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Amiable Ape

Laura Rountree Smith

*The Amiable Ape, so the story goes,
is a barber as you suppose.
If you have her trim your ruff,
be sure to say, "Enough is enough."*

The Funny Fox said, "The other day I went to visit the Amiable Ape, our lady barber, to get a haircut. I sat down in her chair, and as her shears went 'snip, snip, snip,' she said,

*'See that picture on the wall,
the Lion who is King of all.'*"

The Funny Fox said, "I got so interested in looking at the Lordly Lion in his handsome robe, and I so admired his crown, while the Amiable Ape's shears went 'snip, snip, snip,' that I never gave a thought to what she was doing, until as bad luck would have it, I was shorn like a lamb! Now, I have to wear clothing to keep warm, and the Amiable Ape said to me as I went out,

*'Look in the mirror as you go out,
you'll like your appearance beyond a doubt.'*"

I was so angry I nearly tumbled over her servant as she was bringing in the oil to finish the hairdressing. The Amiable Ape called after me,

*"I left fur on your tail and toes,
that will help some, I suppose!"*

I was so angry to find the Amiable Ape had been playing a trick on me, for she was usually my friend, but still, I was thankful to have some fur left, which reminds me of the saying, "Half a loaf is better than no bread."

To change the epic, the Bold Badger said,

*"I've heard that story once or twice,
let's all go skating on the ice."*

So out they went, and while the Bold Badger was fitting his skates on, many interesting things happened.



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