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Opening extract from

Elmer and the Stranger

Written by

David Mckee

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For Fabio B and Amy Z

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ELMER
and the Stranger



David McKee

Andersen Press

Elmer, the patchwork elephant, had just started his morning walk when Tiger arrived.

"Elmer," he said, "there's a stranger around and he's acting very strangely. He jumps and falls over."

"Strangers often act strangely; that's why they're strangers," said Elmer.

"Well I don't think he's happy," said Tiger.



Just then Lion appeared. "Hello, Elmer. Hello, Tiger," he said.

"Elmer, there's a strange chap around. He sort of . . . sort of . . ."

"Jumps," said Tiger. "Elmer knows."

"And then he kind of . . . well he . . ."

"Falls over," finished Tiger. "Elmer knows."

"Yes, well also he seems . . . aah . . ."

"Unhappy," said Tiger. "Elmer knows."

"Let's just go and see," said Elmer kindly.