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LESSON FROM HUNDRED ACRE WOOD

By Theolonius McTavish

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LESSON FROM HUNDRED ACRE WOOD

— Or, wabbit hunting is for wimps —

Some say that the world is being overrun by far too many rabbits — Oswald the Rabbit, Roger the Rabbit, Bugs Bunny not to mention all manner of wretched little Easter Bunnies. If that's so, then "wabbit hunting" is sure to become a growth opportunity for outfitters, guides, and taxidermists or for those catering to the Saturday morning cartoon-rerun crowd.

On the other hand, some suggest that it requires neither courage nor skill to outwit a bouncy, four-legged, floppy-eared thing with a twitchy pink nose. They hold the popular view that the only reason these critters exist is to keep wimpy warriors safe if not sound and give the wicked wenches something to cook besides tasteless toads.

Those with the "right stuff" know that the "real action" in life comes from slaying dragons, mashing monsters or trouncing trolls. For a change of pace, there's always the chance of saving the odd damsel-in-distress or two, just to keep a fellow feeling needed on his day off.

As fate would have it however, "real men" have done such a bang up job of eradicating the big brutes over the past few centuries, there's precious little to tick off on their "to do" lists. No more tales to impress long-lost lovers. No more battering rams to strike fear into the hearts of those wanting to grab a guy's favorite parking spot.

Diversions such as a daring game of snakes and ladders, extreme-tiddlywinks and no-holds-barred croquet simply won't cut it any longer. And, with no dragons, monsters or trolls around to hunt, clearly something had to be done before the fickle finger of fate intervened.

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The possibility that the woosies, or heaven forbid the thought that the wenches might take over and — put an end to hunting, close the pleasure palaces, not to mention declare peace in the Garden of Eden — obviously did not sit too well with the macho–merengue types. This scenario was not an option! So, there wasn't a moment to lose if a hunky dory outcome was to be engineered!

That's why "The Academy of Arcane Stuff & Tricky Things" stepped in to offer a silver–tongued solution to this perplexing problem. Needless to say, after much consolation, consultation, and a few stiff drinks...the ivory–tower icons got together with several baron–of–beef business buddies and a couple of pleased–as–punch politicians who all agreed on one thing — the need for a plan.

This was a tall order however since the gurus had only ever prepared "pomp and circumstance" pieces of piffle. Would they be able to produce anything but the usual five–inch–thick, two–volume, color–coordinated, bound–set of embossed tomes typically found languishing on bookshelves propping

up the dust bunnies? This time, a miracle was in order. Nothing less than a "Master–Plan" with a "pithy purpose, pliable priorities, and oodles of prizes" would do thank you.

So, after forty days of paripatectic pondering in the seclusion of the "Hundred Acre Wood", (including 960 hours of going around in little circles, and 39 nights of counting sheep), they came up with a ground–breaking, politically–incorrect 'man–power' strategy (affectionately known as "PLAN–B").

Although the stupendous plan was woefully short on details, at least the election of an awe–inspiring 'Grand Pooh–Bah of Everything Important in the Universe' was hailed as a neat way to boost the flagging morale of the lads. On second thought, it might also have had something to do with giving the bureaucrats plenty of time to sharpen their pencils, or just an excuse to haggle over the best bang–for–the–buck on how to save the world from the scourge of wimps and wusses.

If the devil is in the details, then they surely must have been lost forever in the small print of all this blessed bumpf. And for those who missed out on the "Grand Thoughts About Nothing Summit of Great Minds", there's still time to sign up for courses like "Where to Find the Best Haycorns", "Useful Pots to Keep Things In", and "Knowledge Management for Bears of Very Little Brain".

After all, who in their right mind could refuse a misspelled engraved invitation to a seminar on "Hunny–Making Tips", a CD sampler of "Popular Hip–Hop Hums" not to mention a "smackeral of something" around 11 o'clock, plus a client feedback form covered with those ubiquitous smiley faces, and an autographed personal copy of "PLAN–B"?

No doubt prozac–popping Poohs, materialistically–challenged Rabbits, anxiety–disordered Piglets, donky–depressive Eeyores, hyper–active Tiggers, brilliant but dyslexic Owls, single–parenting Kangas with at–risk Roos and detached–personality Christopher Robins will find these amusing activities just a tad taxing on their simple cerebellums.

By the way, play–with–your–food fanatics, petting zoo herbivores, and wee wabbit workers should definitely consider a career change. According to PLAN B, "Our mighty man–power strategy guarantees a marvellous, bright, new future for MANkind, especially those who pursue a challenging

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eco-adventure career in the emerging field of heffalump and woozle hunting." ...Oh won't that be fun tiddley pom! ...Another gold star tiddley pom. ...Ho hum tiddley pom.

LESSON FROM HUNDRED ACRE WOOD: If one whistles long enough while digging a Deep Pit to trap a heffalump or one wanders aimlessly in the wilderness with a pot of honey to catch a woozle, one's definition of these elusive critters will vary with the weather, one's appetite, and the volatility of the Animal Kingdom Happiness Index (AKHI).

Theolonius McTavish, itinerant scribe in the palace of the esteemed "Quipping Queen" (www.quippingqueen.blogspot.com), and one whose eclectic interests include how to build "The Good Ship Lollipop", biodegradable hexagons, and "Sleep Country" mattresses

Outdoor Wood Furniture—discover Why Its Superior

By Jesse Akre

Some people balk at the idea of purchasing outdoor wood furniture due to the fact they believe the furniture is hard to maintain and doesn't stand up well against the outdoor elements. This couldn't be further from the truth. Outdoor wood furniture is assuredly durable and not nearly as high maintenance as some would have you believe. Before you rule out outdoor wood furniture, make sure you know your facts.

As far as durability goes, outdoor wood furniture can be some of the most durable outdoor furniture available if you know what type of wood to look for. Teak, Redwood and Cedar are all popular woods that outdoor wood furniture is made from. These woods are not only strong and resilient, but the furniture made from them is often rich and beautiful.

If you're worried about the maintenance of outdoor wood furniture, you need to rethink that as well. How much maintenance your outdoor wood furniture needs depends on what type of wood the furniture is made from as well as how you want that furniture to look. If you like the weathered look, occasionally hosing your wood furniture down and scrubbing off dirt and debris is all it will take. However, if you prefer the varnished look, you'll need to keep your outdoor wood furniture clean and you'll have to re-treat it regularly to maintain the wood's appearance.

Cost is another issue that causes many people to lean towards non-wood furniture options. What these people don't realize is that they're going to pay more money for quality furniture, no matter what material it's made from. Why does a cheap plastic lawn chair go for less than twenty bucks when a nice, wood rocking chair goes for hundreds? Because of the quality and craftsmanship that goes into making the furniture. However, that doesn't mean wood furniture is the most expensive outdoor furniture on the market. When you do a side-by-side comparison, it is easy to see that outdoor wood furniture is competitively priced against quality outdoor furniture made from other materials.

The next time you find yourself in need of outdoor furniture, check and see what outdoor wood furniture is available. You may be surprised at what you find.

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Jesse Akre, owner of numerous home and patio decor websites, makes it easy to find quality Outdoor Wood Furniture and Adirondack All Weather Furniture . Learn how to decorate your patio and garden in style – click the following link:



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