

Today we shall deal with boos. In high school English class (Nov. 4, 1959) we were assigned the task of writing a theme or story. The teacher was a little scared of me after this one:

Benny, The Boo

You've all met Benny, haven't you? You haven't? Well, then I'd better describe him to you.

Benny is a boo. My boo is really quite an unusual pet. He is about the height of a kitten and just as soft. No haughty dachshund could possibly rival Benny's length. His two tails are much the same as a rabbit's tail, which complicates a human's fiendish desire to pull long tails. Benny's ears are the butt of many people's jokes, because people just can't appreciate his three long, scalloped, ruffled ears. (Those ears aren't strange if you know why there are three of them. Of course, I haven't figured the reason yet for them, but I'm certain there is a good reason for them.) Benny has quite a supply of legs. In fact, there are six. The two center legs can easily be used as wings if a need for wings ever arises. Sound is not a part of Benny; however, any thought which he wishes to convey is shown in his deep violet eyes.

Boo come in an array of colors, but my Benny is the most delightful shade of lavender with long mint green ears. About his neck is a wide ribbon, also mint green. Suspended by this ribbon are three golden fairy bells, which tinkle merrily as he bounces through the room. To understand Benny, you really should know a little about his personality or booanality. Sympathy and joyousness are Benny's main characteristics. He is never gloomy, moody, contrary, or selfish. Always he is at hand with a sympathizing nudge.

By now you are convinced that I am "pulling your leg" and that there is no such thing as a boo. I am as sincere as I ever am about my boo. You too may acquire a boo if you enter the land of imagination once in a while. Here only do the boo exist. Please enter this land sometime. The world would be better off if more people had the ability to find a boo.

Oh, and by the way, when you throw this paper down in disgust, be careful of Benny. He is playing by your feet right now.

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The teacher threw caution to the wind and assigned her class another theme. Rumor has it that she resigned after this next one.

How To Judge a Boo

Today I will deal with the judgment of boo. A good boo is one hand high and four and one half hands long. Its two tails must be shaped as a rabbit's, but they must be evenly placed. Each of its three ears is required to be long, quite ruffled, and exquisitely scalloped. These ears must be a clear mint green with a delicate lavender edge. (If the green isn't clear, the boo is too old for the contest.) Two of his six legs should be wide and suitable for easy conversion into wings. All legs must be of equal length. A boo's eyes are deep violet. (If the violet isn't deep, the boo isn't happy, and an unhappy boo is an unhealthy boo.) Boo fur must be as soft as a kitten's and as lavender as the feathers around my ring.

(If you find a boo with these qualities, please let me know. You don't see that type just every day, you know.)

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