On a far sandy shore

Between shallows and tide,

Stands a large seesaw

Tipped to one side.

Elephant sat on the seesaw

tilting it to one side only.

He waited for a friend to join him,

feeling rather sad and lonely.

He waited an hour, or two, even more.

staring at the sun sweeping over the shore.

Sitting here alone… oh, such a bore!

Then, a butterfly appeared,

Suggesting with a smile:

"if you' re waiting for a friend to join you

I might stay here for a while "

"You are welcome to stay”

The elephant agreed,

But as the butterfly settled,

He was sorry he did.

The butterfly was as light as a feather,

Airy as morning breeze,

So Elephant felt big and clumsy

From wrinkly trunk to crumpled knees.

Different weights on a seesaw,

As you probably know,

Will always, but always

Keep one side below.

“I am sorry,” Elephant sighed,

Firmly shaking his head,

“If we can’t play together,

Then you can’t be my friend!”

He waited an hour, or two, even more.

staring at the sun sweeping over the shore.

Sitting here alone… oh, what a bore!

Then, a cat showed up

purring loud and clear:

“If I sat here, with you,

would you scratch behind my ear?

"You are welcome to join me” Elephant agreed

But as the cat sat down, He was sorry he did.

Because the cat snuggled

on Elephant’s lap,

and one ear scratch later

she fell into a deep nap.

And although the cat was

nice and kind,

The seesaw was still leaning

to merely one side.

"I am sorry" sadly Elephant said

“but if we can’t play together,

then you can’t be my friend”

He waited an hour, or two, even more,

staring at the sun sweeping over the shore.

Sitting here alone, oh, such a bore!

A wolf then arrived

howling loudly from behind:

“I’d like to sit here with you and some friends,

I hope you wouldn’t mind”

"You are all very welcome” Elephant agreed,

But as the wolf sat down, he was sorry he did.

For a pack of wolves sat down with the wolf

Facing Elephant on the seesaw’s seat,

they smiled at Elephant politely and said:

“it is really a pleasure to meet”

but the wolves started to wail

like a grand marching band

in a language that Elephant

simply didn’t understand.

they sat for a while

and stared at the shore,

but strangely Elephant felt

even lonelier than before.

"I am sorry" sadly Elephant said

“but if we can’t play together,

then you can’t be my friends”

He waited an hour, or two, even more.

staring at the sun sweeping over the shore.

Sitting here alone, oh, such a bore!

A cloud of dust arose from the trail,

Then sounds of trample, squash and clunk:

an elephant stomped all big and clumsy,

From tail to ears, to dangly trunk.

“hello, I’m elephant, it is so nice to meet!”

Said the elephant to Elephant on the seesaw seat.

Elephant just couldn’t believe his eyes:

“we are so much alike!” he cried with surprise:

“we are not just ‘alike’

We’re practically the same;

the same size and same height…

we have even the same name!”

The other elephant shook his head,

gave a big smile and replied:

“we are actually very different.

See, I prefer the slide”

and before the other elephant

turned his back and went away,

he said:

“I’m meeting some friends here,

you are welcome to play”.