

Lesson 2 Christian the Lion

Scene 1

[1] Shoppers filled a big London department store one day in 1969. John and Ace shared a house in London. At that time they were shopping for Christmas presents to send to their families in Australia.

[2] While they were shopping, they found a small cage with a baby lion in it for sale! “I’ve never seen a lion in a department store!” Ace cried out in surprise.

[3] The baby lion was cute but it looked really sad. They felt sorry for the lion in such a small cage. Finally John said, “Let’s buy him.”

Scene 2

[4] The male lion was named Christian. In just a few days, Christian came to like his new life with John and Ace. The two men and Christian got on really well. When one of the men was talking to the other, Christian would touch him gently to show that he wanted to play with them.

[5] Christian also loved to go out. John and Ace bought a special collar for him. When they went out for a walk with him, he pulled on his lead like an excited little dog. They also ran and played with a ball together in a field for hours. “I can’t imagine life without him,” John said with a smile.

[6] At first, people were surprised to see a lion in London. However, they soon found that Christian was a lovely little friend. Lots of people, including newspaper photographers and television reporters, came to see him.

[7] However, Christian was growing up very fast. John and Ace felt that their happy life wouldn’t last long.

Scene 3

[8] One day, Christian found a belt in the house and picked it up in his teeth. Ace tried to take the belt away from him, but for the first time he angrily showed his sharp teeth. Ace was shocked, and that reminded him that Christian was a wild animal.

[9] Since the two men began to worry about Christian, one of their friends advised them to talk to George, an expert on lions in Kenya. George said that Christian should join other lions in the wild. John and Ace knew that a life in the wild was best for Christian, so they finally agreed with George.