls began to fill all Africa with his insatiable curiosities. Now. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls lives in a house in the trees in the San Bernardino Mountains. High above the Southern California Los Angeles Basin, USA. As an adult Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls loves women and evolving friendships with human and even some family members. Particularly his father. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls' favorite animal is his Rotweiler/Doberman Pincer. Anza. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls' favorite idea is Mahatma Gandhi's. Whatever you do will not be enough. But it matters enormously that you do it. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls' favorite object is his house in the trees. It represents a longstanding goal that has been achieved. Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls earns his living as an earthquake geologist in Southern California. He studies faults and volcanoes. His paper: Escape tectonics in the Los Angeles metropolitan region and implications for seismic risk is in Nature at: [http://www.nature.com/cgi-taf/DynaPage.taf?file=/nature/journal/v394/n6691/full/394356a0\\_fs.html](http://www.nature.com/cgi-taf/DynaPage.taf?file=/nature/journal/v394/n6691/full/394356a0_fs.html). The aim of the art of Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls is to save lives through understanding earthquake and volcanic processes. The aim of the life of Christian Pickering Van Ness Walls is to understand his Self. To have adventures. To be moderately content. To save life. And now I will say farewell to you. 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It is bordered by South Africa in the south and southeast: Zambia and Zimbabwe in the northeast and east: Namibia in the north and west: The natural beauty of Botswana is found in its land formations: Wilderness: Wildlife: Cultural diversity: The land is flat with gentle undulations and occasional rocky outcrops: In the north-west the Okavango River drains inland from Angola to form the Okavango Delta: The Okavango Delta is one of the largest inland deltas in the world. It provides sustenance to a rich profusion of wildlife: And it is still in its natural state unspoiled and unpolluted: It attracts thousands of tourists throughout the year from all over the world: In this Delta dry land mingles with wetland. It has marsh: River grasslands: Riverine forests of palms: Islands: Flood plains: Lagoons. 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# CHRISTIAN PICKERING VAN NESS WALLS

1970 —

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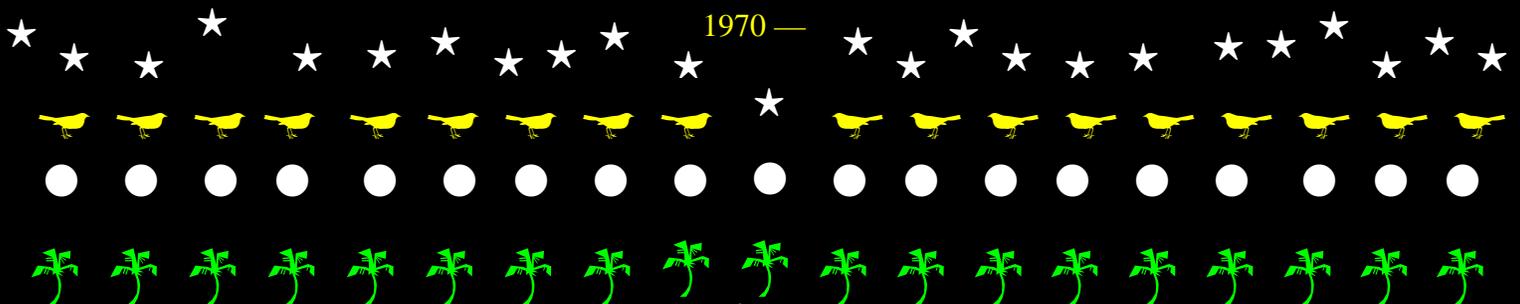
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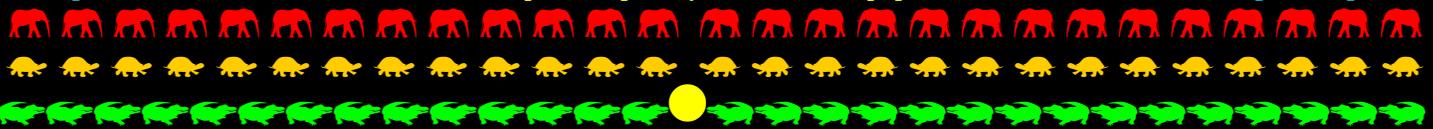
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# NOTES:

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## letters to nature

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## Escape tectonics in the Los Angeles metropolitan region and implications for seismic risk

CHRISTIAN WALLS\*†‡, THOMAS ROCKWELL\*†, KARL MUELLER§†, YEHUDA BOCK †, SIMON WILLIAMS †, JOHN PFANNER\*†, JAMES DOLAN¶† & PENG FANG †

\* Department of Geological Sciences, San Diego State University, California 92182, USA

† Southern California Earthquake Center, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California 90089-0740, USA

§ Department of Geological Sciences, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80309, USA

IGPP, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California 92093, USA

¶ Department of Geological Sciences, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California 90089, USA

‡ Present address: Earth Consultants International, 2522 N. Santiago Blvd, Suite B, Orange, California 92867, USA.

Recent damaging earthquakes in California, including the 1971 San Fernando, 1983 Coalinga, 1987 Whittier Narrows and 1994 Northridge events, have drawn attention to thrust faults as both potentially hazardous seismic sources and as a mechanism for accommodating shortening in many regions of southern California. Consequently, many geological studies, have concluded that thrust faults in Southern California pose the greatest seismic hazard, and also account for most of the estimated 5–7 mm yr<sup>-1</sup> of contraction across the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area, indicated by Global Positioning System geodetic measurements. Our study demonstrates, however, that less than 50% of the geodetically observed contraction is accommodated on the principal thrust systems across the Los Angeles region. We integrate the most recent geological, geodetic and seismological data to assess the spatial distribution of strain across the Los Angeles metropolitan region. We then demonstrate that a significant component of seismic moment release and shortening in this region is accommodated by east–west crustal escape 'extrusion' along known strike-slip and oblique-slip faults.

## THE ELEPHANT'S CHILD

Rudyard Kipling — 1902

In the High and Far-Off Times the Elephant, O Best Beloved, had no trunk. He had only a blackish, bulgy nose, as big as a boot, that he could wriggle about from side to side; but he couldn't pick up things with it. But there was one Elephant--a new Elephant--an Elephant's Child--who was full of insatiable curiosity, and that means he asked ever so many questions. And he lived in Africa, and he filled all Africa with his insatiable curiosities. He asked his tall aunt, the Ostrich, why her tail-feathers grew just so, and his tall aunt the Ostrich spanked him with her hard, hard claw. He asked his tall uncle, the Giraffe, what made his skin spotty, and his tall uncle, the Giraffe, spanked him with his hard, hard hoof. And still he was full of insatiable curiosity! He asked his broad aunt, the Hippopotamus, why her eyes were red, and his broad aunt, the Hippopotamus, spanked him with her broad, broad hoof; and he asked his hairy uncle, the Baboon, why melons tasted just so, and his hairy uncle, the Baboon, spanked him with his hairy, hairy paw. And still he was full of insatiable curiosity! He asked questions about everything that he saw, or heard, or felt, or smelt, or touched, and all his uncles and his aunts spanked him. And still he was full of insatiable curiosity!

One fine morning in the middle of the Precession of the Equinoxes this insatiable Elephant's Child asked a new fine question that he had never asked before. He asked, 'What does the Crocodile have for dinner?' Then everybody said, 'Hush!' in a loud and dreftful tone, and they spanked him immediately and directly, without stopping, for a long time.

By and by, when that was finished, he came upon Kolokolo Bird sitting in the middle of a wait-a-bit thorn-bush, and he said, 'My father has spanked me, and my mother has spanked me; all my aunts and uncles have spanked me for my insatiable curiosity; and still I want to know what the Crocodile has for dinner!'

Then Kolokolo Bird said, with a mournful cry, 'Go to the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River, all set about with fever-trees, and find out.'

That very next morning, when there was nothing left of the Equinoxes, because the Precession had preceded according to precedent, this insatiable Elephant's Child took a hundred pounds of bananas (the little short red kind), and a hundred pounds of sugar-cane (the long purple kind), and seventeen melons (the greeny-crackly kind), and said to all his dear families, 'Goodbye. I am going to the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River, all set about with fever-trees, to find out what the Crocodile has for dinner.' And they all spanked him once more for luck, though he asked them most politely to stop.

Then he went away, a little warm, but not at all astonished, eating melons, and throwing the rind about, because he could not pick it up.

He went from Graham's Town to Kimberley, and from Kimberley to Khama's Country, and from Khama's Country he went east by north, eating melons all the time, till at last he came to the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River, all set about with fever-trees, precisely as Kolokolo Bird had said.

Now you must know and understand, O Best Beloved, that till that very week, and day, and hour, and minute, this insatiable Elephant's Child had never seen a Crocodile, and did not know what one was like. It was all his insatiable curiosity.

The first thing that he found was a Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake curled round a rock.

"Scuse me," said the Elephant's Child most politely, 'but have you seen such a thing as a Crocodile in these promiscuous parts?'

"Have I seen a Crocodile?" said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake, in a voice of dreftful scorn. 'What will you ask me next?'

"Scuse me," said the Elephant's Child, 'but could you kindly tell me what he has for dinner?'

Then the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake uncoiled himself very quickly from the rock, and spanked the Elephant's Child with his scalesome, flailsome tail.

"That is odd," said the Elephant's Child, 'because my father and my mother, and my uncle and my aunt, not to mention my other aunt, the Hippopotamus, and my other uncle, the Baboon, have all spanked me for my insatiable curiosity--and I suppose this is the same thing.'

So he said good-bye very politely to the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake, and helped to coil him up on the rock again, and went on, a little warm, but not at all astonished, eating melons, and throwing the rind about, because he could not pick it up, till he trod on what he thought was a log of wood at the very edge of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River, all set about with fever-trees.

But it was really the Crocodile, O Best Beloved, and the Crocodile winked one eye--like this!

"Scuse me," said the Elephant's Child most politely, 'but do you happen to have seen a Crocodile in these promiscuous parts?'

Then the Crocodile winked the other eye, and lifted half his tail out of the mud; and the Elephant's Child stepped back most politely, because he did not wish to be spanked again.

"Come hither, Little One," said the Crocodile, 'Why do you ask such things?'

"Scuse me," said the Elephant's Child most politely, 'but my father has spanked me, my mother has spanked me, not to mention my tall aunt, the Ostrich, and my tall uncle, the Giraffe, who can kick ever so hard, as well as my broad aunt, the Hippopotamus, and my hairy uncle, the Baboon, and including the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake, with the scalesome, flailsome tail, just up the bank, who spansks harder than any of them; and so, if it's quite all the same to you, I don't want to be spanked any more.'

"Come hither, Little One," said the Crocodile, 'for I am the Crocodile,' and he wept crocodile-tears to show it was quite true.

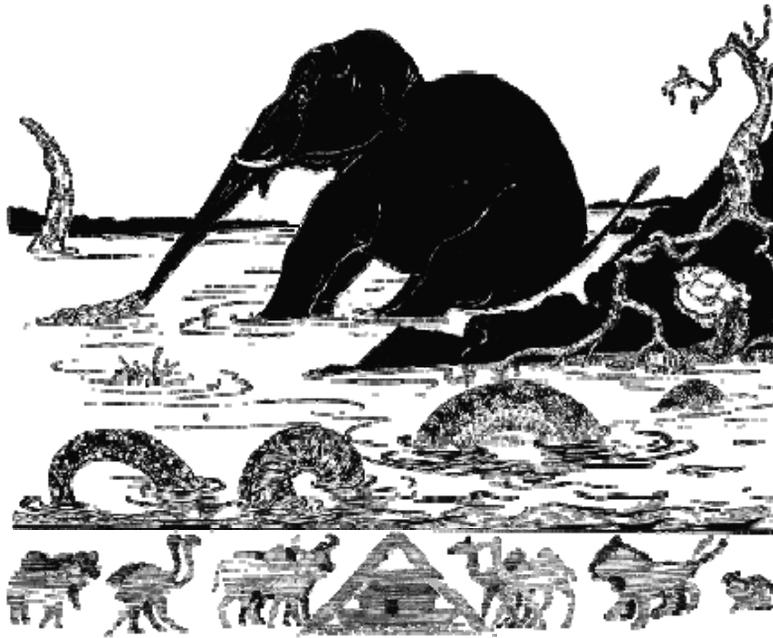
Then the Elephant's Child grew all breathless, and panted, and kneeled down on the bank and said, 'You are the very person I have been looking for all these long days. Will you please tell me what you have for dinner?'

"Come hither, Little One," said the Crocodile, 'and I'll whisper.'

Then the Elephant's Child put his head down close to the Crocodile's musky, tusky mouth, and the Crocodile caught him by his little nose, which up to that very week, day, hour, and minute, had been no bigger than a boot, though much more useful.

"I think," said the Crocodile--and he said it between his teeth, like this--'I think to-day I will begin with Elephant's Child!'

At this, O Best Beloved, the Elephant's Child was much annoyed, and he said, speaking through his nose, like this, 'Led go! You are hurtig be!'



THIS is the Elephant's Child having his nose pulled by the Crocodile. He is much surprised and astonished and hurt, and he is talking through his nose and saying, 'Led go! You are hurtig be!' He is pulling very hard, and so is the Crocodile: but the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake is hurrying through the water to help the Elephant's Child. All that black stuff is the banks of the great grey-green greasy Limpopo River, and the bottly-tree with the twisty roots and the eight leaves is one of the fever-trees that grow there. Underneath the truly picture are shadows of African animals walking into an African ark. There are two lions, two ostriches, two oxen, two camels, two sheep, and two other things that look like rats, but I think they are rock-rabbits. They don't mean anything. I put them in because I thought they looked pretty.

Then the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake scuffled down from the bank and said, 'My young friend, if you do not now, immediately and instantly, pull as hard as ever you can, it is my opinion that your acquaintance in the large-pattern leather ulster' (and by this he meant the Crocodile) 'will jerk you into yonder limpid stream before you can say Jack Robinson.'

This is the way Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snakes always talk.

Then the Elephant's Child sat back on his little haunches, and pulled, and pulled, and pulled, and his nose began to stretch. And the Crocodile floundered into the water, making it all creamy with great sweeps of his tail, and he pulled, and pulled, and pulled.

And the Elephant's Child's nose kept on stretching; and the Elephant's Child spread all his little four legs and pulled, and pulled, and pulled, and his nose kept on stretching; and the Crocodile threshed his tail like an oar, and he pulled, and pulled, and pulled, and at each pull the Elephant's Child's nose grew longer and longer--and it hurt him hijjus!

Then the Elephant's Child felt his legs slipping, and he said through his nose, which was now nearly five feet long, 'This is too butch for be!'

Then the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake came down from the bank, and knotted himself in a double-clove-hitch round the Elephant's Child's hind legs, and said, 'Rash and inexperienced traveller, we will now seriously devote ourselves to a little high tension, because if we do not, it is my impression that yonder self-propelling man-of-war with the armour-plated upper deck' (and by this, O Best Beloved, he meant the Crocodile), 'will permanently vitiate your future career.'

That is the way all Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snakes always talk.

So he pulled, and the Elephant's Child pulled, and the Crocodile pulled; but the Elephant's Child and the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake pulled hardest; and at last the Crocodile let go of the Elephant's Child's nose with a plop that you could hear all up and down the Limpopo.

Then the Elephant's Child sat down most hard and sudden; but first he was careful to say 'Thank you' to the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake; and next he was kind to his poor pulled nose, and wrapped it all up in cool banana leaves, and hung it in the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo to cool.

'What are you doing that for?' said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake.

'Scuse me,' said the Elephant's Child, 'but my nose is badly out of shape, and I am waiting for it to shrink.'

'Then you will have to wait a long time,' said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake. 'Some people do not know what is good for them.'

The Elephant's Child sat there for three days waiting for his nose to shrink. But it never grew any shorter, and, besides, it made him squint. For, O Best Beloved, you will see and understand that the Crocodile had pulled it out into a really truly trunk same as all Elephants have to-day.

At the end of the third day a fly came and stung him on the shoulder, and before he knew what he was doing he lifted up his trunk and hit that fly dead with the end of it.

'Vantage number one!' said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake. 'You couldn't have done that with a mere-smear nose. Try and eat a little now.'

Before he thought what he was doing the Elephant's Child put out his trunk and plucked a large bundle of grass, dusted it clean against his fore-legs, and stuffed it into his own mouth.

'Vantage number two!' said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake. 'You couldn't have done that with a mere-smear nose. Don't you think the sun is very hot here?'

'It is,' said the Elephant's Child, and before he thought what he was doing he schlooped up a schloop of mud from the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo, and slapped it on his head, where it made a cool schloopy-sloshy mud-cap all trickly behind his ears.

'Vantage number three!' said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake. 'You couldn't have done that with a mere-smear nose. Now how do you feel about being spanked again?'

'Scuse me,' said the Elephant's Child, 'but I should not like it at all.'

'How would you like to spank somebody?' said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake.

'I should like it very much indeed,' said the Elephant's Child.

'Well,' said the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake, 'you will find that new nose of yours very useful to spank people with.'

'Thank you,' said the Elephant's Child, 'I'll remember that; and now I think I'll go home to all my dear families and try.'

So the Elephant's Child went home across Africa frisking and whisking his trunk. When he wanted fruit to eat he pulled fruit down from a tree, instead of waiting for it to fall as he used to do. When he wanted grass he plucked grass up from the ground, instead of going on his knees as he used to do. When the flies bit him he broke off the branch of a tree and used it as fly-whisk; and he made himself a new, cool, slushy-squishy mud-cap whenever the sun was hot. When he felt lonely walking through Africa he sang to himself down his trunk, and the noise was louder than several brass bands.

He went especially out of his way to find a broad Hippopotamus (she was no relation of his), and he spanked her very hard, to make sure that the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake had spoken the truth about his new trunk. The rest of the time he picked up the melon rinds that he had dropped on his way to the Limpopo--for he was a Tidy Pachyderm.

One dark evening he came back to all his dear families, and he coiled up his trunk and said, 'How do you do?' They were very glad to see him, and immediately said, 'Come here and be spanked for your insatiable curiosity.'

'Pooh,' said the Elephant's Child. 'I don't think you peoples know anything about spanking; but I do, and I'll show you.' Then he uncurled his trunk and knocked two of his dear brothers head over heels.

'O Bananas!' said they, 'where did you learn that trick, and what have you done to your nose?'

'I got a new one from the Crocodile on the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River,' said the Elephant's Child. 'I asked him what he had for dinner, and he gave me this to keep.'

'It looks very ugly,' said his hairy uncle, the Baboon.

'It does,' said the Elephant's Child. 'But it's very useful,' and he picked up his hairy uncle, the Baboon, by one hairy leg, and hove him into a hornet's nest.

Then that bad Elephant's Child spanked all his dear families for a long time, till they were very warm and greatly astonished. He pulled out his tall Ostrich aunt's tail-feathers; and he caught his tall uncle, the Giraffe, by the hind-leg, and dragged him through a thorn-bush; and he shouted at his broad aunt, the Hippopotamus, and blew bubbles into her ear when she was sleeping in the water after meals; but he never let any one touch Kolokolo Bird.

At last things grew so exciting that his dear families went off one by one in a hurry to the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River, all set about with fever-trees, to borrow new noses from the Crocodile. When they came back nobody spanked anybody any more; and ever since that day, O Best Beloved, all the Elephants you will ever see, besides all those that you won't, have trunks precisely like the trunk of the insatiable Elephant's Child.