

CANINES FOR AFRICA presents

K9 Tales



Shikar's Incredible Adventure



PEACO TODD





K9 Shikar & Lucky

All K9 Tales are based on real-life rangers and dogs, working in the field to protect wildlife. K9 Shikar and her handler Lucky operate in South Africa.

K9 Tales: Shikar's Incredible Adventure

Created by Vianna von Weyhausen & Peaco Todd

Written & Illustrated by Peaco Todd

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Artwork © by Peaco Todd, 2019

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THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN IVORY IS BIG BUSINESS. CRIMINALS OFTEN HIRE LOCAL VILLAGERS TO KILL ELEPHANTS & HACK OFF THEIR TUSKS. THE POACHERS CAN EARN MORE THAN A YEAR'S SALARY BUT THE CRIMINALS MAKE MILLIONS.



EVERYTHING SEEMS PEACEFUL AS DAWN IS ABOUT TO BREAK OVER
MATAPOS CANINE TRAINING CENTRE.

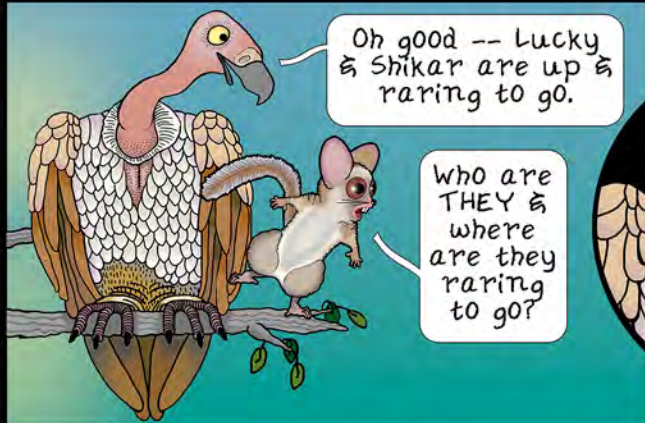


SUDDENLY A TERRIBLE NOISE
FRACTURES THE NIGHT....

BOOM!



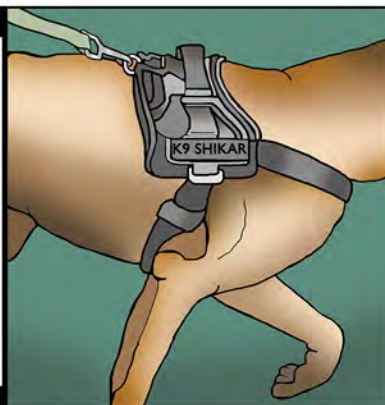




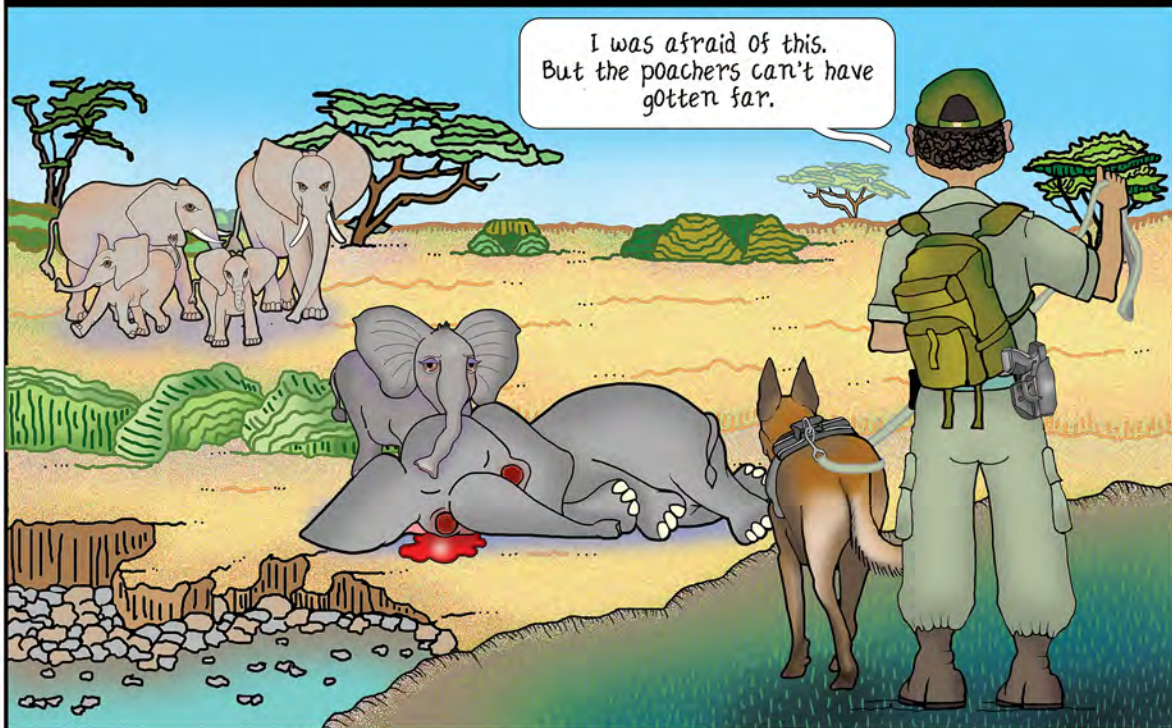
I'm Ranger Lucky & we're K9 Shikar's team. We work with her here & we'll be going with her today on her first mission! Shikar has learned to DISARM poachers by attacking the arm they use to carry weapons. She can track poachers by using her keen sense of SMELL. Also, she can stay ALERT for long periods of time. This work can be very dangerous for both dogs & rangers but we feel strongly that protecting endangered animals is worth the risks.



FOR HER MISSION, SHIKAR WEARS A SPECIAL HARNESS. THE TEAM GATHERS ITS EQUIPMENT AS WELL AS RIFLES -- THE POACHERS ARE ARMED SO THE RANGERS ARE, TOO. THEN THEY SET OFF TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED.

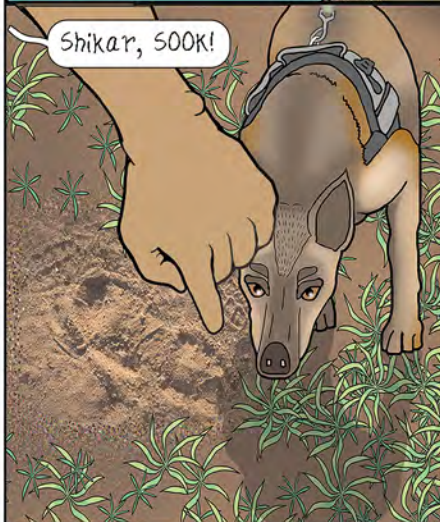


I was afraid of this.
But the poachers can't have
gotten far.



Shikar, SOOK!

ONCE THE TEAM FINDS THE
POACHERS' TRACKS, LUCKY POINTS
& GIVES SHIKAR A SIGNAL,
(*SOOK* IS AN ADAPTATION OF THE
GERMAN VERB "TO SEEK.")



LED BY SHIKAR, WHO
NOW HAS THE SCENT,
THE TEAM GOES AFTER
THE POACHERS.





Shikar, rim hom!

"RIM HOM" IS A
TRADITIONAL
COMMAND FOR A
TAKE-DOWN.

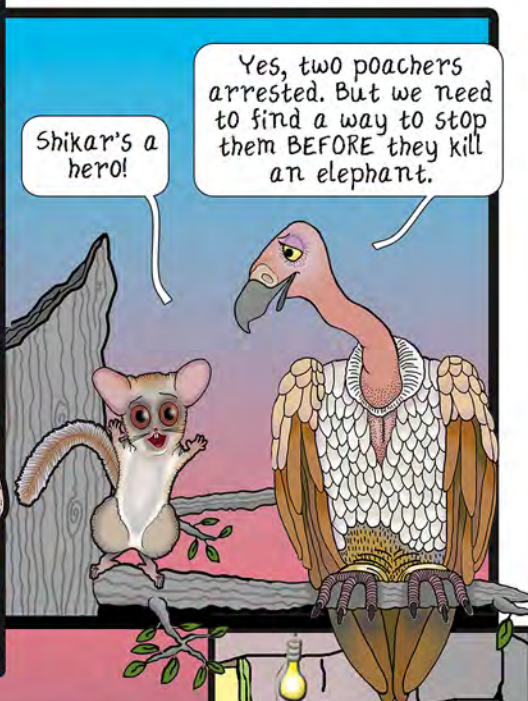
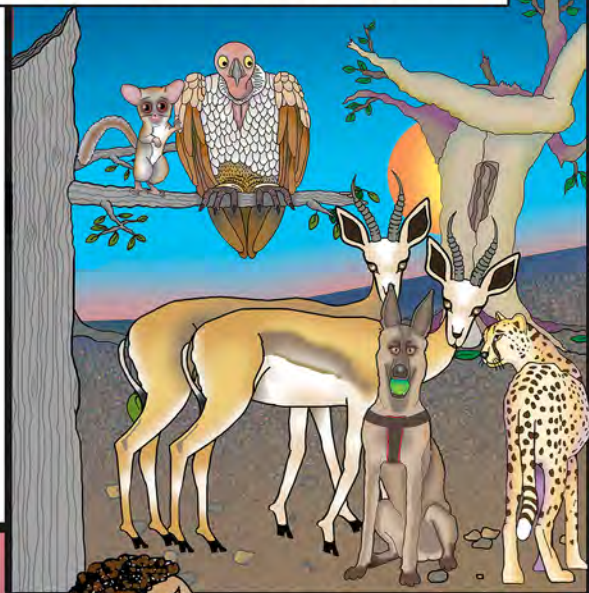




SHIKAR'S MATAPOS FRIENDS CELEBRATE BUT THE VICTORY IS BITTERSWEET...



Two poachers on your first mission, Shikar -- that's brilliant! Now, here's what you've been waiting for!



Shikar's a hero!

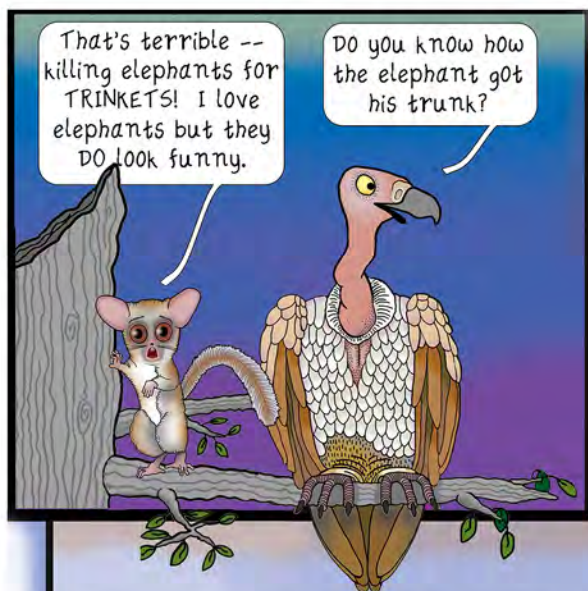
Yes, two poachers arrested. But we need to find a way to stop them BEFORE they kill an elephant.



Papa, Shikar caught two poachers -- it was so exciting! I got caught, too, sneaking into the centre, but they're going to let me help out from now on -- I get to clean kennels & everything! I'm going to be a ranger when I grow up!



What am I doing??



IN THE BEGINNING, Elephant had only a small nose. Elephant liked his delicate snout except when he was at the river - being of great size, having to bend down to drink hurt his knees.

One day, Elephant was drinking from the river when Crocodile passed by. Crocodile was feeling especially hungry & decided Elephant would make a splendid meal. So he swam stealthily up & grabbed Elephant by the nose. Elephant tried to pull away but Crocodile had his nose in a firm grip.

Crocodile tried with all his might to pull Elephant into the water but Elephant was very strong. He dug his feet into the bank & fought back. The battle went on for hours & with every tug Elephant's nose stretched a little more. Finally, Crocodile became too tired to pull any more & let go of Elephant.

At first Elephant was embarrassed by the fact that his nose was suddenly very long. Soon, however, Elephant realized that his new nose was very useful. He was able to drink without having to kneel & he could reach high branches & pull them down to eat the fruit & leaves.

The other Elephants decided they too wanted long trunks so one by one they visited the river & taunted Crocodile into trying to pull them into the water. Since the Elephants always won, they all ended up with the long trunks they desired. And Crocodile realized that he needed to look elsewhere for his dinner.

THIS STORY IS ADAPTED FROM A SOUTH AFRICAN FOLK TALE.

5 Reasons ELEPHANTS are Amazing!

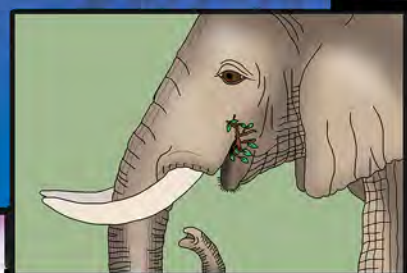
They are the biggest mammals on earth & **HIGHLY INTELLIGENT**. Their brains have more neurons than humans have -- they are smarter than some people.

They live in **TIGHT-KNIT GROUPS** led by a female, called the Matriarch. Other females, called Aunties, help care for the young.

Elephants have **EXCEPTIONAL MEMORIES**: during times of drought, the Matriarch often remembers places where water can be found even after decades.

Elephants can recognize themselves in mirrors, which scientists believe indicates unusually high **SELF-AWARENESS**.

Elephants seem to feel **EMPATHY** - they respond to what other elephants are feeling, care for the injured & **MOURN** their dead.





1 Wildlife Ranger is killed every three days

4 Elephants are killed every hour

3 Rhinos are killed every day

This means that during the 15 minutes or so it has taken you to read Shikar's Incredible Adventure, one elephant has died at the hands of a poacher somewhere in Africa.

Many of Africa's other endangered wildlife are also being decimated at a catastrophic rate. The value of the illegal wildlife trade is calculated to be over \$10 billion US every year.

Canines for Africa was founded in 2016 by Zimbabwean-born philanthropist and conservationist Vianna von Weyhausen, to help stem this slaughter of African wildlife. Through our South African based operational wing K9 Conservation, we train specialized dogs and their ranger-handlers, creating elite and highly effective K9 wildlife-protection and counter-poaching units. These are then deployed to reserves throughout Africa – and beyond – where poaching is causing the most harm to wildlife and to communities.

Unless we all do something, whether big or small, to protect our world's wilderness and wildlife, those who are young now may never get to see many of the wondrous animals with whom we share this planet. Furthermore, the balance of nature – so vital for the survival of all living creatures, including mankind – will be damaged beyond repair.

Canines for Africa is a non-profit organization, operating as a 501(c)3 in the US.

www.K94A.org



Earth Comix, a 501(c)3 non-profit, was founded in 2016 by cartoonist Peaco Todd & environmental engineer John Bradley with the mission of using cartoons and comics to educate people about the danger of extinction that elephants, rhinos and other endangered animals are facing due to poaching and climate change, and encourage activism in the fight to save these iconic, and irreplaceable, creatures.

www.earthcomix.org

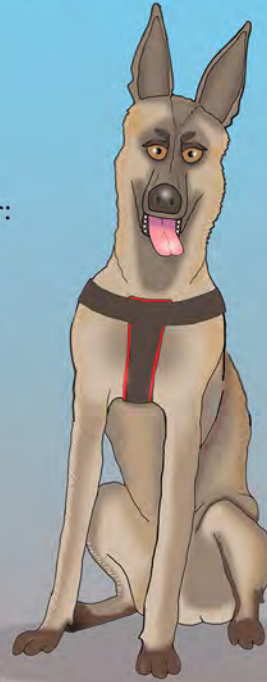
K9 Tales is a collaboration between Canines for Africa and Earth Comix. All proceeds will go to support these organizations, and are tax-deductible.

K9 Tales

US \$10.00 Children's Literature/Comics

Support Shikar & friends with **K9 Tales** gear: mugs, t-shirts, mousepads, prints & more, all with your favorite **K9 Tales** characters!

Visit the shop at earthcomix.org to see the wide variety of items available.



All proceeds benefit Canines for Africa & Earth Comix in their efforts to stop the poaching of elephants, rhinos, pangolins & other endangered animals.

k94a.org

earthcomix.org



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