

ALL COWS GO TO
HEAVEN

AN SAT VOCABULARY STORY



ERICA ABBETT

VOCABBETT

BIG WORDS MADE SIMPLE.

All Cows Go to Heaven: An SAT Vocabulary Story (Alternately Known as, “All Cows Go to Heaven: A Vocabulary-Boosting Short Story”)

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“Morty!” I whispered.

“What is it?”

“A cow!”

“A cow?” my husband replied. “But we’re in heaven.”

“Heaven’s front yard, at least.”

There could be no question that we were no longer on earth. The ground beneath us was a cerulean blue; benevolent saints welcomed us atop ephemeral clouds.

I gave one of the saints a friendly wave, mentally doing the math on how many steps separated us from the bovine creature. At this rate, we’d end up standing in line behind it, entering the pearly gates right after. I grabbed my husband’s hand and slowed our pace.

There was only a moment to appreciate the strength of the hand — what a nice change it made from the sun-spotted, arthritic claw I’d been gripping in recent years! — before another man entered the line behind us, suddenly appearing from the universe in a white robe.

I kicked a stray cloud. Now that someone was behind us, we’d have to approach sequentially, right behind the cow.

“What’s the big deal?” Morty whispered. “All dogs go to heaven. Why not cows, too?”

“Do you really have to ask?” I hissed back. “How many of them have you eaten?”

My husband paled, losing all semblance of equanimity. His skin nearly matched his pearly robes.

“But surely that’s OK?” he said. “I mean, everyone does it! They can’t get mad at everyone!”

As the steps between us and the creature narrowed, I gave it a little wave.

“Hello!” I said to the cow. “Er, what am I saying? Moo! Honey, moo at him!”

“Moooooo!”

The cow gave us a look of ineffable pity.

“I’m actually a ‘she,’” the cow responded. “Funny, my udders were all your type seemed to care about on earth.”

“Yeah, sorry,” I mumbled. “We’ve never, you know, *met* a cow before.”

Cerulean - Blue like the sky

Benevolent - Kind

Ephemeral - Lasting for a short time; light

Mentally - In one’s mind

Bovine - Relating to cattle, usually cows

Sequentially - In order; following a logical sequence

Semblance - Something that resembles something else

Equanimity - Calmness; composure

“Yeah, it’s easier that way, isn’t it?”

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