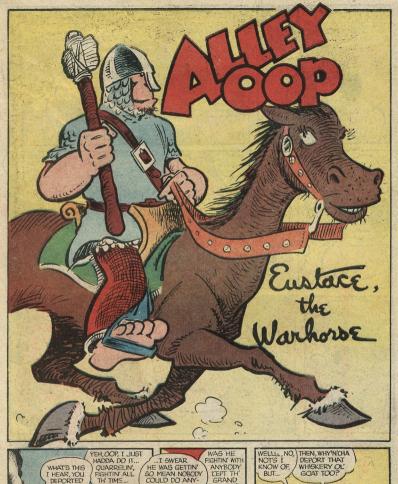




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AWRIGHT,

















AWRIGHT SO

IOU CAN SEND A







































FOOZY TOLD ME HIS COUNTRY

MEN WERE A HARDBOILED LOT, BUT I
DON'T RECALL HIM
SAYIN THEY SHOT
FIRST, THEN ASKED
QUESTIONS LATER.

AG

GUESS MEBBE I BETTER GO BACK AN' TRY COMIN' IN AGAIN!











































.. I CAN'T IMAGINE













































































































































































































VEH.WE CITED ABOUT.
GOBH DOC THOUSEN AN EXPERIMENT
WE HEARD MAYBE
A BIG YOU GOT
ALL...NOW GO
BANG! HURT...WHAT
HAPPENED?
YOU'





























































LOOK, DOC, THIS AIN'T NUTHIN TO GET FUNNY ABOUIT I CAN'T SEE ANY REASON FOR SETTIN'A GUY LIKE ME DOWN TO A LI'L DAB Y LIKE THIS!









































































ALLEY'S STRANGE QUEST

LLEY OOP froze in his tracks. An icy A tremor of fear shot up his spine as a terrible howl echoed in the night. He shivered as he realized that the menacing sound was issuing from the royal cave of

King Guz.

Was Guz in danger? Alley was the King's bodyguard. It was his job to protect His Majesty at any cost. Alley charged into the cave, his stone axe upraised, ready for battle. He was no sooner inside the cave when he tripped over a protruding rock and fell headlong to the dirt floor.

"You clumsy fool!"

Alley staggered to his feet to find he was confronted by Guz himself. The King's face

was purple with rage.

"Quiet - the Queen is sick!" he shouted. "Can't you do anything without making a

racket?"

Alley looked across the room. A shocking sight met his gaze. In the dim light from the fire as he saw Queen Umpa on her hands and knees, howling like a wolf, her face upraised as if baying to the moon. What terrible affliction had befallen her? Had she lost her mind?

"What's the matter with Umpa?" asked

Alley.

At that moment the Grand Wizer entered the cave. He pushed Alley aside and walked

over to the stricken queen.

"She's got the Howlin' Sickness, a very rare and dire disease," said the Grand Wizer. Despondently, he ran his hand across his forehead and sat for a moment in deep thought.

"It's no use," he said. "There's only one thing that'll cure her - beedleberry juice!"

"Well, get some," growled the King.

"What are you waiting for?"

"Whoa, up," answered the Grand Wizer. "That won't be easy. Beedleberries are very, very rare. The only place they grow is on the top of Owga Mountain!"

"Yeah," added Alley. "And Owga Mountain is jinxed. Everybody who ever went up there never came back. That's what I've been told. It'd take a mighty brave man to risk his life climbin' Owga Mountain."

Guz scratched his head as he stared at his bodyguard. "Alley, my boy," he said, "you've just volunteered to climb that mountain and bring back a load of beedleberries."

Alley's knees rattled like pebbles in a tin can. "Oh, no you don't," he protested. "I ain't goin'!"

"Oh, yes you are," roared Guz. "That's a command!"

Well, a command is a command, espe-

cially when it's issued by a king. Even if he lost his life Alley had to obey. Crestfallen, he slouched out of the royal cave.

The dawn was breaking by the time Alley had made his way half the distance up Owga Mountain. The higher he climbed the less trees he saw, and the green grass was sparse on the hard earth. A mile higher up he found himself in a desolate region of twisting rocks. Soon he could see small wispy clouds floating around his head

He had come this far in complete safety. So far he had seen no hostile enemy, either human or animal. Perhaps the stories about Owga Mountain were mere superstition. Maybe the tales about people disappearing were only the workings of wild imagination. He felt reassured. He walked onward with a new confidence and his grip relaxed on

the handle of his axe.

He followed a twisting trail around a huge precipice till he came to a stone arch. He walked through the arch and found himself in a beautiful valley. To his surprise he found that the air had become warmer and the valley was overgrown with thick tropical foliage. The slopes were covered with verdant bushes and palm trees were everywhere. A heavenly scent filled the air. Then he noticed that the bushes were heavily laden with tiny tear-shaped berries.

"Beedleberries!" gasped Alley. "They must be the beedleberries that the Grand

Wizer was talking about."

He followed a path that led through the tall grass toward the nearest slope. All he had to do, he figured, was pick the berries, stuff them into the bag he carried over his shoulder and head back down the mountain

to Moo. But, suddenly, he stopped.

A piping noise came from the pathway a little ahead of him. It seemed to be coming nearer. He dropped out of sight in the grass and waited. It was someone weeping. The tiny whimpering voice was like a little child's. Presently, he saw a little old man with a long white beard walking along the path. The tiny man's head was bowed, his shoulders drooped, and he was crying as if his heart would break. Alley reached out and grabbed him. As he lifted him up and held him in his arms, the little man shrieked with terror.

"Please! Please!" he screamed, "Don't kill

me. Let me go!"

Alley patted the little man's head. "Don't be frightened," he said soothingly, "I don't aim to hurt you. I want to help you. Tell me why you're crying."

The old man wiped his nose on his sleeve and sniffled before he spoke. "I'm crying," he said, "because my father beat me."

Alley stared at the man in disbelief. "Your father beat you?" he snorted. "Why, you must be at least ninety-years old. Ya mean to say your father is still living? And if he is living, do ya mean to say he's strong enough to beat you?"

The little old man pulled a tiny handkerchief from his pocket and wiped away his tears. "Sure, my father is still living. He's

a hundred-and-twenty years old."

"What!" gasped Alley. "That's mighty hard to believe. But, tell me, why did he

beat you?"

Another fit of sobbing shook the aged man before he answered. "My father beat me," he stammered, "because — because I was throwin' stones at my grandfather!"

"Ha! Ha! Ha!" Alley grabbed his sides and fell back on the grass, helpless with laughter. "Throwin' stones at your grandfather?" he roared. "Now I've heard everything. That means your grandpaw must be about a hundred-and-forty years old!"

"A hundred-and-fifty-two, to be exact," the old man corrected, "Everybody up here on Owga lives to a ripe old age - 'cause we drink a gallon of beedleberry juice every

"Beedleberry juice!" said Alley. "That's

what I came up here to get."

The old man hesitated. "It's against the law. My people don't want outsiders to get any of the berries. If we allowed strangers to pick the berries we wouldn't have enough for ourselves."

"But I need 'em badly," pleaded Alley. "Beedleberry juice is the only thing that'll cure my queen of her terrible sickness."

"All right," said the old man. "You tried to help me and now I'll help you. Start picking the berries and I'll act as lookout. If I see our warriors coming I'll whistle. Then you'd better start running for your life. You might be big. But you wouldn't stand a chance against a thousand Owganians!"

Hurriedly, Alley started to pick the berries and stuff them into his sack. The bushes were heavy with the berries and the job didn't take too long. He had the bag almost full when he heard a long, high whistle.

"That's the old man," he bellowed. "The Owganians must be coming. I better get

outta here fast!"

Alley slung the bag over his shoulder. Suddenly, the high, shrieking cries of many tiny voices filled the air. Then he saw them. Thousands of little men, swarming down the slope with spears and bows. The bowmen were already shooting and arrows started to fly around his head.

"OUCH!" cried Alley as a tiny arrow nicked his shoulder. He started to run down the mountain as fast as his legs could carry

him. Another arrow hit his ear. It felt like a bee sting. A third arrow pricked the back of his neck. But his long legs helped Alley to rapidly outdistance the ferocious little warriors. Soon he heard their cries fading into the distance.

"I made it," he gasped. Nevertheless, he took no chances. He kept running and only stopped twice in his long descent down the

mountain.

Five hours later, Alley returned to Moo. When he entered the royal cave, King Guz and the Grand Wizer were waiting for him. The Queen was still kneeling on the bed, howling piteously.

"I got the beedleberries," Alley announced

proudly.

"Good boy!" cried the King. "I'll reward you handsomely for this!"

"Gimme the berries!" cried the Grand Wizer, snatching the bag from Alley's hand.

The Wizer spilled the berries into a stone bowl and crushed them with a wooden club. Then he dipped a spoon into the juice and started to feed it to the helpless queen. After the fourth spoonful the Queen relaxed and lay back on the bed. The howling stopped and she smiled happily.

"She's cured!" cried the Grand Wizer. "See? She's smiling. The howling's stopped!"

"Wonderful!" cried the King. "Tomorrow night we'll have a big feast to celebrate. We'll-"

The King stopped before the sentence ended. He looked toward the bed. Once again the Queen was climbing to her knees. "GRRRrrrrrr!" The Queen's teeth were

bared as she growled deep in her throat. "Omigosh," cried the Grand Wizer. "She's

cured of the Howlin' Sickness. But now she's got the GROWLIN' SICKNESS!"

The King hurled his club across the cave. It bounced off the Grand Wizer's head. Then he picked up a rock and heaved it at Alley.

Alley and the Grand Wizer beat a hasty retreat out the door. Guz stood in the cave entrance, watching them as they frantically raced towards the woods. He turned to stare helplessly at his stricken wife. But, as he turned, his jaw dropped and his eyes bulged out of his head. Queen Umpa was sitting on the edge of the bed, grinning. Her growling had stopped.

"You mean-" gasped the King

"Yeah," laughed the Queen. "I was just teasin' 'em. The béedleberry juice really cured me. But I couldn't resist throwin' a scare into the poor boys!"

"Hmmph," grunted the King. "That's gratitude for you. But what can you expect from a woman. I wonder how far Alley and the Wizer will get before I catch up with 'em?"

THE END





















































































ALLEY OOP













...I TELL YOU, THAT OF THAT I HAVE CONTRAPTION'S NO SINGLE DUIBT. DANGEROLIS... I'D PILIMB FOR-WHAT WITH THEM GOT YOUR BRAIND WHEELS AN ALL... WORE OUT. IT GOT OUTA CONTROL... I DON'T LINNER STAND THINGS











Mr. Daniels was willing to be bombed



Admirals smiled when, in 1921, he claimed air power could sink battleships. And Mr. Josephus Daniels, the Navy secretary, said he was "prepared to stand bareheaded on the deck of a battleship and let General Mitchell take a crack at me with bombing airplane."

But in an actual test, the most heavily armored 'dreadnaught ever built sank in minutes under the sledge-hammer blows of the world's first 1-ton bombs—bombs built to Billy Mitchell's order.

Mitchell was used to disbelief. In World War I, Pershing called his idea for dropping infantry by parachute absurd. "Experts" laughed when he talked of putting cannon in planes, scoffed when he predicted air speeds way in excess of 200 miles.

In his early fight for a strong air force, Mitchell saw very dark days. Yet he never lost faith in the American people, nor they in him. For they recognized his clear foresight and great fighting heart as part of the real American spirit.

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Safe as America – U.S. Savings Bonds





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... maybe it's you!

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