



# Munia and the Elephant Bird

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Level 2





Little Munia lived in a village called Adhania.

She could not walk properly but she was a very brave girl.

One day, one of the village horses went missing.

Had the mysterious 'Elephant Bird' eaten it?





The Elephant Bird  
was a giant bird that lived  
in the nearby jungle.

It was as tall as the trees  
and it had very sharp  
claws.

It was the only one left of  
its kind.

All the villagers were  
afraid of the  
Elephant Bird.



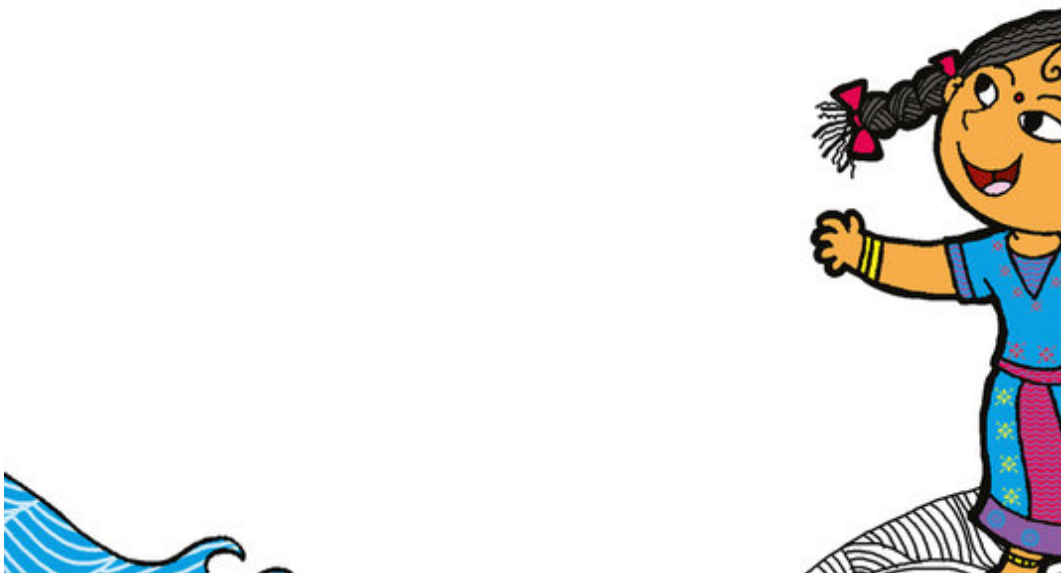


But not Munia.

She loved how elegant  
the Elephant bird was.

She loved that it had only  
one feather in its tail!

But most of all she loved that  
it was purple!!







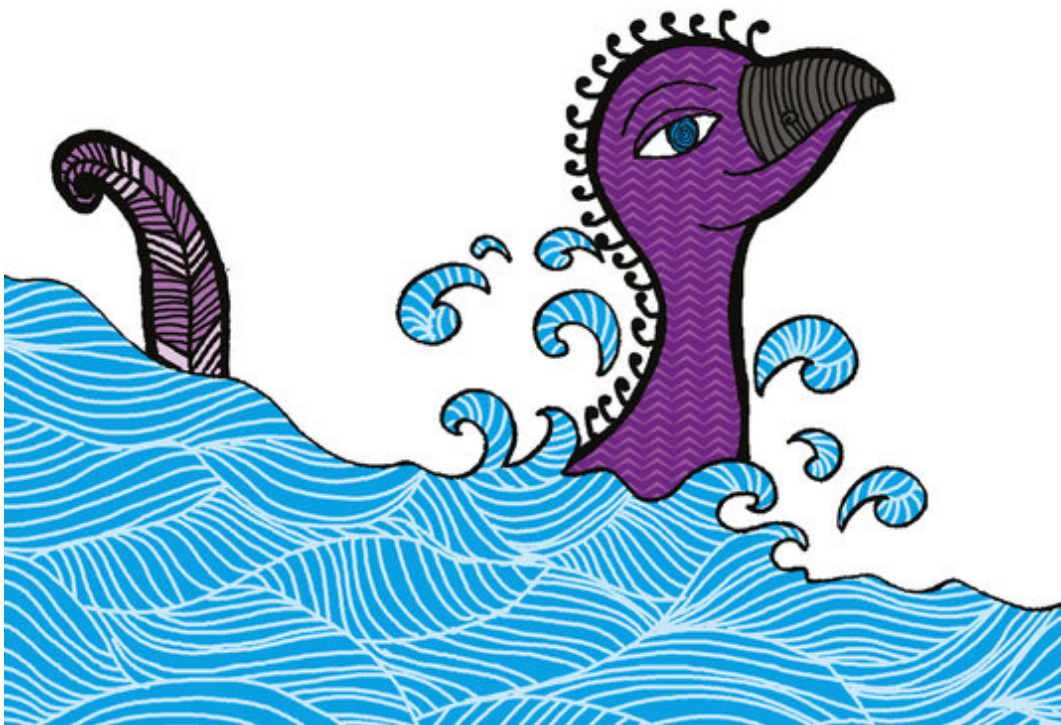
In the mornings, Munia  
always helped her  
mother.

She would get wood for  
the stove and  
three pots of water from  
the well.



But later she would sneak out into the jungle and spend the rest of the day watching the Elephant bird.

The giant bird would splash about in the river playfully and munch on fruits and leaves.



No! This giant plant eater could not have eaten the horse!





The other village children never played with Munia because of her limp.

Just like the Elephant bird, she was all alone.

One day, the bird threw a red fruit at her. She playfully threw it back.

Soon Munia and the bird became friends!





The villagers were sure  
the Elephant bird had  
eaten  
the missing horse.

They decided to hunt and  
kill the Elephant bird.

Munia was sad. She had  
to save her friend!!





Munia limped forward  
and said bravely,  
"The Elephant bird is my  
friend. And it did not eat  
the horse!"

Everybody scolded  
Munia!

It was decided. The bird  
had to be captured!





The next morning the villagers were ready with their sticks and stones.





"Stop!!!",  
yelled Munia  
and jumped in front of  
the Elephant bird.

"Don't hurt my friend. He  
didn't eat the horse. It  
must have lost its way.."





Suddenly an old man  
walked towards the  
crowd with the missing  
horse!

"This horse followed my  
herd a few days ago. I  
think he belongs to your  
village.", he said to the  
headman.





Munia was right  
after all!

The villagers understood  
their mistake.

And no one was afraid of  
the sweet Elephant bird  
ever again!



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# Munia and the Elephant Bird

(English)

Munia Knew that the giant one-feathered elephant bird had not swallowed the horse, even though he was big enough to swallow one! So where had the horse disappeared? A story about a magical bird, and a brave and curious child.

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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