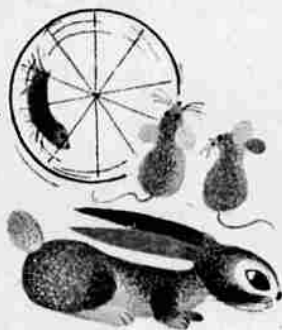


Daddy has a pet peeve

by
Dick Emmons



We agreed to the arrangement before we realized that Jennifer was a creature of late hours. After a few nights of her crunching, we put our foot down—unfortunately missing Jennifer.

"Let's trade Jennifer in on something that sleeps at night," I suggested one red-eyed morning.

"How about a Great Dane?" Ann asked enthusiastically.

I shook my head.

"A spider monkey?"

My wife shook her head vigorously.

"What would you say to a set of matched goldfish!" I cried. Before Ann could protest, I was out the door and on the way to the office. I brought the fish home that night and I want to testify publicly that I believe we have found the solution to the pet problem. Goldfish don't chew papers at night, track mud through the house, or claw at the furniture.

Naturally, we did not arrive at this state of relative bliss without trial (the hamster) and tribulation (the rabbit). In addition, I remember in a cold sweat the evening an otherwise rational neighbor proudly brought our six-year-old twin boys a pair of white mice.

"I'm gonna name mine Sugar!" Davie squealed.

"Mine's Salt!" Dickie yelled. "Build us a cage, Daddy!"

"My wife groaned. 'By all means build them a cage! Ugh! I can't stand the things!'"

As I tried to explain later to my wife, it was the first time in my long and colorful career that I had been called upon to build a mouse cage and, what with one understandable miscalculation and another, Sugar and Salt escaped their new home almost as soon as they were in it.

"EEOUO!" my wife screamed as the little white pets blurred across the kitchen floor. She leaped up on a counter and sought the safety of the refrigerator top.

"Catch mine, Daddy!" Dickie yelled.

"No, get mine first!" Davie howled.

I started on a dead run into the living room in pursuit of one of the escapees, unhappily tripping over a lamp cord and plunging that part of the house into semi-darkness.

"Help! Murder!" my wife shrieked.

"They're under the couch!" the boys squealed. Using Commando tactics and a long-handled corn-popper we keep around for just such emergencies, I was able to trap Sugar and Salt before my wife went out of her mind.

The upshot of the incident was that the boys were allowed to keep the mice in an escape-proof cage in the basement fruit cellar, which was locked and bolted. Under these adverse conditions, the twins soon lost interest and we gave the mice away a few days later—to some people who had not sent us a Christmas card last year.

But we're all set now with our goldfish. Long may they swim!

ENTER TODAY! WIN



NAME ME

Meet handsome 23-year-old Stan Kamber, of New York City. While attending the University of Wisconsin, he did some radio work and appeared in summer stock, which led to a 20th Century Fox contract and roles in major pictures.

A Different Contest Every Week!

You and your family can be among the hundreds of people who will win the fabulous prizes pictured here. In an entertaining, easy-to-enter series of weekly contests, all you do is dream up names for the stars of tomorrow whose pictures are published in Family Weekly. Names that they can use in their film careers. (For example, Rock Hudson, Tab Hunter and Doris Day are stage names. Their real names are Roy Fitzgerald, Art Gelien and Doris Kappelhoff.)

You and your family can enter each weekly contest as often as you like... and there is no limit to the number of prizes you can win. You may be a winner in every one of the contests. Enter today—and watch for a brand new contest next week!

Here are the Easy-to-Follow Rules

1. There will be six separate weekly contests, each with its own set of prizes. You may enter each contest as many times as you desire, using either the entry blank published in FAMILY WEEKLY or a reasonable facsimile.
2. All entries for Contest Number Two must be received by midnight Thursday, August 6. Entries may be mailed on post cards if desired.
3. The prizes for Contest Number Two are: 1st Prize—Trip for two to Brazil via Varig Airlines, with stay in Rio at the Hotel Gloria. 2nd & 3rd Prizes—RCA Whirlpool Washer-Dryers. 4th & 5th Prizes—Westinghouse Electric Ranges. 6th & 7th Prizes—Mercury Outboard Motors. 8 to 15—Nesco Electric Rotisseries. 16 to 23—In-Sink-Erator Disposers. . . .