



Taking the back way to the popcorn stand, Joe slipped past the animal enclosures. A powerful trunk snaked out, knotting itself around Joe's ankles so that he sprawled to the ground.

Popcorn flew up into the air, scattering everywhere.



Freddy, the elephant, trumpeted with amusement and swiftly vacuumed up the spilled popcorn.

Joe scowled at the elephant. He was the most spoiled animal in the whole circus. Because he was so big, Freddy was cheeky to everyone, including his trainer, Pedro. More and more, Pedro had been cutting back Freddy's shows. The elephant didn't want to do what he was told. The worst times were when a member of the public gave him peanuts — then Freddy literally went nuts.