

The Wrong Captive

Olga Sanderson





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THE WRONG CAPTIVE

By Olga Sanderson

CAST

DORA and DELIA: Widowed sisters.

CLEM and CHARLIE BUMPSTEAD: Retired ranch hands.

MISS VICTORIA FOX: New neighbor.

Place

Dora and Delia's home.

DORA: Delia, that was some idea you had in setting that box trap for a rabbit! And that was some rabbit you caught!

DELIA: Well Dora, how did I know it was going to catch a skunk? Now what do we do? We've got to get him out of the garden. He's right between the tomatoes and the cucumbers.

DORA: What are WE going to do? No, Delia, you were the one with the idea, remember? Now what are YOU going to do?

DELIA: Say, you know those fellows that live next door, the Bumpsteads? They seem like such nice old gents. I bet they would know how to take care of this problem.

DORA: Why don't you give them a call on the phone?

DELIA: Well, I will. (*dials and speaks into the phone*) Hello. Is this the Bumpsteads? This is your neighbor, Delia. We have a problem and I was wondering if you could help us out. You'll come right over. Oh, thank you.

(CLEM and CHARLIE enter)

CHARLIE: Howdy ma'am. I'm Charlie and this is my brother Clem. We understand you have a problem. What can we do for you?

DORA: Hello, Charlie and Clem. I'm Dora and this is my sister Delia. We've been seeing a rabbit hopping around in our garden and Delia got the idea of catching him in a box trap. But what she caught wasn't a rabbit, it was a skunk!

CLEM: A skunk, you say? Well, I guess we can take care of him.

DORA: Without him spraying on our vegetables?

CHARLIE: Ma'am, there isn't anything we can't do. Just leave it to us. We'll go around to the garden and take a look. (*CHARLIE and CLEM exit*)

DELIA: I hope they're right. Oh, here they come back. (*CHARLIE and CLEM enter*)

CLEM: Ma'am, we got it all figured out. Charlie is going to run down to the drugstore while I wait here. If you'll get a small blanket, I will explain what we aim to do. (*DELIA exits and returns with a blanket*) Charlie is good at roping cows, so he figures he'll rope the skunk.

DELIA: But the skunk is in the box trap.

CLEM: It makes no never mind. He can rope the trap with the skunk in it and then he can slowly drag it back to the tree. I'll already be up in the tree with the blanket. Then I drop the blanket over the box to make sure the skunk don't see us and use us for a target. Then we can lift the blanket a bit just so the skunk can get a whiff of the chloroform and it'll be out like a light. Then we can get rid of it. There's nothing to it. Oh, here comes Charlie. (*CHARLIE enters carrying small bottle*)

CHARLIE: I got the stuff, so let's go. (*CHARLIE and CLEM exit*)

DORA: I sure hope they know what they're doing.

DELIA: Well, if they don't, we'll surely smell it!

DORA: Oh there's a young lady coming over here. I don't think we know her. (*MISS FOX enters*)

MISS FOX: Hello, I'm Victoria Fox. I'm your new neighbor, just moved in a few houses over. Sorry I haven't had much chance to get acquainted. Takes time to settle in, you know.

DORA: Hello, Miss Fox, we're pleased to meet you. I'm Dora and this is my sister Delia.

MISS FOX: Nice to meet you. The reason I came over is because I lost my pet. Usually he stays at home but being new I suppose he felt he should explore the neighborhood. His name is Petunia. Have you seen him?

DELIA: Petunia? What is he, a dog or a cat?

MISS FOX: No, He's not either. He's a skunk.

DORA and DELIA: A SKUNK!

MISS FOX: Yes, he's a skunk, but he's been fixed and they do make nice pets. I've had him several years and I sure would hate to lose him.

DELIA: Say you did say he was a skunk?

MISS FOX: Yes, have you seen him?

DORA: Well...we've not only seen him....we have him. Delia set a box trap last night and we caught him in it.

MISS FOX: Oh dear. I hope he didn't get hurt.

DORA: Well no, but we have the neighbors...they're in the garden and they...ah...ah.

MISS FOX: Why don't I go back to the garden and get my Petunia?

DELIA: Yes, please do. He's in the box trap with a blanket over it.

END OF FREEVIEW—

You'll want to read and perform this show!