Comma Gets A Cure

Recorded December 18, 2004

Transcribed November 24, 2005 by Deb Thomas

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Quite [add]. That are the (atter.

Vetanscrift

Well, here's a story for you: Sarah Perry was a veterinary nurse who had

been working daily at an old zoo in a deserted district of the territory, so she

was very happy to start a new job at a superb private practice in north square

near the Duke Street Tower. That area was much nearer for her and more to

her liking. Even so, on her first morning, she felt stressed. She are a bowl of

porridge, checked herself in the mirror and washed her face in a hurry. Then

she put on a plain yellow dress and a fleece jacket, picked up her kit and

waiting for her. The woman gave Sarah an official letter from the vet. The letter implied that the animal could be suffering from a rare form of foot and mouth disease, which was surprising, because normally you would only

headed for work. When she got there, there was a woman with a goose

Choppy

expect to see it in a dog or a goat. Sarah was sentimental, so this made her feel sorry for the beautiful bird. Before long, that itchy goose began to strut around the office like a lunatic, which made an unsanitary mess. The goose's owner, Mary Harrison, kept calling, "Comma, Comma," which Sarah thought was an odd choice for a name. Comma was strong and huge, so it would take some force to trap her, but Sarah had a different idea. First she tried gently stroking the goose's lower back with her palm, then singing a tune to her. Finally, she administered ether. Her efforts were not futile. In no time, the goose began to tire, so Sarah was able to hold onto Comma and giver her a relaxing bath. Once Sarah had managed to bathe the goose, she wiped her off with a cloth and laid her on her right side. Then Sarah confirmed the vet's diagnosis. Almost immediately, she remembered an effective treatment that required her to measure out a lot of medicine. Sarah warned that this course of treatment might be expensive – either five or six times the cost of penicillin. I can't imagine paying so much, but Mrs. Harrison a millionaire-lawyer-thought it was a fair price for a cure.

My mother grew up in a poor family. She lost her father when she was nine years old. And um, she had, um, five older brothers, and they all worked in the mountains with the sheep. Her mother was rather old and she used to send her, um, with food in the mountains. Early in the morning it was very dark outside. She had to go through a wood and um, there was no light, it was dark, and the only, um, help for my mother was the white mare with...which was carrying the food, and my mother used to grab the horse's tail, and walk behind the horse, which was white, and which knew the way to the mountain house.