

Jungle Jam

"The Treasure of the Sierra Marbles"

Theme: Greed & its Consequences

NARRATOR

Welcome back to Jungle Jam and
Friends, the Radio Show!

You know, God doesn't like us
to be greedy (being greedy is
not a good thing), because, as
Millard the Monkey and Sully
the Aardvark learned, it leads
to trouble.

It all started on the third
Wednesday of last month when
Millard ran up to Sully in the
little clearing and declared:

MILLARD

Sully! Sully! I've lost my
marbles!

SULLY

Is this supposed to be *news*,
Millard?

MILLARD

No, not marbles as in
"brains!" I mean my *real*
marbles! Oh, the pain! The
tragedy!!

NARRATOR

And it was a tragedy, because marbles were very rare in the jungle. That's why Sully and Millard's marble game every third Wednesday was so special. They both had nice marble collections, but Millard's was especially nice:

MILLARD

Yeah: 23 cat's eyes, six steelies, eight aggies, four puries, and one big glassie with an American flag on one side and the Canadian Maple Leaf on the other!

NARRATOR

Millard was very protective of his marbles, in fact, he may have been a little too protective of them -- which, is what got them lost in the first place:

MILLARD

See, I wanted to keep my marbles safe, so I did the only thing I could think of--

SULLY

Grind them up into dust?

MILLARD

Where were you when I needed you? No, I buried them in a secret spot.

SULLY

Don't tell me -- you forgot where you buried them.

MILLARD

I thought that might happen, so I took the precaution of making a map to the spot.

SULLY

Oh -- you lost the *map*.

MILLARD

Do I look like I have "dumb bell" written all over my face? No, I didn't lose the map!

SULLY

Then where is it?

MILLARD

I destroyed it.

SULLY

Millard!

MILLARD

I was just trying to be extra safe! I mean, nobody's gonna get the best of Millard J. Monkey!

SULLY

Except for Millard J. Monkey.

MILLARD

Exactly! This is the worst thing that's ever happened to me, not counting that time in the Bermuda Triangle -- but that's another story . . .

SULLY

You want me to help you look for them?

MILLARD

No -- I don't even know where to start looking myself! I just have to remember where I buried them . . . Sorry about the game today, Sully. See ya later. I wonder if Barney the dinosaur has days like this . . .

NARRATOR

Sully watched his friend go.

SULLY

Poor Millard . . . I wish there was a place where we could get more marbles.

NARRATOR

Just then, Nozzles the elephant walked up.

NOZZLES

Did I hear someone say "marbles?"

SULLY

Oh, hi, Nozzles. Yeah -- Millard can't find *his* and he's really upset about it. I was just wishing that there was someplace around here where we could get more marbles.

NOZZLES

According to the legend, there's a *treasure* of marbles here in the jungle -- more than you'll ever know what to do with.

SULLY

What legend?

NOZZLES

Why, the legend of--

Pause.

SULLY

I didn't quite get that last part, Nozzles.

NOZZLES

I know. I didn't say it.

SULLY

Don't you know it?

NOZZLES

Yes, I do. I just don't think
it's a good idea to tell
anybody, that's all.

SULLY

Why?

NOZZLES

Cause no good can come of it.

SULLY

We can get Millard some more
marbles!

NOZZLES

True, but -- look, you still
have your collection, don't
you?

SULLY

Yeah.

NOZZLES

Then maybe you should just
share that with Millard.
You're better off that way.

SULLY

But, why?

NOZZLES

Cause once you start
collecting marbles, you won't
want to stop! You think you
can be content with just a
few, but soon, you're grabbing
every one you can!

SULLY

It won't be that way with me!
I'll gather just enough to
replace the ones Millard lost.
Tell me about the legend!
Please?!

NOZZLES

Sorry, Sully. I just don't
think I should.

NARRATOR

Nozzles strolled off, leaving behind a very curious and somewhat frustrated Sully.

SULLY

Bummer.

NARRATOR

That night, Sully couldn't sleep. He kept thinking about the mysterious legend of the marbles. He decided to take a walk, and ended up at Millard's house --who, he was surprised to see, was also awake.

SULLY

Millard?

MILLARD

Hi, Sully. You couldn't sleep either?

SULLY

No! I keep thinking about it and thinking about it!

MILLARD

Me, too!

SULLY

It's gotten so bad, every time I close my eyes, the same thought keeps popping into my brain: where's that treasure?

MILLARD

Yeah, I -- treasure?

SULLY

Uh-huh, the treasure of marbles. Isn't that what you're thinking about?

MILLARD

No, I was thinking about how to get a rock out of my bed, but this treasure thing sounds a *whole* lot more interesting!

NARRATOR

Sully told Millard what Nozzles told him.

MILLARD

A *legend*?! Really?! He said it was a *legend*?!

SULLY

Yeah.

MILLARD

Wow! . . . What's a legend?

NARRATOR

And after they'd talked about it, they decided to see if the legend was true. So the next morning, they begged Nozzles to tell them about it.

NOZZLES

I really shouldn't, fellas. Believe me, you're better off with the collection you have.

SULLY

But you *have* to tell us, Nozzles!

MILLARD

Yeah! And if you don't, I'll hold my breath until . . . until . . .

NOZZLES

Until your face turns blue?

MILLARD

Nah! *Anybody* can do *that* . . . I know! I'll hold my breath until *Sully's* face turns blue!

SULLY

Oh, no! Tell him, Nozzles!
Please!!

NARRATOR

Finally, Nozzles gave in.

NOZZLES

All right -- but it's against
my better judgement . . . To
get the marbles . . .

SULLY & MILLARD

Yes? Yes?!

NOZZLES

. . . you have to head for
the Hi Sierra's.

SULLY

You mean, the high Sierra
mountains?

NOZZLES

No, I mean the Hi Sierra
family. Hi & Louis Sierra,
the Hyena Brothers who live on
top of the mountain in the
center of the jungle. Legend
has it they've got a huge
collection of marbles, and
they're givin' `em away. Now,
guys -- uh, guys? Where'd you
go?

NARRATOR

But Sully and Millard had
already taken off, visions of
marbles waltzing in their
heads.

MILLARD

Actually, my vision's doing
more of a tango.

NARRATOR

The path to the Sierra's
wasn't easy, and they had a
few close scrapes along the
way.

SULLY

I scraped my elbow on a rock.

MILLARD

I scraped my forehead on a tree.

NARRATOR

But finally, they made it to the Sierra's front door. They knocked . . .

Knock.

. . . and after a few seconds, the door opened and there stood Hi and Louis Sierra, who behaved unlike any hyenas Millard and Sully had ever seen.

HI

(morbid)

Look, Louis -- an aardvark and a monkey.

LOUIS

(also morbid)

How charming.

SULLY

Um, we're here for the marbles.

HI

Of course you are.

LOUIS

But before we let you to them, you'll both have to answer a special question.

SULLY

This wasn't part of the legend!

HI

I know -- we just made it up.

LOUIS

You first, aardvark. From the Periodic Table of Elements, can you tell me the symbol for sodium?

SULLY

Nah.

LOUIS

Correct. You pass.

HI

Now, you, monkey. From Strunk and White's Book of Proper Usage, give me a sentence using two pronouns.

MILLARD

Who, me?

HI

Correct. You pass.

NARRATOR

The Sierras showed Millard and Sully to a long, dark staircase.

HI

Through the door at the bottom you'll find your desire;

LOUIS

But beware, and take care -- for it could be quite dire.

SULLY

Wow! You mean, cause of the greed thing?

HI

No, because the staircase has no lights.

LOUIS

You could break your neck.

NARRATOR

Sully and Millard moved carefully down the stairs. They paused at the bottom.

MILLARD

For effect, of course.

NARRATOR

Then opened the door. And there, in a cavernous room, was the biggest pile of marbles Millard and Sully had ever seen!

MILLARD

It's beautiful!

SULLY

I'm awestruck by it's grandeur!

MILLARD

That, too!

NARRATOR

They immediately pulled out a large sack and started filling it with marbles . . . A little while later, they stopped for a rest. And that's when the real trouble started. First, Millard casually commented:

MILLARD

I've got more marbles than I've ever had before -- forty-five!

NARRATOR

Unfortunately, Sully had only put forty-*four* marbles in the bag. So he reached over . . .

Two marbles drop.

. . . and dropped in two more.

SULLY

Now I've got more marbles than
I've ever had before, too --
forty-*six*.

NARRATOR

This didn't go unnoticed by
Millard, who reached over . .

.

Two marbles drop.

. . . and dropped in yet two
more marbles.

MILLARD

Yep -- forty-*seven* for me!

NARRATOR

Which was immediately
countered by Sully who . . .

Two marbles drop.

. . . dropped in two *more*.

SULLY

Forty-*nine*!

NARRATOR

It seems the greed bug had
bitten them both very hard,
and soon they were stuffing
marbles into the bag as fast
as they could.

Millard and Sully ad lib counting.

NARRATOR

Finally, the bag was so full,
not another marble could fit.
They decided to leave.

MILLARD

Okay, I'll just carry the bag.

SULLY

You'll carry it? I think not!
I'll carry it!

MILLARD

You?! Not with *my* marbles in
it you won't!

NARRATOR

Soon they were in a full-
fledged argument, which took
up more time. At last, they
came to an agreement:

MILLARD AND SULLY

We'll *both* carry the bag!

NARRATOR

. . . and they set out for
home. But carrying the bag
this way made for very slow
going, and they had to stop
for the night at the top of a
waterfall. They set the bag
down between them, but neither
one got a lot of sleep for
fear the other might steal the
bag. Sully thought:

SULLY

(reverb)
Millard doesn't really deserve
any of these marbles.

NARRATOR

And Millard had a few thoughts
of his own:

MILLARD

(reverb)
Boy, this ground is hard.

NARRATOR

Then Sully thought:

SULLY

(reverb)
I'm the one who asked Nozzles
about the legend.

NARRATOR

And Millard thought:

MILLARD

(reverb)

This ground is *really* hard --
and Sully doesn't deserve any
of the marbles, either.

NARRATOR

This went on the whole night
until finally, just at dawn,
both animals came to the same
conclusion:

MILLARD AND SULLY

(reverb)

This is the hardest ground
I've ever sat on!

NARRATOR

And then they thought:

MILLARD AND SULLY

(reverb)

I should just take the bag and
run!

NARRATOR

Which they both did -- at the
same time! They had a huge
tug-of-war with the sack of
marbles!

SULLY & MILLARD

Leggo!/ No, it's mine! / etc.

NARRATOR

And suddenly, the sack split
open, sending the entire
collection cascading into the
waterfall and into the river
below.

SULLY & MILLARD

The marbles!! Noooo!!

NARRATOR

So, neither of them got any marbles . . . Sully and Millard went slowly home and told Nozzles what happened.

SULLY

You were right, Nozzles -- marbles can really do something to an animal.

MILLARD

Yeah! Dumb ol' marbles . . .

NOZZLES

Hold it! Hold the phone! I think you're operatin' under a little misunderstanding.

SULLY

What do you mean, Nozzles?

NOZZLES

What happened wasn't the *marbles* fault! It was your *greed* that caused the problems!

MILLARD

It was?

NOZZLES

Yep! See, greed poisons your heart, and makes it so you don't wanna share your things with anybody. And in some cases, greed can even make you take what somebody else has!

SULLY

Wow!

NOZZLES

Greed *always* has bad consequences. In this case, greed caused you guys to lose your marbles -- and I'm *not* just talkin' about the little round ones, either . . .

NARRATOR

So Sully and Millard learned
an important lesson that day
about greed and its
consequences.

SULLY

Yeah! We should have
remembered that friendship is
more important than
possessions. We should have
been content with what we had.

MILLARD

We shoulda brought along a
stronger bag!

NARRATOR

Well, *Sully* learned an
important lesson...

Song: *Consequences*

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