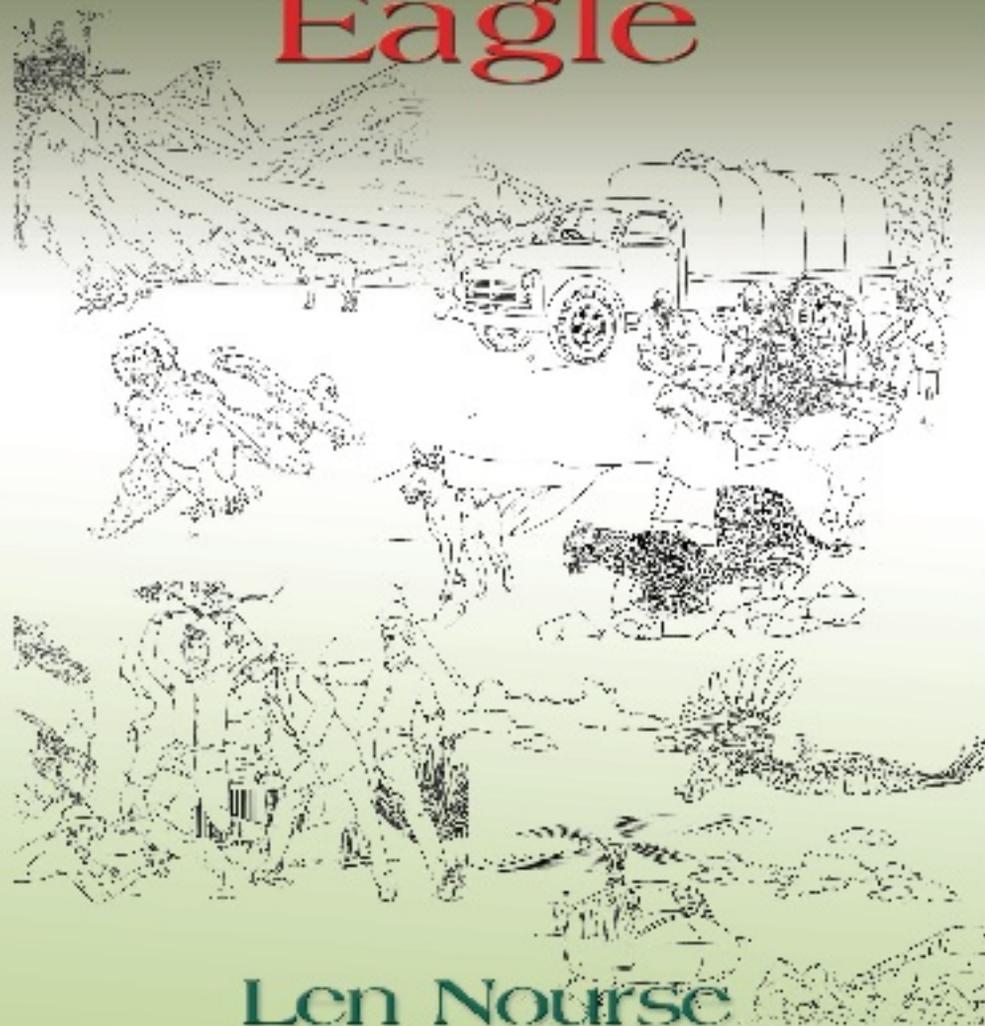


JP and his Animal Detectives

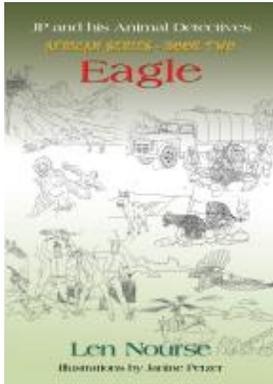
**AFRICAN SERIES - BOOK TWO**

# Eagle



**Len Nourse**

Illustrations by Janine Petzer



*JP, watching the play of Fish Eagles, thought such would be a welcome addition to his team. The opportunity arose through a request by the head of Lesotho police, Numu Letaba, to solve a crime of poaching of their wild life in his country. JP and Jakkals in an action packed adventure solved this crime. One episode is how they saved the lives of two Eaglets and one became his second lieutenant - Eagle.*

# **JP and His Animal Detectives – African Series – Book Two – Team Building – Eagle – Jackal’s First Job**

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## **Jakkal's treatment for the crook**

“Come Jakkals, let's go and see what our crooked friend can tell us. By now he must be terrified as to what's going to happen to him. I'm sure that some ants have already found this nice piece of meat they can make a meal of. I tied him to a tree near some ant nests for a special purpose; namely to soften him up for our interrogation...well firstly yours. I'm eager to see what you have in plan!”

It was quite some walk to where JP had tied the crook hidden deep in the bush. As they got closer they could hear his wailing - well now shouting in fear.

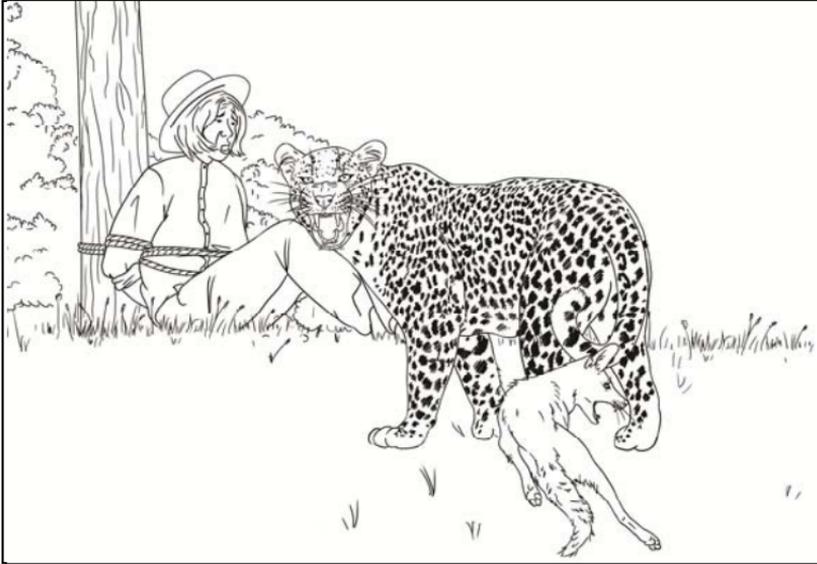
“To be able to scream like that he must have been able to remove the gag I placed over his mouth. Hurry Jackals, you can run faster than me. I now think there's more to his yelping than only ant bites! He's probably been confronted by a leopard or two that are likely to inhabit this park. That's bad gagging on my part, yet lucky because his screaming likely kept whatever is confronting him at bay; likely a leopard. I don't yet want him dead. I know you can't handle a leopard, but you can distract it long enough until I get there.”

Jakkals was already on his way before JP had finished his first sentence. With his keen hearing he was able to hear all that JP said when already 200 meters

down the track, and saying, “Yap... I too don’t want this crook dead before I get the chance to show you how good I can be at extorting information from him.”

## **Jakkals' explains his Scare Tactics**

“Yap...JP, when I got to where you'd tied this crook to the tree I saw a leopard crouching in front of him, only being held back by the crooks terror stricken shouting. The leopard didn't see me so I slipped behind it and nipped its hind leg. This diverted the intention of the leopard from the crook to me. I then slipped into some dense bush that the leopard found hard to penetrate. My agility and this brush kept me safe for a while. I knew that the leopard would get me sooner or later, so was I glad to hear the crack of your rifle as well as the roar you let out that sent the leopard scampering and roaring on its way. In that roaring, I presume that you said something to the leopard other than just making a noise. What did you say?”



“I told her she could have the man later when I let him go, but that now we wanted to interrogate him to find out who was running this poaching business. I also told her that she had better have her partner with her when the man was let loose, as it might take two of them to bring him down because he’s a big strong man. I wasn’t going to leave him tied to a tree.”



“Yap... The leopard will be happy about that because I heard her growling as she slithered away. What was she saying?”

“She said, *‘That human is one of those, who with other humans stole my cubs just a week back. I’ll enjoy having this human for a meal.’*”

“Jakkals, you can now get on with your scare tactics. I can’t wait to see what you’ll do. I’ll interpret.”

“Yap ...Tell him that if he doesn’t tell you who’s the leader, and where he can be found, I’ll slowly nip off

his extremities, starting with his ears, then his toes followed by his fingers and finally his private parts. After that, I'll leave him for the leopard to finish off. He, though, probably will bleed to death before we let him go."

JP to the crook: "This jackal says he will torture you if you don't tell me who organises the animal and bird poaching."

"Ha - ha, you must think I'm crazy to be scared of a Jackal, or that you can speak to a Jackal," said the crook.

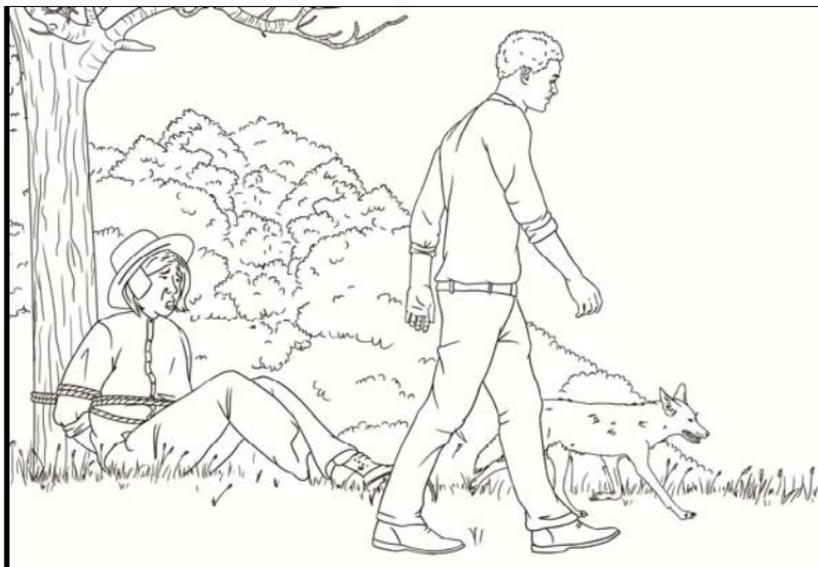
JP, stepping aside, said, "All yours Jakkals."

Jakkals, upon hearing that jumped onto the man's chest and started nibbling at the man's left ear. The man stopped his laughing when he felt the left lobe nipped off, and the gush of blood on his shoulders. With this realization he mumbled, "Stop him and I'll tell you where he is...blah, mumble blah."

JP then said, "OK, I'll bandage your ear to stop the bleeding, but I'll leave you tied to this tree until I can confirm the truth to what you've told me."

JP bandaged the ear and then said, "Come Jakkals, let's go."

"Yap...Now! Surly he's lying again. Can't I get more information from him? I'd love to get at him again."



No sooner had they gone fifty steps when the man shouted, “If you leave me here like this, the leopard will come back and eat me.”

“You needn’t worry,” said JP, “I’ve told the leopard to leave you alone until I get back. If you’ve told me a lie, I’ll then call the leopard back and tell her that she can now make a meal out of you.”

“You can speak to leopards too, I don’t believe you,” said the crook

With that JP and Jakkals started to walk away again when the crook blabbered. “OK, here is the honest

truth. His name is Noko Tikia, a Chinese man who lives in Bloemfontein.”

This time JP knew the man was telling him the truth so he untied him, and told him to go on his way.

“Yap...That was clever of you JP but why have you untied him, he’ll just join his gang again and start all over? Surely you can’t let him live because he’ll tell other gangsters about your abilities.”

“You’ll see, just be patient,” said JP

In the fading light JP and Jakkals then made their way to their jeep. Some while later, while still on their way to their Jeep, the quiet of the evening was disturbed by some roaring and screaming, and then all was quiet.

Both JP and Jakkals then knew that this division of the gang would no longer cause trouble in the area.

“Yap....Hmm, now I see. Your secret of being able to speak to us animals is still safe with the passing of that crook!”

On reaching the jeep JP checked and found that the eaglet was still alive. He then got busy setting up tent while Jakkals slid off into the oncoming night to catch some rabbits for their supper. JP was happily surprised that the eaglet was able to eat a share of the cooked rabbit; an assurance that she would live.



JP then said, “This is good news Jakkals. We now have a new member in our team – my second lieutenant. I’ll simply name her Eagle. I’m happy that it’s a lady Fish Eagle. The female is larger than the male, and also stronger.”

“Yap...Oh JP, just simply Eagle - chuckle, you have such an imagination!”