

“A Peculiar Such Thing” - A Radio Drama

Adapted by Dawn Kelley from the version of the folktale found in the Anthology

“The Peculiar Such Thing”

| SXF: | VOCAL TALENT: |
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| Music (preceeds voice, leads into story, fades out after story) | <p>NARRATOR: The Peculiar Such Thing, A Folk Tale From the book “The People could Fly” by Virginia Hamilton Read By: Dawn Kelley</p> <p>Recording Engineers:</p> |
| | <p>ENGINEERS</p> <p>(Each group member speaks their own name)</p> |
| Sound of a guy humming, bumping around in his cabin, maybe whistling while he works. On “Best” there’s a loud, proud bark. On “Alright” and “Fair” there’s a smaller bark. A crackling fire at some point. Happily chewing. | <p>NARRATOR: A long time ago in the high piney woods, lived a fellow all alone. Well, he wasn’t completely alone. He had three dogs and the biggest one he called Best and the other two he called Alright and Fair. He lived in a one room log cabin with a big old fireplace, and that is where this fellow cooked his supper to eat it right in front of the fire.</p> |
| Cooking, followed by the sound of something getting in the cracks of the cabin. | <p>One night, after the fellow had cooked and ate his supper, somethin crept through the cracks of the cabin logs.</p> |
| | <p>That somethin’ was the most peculiar such thing the fellow ever saw. And it had a <i>great, big, long, tail.</i></p> |
| A swoosh and cutting of some sort for the “AX” moment. | <p>(whispering) he reached for his axe. (louder) And with a swoopin strike with it, he cut the</p> |

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| A dashing, fleeing, animal sound. | <p>somethin's tail clean off.</p> <p>The peculiar such thing dashed away through the cracks between the logs and was gone.</p> |
| <p>Eating, cooking, happy satisfied meal sounds.</p> <p>A 'burp' after the word "sweet"</p> | <p>This fellow, like he had no sense, he cooked the great, big, long tail!</p> <p>It tasted unbelievably sweet. \</p> |
| Climbing into bed, snoring | He went to bed so full and satisfied that he fell quickly to sleep |
| | The fellow hadn't been asleep very long before he woke up again. Something was trying to get in his house. |
| SFX: (start before the end of the last paragraph, something scratching at wood) | |
| SFX: (add something to creatures voice, maybe an echo/reverb. Read it creepy, but increase the creepy. Don't forget the ambience of the cabin) | <p>NARRATOR: Pretty soon he heard the creature speak:</p> <p>CREATURE: "Tailypo, tailypo, give me back, my Tailypo."</p> |
| | <p>NARRATOR: Luckily this fellow had those three dogs to protect him.</p> <p>CHARACTER: "Best, Alright, Fair, git it?!"</p> <p>NARRATOR: And his dogs came flying out after that creature and they chased the peculiar such thing far away. Satisfied he was safe, this silly man went back to sleep.</p> |
| | The next night, the fellow once again awoke to that disturbing sound of something trying to get in: |
| SFX: (as before, something scratching at wood) | |

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| | <p>CREATURE: “Tailypo, tailypo, give me back, my Tailypo.”</p> |
| Dogs bark in response to their call, eventually becoming a group bark. | <p>CHARACTER: (scared) “Best, Alright, Fair. Get it, take it away, far far away.”</p> |
| Sound of dogs chasing something away into the distance. | <p>NARRATOR:</p> <p>The dogs busted into the room and the peculiar such thing darted away ahead of them. They about broke their own tails trying to catch it. Feeling confident in his dogs, the man went back to sleep.</p> |
| A return to snoring. Some sort of cheesy, great morning wake up music. A Yawn. Sounds of work (wood chopping maybe) | |
| | <p>NARRATOR: At some point, while going on about his day, the man noticed something. His dogs hadn't come back from the chase.</p> <p>CHARACTER: “Best, where you at? You the best at trackin' you're way home, even if the other two are only alright and fair at it, you always..., unless...”</p> |
| | <p>CREATURE: (distant) “You know you got it, you know you know, give me back my tailypo”</p> |
| | <p>NARRATOR:</p> <p>The man immediately told himself he was hearing things, because he didn't want to believe anything bad had happened to his dogs. He went on about his day, lookin' for them every so often, just knowing he'd see them</p> |

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| | sooner or later, at the very least for supper, but supper came and went without seeing hide or hair of the dogs. |
| | <p>NARRATOR: He tried to convince himself everything was okay and just go to sleep, but instead he lay in bed waiting to hear the sounds of Best, Alright, and Fair returning home. Only their familiar bark isn't what he heard.</p> |
| A creak of a door, something crawling in. | <p>He felt it before he saw it. Something there in the room with him.</p> |
| | <p>CREATURE: (distant) “You know you got it, you know you know, give me back my tailypo”</p> |
| Some sort of sound indicating crawling onto the bed. | <p>NARRATOR: The fellow looked at the foot of his bed and saw two little pointy ears comin' up over the edges.</p> <p>CREATURE: (closer) “Tailypo, Tailypo, give me back my tailypo”</p> |
| Creaking bed | <p>NARRATOR: Then he saw two big, scary red eyeballs lookin' straight at him. He can't say nothing, he can't scream, he's too scared to death.</p> |
| Claws coming out, locking in. | <p>It crawls up on his chest and gets right in his face, latching it's claws into his stomach.</p> <p>CREATURE: (very close) “Tailypo, Tailypo, give me back my tailypo.”</p> <p>NARRATOR: At first the man can't speak, can't move and then.</p> <p>CHARACTER: “I hasn't got it, I hasn't got your tailypo”</p> |

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| | <p>CREATURE: “Yes...you has”</p> |
| Screaming, tearing, shreading, general sounds of meyhem and gore. | <p>NARRATOR:</p> <p>The creature bared it's big teeth and tore into him, shredding him to ribbons.</p> |
| A moment after the gore Ironically happy music. | <p>CREATURE: “Tailypo, Tailypo, I got back, my Tailypo”</p> <p>NARRATOR: The End</p> |
| Musical Outro | <p>NARRATOR: Thank you for listening to the peculiar such thing.</p> <p>The Peculiar Such Thing used sound effects from.... (list sources)</p> <p>And sound effects created by: (our names)</p> <p>Special Thanks to: (anyone we might use to complete this, maybe)</p> <p>Sleep Well</p> <p>(maybe a final, tailypo, tailypo)</p> <p>End Project</p> |

