

01:06:52:08 CAT: Children's stories
01:06:55:06 Item: 12 Tock-Tock

01:06:55:09 Produced by: IBA Israel
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01:07:01:04 12: Tock-Tock
01:07:05:03 By: Oded Burla

01:07:08:07 In the middle of Africa,
01:07:12:01 in a large field

01:07:12:04 there is a tall,
01:07:16:14 slightly bent palm tree.

01:07:16:17 In its shadow one morning
01:07:19:19

01:07:19:22 stood an ostrich chick,
01:07:26:01 apart from all the others,

01:07:26:04 deep in thought.
01:07:29:14

01:07:29:18 All the ostrich chicks were so
01:07:35:19 alike they had to be named.

01:07:36:02 But their names weren't
01:07:39:22 ordinary names

01:07:40:00 like Jebadiah, Methuselah
01:07:44:11 or Ebenezer.

01:07:44:14 Not at all. Their names
01:07:49:00 were numbers.

01:07:49:03 When the first one hatched,
01:07:53:02 his mother tapped his head

01:07:53:04 and said: "Hi. You're 1.
01:07:58:20 Remember: 1!"

01:07:58:24 And the first ostrich
01:08:03:06 chirped in reply: "1."

01:08:03:12 When the second ostrich hatched,
01:08:06:13

01:08:06:16 his mother tapped his head
01:08:09:20 and said: "Hi.

01:08:09:24 "You're 2!" and the second chick
01:08:15:06 chirped: "2."

01:08:15:08 And so forth until number 18.
01:08:20:10 And all was well.

01:08:20:18 All 18 chicks were cute,
01:08:26:09 polite and obedient,

01:08:26:12 and learned diligently -
01:08:32:11 all but 12.

01:08:33:03 12 was different.
01:08:36:03

01:08:36:06 He would walk and dream
01:08:41:14 of other things -

01:08:41:18 like how the scent of autumn was
01:08:45:19 different from the scent

01:08:45:21 of danger or of giraffes,
01:08:48:12

01:08:48:15 or how he could help
01:08:52:01 the butterfly

01:08:52:04 who couldn't stop sneezing.
01:08:55:09

01:08:55:12 Often 12 wanted to learn
01:08:59:15 the things his siblings

01:08:59:19 learned and knew,
01:09:04:07 but he simply couldn't!

01:09:04:12 His mother was sorry and
01:09:08:20 scolded him almost all the time.

01:09:08:24 Once, when he was lagging
01:09:12:14 behind, she called out to him:

01:09:12:17 "Come on, 12, what are you
01:09:17:06 doing there?" "I'm watching

01:09:17:10 "this flower grow..."
01:09:22:05 said 12.

01:09:22:20 "Woe are my feathers,"
01:09:27:04 said Mother Ostrich sadly,

01:09:27:08 "Why can't you listen and learn
01:09:33:04 what I'm teaching you all?"

01:09:33:08 "When I walk with you
01:09:36:06 I listen, Mother,

01:09:36:09 "but I hear other things..."
01:09:39:07

01:09:39:11 Then, when Mother taught the
01:09:45:01 chicks to find beetles

01:09:45:05 and swallow small stones,
01:09:51:21 12 lagged behind again.

01:09:52:13 "What is it now, 12?" sighed
01:09:58:09 Mother. "What are you doing?"

01:09:58:13 "I smell someone sleeping!"
01:10:03:23 he said. "And dreaming!"

01:10:04:02 "Woe are my feathers!
01:10:08:15 What will become of you?"

01:10:08:18 "Your siblings already know
01:10:13:15 almost everything! And you?"

01:10:13:19 "Why can't you learn
01:10:17:03 just like everybody else?"

01:10:17:06 "Maybe you teach great things
01:10:21:24 and I have a small head?"

01:10:22:02 "No no no! No way!
01:10:25:21

01:10:25:24 "If you don't learn
01:10:30:01 you won't know, and then..."

01:10:30:07 "Woe are my feathers!"
01:10:32:24

01:10:33:05 So his siblings began
01:10:36:04 calling him

01:10:36:07 "12 Tock-Tock."
01:10:39:16 They said:

01:10:39:20 "If you tap his head, you get that
01:10:44:23 sound because it's empty.

01:10:45:02 "There's nothing in there...
01:10:48:20 but tock-tock!"

01:10:49:08 12 smiled. But deep inside
01:10:55:04 he was upset and hurt

01:10:55:07 that everyone thought
01:10:58:07his head was empty.

01:10:58:10 He knew his head
01:11:02:04 was full of thoughts -

01:11:02:09 but not the ones his mother
01:11:08:02 wanted him to have.

01:11:08:05 These were his own thoughts.
01:11:11:09

01:11:12:03 The days passed, the chicks
01:11:17:05 weren't chicks any more -

01:11:17:09 they were young ostriches.
01:11:22:03 They all looked alike,

01:11:22:09 they all imitated the
01:11:24:24 grown-up ostriches

01:11:25:02 who imitated each other.
01:11:28:05

01:11:28:07 Only 12 Tock-Tock
01:11:33:10 was still different.

01:11:33:15 Sometimes he sadly wished
01:11:40:09 he could be just like them,

01:11:40:13 but didn't know how. He was
01:11:45:01 as big as his siblings,

01:11:45:04 even a bit bigger.
01:11:47:21

01:11:48:00 He would always walk
01:11:51:10 with them, but apart.

01:11:51:19 The time had come for them
01:11:58:11 to go their separate ways.

01:11:58:16 They said goodbye to their
01:12:02:18 parents and to each other

01:12:02:21 and set out.
01:12:06:10

01:12:07:13 12 Tock-Tock also got ready
01:12:10:12 to set out.

01:12:10:15 His anxious mother
01:12:15:08 followed him for a bit.

01:12:15:13 She heard him talking
01:12:19:24 to a rhinoceros

01:12:20:03 whose horn was a bit broken.
01:12:24:01 She listened

01:12:24:05 but couldn't understand
01:12:27:00 their conversation.

01:12:27:04 "Today there are sad birds."
01:12:33:04 "I walked in the sun, no shade."

01:12:33:07 "There's a smile
01:12:36:06 at every corner."

01:12:36:11 Mother Ostrich wrung
01:12:41:22 her wings sadly and left.

01:12:42:02 For a long time,
01:12:46:04 12 was a strange ostrich.
01:12:46:08 Everyone thought so.
01:12:49:20 But he went his own way.

01:12:49:23 He discovered wonderful
01:12:52:23 things everywhere.

01:12:53:01 That there were flowers with
01:12:58:01 two different scents.

01:12:58:05 He heard and understood the
01:13:01:21 whisperings of evening breezes

01:13:01:24 and could imagine things
01:13:07:03 that later on actually happened.

01:13:07:16 But they say that he learned
01:13:11:18 to do all the other stuff

01:13:114:21 normal ostriches do.
01:13:17:23 And yet,

01:13:18:04 every once in a while he still
01:13:23:12 sings with frogs in the night,

01:13:23:16 listens to the earth talking to
01:13:30:01 the rain, watches flowers grow.

01:13:30:07 Now he's a father and he has
01:13:38:09 19 chicks, cute and soft

01:13:38:14 like cotton wool balls,
01:13:43:12 and they all learn everything -

01:13:43:17 all of them clever and polite
01:13:50:12 and cheerful and identical.

01:13:51:10 All - except one.
01:13:54:07