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## **SCAREDY CAT!** Incredible moment a terrified lion runs for his life from a herd of rampaging buffalo he tried to ambush for lunch

These amazing snaps were taken by a German photographer on safari in Tanzania

## BY MARK HODGE, SASHA LEE-YATES AND RIYAH COLLINS

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THIS is the incredible moment a cowardly lion was forced to run for his life with his tail between his legs after being confronted by a herd of angry buffalo.

Clearly used to being top of the food chain, the hungry predator quickly learnt the meaning of 'safety in numbers' as he was forced to flee the stampede.



The cowardly lion runs away from the pack of prey animals

Architect and amateur photographer Ramona Reichert, 36, captured the moment the big cat turned into a scaredy cat when confronted with the bossy gang of prey animals.

Originally from Germany but now living in Switzerland, Ramona snapped these images whilst on safari with her husband at the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania.

She said: "We were in the car when we saw the lions hiding in the grass about 50 metres away and the buffaloes advancing in their direction.

"We decided to stop and waited to see if something special might happen when they came together.

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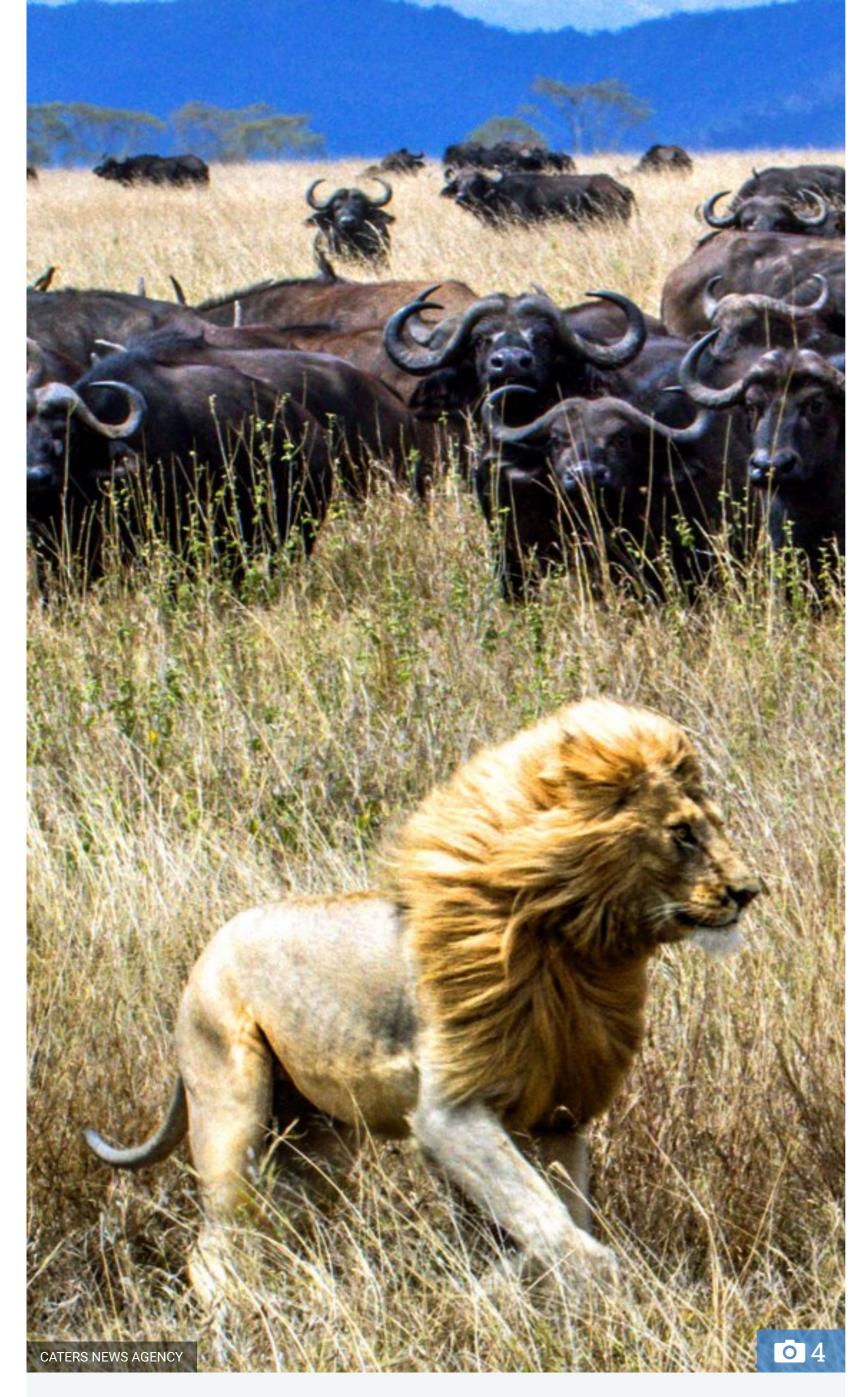


"It was a big herd of hundreds of buffaloes and there were two lions as well as a lioness.

"We could see the black mass of a group of hundreds of buffaloes in the pale yellow grass from a long distance.

"We kept a respectful distance so we were never in any danger.

"As we came closer, we saw the three lions emerge in the high grass – a couple mating in the company of another male lion.



The big cat is clearly outnumbered and quickly moves away from the angry herd



The lion walked away with its tail between its legs

"Slowly the buffaloes were approaching to where the trio was laying camouflaged in the grass.

"Finally they got the scent of the three predators and one of the buffalo bulls approached the single lion in heroic manner.

"The lion charged, but the buffalo bull started to fight back.

"The lion had no choice but to run. You can see the shock and surprise in his wide open eyes.

"There were two attacks in about 10 minutes. The first attack was on the couple who were a bit further away from us but the second buffalo attack was closer to our car and the buffalo charged the single lion.



The giant beast was no match for the gang of horned buffalo

"I really like the expression on the lion's face in these photos – showing his surprise and shock.

"He's well aware that the buffaloes are a danger to him and confronting them might mean his death.

"I was really surprised at how well the expression showed on the lion's face. His movement is emphasised by the wind that is blowing and shows in his mane.

"The buffalo looks so heroic and I like it that buffaloes are so social and fight back – they are team players.

"We've never seen this behaviour in real life before.

"It is known that buffaloes stick together, but to see them defending or even attacking