

Penguins

By

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NARRATOR

It was a very hot and sunny day in Lekki, the sun was scorching, and Mistachoco and Sistachoco were bored out of their minds. Suddenly, always looking for fun things to do, Sistachoco had an idea.

SISTACHOCO

Let's go to the beach, what do you think?

MISTACHOCO

Hmmm, that's not a bad idea.

NARRATOR

And so, Mistachoco and Sistachoco headed to the beach in their beachwear, hats and sunglasses. The beach was quiet and serene. Being a weekday, there were not many people around. The two lions ran into the water. They were surfing the waves when Mistachoco noticed a bottle floating nearby. He grabbed it and saw a message written on a piece of paper inside.

He swam ashore and opened the bottle, the piece of paper fell out, and just as he crouched to pick it up, Sistachoco snatched it from the ground.

SISTACHOCO

And what do we have here? Oh, it's a message.

MISTACHOCO

Yes, from the bottle. What does it say?

SISTACHOCO

Food supply is running low, someone is stealing our food. We need help. Antarctica.

MISTACHOCO

Hmm, these people need help.

SISTACHOCO

Yes, but they are in Antarctica. That's far away in the South Pole.

MISTACHOCO

Doesn't mean we can't go and help. We need a boat, and I can sail, so what do you say?

SISTACHOCO

Alright, let's go help them get
back their food.

NARRATOR

Mistachoco and Sistachoco got their gears ready. They also got a boat from one of their neighbours and set sail to Antarctica.

After many days and nights on the cold sea, braving the storms and treacherous waters, seeing nothing but deep blue waters all around, the two lions finally approached Antarctica's Islands. They were greeted by extreme cold, strong winds and dryness. They were mesmerized by the scenery. Nothing but white all around. Huge amounts of ice-bergs, glaciers and high mountains soon surrounded them. A whale even accompanied there last few nautical miles. As they approached land, they were greeted by a seal in a fishing boat.

BO

Finally, you have arrived. Welcome
to our cold island. I am Bo.

MISTACHOCO

Thank you Bo, I am Mistachoco, and
this is my sister, Sistachoco.

BO

Thanks for coming to our aid. Come,
let's have a cup of hot chocolate.

SISTACHOCO

I would do anything for something
hot right now.

MISTACHOCO

So, what exactly is the issue here?

BO

We have noticed that our food
supply has been reducing, it's like
somebody is stealing from us.

SISTACHOCO

Have you seen anyone at any time
taking food from the store?

BO

No, we haven't. It mostly happens
at night, because we keep watching
all day, sleep at night, and when

(MORE)

BO (cont'd)
we wake up, whoever steals the food
has come and gone.

MISTACHOCO
I guess we will have to stay awake
and wait for the thief, is that
okay?

BO
Yes, thank you very much.

NARRATOR

And so, Mistachoco and Sistachoco hid in a small room inside the store and lay in wait for the food thief. The minutes turned to hours and slowly night fell, the two lions waited patiently for the food thief, until they finally heard the door creak.

Looking in the direction of the door, the two lions spotted a penguin waddling in silently as it took some food and deposited it outside. The penguin went in and out several times, carrying food with him before sliding it away on a small sledge.

The lions watched silently, then sneaked up behind the penguin following it to its home, an igloo. The two lions stared at each as Mistachoco winked at Sistachoco. They both approached the igloo and called out.

MISTACHOCO
Hello

SISTACHOCO
Is anyone in there?

NARRATOR

There was no response. They called out again, this time they heard the shuffling of feet as the door opened up to reveal a gaunt-looking penguin.

PENGUIN
Yes, are you lost or something?

MISTACHOCO
No, no, we're not lost, just Uhm
looking for shelter from the cold.

PENGUIN
Okay, come inside, we have a big
fire burning strong.

SISTACHOCO

Thank you so much.

NARRATOR

The lions carefully entered the igloo, expecting to have found a sinister gang hideout. They were pleasantly surprised by the warm and cozy atmosphere and found out the igloo was a home to a family of five. They smiled as they saw the Penguin's wife and her three kids in hiding, peeking from behind the blinds.

Mistachoco and Sistachoco sat in front of the fire enjoying the warmth it brought. They heard scuffling and saw the children gobbling up food as if they have been starving and hungry. Papa Penguin came to sit with them and looked at them suspiciously.

PENGUIN

I know you followed me from the storehouse.

Store? SISTACHOCO

MISTACHOCO
Which storehouse?

Where? SISTACHOCO

SISTACHOCO
What do you mean?

PENGUIN (cont'd)

There's no use denying, I saw you creeping up on me.

SISTACHOCO

Oh no, Busted.

MISTACHOCO

Okay, yes. We got a report of the thefts at the seals' store.

PENGUIN

What would you do if someone comes out of nowhere and takes your only source of livelihood?

MISTACHOCO

Hmmm, I guess I will have to take it back.

PENGUIN

There you have it, that is exactly what I am doing.

SISTACHOCO

How do you mean?

PENGUIN

Ever since Bo and his boys came here, all they have done is take away our food.

MISTACHOCO

How?

PENGUIN

They keep harvesting our squid and krill, they are taking more than they need and selling the rest. There used to be more of us before. Hunger and starvation have taken a toll on our kind.

SISTACHOCO

But the sea is big enough, shouldn't there be enough for everyone?

PENGUIN

There will be enough, if we all take what we need and give the animals time to reproduce. But when they keep harvesting and selling, the fish keep reducing, and the ones left, run to find another safe place as this place is no longer safe.

MISTACHOCO

That's sad.

SISTACHOCO

Very sad.

PENGUIN

And what makes it even worse is that the water is getting a lot warmer than usual, so many of the sea creatures run to colder places.

MISTACHOCO

We need to talk to Bo.

SISTACHOCO

Yes, we can't let him put the penguins in danger.

PENGUIN

Before you leave, we have a tradition when there are disputes, we play football, and the winner gets to decide how they want it settled.

MISTACHOCO

Okay. Let's see how it goes.

NARRATOR

Mistachoco and Sistachoco headed back to see Bo and explain why the penguins are stealing the food and how they suggested it be settled.

BO

But I cannot play football, my boys cannot play either.

MISTACHOCO

Alright, alright, that's not a problem.

SISTACHOCO

How about Mistachoco and me represent you against the penguins?

BO

Really, would you do that for us?

SISTACHOCO

Yes, we will.

BO

Thank you very much,
Sistachoco...and Mistachoo.

NARRATOR

The match was set for the next day, it was a very tough match, the penguins were fierce opponents. In the nick of time, the Lions were finally able to score, thus bringing victory to the seals.

After the match, the penguins and Bo had a meeting with the lions.

MISTACHOCO

Finally, we have reached a resolution, and it is that everyone must take only what they need.

SISTACHOCO

We cannot afford to have the fish die out, so we take just what we need from the sea to enable them to reproduce. Do we all agree?

BO

..but..

MISTACHOCO

No, there are no buts, it's either a Yes or a No. So which will it be?

PENGUIN

Yes

BO

Yes

SISTACHOCO

Great, so Bo, you will have to share what you have equally with the penguins and when that is finished. You fish for only what you need. Do you understand?

BO

Yes, thank you.

PENGUIN

Thanks for helping us resolve this amicably.

MISTACHOCO

We are glad we could help out.

NARRATOR

And so Mistachoco and Sistachoco, glad that they were able to be of help, set sail for home.