BABY AVIVA
ORANGUTAN DIVA

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Yeeee Haaaaaaawwwwww!!!

Out of the darkness
and into the light
a rocket, comet
or maybe a star so bright?
Swinging from treetops
was Baby Aviva.

Just two feet tall,
the Orangutan Diva.
A Rainbow of bright colors
and a dress of green

The most vibrant outfit
that you’ve ever seen!
Zipping on down from the tops of the trees,

“Good morning!” she sang to the birds and the bees.
Her voice rang out clearly, a sweet little tune,

Her melody carried right up to the moon!
Tummy a-rumbling, she did a shimmy down a tree.

She searched for bananas, but...where could they be?
Hard as she looked, there were none to be found.

“Holy Moly Guacamole!” she cried; her jaw dropping to the ground
“We’re out of bananas?
No, that can’t be right.

Maybe they’re just hiding out of our sight?”
“It’s true, I’m afraid,” Mama said with a frown. “We must cross the river, though I fear we might drown!”

She was right – No Ape, Monkey or Goat had crossed in quite some time. For the tigers were roaming and crocs were waiting in line.
But the timing was urgent, her family was out of food

“I’ll go,” said Aviva, “Is anyone else in such a brave mood?”
“I’ll come!” said Sofia. “I’m brave and I’m strong. I’ll help you to cross with my trunk, ten-feet long”

“Great! Nothing’s too scary for my friend Sofia and I. We’ll pluck those bananas right out of the sky!”
So off the two went,
across the raging river
A place that nobody dared go,
and barely even said with a shiver
When they reached the cliff’s edge, Aviva had a plan.

She would slide down Sofia’s trunk and swing with one hand.
Up upon high they could see
lots of bananas below
Her heart pumping yet fearless,
she was ready to go!
Whoosh! Went Aviva.
She flew through the air,

Landing ever so gently
where others don’t dare.
She perched on the treetop and searched upon high

Until, at long last, the golden fruit caught her eye.
But as she crept closer, a ROARRRRR filled the skies.

Her heart jumped in fear at that sudden surprise.
Lurking below was what others feared most: An animal mean enough to scare a ghost!

Bright yellow eyes peered up from far beneath. A menacing snarl showed off sharp, pointy teeth.
Aviva looked down. She had seen things far worse. Scared she was not of this loud, frightful curse.

The tiger, she knew, could become her new friend.  

*Just be yourself, she thought.  Do not pretend.*
Tito the Tiger wagged his tail, as if to give a warning sign.

But soon became shocked when he saw Aviva smiling in the sunshine.
Aviva began to sing, rhythmic and sweet. Far below, Tito’s feet swayed to the beat.
What first was a shuffle became a full-out dance.

“Wheeee!!” he said, moving his feet in a prance
He grooved to the music; he howled out with glee.

Now, Aviva was excited to climb down that tree.
Aviva said,
“Move your body like this, Okie Dokie?”

Soon they were dancing a mix between salsa and the Hokey Pokey.
Beep Boppity Doo-Wap Beep Bam Boom!
The orangutan and the tiger were having a party at high noon!

They shook their hands, waved their tails, then stomped their feet,
The new pals were working up a sweat under tropical heat.
Soon they got hungry and realized it was time to eat.

Taking a break, Tito offered up a piece of meat.
“Can I have a banana?” Aviva said, “Please?”
“And maybe some extra to bring ‘cross the trees?”

Aviva was proud, she’d remembered her task.
“Of course,” Tito said, “all you had to do was ask.”
They smiled at each other as they both scarfed them down. Putting her arms around him, Aviva said, “You’re the coolest tiger in town!”
So a friendship was born over snacks and a song

Because Aviva was brave, her family wouldn’t be hungry for long
As she walked back with Sofia, she was glad to go home.

The best things in life can’t be accomplished alone.
But above all,
Aviva the Diva
was true to herself

And at the end of the day,
that’s what matters most,
above everything else.