

A CHAT WITH A LION



Ian loves flying. He loves looking at the country from the sky. He loves the feeling of freedom when he flies. Ian's hobby is hang-gliding.

Ian is a lucky young man. Why? Hang-gliding is not just his hobby. It is also his work. He often tests hang-gliders and small planes for a big company.

Ian often travels – Canada, Mexico, Madagascar, Argentina, Japan, Australia, New Zealand. He goes hang-gliding all over the world.

One day he is hang-gliding near Cape Town, South Africa. The country is beautiful. He sees mountains, rocks, forests and the blue ocean. Ian is very excited.

Suddenly a strong wind starts blowing. Ian flies up and down, to the left and to the right. He can't control his hang-glider.

For an hour Ian is in the air. Then suddenly he begins to come down.

"Oh no!" Ian yells. He is flying into a zoo. He is flying very low now. He sees the animals – antelopes, zebras, elephants, giraffes and lions.

"Oh dear, not lions, please, not lions!" Ian yells.

Ian lands in the lion's enclosure. Two lions are lying just 200 feet away from him.

The lions see him. One of the lions gets up and slowly walks toward Ian. Ian is terrified.

"Please do not hurt me," Ian says to the lion. I like cats. I have a cat at home. His name is Peanut."

The lion stops. It looks at Ian. Then it turns around and walks away.

Suddenly Ian hears a helicopter. The helicopter lands near Ian, and Ian gets into the helicopter. He is safe.

"Thank you," Ian says to the man in the helicopter.

"You're a lucky man," the man says. "The lion is not hungry."

"I think the lion knows I like cats," Ian says, and he smiles.