A Cat, a Parrot and a Bag of Seed

1. The problem in this little story is that a man needs to figure out how to safely take his remaining three items across the river. He needs to do this in a way so that they don’t eat each other. Does he have a cage for the parrot; does the cat have a carrier or a leash? Does he have an inflatable raft or something that he can tie to his boat to fit all his “passengers”, are there people nearby that could help watch to make sure his cat didn’t eat the bird or the bird ate the seed? It never says how long the trip across the river is, it could be short or it could be long. The overall goal is to get to the other side of the riverbank safely and with his animals and seed intact.
2. If he takes the seed first then the bird may be eaten by the cat, if he takes the cat first then the bird may eat the seed. If he takes the bird first he will be fine on the original side but he will still have to make the same decision on the second run as to which to take. His goals are to get the bird across in one piece and alive, get the bag of seed across intact.
3. If he takes the seed first then the cat may eat the bird, if there were other people around then he could ask them to keep an eye on the cat while he made his first trip. He could also use a rope to tie the cat to a tree so that the cat would not eat the bird in his absence. If he decided to take the cat first then he could always leave a little bit of seed on the ground for the bird to eat so that the bird wouldn’t get into the bag. He could also take the bird with him every time, why couldn’t the bird sit on his shoulder while he is in the boat? Then he could ferry the cat and the seed to the other side without having to worry about one eating the other.
4. The solution to have other people around to watch the cat would work if there were other people around but if there weren’t you would still be in the same position and who knows if you could trust that random stranger you just met. If by some odd chance that a person with a boat did not have a rope then tying the cat would not work well. So those solutions to that problem put him right back to his original issue. If he took the cat first then leaving seed would be good unless the river was a mile across then he would probably lose more seed than he left on the ground. Plus it doesn’t really define how big of a bag of seed it was so maybe he only has enough for a few feedings. So this probably wouldn’t work in every scenario he may have had to face. Now if he decided to take the bird with him every time (I know it said he could only take one item on the boat at a time, but technically the bird would not be on the boat) on his shoulders then he could take the trips without the fear of loosing anything. People walk around with their pet parrots on their shoulders all the time and that doesn’t take up any room in the boat. So I think that solution would be the best in any situation that could possibly come up.