



PANDA'S

PREDICAMENT

By
Lucy



Long ago in ancient China, Panda had snow white fur. He liked to show off his lovely coat to everyone in the bamboo forest. They soon grew weary of all of his bragging.



One day, Panda was taking a walk when he came upon a man staring at a cluster of flowers.

"What are you doing?" Panda asked.

"I am an artist," the man explained, "I'm planning on painting these cherry blossoms."

"But why cherry blossoms though?" Panda was very curious.

"They are in full bloom and I wish to capture their beauty." The painter sighed with contentment.



"Why don't you paint me?" Panda was quite vain. "Everyone in the forest says that I have the most beautiful fur *all year round*." "Sorry, the cherry blossoms will be gone if I don't paint them soon." "But I'm going down south when winter comes," Panda whined. The painter did not reply and continued to study the flowers.



Panda was not use to being ignored and stomped off in anger. Panda thought to himself: *If he won't paint me, I won't let him paint anything, including his precious little flowers. I'll ruin his painting supplies.*
Hmpph!



That night, Panda sneaked into the artist's supply room. It was very dark, so Panda accidentally stepped into a big tray of paint. In his hurry to get out, Panda slipped and fell right on his back.



Panda limped back home, covered in paint. He filled a tub of warm water, took a long bath, and scrubbed very hard at his fur. But the paint would not come off! Panda's eyes widened and for the first time in his life he looked scared and maybe even...embarrassed!



Quickly, Panda painted dark circles around his eyes to disguise himself. Now that his white fur was ruined, Panda had nothing to brag about. He avoided other animals in the forest in fear of what they would say.



Today, pandas are still very shy creatures, hiding in shame for what their ancestor did hundreds of years ago.



The End

結束 