123 WITH LILLY

For Leah

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“Forest Fairy I need your help. I can’t count I’ve tried, but when I see a number I want to hide.”
“Now, now Lilly it can’t be that bad,” said the fairy as she landed by her side.

“All you need is some practise. I’ll take you to the forest you will find a lot of numbers there. So let us not give up yet, first let’s see how we fare.”

She took out her wand and with a swish magical dust appeared, Lilly became smaller as it glittered around her and then disappeared. The fairy lifted her wings, took Lilly by the hand and began to fly. And together they lifted to the sky.
Woof, Woof! The bark made the fairy look to the ground.
“It’s my dog fairy I have only 1.
He likes to run and wag his tail for fun.”
“There look how easy that was Lilly, you counted 1.”
And so there counting journey begun.

One
1 Dog
A cackle and quack made Lilly look back, her dog chased a pair of ducks now, Lilly counted 2, they ran and flapped their wings with all their might, then jumped into the air and took flight.
2 Ducks
The Forest Fairy picked up her pace and glided over big trees, from the thick branches arose an ooh, ooh, ah, ah sound. “Look Forest Fairy I see a monkey, no wait I see 3,” said Lilly excitedly.
3 Monkeys
Now a zoom, zoom, zoom from above they could hear,
Lilly looked up and saw 4 ladybugs flying near.
4 Ladybugs
“Look out Forest Fairy,” Lilly saw blue birds straight ahead. The fairy took a dive and flew passed the flock of 5.
5 Birds
The fairy glided down and Lilly saw 6 horses on the ground,
Their hooves echoed a clipity clop sound.

Six
6 Horses
They landed in a meadow where Lilly saw 7 bees, 
She wanted a closer look, but the flowers 
make her sneeze.
7 Bees
Colourful butterflies surrounded her now she twirled and counted 8.
“Come on Lilly I don’t want to get you home too late.”

Eight
8 Butterflies
They lifted from the ground and over the meadow they flew. They passed rows of wooden logs, On one Lilly saw 9 green, sleeping frogs. Nine
9 Frogs
They flew over a stream now, golden sparkles appeared, “Wow, look at all the fish in the stream Forest Fairy?”
“How much do you see Lilly? She pointed her finger and counted aloud, “1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.”
“That’s right Lilly do you want to practise again. And Lilly counted all the way home from 1 to 10.
10 Fish
Once they landed Lilly said, “Yay! I counted all my numbers today and it was such fun.” The Forest Fairy replied, “You see Lilly with some practise anything can be done.”

THE END

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Thanks!
Carmen Saptouw

About Carmen Saptouw
As a young child of only 8 years old, she was inspired to write children’s stories. Following her childhood years, she got so involved with being a teenager that she completely forgot about her passion for writing. Only in 2011, the year she turned 29, was her passion reawakened from its deep slumber when her dad found the stories she had written as a child. So more than 20 years later she rewrote the stories with the aim to preserve it, but as she typed, the stories evolved and new ideas were sparked. She aspires to share her stories with children around the world, and for each story to have a sound moral lesson. Visit Tales by Carmen Saptouw, sign up and follow her blog as she explores how parent and child can apply the life lessons contained in her stories.