



# FLUFFY RUFFLES *Drawings by Wallace Morgan*



The alligator loves to dwell in Florida,  
we're told,  
Because the semi-tropic air is seldom  
touched with cold.  
Now, Fluffy Ruffles ne'er had seen a  
gator in a zoo.  
And so to see one in the "Glades" was  
just the thing to do.

With Traddles and some other men she  
took a walk one day  
To try to find a group of alligators at their  
play.  
She talked with Traddles for the nonce  
and made the others feel  
They'd like to serve the fellow for an  
alligator's meal.

The "Glades" were reached, and there a  
group of widely grinning jaws  
That they had come on suddenly made all  
the party pause.  
"Oh, dear," said Fluffy, "aren't they rude  
to yawn at us like that?  
I wonder if they'd scatter if we loudly  
shouted 'Scat!'"



Then Fluffy saw a pickaninny playing by  
a palm,  
And feared at once the little child might  
come to fearful harm.  
An alligator saw the shiny baby, and his  
mouth  
Seemed aching to pronounce the words,  
"I'm glad tha. I live South."

The horrid animal advanced and Fluffy  
gave a cry.  
"Who'll save that cunning baby from a  
fearful death?" "I!" "I!"  
Each man ran forth with savage yells, but  
swift the monster came.  
"Oh, must the little baby die? 'Twill be  
a cruel shame."

The awkward Traddles, running fast as  
on a racing track,  
Tripped on the alligator's legs and stum-  
bled o'er his back.  
The reptile, frightened, turned about and  
made off in the stream,  
And Traddles, catching up the babe, ad-  
vanced, his eyes a gleam.

"Of palm leaves green I'll make a wreath  
and place it on your head;"  
To Traddles Fluffy Ruffles spoke, and  
that was all she said.  
But Traddles trod on tropic air, and all the  
others swore  
Though awkward Traddles was, she  
seemed to like him more and more.

