



# The Lion and the Fox

Retold by Deepa Balsavar

Once upon a time there was a thick green forest where the animals had plenty to eat. Then came men with machines and they started chopping down the trees. Fewer trees mean fewer animals.

Soon, the mighty lion found that there was hardly anything left to eat. "We have to work together," he said to his friend, the fox. "You find an animal and bring it to me. I will kill it, and then we can both eat it."

The fox searched and searched. Finally she found a man standing next to a pile of logs. "There are bigger and better trees on the other side of the forest," the fox said to him "Where? Where? Show me!" said the greedy man.

So the fox led the man here and there and round and round the forest... and took him to where the hungry lion was waiting. The lion leapt towards the man. The man shot up the closest tree just like a monkey. The lion and the fox were not too worried. They knew the man could not escape.



Story and Artwork:



Tulika



They started discussing how they would share the food. “I’ll start with the toes,” said the lion. “I’ll start with the fingers,” said the fox. One by one they chose who would eat what.

Finally, the lion licked his lips and said, “I will eat the brain. Mmmm!” Now the fox had also been dreaming about eating the man’s brain.

She told the lion, “But this animal has no brain! If he did, would he cut all the trees and destroy the forest?”

Up on the tree, the man nodded sadly. The fox was right. He had been looking around for trees to jump onto and run away. But there were none nearby!

THE END



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