

BAGUETTE & BONTON - #7

**DROOP-EARS**  
**THE STORY (1ST BOOK)**  
**-PART TWO-**



## ICE CREAM

AS SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW, NOT ONLY DID ICE CREAM ALREADY EXIST IN EUROPE IN THE 1700S, BUT ONE OF THE GREATEST ICE CREAM MAKERS OF THAT TIME WAS FRENCH, AND CREATED THE FIRST ICE CREAM PARLOR SIMILAR TO THE ONES WE KNOW TODAY IN THE CITY OF PARIS.

DURING A TRIP TO PARIS WITH HIS FATHER, DROOP-EARS FOUND OUT ABOUT ICE CREAM AND FELL HEAD OVER HEELS IN LOVE WITH IT.

HE JUST HAD TO KNOW AT ALL COSTS HOW ICE CREAM COULD BE MADE AT HOME - AND LET ME TELL YOU, IT WASN'T AS EASY THEN AS IT IS TODAY: THERE WEREN'T ANY REFRIGERATORS BACK THEN.

THE PUP DIDN'T LET THAT STOP HIM, THOUGH. HE DECIDED TO BUILD HIMSELF AN ICE-HOUSE.



HOW WAS THAT DONE BACK IN HIS DAY? IN SHORT, BY GATHERING AS MUCH SNOW AS POSSIBLE DURING WINTER, PACKING IT TIGHT UNTIL IT BECAME A LARGE BLOCK OF ICE AND BURYING IT SEVERAL FEET UNDER THE GROUND.

THE SOIL WOULD KEEP THE ICE SOLID EVEN DURING THE SUMMER, AND BY DIGGING A WELL THAT REACHED DOWN TO IT, PEOPLE COULD PUT THINGS IN COLD STORAGE OR DRAW UP SOME ICE EVEN IN WARMER WEATHER.

**DROOP-EARS** DECIDED, WITHOUT TELLING ANYONE, TO BUILD HIMSELF AN ICE-HOUSE TO SURPRISE EVERYONE WITH ICE CREAM IN THE MIDDLE OF SUMMER.

HE BEGAN BY DIGGING A LARGE HOLE, WHICH HE COVERED IN ORDER TO HIDE IT FROM EVERYONE.

THE PROBLEM WAS THAT HE'D DUG IT TOO CLOSE TO WHERE HIS FAMILY STORED THEIR CARRIAGES, AND ONE DAY, WHEN HIS FATHER DECIDED TO TAKE THE BUGGY OUT TO TOWN, ONE OF THE WHEELS CAUGHT IN THE HOLE AFTER ONLY A FEW



FEET AND FLIPPED OVER INTO THE HOLE **DROOP-EARS** HAD MADE, WITH HIS FATHER STILL ABOARD.

**MISTER PROUD'S** HOWLS OF RAGE DREW THE PUP AND HIS MOTHER TO THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT, AND NEITHER OF THEM COULD HOLD BACK YELPS OF LAUGHTER AT SEEING THE FATHER, WHOSE HEAD WAS USUALLY HELD SO HIGH (HIS FAMILY WASN'T CALLED **HIGHSNOUT** FOR NOTHING!), WITH HIS SNOUT DEEP IN A HOLE IN THE DIRT.

- I GUESS WE SHOULD CHANGE OUR NAME TO **HIGHRUMP** INSTEAD OF **HIGHSNOUT!** - GIGGLED DROOP-EARS BETWEEN ONE BARK OF LAUGHTER AND THE NEXT. NOW, OBVIOUSLY THAT COST HIM TWO DAYS OF BEING GROUNDED.

BUT THEN AGAIN, IT CERTAINLY DIDN'T STOP HIM FROM TRYING ONCE MORE. HAVING DUG ANOTHER HOLE IN A LESS DANGEROUS AREA, HE MANAGED TO CREATE A GREAT LITTLE ICE-HOUSE. AFTER A FEW UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS, THE PUP MANAGED TO MAKE GOOD ICE CREAM AND OFFERED SOME TO HIS FATHER DURING THE SUMMER OF THE SAME YEAR, WHICH SHED SOME LIGHT ON WHY EXACTLY PROUD HAD STUMBLER INTO THE PREVIOUS HOLE, AN INCIDENT THAT DROOP-EARS HAD

AVOIDED EXPLAINING AT THE TIME BY TRYING TO PASS IT OFF AS A SIMPLE PRANK.



THE ICE CREAM WAS SUCH A SURPRISE THAT IT BECAME A SYMBOL OF PEACE IN THEIR FAMILY, AND EVERY WEEK DROOP-EARS MADE ANOTHER BATCH, IMPROVING THE RECIPE WITH EVERY NEW ATTEMPT.

THIS LED TO HIM TEACHING THE INHABITANTS OF WHAT WOULD LATER BE WOOFLAND HOW TO MAKE ICE CREAM, WHICH IN TURN PAVED THE WAY FOR ICE CREAM TO BECOME WOOFLAND'S SO-CALLED "NATIONAL DISH"!

THERE ARE SO MANY STORIES ONE COULD TELL ABOUT DROOP-EARS' LIFE: WHEN HE SET OUT TO SEA FOR THE FIRST TIME, WHEN HE BECAME FRIENDS WITH **IRON-JAW** THE BLACKSMITH, OR **BLUE-EARS** THE PIRATE, BUT... THE PLAY IS FINALLY ABOUT TO START, AND SINCE OUR BUDDING ACTORS HAVE FINALLY CONQUERED THEIR STAGE FRIGHT, WE WOULDN'T WANT TO BOTHER THEM, WOULD WE? SO LET'S SAVE THOSE STORIES FOR SOME OTHER TIME. WE'LL HAVE OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE DOG WHO **FOUNDED WOOFLAND!**

