

THE STORY OF CREATION – taken from the Lion Children’s Bible

****GENESIS 1-2****

Darkness, darkness, deep and wild.
Then God began to speak. God smiled
and said, “In my creation I want ... LIGHT.”
The dark exploded into bright.
The evening dimmed, night passed away,
and morning came: the world’s first day.

The next day came: God made the sky
- a blue horizon wide and high.

The third day: God spoke to the sea
and to the ocean, wild and free:
“Your waves may crash and surge and roar...
but may not go beyond the shore.
For I am making all the land
from ooze and mud, from rock and sand.”

Then God spoke to the humble EARTH:
“From deep within you, life will birth.”
So seeds grew plump, their shoots uncurled,
and tendrils, leaves and flowers unfurled.
The petals fell, the fruit grew round
and tumbled gently to the ground
among the grasses, ripe with grain,
from which new plants would grow again.

The fourth day: sunshine, warm and gold,
and then the moonlight, silver, cold..
and stars that danced across the night,
each one a tiny twinkling light.

The fifth day: larks on whirring wing
rose from the earth, began to sing;
and then on every field and hill
the birds began to chirp and trill.
Across the dawnlight’s dappled sky
they swooped and dipped and soared so high.
While in the oceans, green and dim,
great shoals of fish began to swim
among the coral, wracks, and weeds
and tentacled anemones.

The sixth day came: God spoke again.
“Let creatures run on hill and plain:
the swift gazelle, the lumbering ox,
the sleepy sloth, the wily fox.
The lion, roaring from afar,
the stealthy, silent jaguar.
The fragile lamb ... the grizzly bear:
let the creatures everywhere
At last, I now make humankind,” said God.
“Their strength and soul and heart and mind
will make them guardians of all:
the wild, the tame, the great, the small.

“For them, the fruit trees will bend low
and grain will in abundance grow
and they will gather from the land
wild harvests grown by my own hand.
“Their children soon will fill the earth
with love and laughter, joy and mirth.”

And so God’s work at last was done.
The sixth day ended as the sun
sank slowly in the golden west.

The seventh day was time to rest.

