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DASHER

MATT TAVARES



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LIFE WAS NOT EASY for the reindeer family of J.P. Finnegan's Traveling Circus and Menagerie. They spent long days crammed together under the hot sun as an endless stream of curious people jostled to catch a glimpse of them.

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Even at night, there was little rest. Some nights, to pass the time, Mama would tell stories.

"It was a magical place," she would say. "The air was crisp and cold, and the ground was always covered with a cool blanket of white snow. Your father and I were free to roam under the glow of the North Star."

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