



To my wonderful mom and dad,

Thank you for caring enough to teach me to read and write, for taking our family on fascinating adventures filled with fresh air, hiking, and endless learning experiences. Your love and dedication have been my greatest inspiration.

With all my love,
Julie

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The **ELEFFUMP**
That
Couldn't
JUMP



Written by Julie F. Kadas

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Once, there was a girl named Lilly.

She lived in a pretty town surrounded by hills and trees.
Lilly loved finding beautiful things and daydreaming.

She also enjoyed exploring

and meeting new people,
and made everyone feel
at ease.



When Lilly went exploring, she wore:

Big t-shirt—
easy to move
around in.

Cargo shorts with
lots of pockets—
super useful for
collecting things.

Old pair of hiking
boots with socks—
to keep feet dry
and safe.



Inside her backpack, she carried:

Pencil and a notebook—to
write down
everything.

Jar of special
homemade
peanut butter
cookies—for a
quick energy
boost.

Today, Lilly was going to explore

the magical forest on the edge of town. She had heard stories about whispering trees and animals that spoke with words.

She dressed, packed her backpack, and headed out into the sunshine.



Lilly found her way through the town's twisting streets and into the woods, where she thought the magical forest was.

The air began to feel cooler, the colors brighter, and the sounds of nature became clearer while the sounds of cars on the street, dogs barking, bicycle bells, and planes overhead

became a whisper in the background.



As Lilly walked closer, she saw something almost hidden in the shadows. It was a wooden arch with vines and colorful flowers that swayed in the breeze.

*'Is this the entrance
to the magical forest?'*
she wondered.



Then she walked through and into the most beautiful forest she had ever seen.

“Wow!” she exclaimed.

“Such an amazing sight, so close to my house. I can’t believe I haven’t been here before.”



A loud rustling noise came from a big bush beside her.
She turned to see two shiny, little eyes looking at her.
“Who are you?” the creature asked.

“My name is Lilly. Who are you?”



The creature shuffled out.

**“The name’s Sam.
I’m a possum.”**

Are you here to see
someone? We don’t see
many visitors like you
around,” it said.

Lilly answered, "I'm on an adventure.

May I explore your forest?"

But before Sam could respond, an enormous, anxious-looking, sparkly dragon landed before her and answered, "You are a curious but polite little girl. **Yes, you may.**"

Lilly thanked the friendly dragon, and then it flew off to sit on a tall tree.



Sam gave her a friendly wink and said, "If Sparkly Dragon says you can enter, you will be **safe and welcome** while you are here."

Lilly went further into the forest and was surprised to see an eleffump,

a humongous, magical African Elephant,

in a clearing.



When she was very young, Lilly had a hard time saying elephant. She called them **eleffumps**, and even though she could say elephant now, she liked the sound of the word eleffump, so she kept using it. The word was funny and made her smile for being silly even though she was old enough to use the right word.

“Hi there, little explorer,”

greeted the elephant in a calm, low voice that made everything shake. “I’m Eleffump, the protector of this special forest.”

Lilly was shocked and amazed because she thought only she knew the word eleffump. Then she said, “I’m Lilly. **It’s great to meet you!**”



When Eleffump smiled, the clouds split, and the sun shone through the opening and down on them. Lilly felt warm and happy.

"I've been waiting for you, Lilly."

You are very brave and love going on adventures.
That's why this forest wants you to explore it."



Lilly blushed and felt proud of the nice words Eleffump said to her. Her face turned red, and she said, "Thank you, Eleffump." She paused for a second, not wanting to offend him, then quietly asked,

**"I heard you can't jump.
Is that true?"**



"yep, it's true.

Even though I'm big and strong, I can't jump." Eleffump giggled, making a sound like soft rolling thunder. "But everyone in this forest has **special powers,** even you. Some we show off, and some we keep secret until the perfect time."

Lilly listened carefully. "So, it's not about what we can't do, but what we can do that makes us special?"

"Yes," he said. "And sometimes,

**our best adventures happen
when we find out what we can do."**



Lilly felt very inspired. She never imagined she might have special powers. "Eleffump, can you take me around the magical forest and introduce me to some of the creatures that live here with you? I want to know what special things they can do!"

"Sure, Lilly! There's a lot to see and many friends for you to meet.

Each has their own special story to share."



And so, Lilly and Eleffump journeyed into the forest. They met many wonderful creatures, and Lilly drew pictures of each and wrote them down in her notebook.



Skydance

This bird can't swim like the fish in the river, but she can fly higher than any other bird in the forest. She brings messages from the stars to us on the ground.



Glowbug

He can't make loud noises like a lion or construct things like beavers, but his light helps people see in the dark so they don't get lost.



Shadowcat

She can sneak around without being noticed because she only appears out of the corner of your eye. If you see something and then look to where you thought it was and find nothing, it's probably Shadowcat.

"Lilly, everyone has something special to offer," Eleffump said. "You can see and draw the beauty of the world. Your love for adventure and your kindness are your gifts to the world."

They continued walking and met more new creatures.



Raincaller

He can make rain appear with a special song that brings clean water and gives life to the animals and plants in the forest.



Windwhisperer

His roar can command the winds. It clears the clouds away and brings cool, fresh air to the forest for all who live here.



Skybrush

His breath can paint the sky so we have something beautiful to see before bed. Skybrush can give you good dreams, which helps you feel rested when you wake up and start your day.

After meeting so many talented creatures, Lilly began to doubt she was special. "Eleffump, all I do is go out and see things and meet people and animals. Is that special, too?"

"Of course, it is because you are special."



“But sometimes, I don’t do the right thing and hurt someone’s feelings or don’t do what my parents asked me to.

How can I be special if I’m not perfect?”

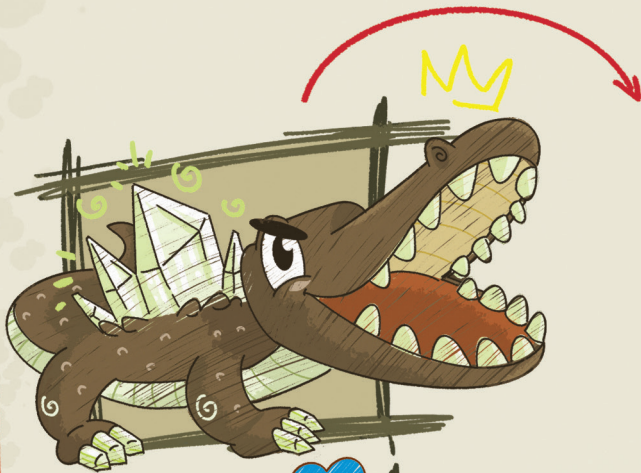


Eleffump smiled.

“Nobody’s perfect.

Everyone makes mistakes. The important thing about making a mistake is to learn from it.” He paused, bent down to look her in the eye, and said, **“We are all different,** and we all have abilities others don’t have. C’mon! There is someone else I want you to meet before you go home.”

Lilly followed Eleffump down a secluded path to a beautiful moonlit pond. Stars twinkled in the sky.



Starreflect

Her presence makes the water look beautiful, like the sky above



Gigglescale

His jokes make the forest full of laughter. Laughter is good for you.



Lilly made lots of special friends in the forest. Each showed her the power of being different. Lilly was amazed that the enchanted forest was a magical place where different beings lived together peacefully. She learned that the whole world is like a quilt, made up of many other pieces that are all important and unique, coming together to make something beautiful and useful.

Lilly and Eleffump continued their walk into the deep forest, where they found a rare and magical plant.

“This is the Moonflower.”

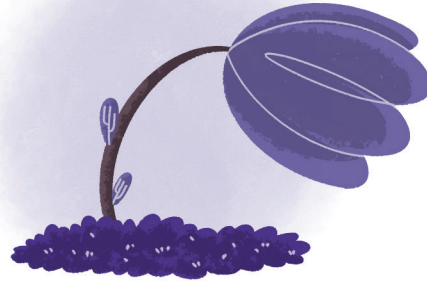
It only blooms every ten years,” said Eleffump. “But it’s having a hard time opening its petals.”



He explained that it was important for the Moonflower to bloom so it could bring peace and happiness to the forest for the next ten years. If it didn’t bloom, the forest and all its inhabitants would be in trouble.

Together, they created a plan for each forest dweller to help the Moonflower bloom.

The Moonflower
needs a happy
place to grow.



Windwhisperer
will clear the
clouds.



Raincaller
will add moisture.



Skybrush will paint
the sky to make the
moon's rays brighter.



Starreflect will
purify the water.



Gigglescale will
bring laughter.



The team got to work,

and after a little while, the Moonflower began to bloom, spreading its magic through the forest. It made sure that the enchanted forest would keep growing for another ten years, which, Lilly soon found out from Eleffump, helped her own neighborhood.

“A healthy forest helps create healthy beings and people,” he said.





I can be bright, soothing, clear, and show others the way now that I have learned from my forest friends how important teamwork is. I can be more than just Lilly if I stay healthy, keep learning, and am respectful of those I meet.

Eleffump read her words and softly placed his trunk on her shoulder. “Yes, Lilly. This is the real magic of the forest, not just the spells and enchantments, but the friendships, lessons learned, and the **power of working together** toward a common goal.”



Lilly was happy to learn **she was special** and giggled because Eleffump's trunk tickled her ear. She asked Eleffump how long it would take to get home, and it was like she had cast a spell.



SWOOSH!

With a gust of wind, some magical dust from the leaves above her head, and a vibrating giggle from Eleffump—Lilly was instantly transported home.

As she got ready for bed, she thought about her day.

Lilly had a notebook full of new stories about friendship and magic. She met new beings and creatures and learned important lessons about community, unity, and diversity. She was excited to share these stories with others to bring the forest's wisdom to more people.



As she drifted off to sleep, she thought about her next adventure. She had heard about an enchanted entrance guarded by Ms. Buzzy Bee and her busy buddies at the end of the path behind her best friend's house. She decided her next adventure would be to see if she could find the way into this hidden place, and maybe her friend could come too.

She mumbled,
**“Goodnight,
Eleffump.”**

Thank you for a
wonderful adventure.”

Then Lilly fell peacefully
asleep.





About the Author

Julie F. Kadas is a passionate children's book writer who believes in the transformative power of stories. With a deep love for reading that began in childhood, Julie is endlessly grateful for having been taught to read and write, gifts that have opened up a world of imagination and learning. Dedicated to making stories accessible to children everywhere, Julie is committed to translating her books into many languages, ensuring that the joy of reading and the magic of storytelling can be shared globally. Through their writing, Julie hopes to inspire young minds and foster a lifelong love of books.