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Compiled and Illustrated by
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SPIDER'S HAMMOCK



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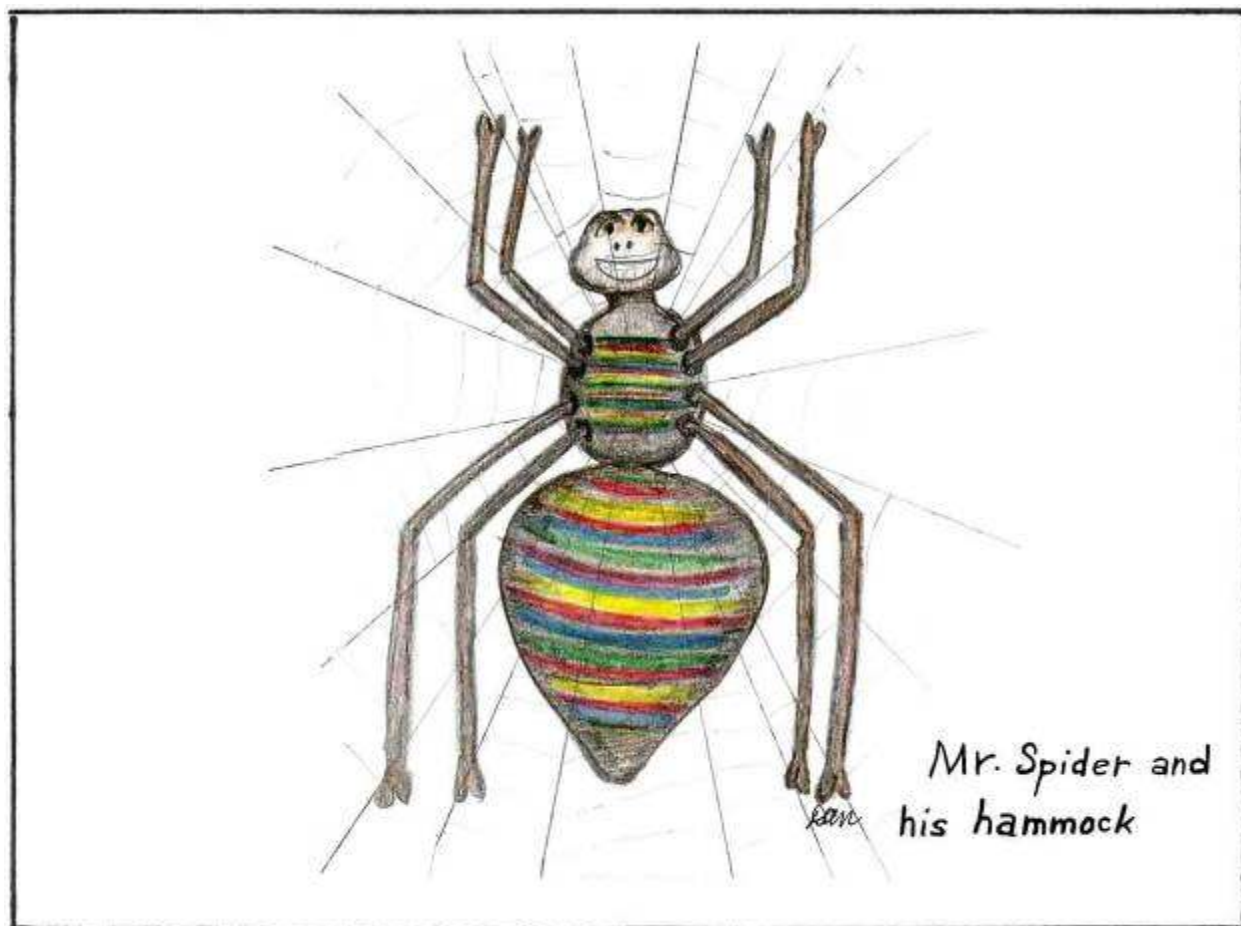
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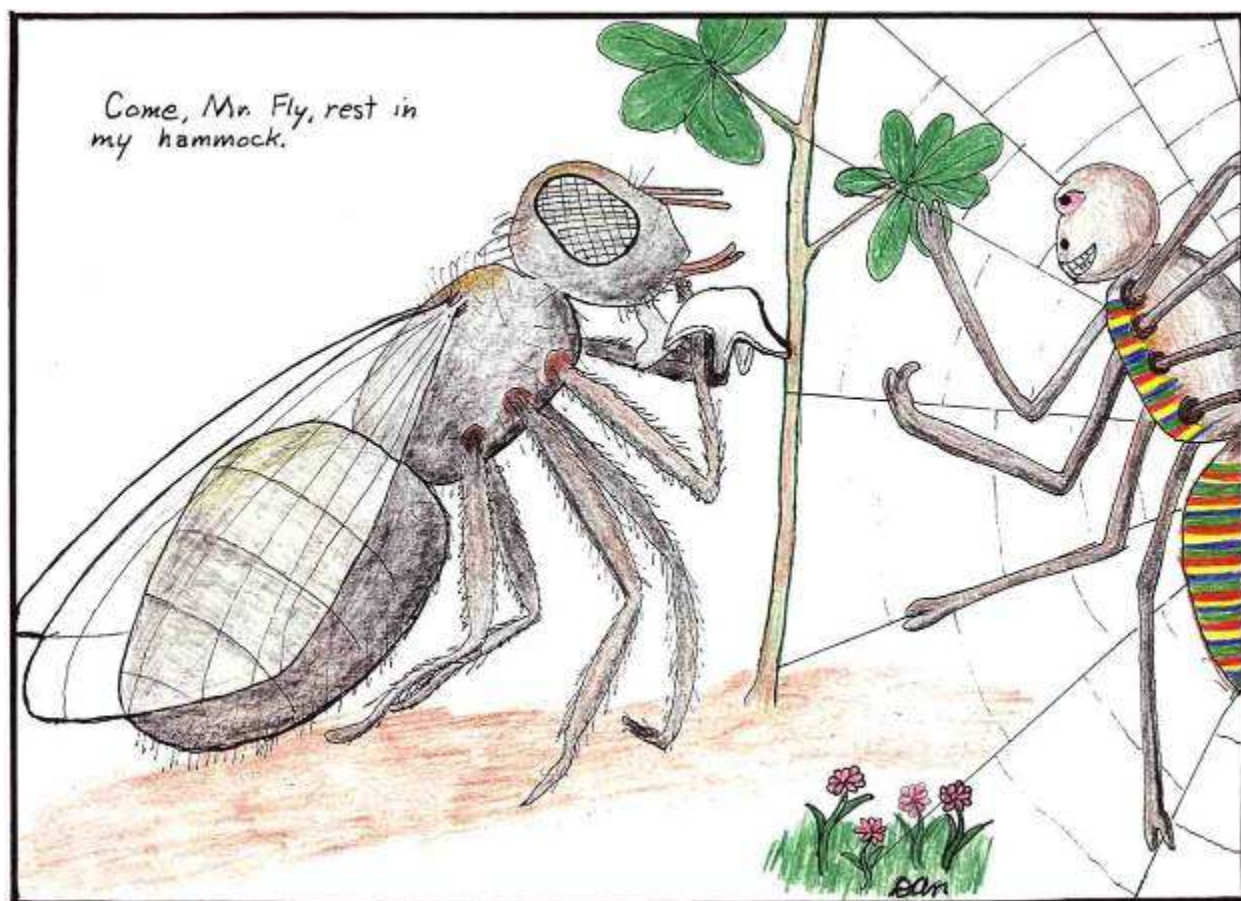


SPIDER'S HAMMOCK

Even the one eating from the same dish with you may have some other mind.
(Liberian proverb)

Spider was very busy. He was going back and forth, between this twig and that twig, between this twig and that stalk and then down to some grass. He was stringing strong but slender cords back and forth for Spider was making his hammock. Soon it was finished, strung up tight in the air, all ready for someone to sit in.

Spider put on his brightest clothes so someone would be sure to notice him. Maybe they would come to visit and make conversation. Then perhaps they would sit in his hammock.



Now Spider was all ready. He would just sit and wait patiently for someone to come to have dinner with him, or was it for him? Spider waited a long time.

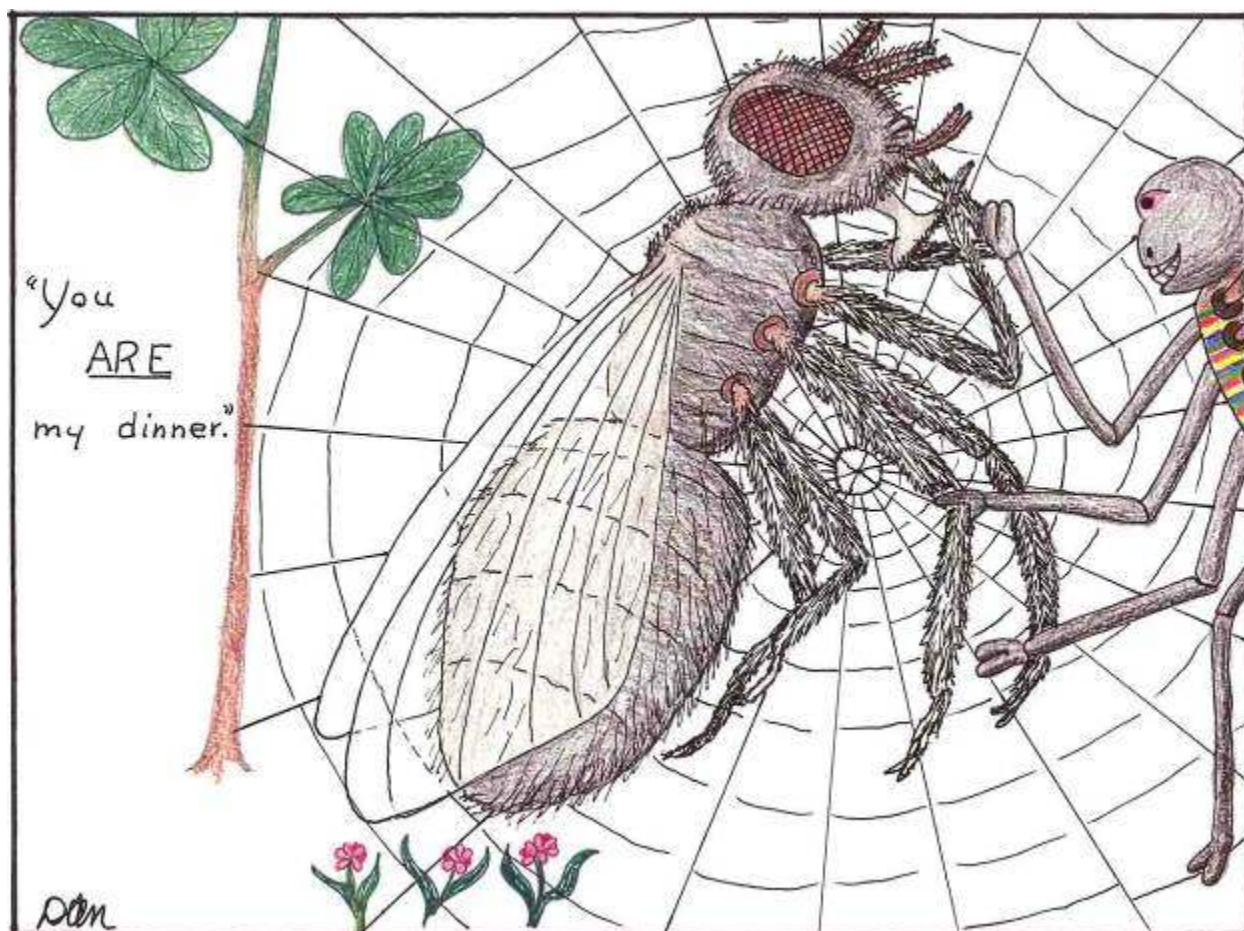
Then, "Eh-heh," Says Spider to himself. "Here comes Fly. Perhaps he will join me for dinner."

"Hello, Fly. How are you today?"

"Hello, Spider," answered Fly, "Wow, where did you get that new, bright suit? It is very beautiful."

"Oh, it is the suit I always wear when I am having special guests like yourself," Spider answered. "But you look very tired, my friend."

"Well, yes, Spider, right now I am very hot and tired and thirsty, for I have come a long way today."



"Well, come and sit for a spell and rest yourself. Oh yes, that is it. Just lay back in my hammock and I will get you a nice cool cup of water. That is the way. Ah, yes, I will be back in just a minute or two." And Spider went off, supposedly for the water.

"Ah, yes, so nice to rest," murmurs Fly as he settles back comfortably in Spider's hammock. "Just a cup of cold water, please. Hmmm, Spider surely does have fancy clothes on today."

Fly fanned himself for quite a while. Then he said, "I wonder why Spider is so long with that water."

"I wonder," says Fly. "Now - oh! Something sticky on Spider's hammock. I am stuck. I cannot get up! Zzzt. Zzzt. Spider! Help!! Help! Zzzzt. Zzzzt."

"Did you call me, my friend," said Spider. "Why of course you did! It is time for dinner. So glad you will join me, Fly, for my dinner."

"Help! Zzzzzt. I can't get up! Help! Zzzzzt."

"Of course you cannot move, my friend, for you are my dinner. You do look very tender and juicy. I shall enjoy my dinner very much. Hah Hah Hah. I'm so glad that you came to join me for dinner. Yes, yes you will make me a fine dinner."

"Help! Help!! Zzzz zz zzt. Help! Help!"

1. What was Spider's hammock" (A spider's web.)
2. What had happened to Fly? (He was caught in Spider's web.)
3. Who might Spider be?

He might be a false teacher. "For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ" (II Corinthians 11:13).

He might be the devil. "... for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light" (II Corinthians 11:14).

He might be someone trying to lead us into sin (to do wrong). "My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them" (Proverbs 1:10).

4. What might Spider's hammock (web) be?

It might show how our sinful desires bind us so we will sin more. James 1:14 says, "but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed."

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