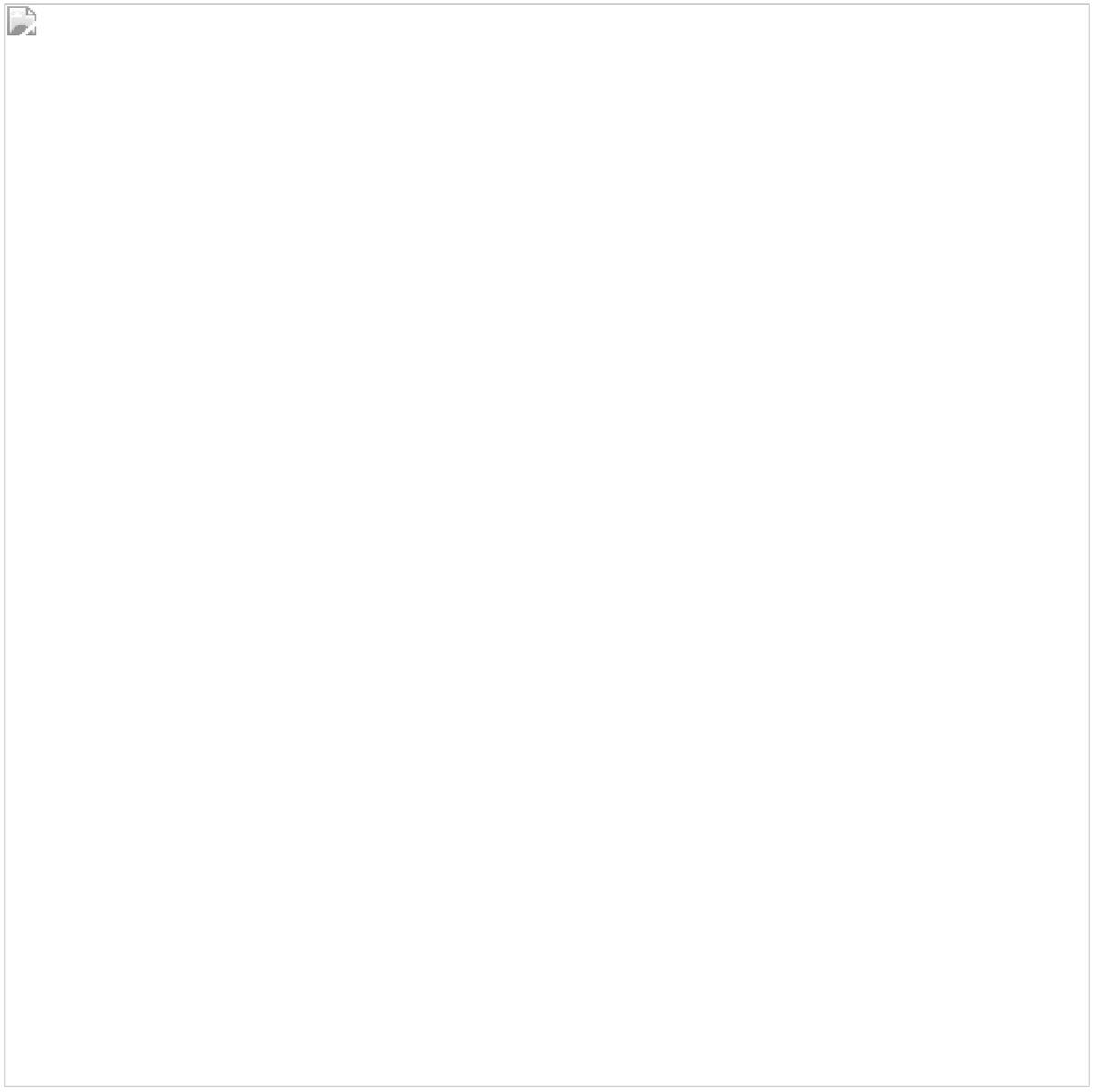
COLORING THE CLASSICS

Bambi: A Life in the Woods

A Little Deer Learns to Listen, Watch, and Be Brave

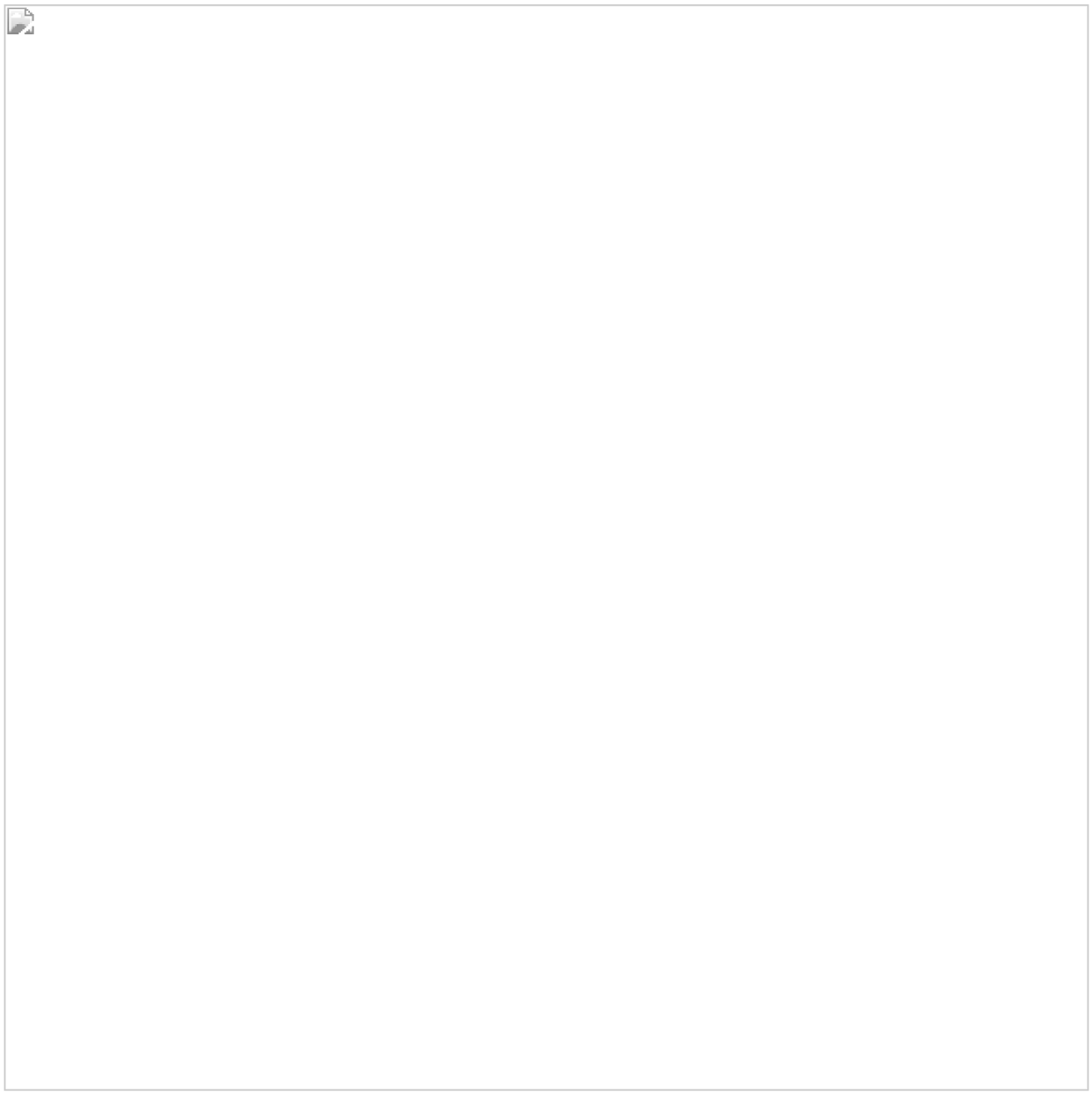


TALK ABOUT IT

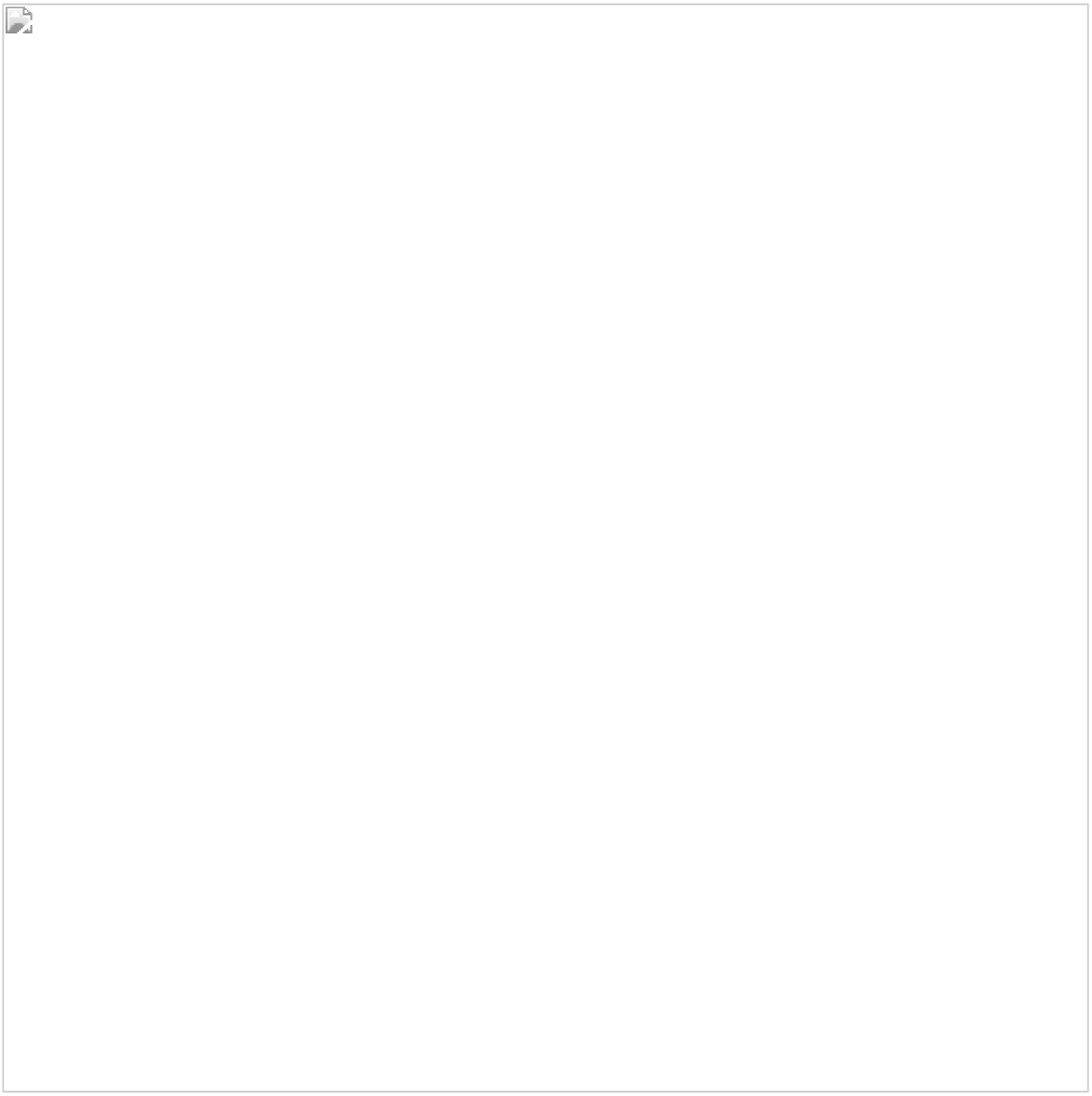
What do you think it would be like to grow up in the woods?

This book belongs to _____

Bambi: A Life in the Woods · another picture



A Beautiful Child



Deep in a thicket, in a little hidden glade, a fawn was born.

“What a beautiful child,” cried the magpie, who happened to be flying by.

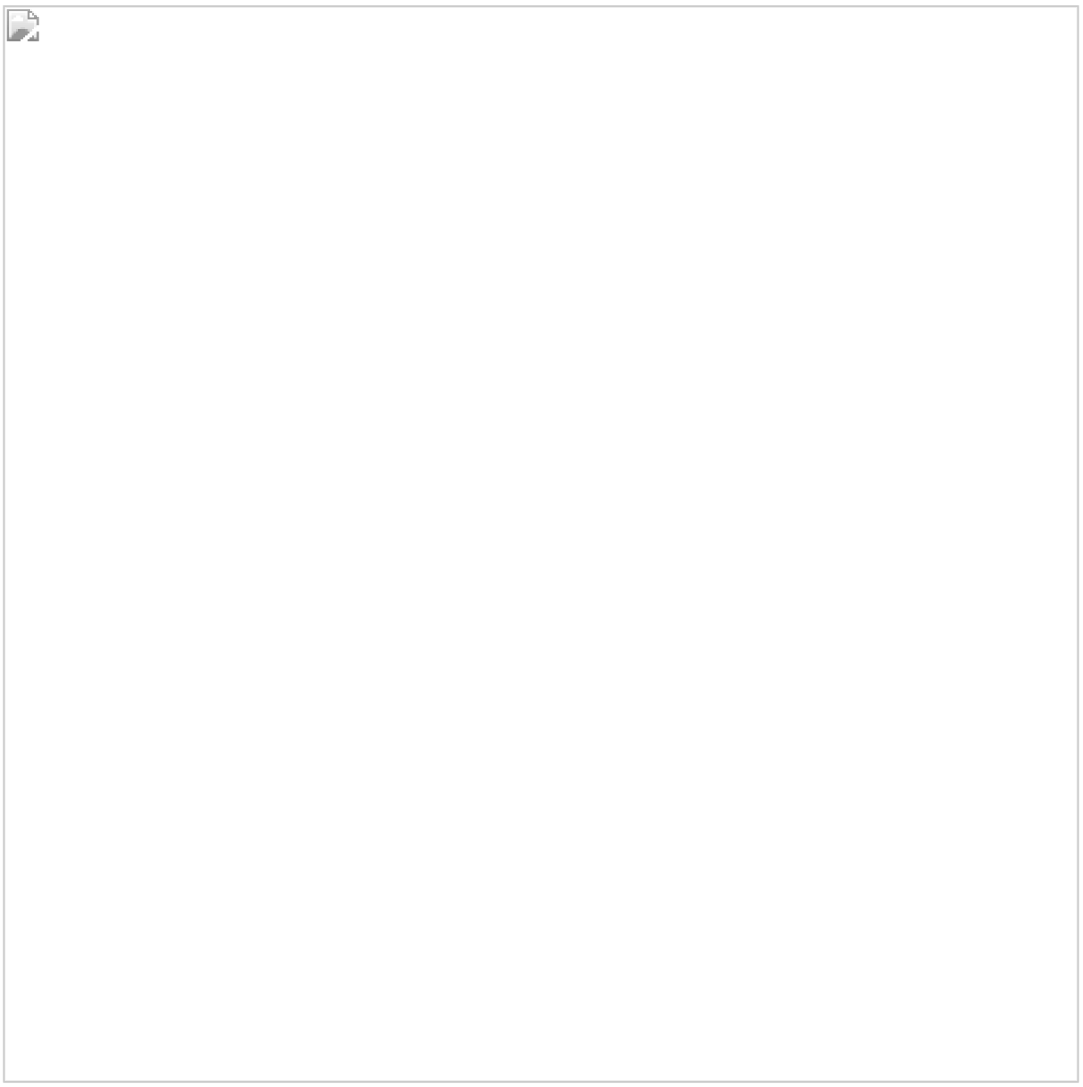
The fawn’s mother washed him gently with her tongue. His little red coat had fine white spots, and his face was still sleepy.

“Bambi,” she whispered. “My little Bambi.”

TALK ABOUT IT

Who chose your name? Do you know why?

A Beautiful Child · another picture



Think about it

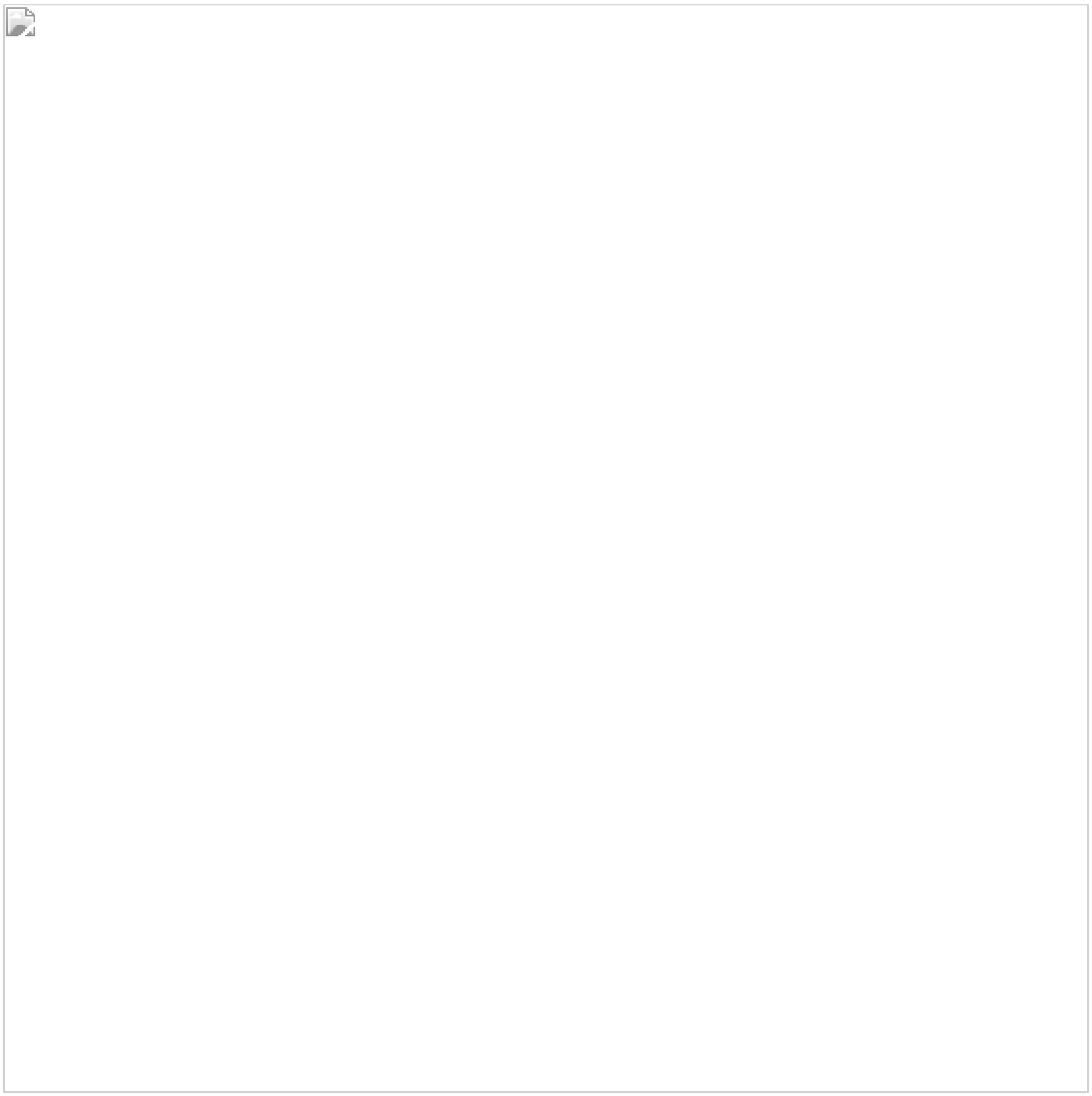
1. What color was Bambi's coat?

- ○ Red with white spots
- ○ Gray all over
- ○ Black and white stripes

2. Who called Bambi a beautiful child?

- ○ An owl
- ○ The magpie
- ○ A squirrel

Enough for All of Us



Soon Bambi could walk on his thin, wobbly legs, and his mother took him along the narrow paths of the forest.

Bambi asked so many questions. He asked whether deer ever hunt other animals.

“Never,” said his mother. “Because we never kill anything.”

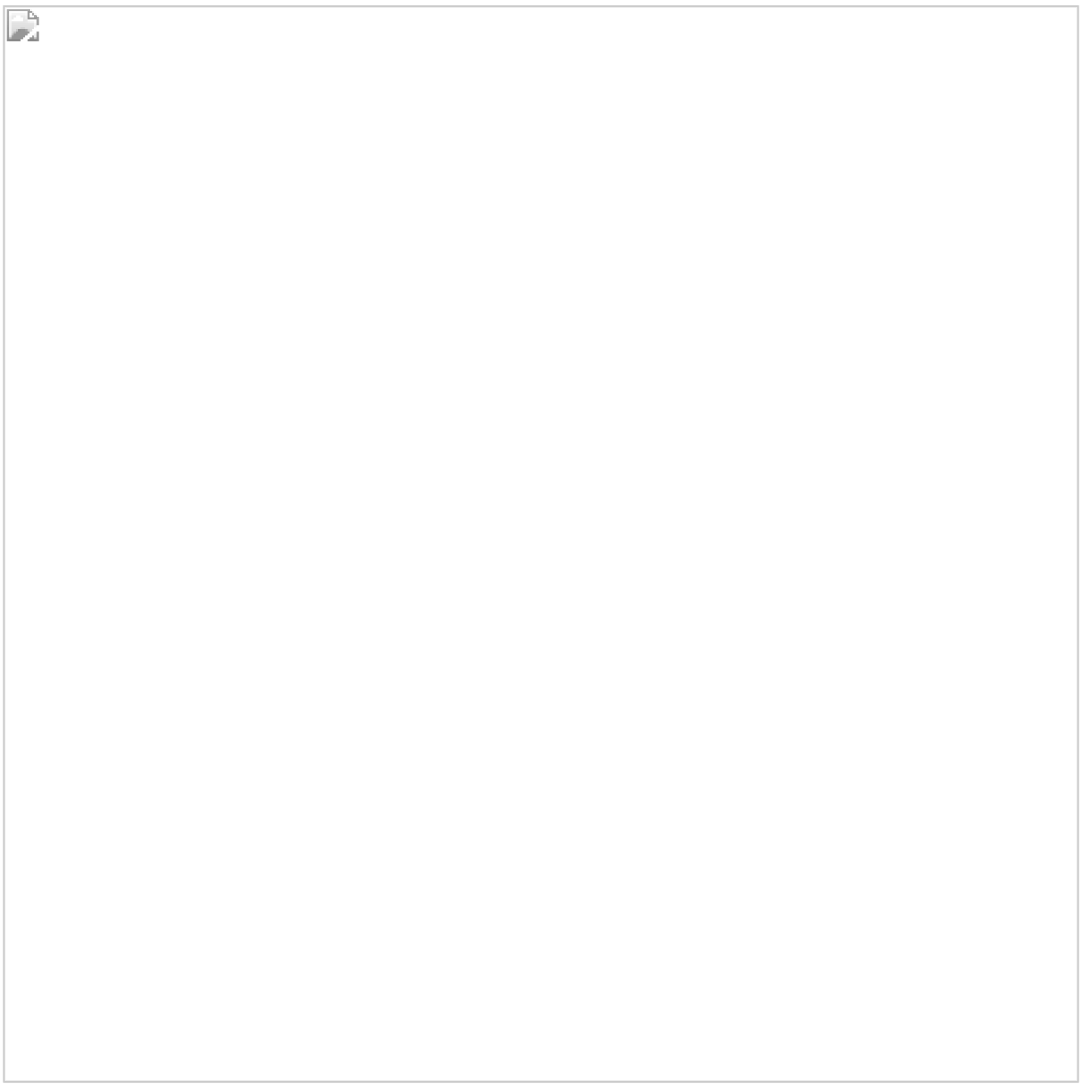
“Why not?” asked Bambi.

“Because there is enough for all of us,” his mother replied.

TALK ABOUT IT

Bambi’s mother said there is enough for all of us. What are some ways people share?

Enough for All of Us · another picture

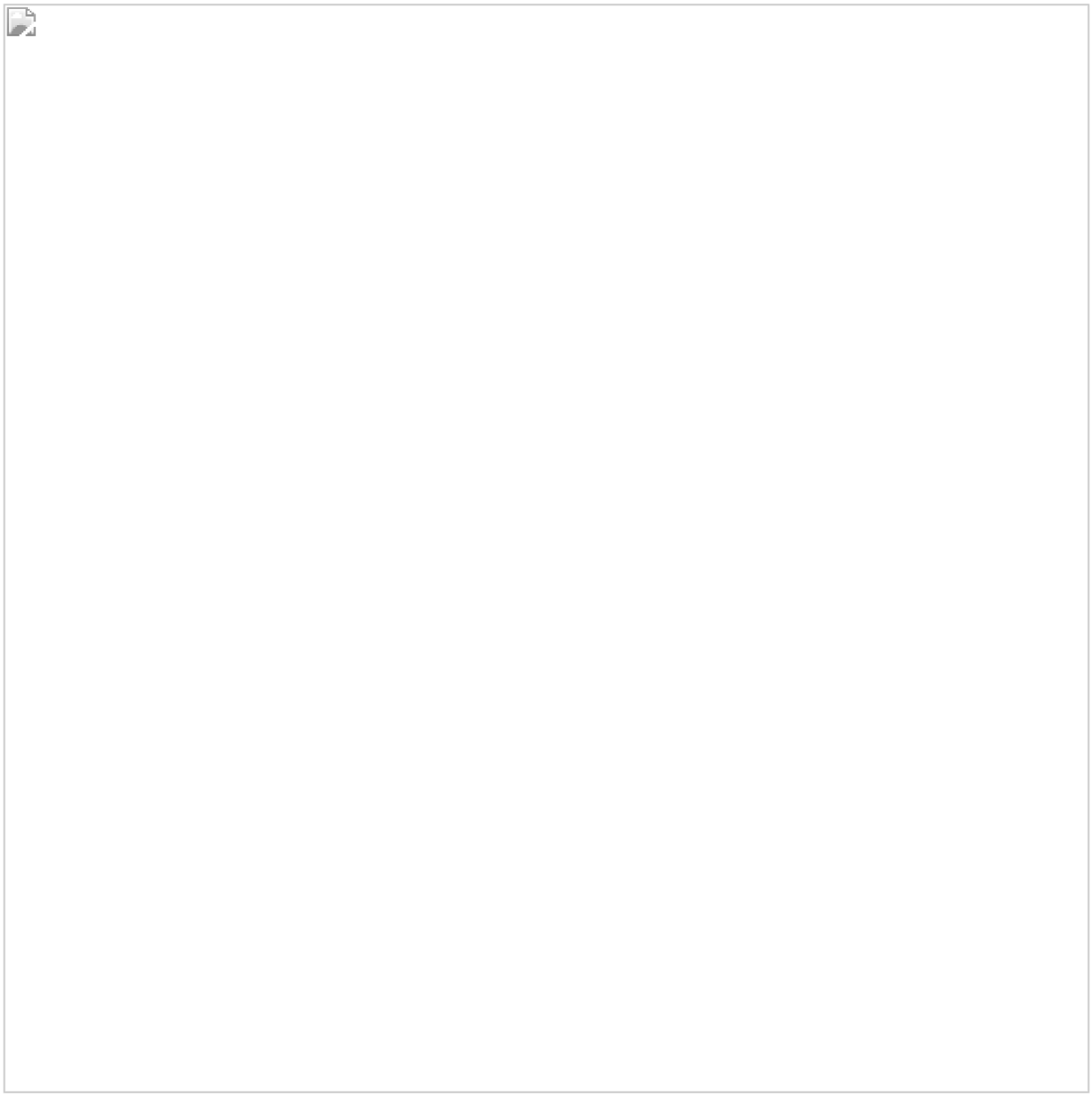


Think about it

1. Why did Bambi's mother say the deer never hurt anyone?

- ○ There is enough for all of us
- ○ They are too small
- ○ They are always sleeping

A Flower Flying



Then one day they came out of the trees onto the meadow. Bambi had never seen so much light!

The broad green meadow was full of white daisies, red and purple clover, and bright golden dandelions. Bambi ran and jumped in circles, just for the joy of it.

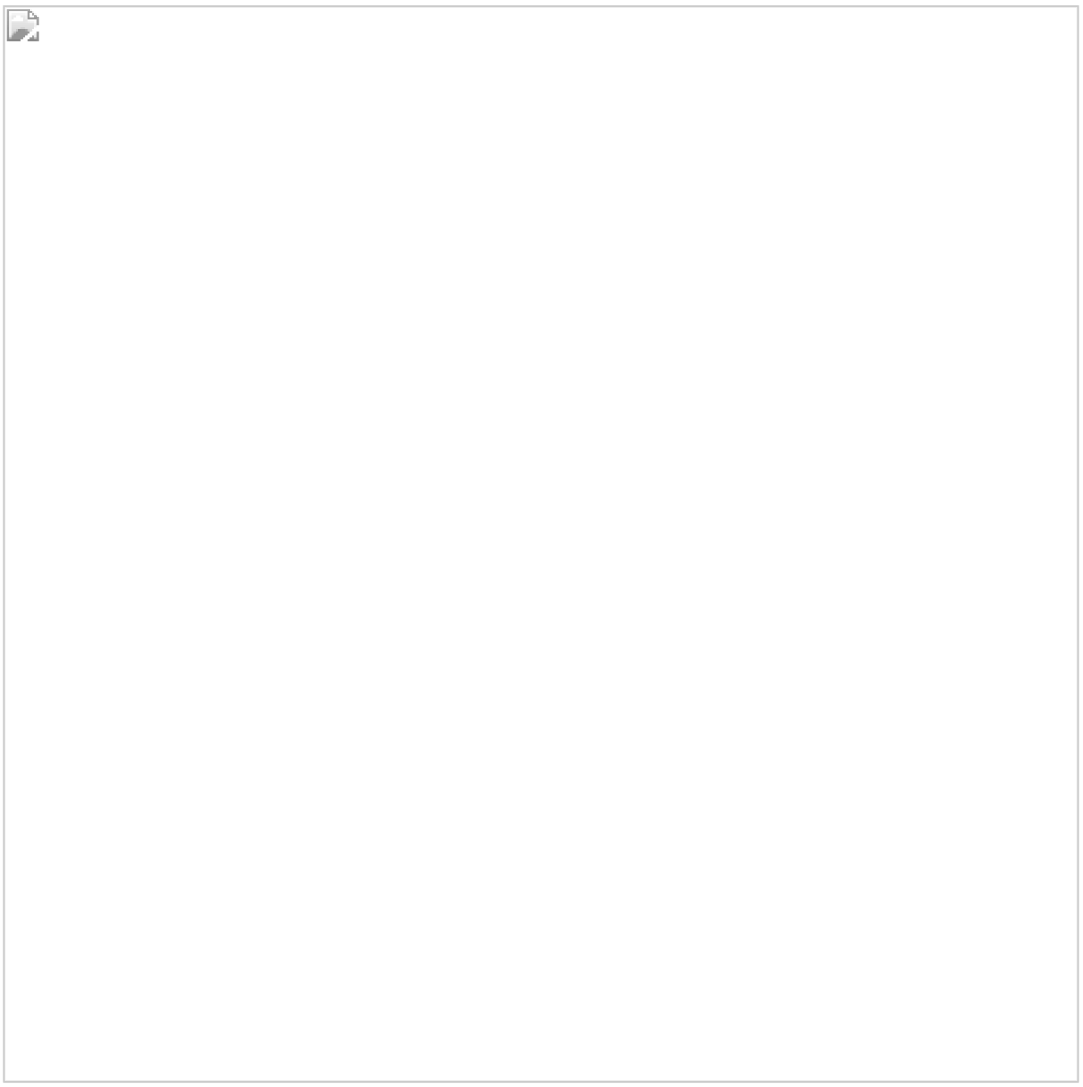
Something light and bright floated past his nose. “Look, look, Mother! There’s a flower flying.”

“That’s not a flower,” said his mother, “that’s a butterfly.”

TALK ABOUT IT

What would you call a butterfly if you had never seen one before?

A Flower Flying · another picture



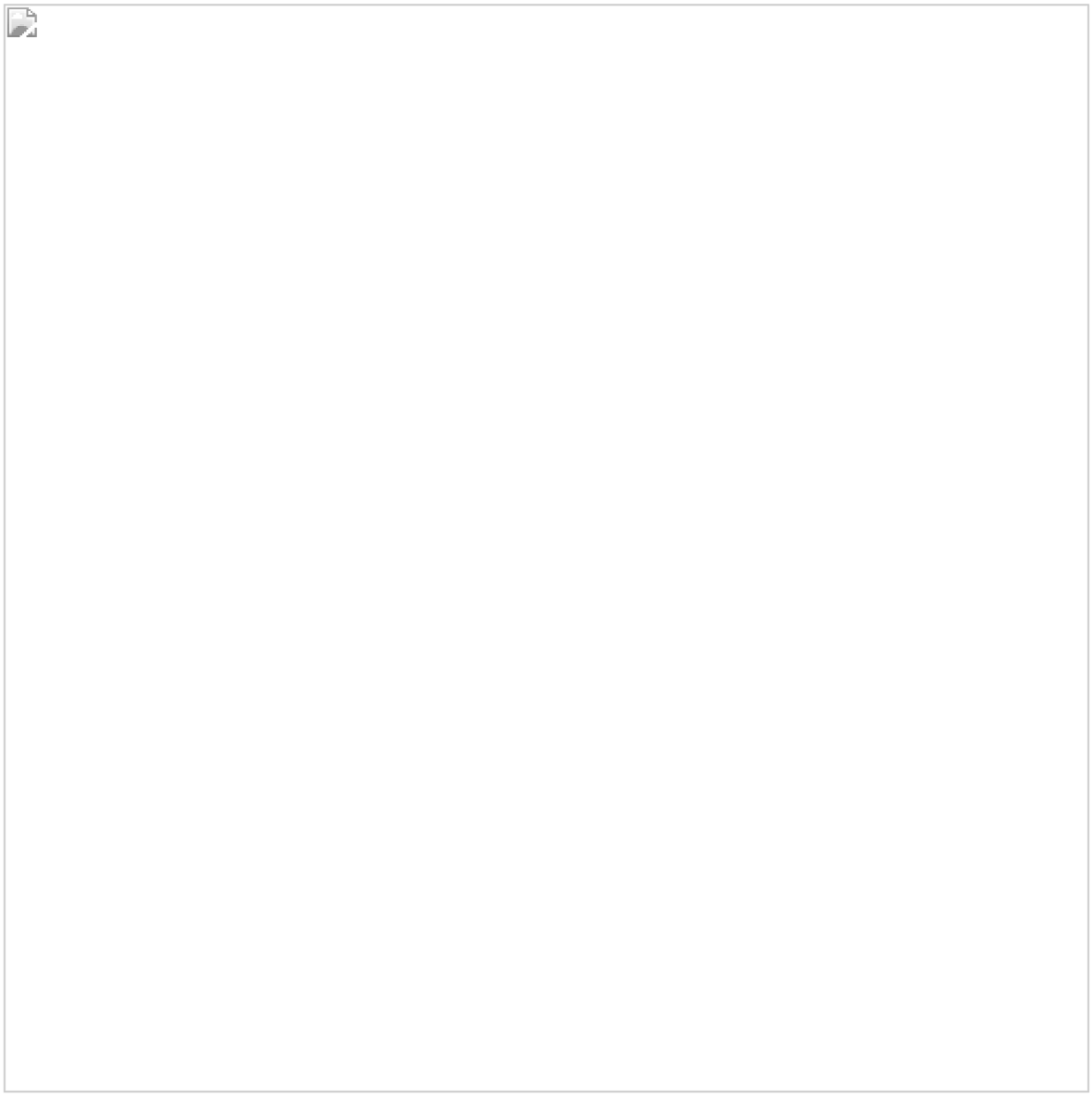
Think about it

1. What did Bambi think the butterfly was?

- ○ A bird
- ○ A flower flying
- ○ A leaf

2. Name a flower that grew on the meadow.

Gobo and Faline



On the meadow Bambi met Friend Hare, a polite fellow with long ears like spoons.

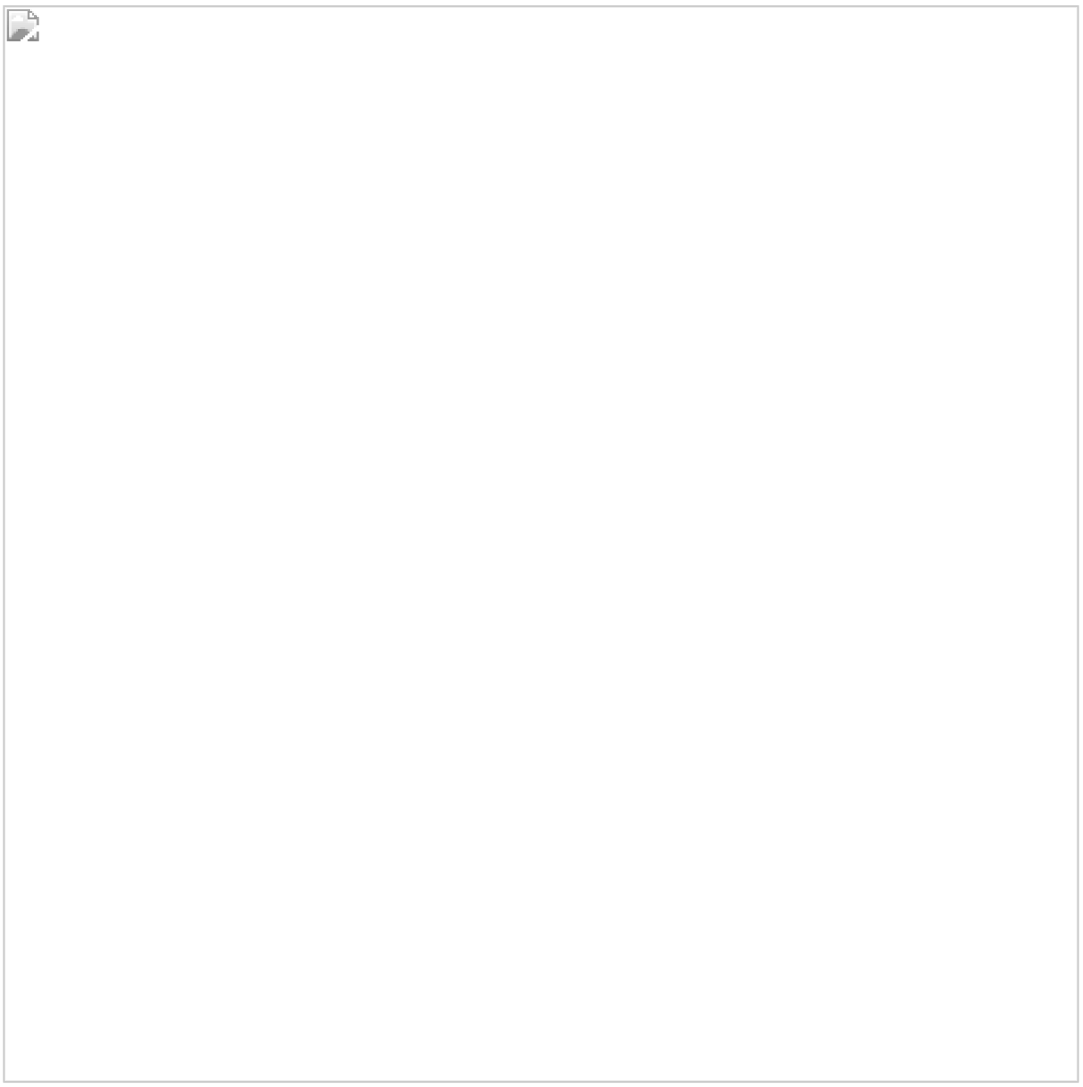
He met Aunt Ena and her two fawns, Gobo and Faline. Gobo was small and a little timid. Faline was quick and full of fun. The three played tag in the grass until they were out of breath.

They talked about the word “danger,” which none of them really understood. Then Faline cried out, “I know what danger is—it’s what you run away from.” And off she ran.

TALK ABOUT IT

Who is a friend you love to play with?

Gobo and Faline · another picture



Think about it

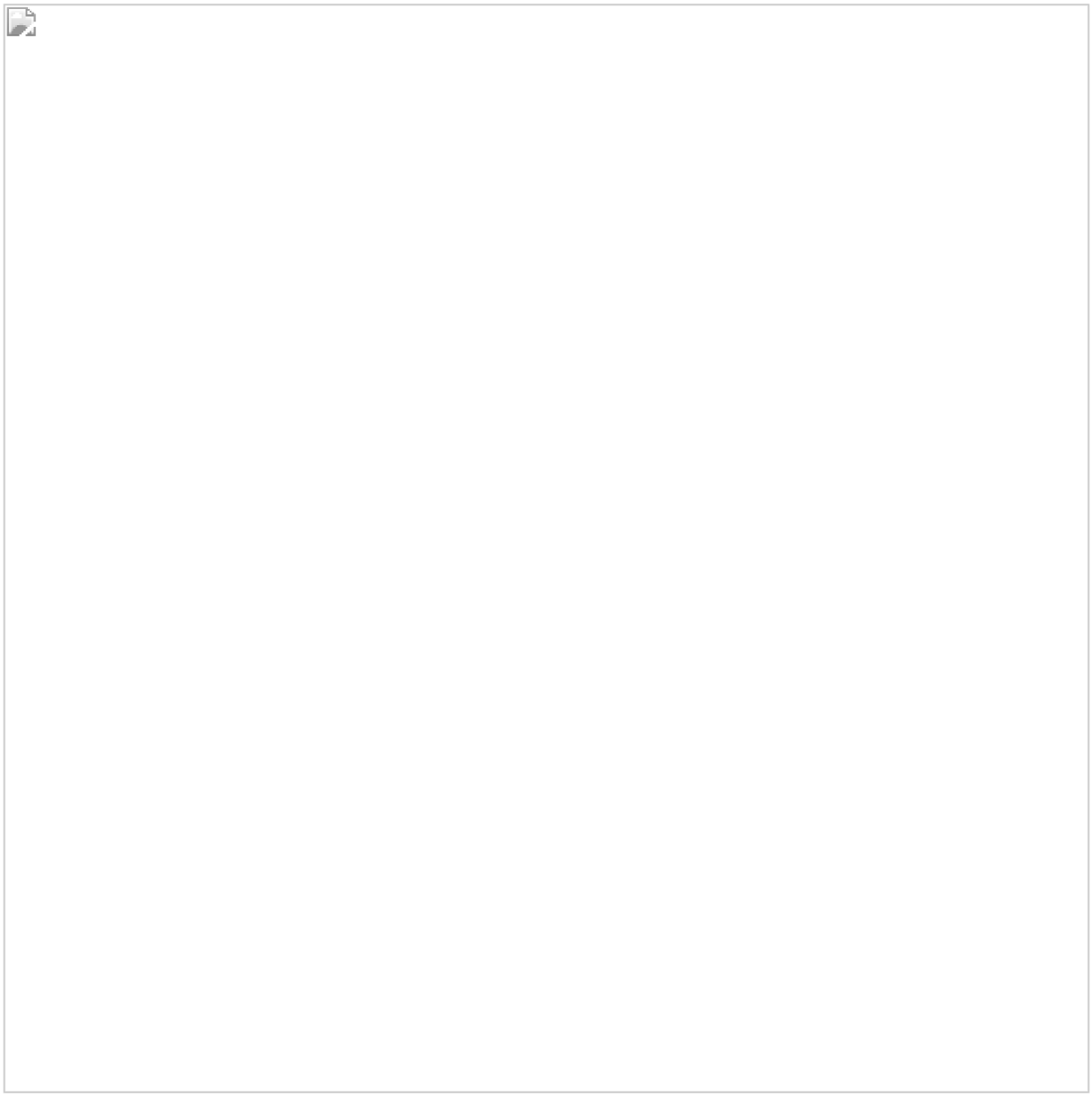
1. Who were Gobo and Faline?

- ○ Aunt Ena's two fawns
- ○ Two rabbits
- ○ Two birds

2. What did Faline say danger is?

- ○ Something to eat
- ○ What you run away from
- ○ A kind of flower

The Princes



One day two tall deer with branching antlers walked out of the woods, slowly and proudly. They did not look at the fawns or say a single word. Then they were gone.

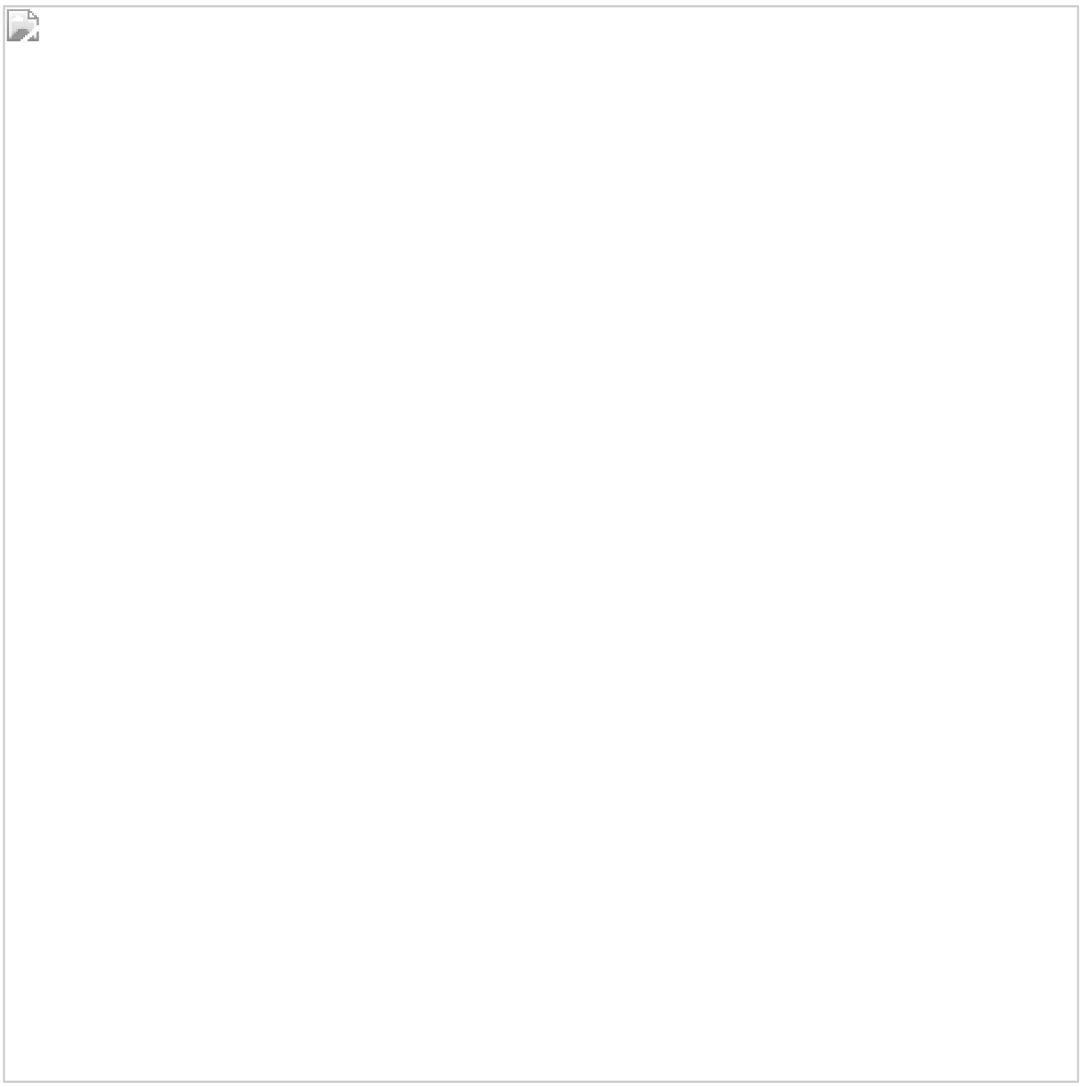
The fawns stood still, full of wonder.

Aunt Ena said solemnly, “Those were your fathers.”

The stags were called princes. Bambi wondered if his father would ever speak to him.

TALK ABOUT IT

What would you want to ask a grown-up you look up to?

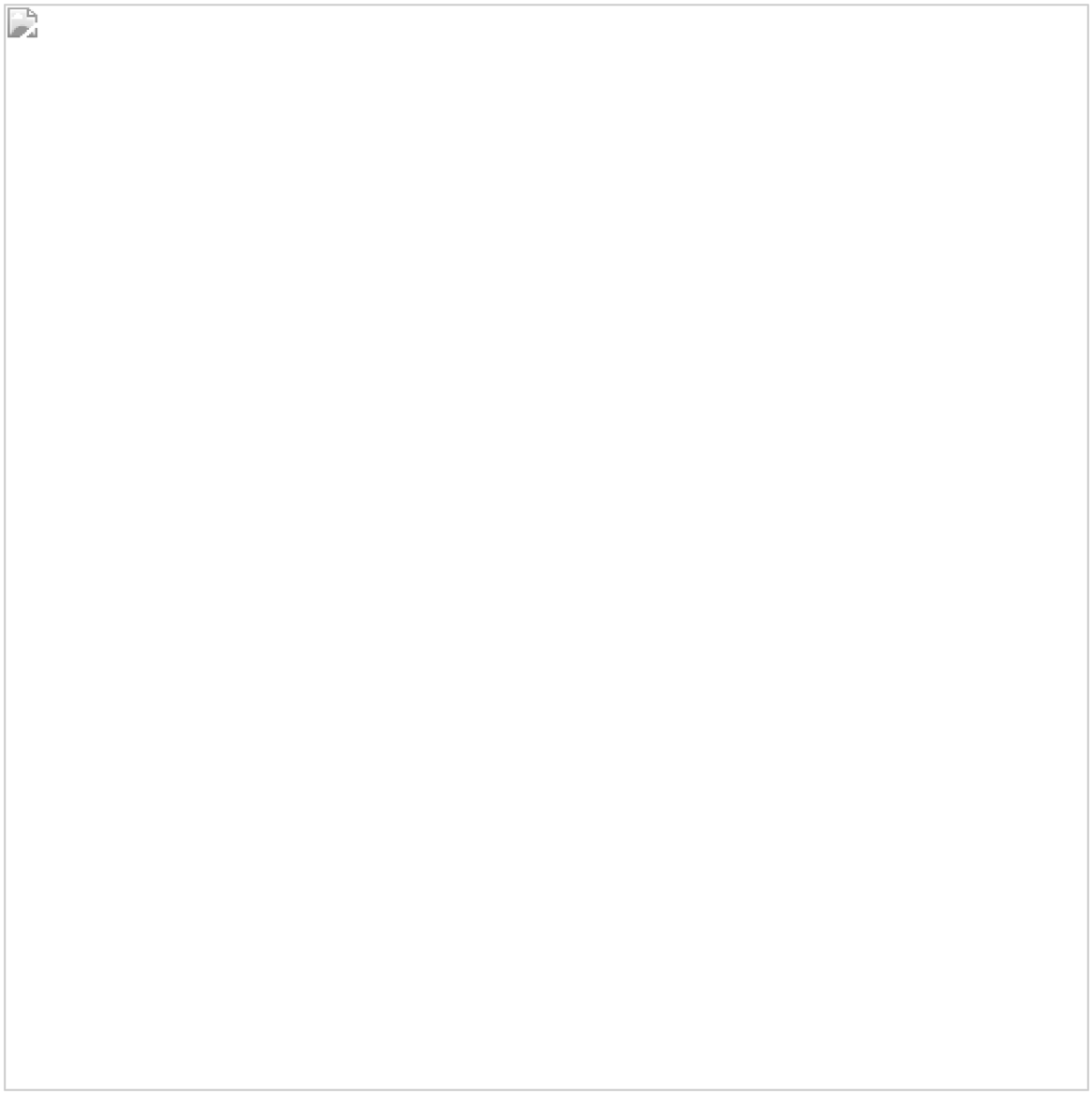


Think about it

1. What did the two tall deer have on their heads?

- ○ Antlers
- ○ Hats
- ○ Flowers

That Was He



One morning Bambi was at the edge of the meadow when he saw something that made him go stiff all over.

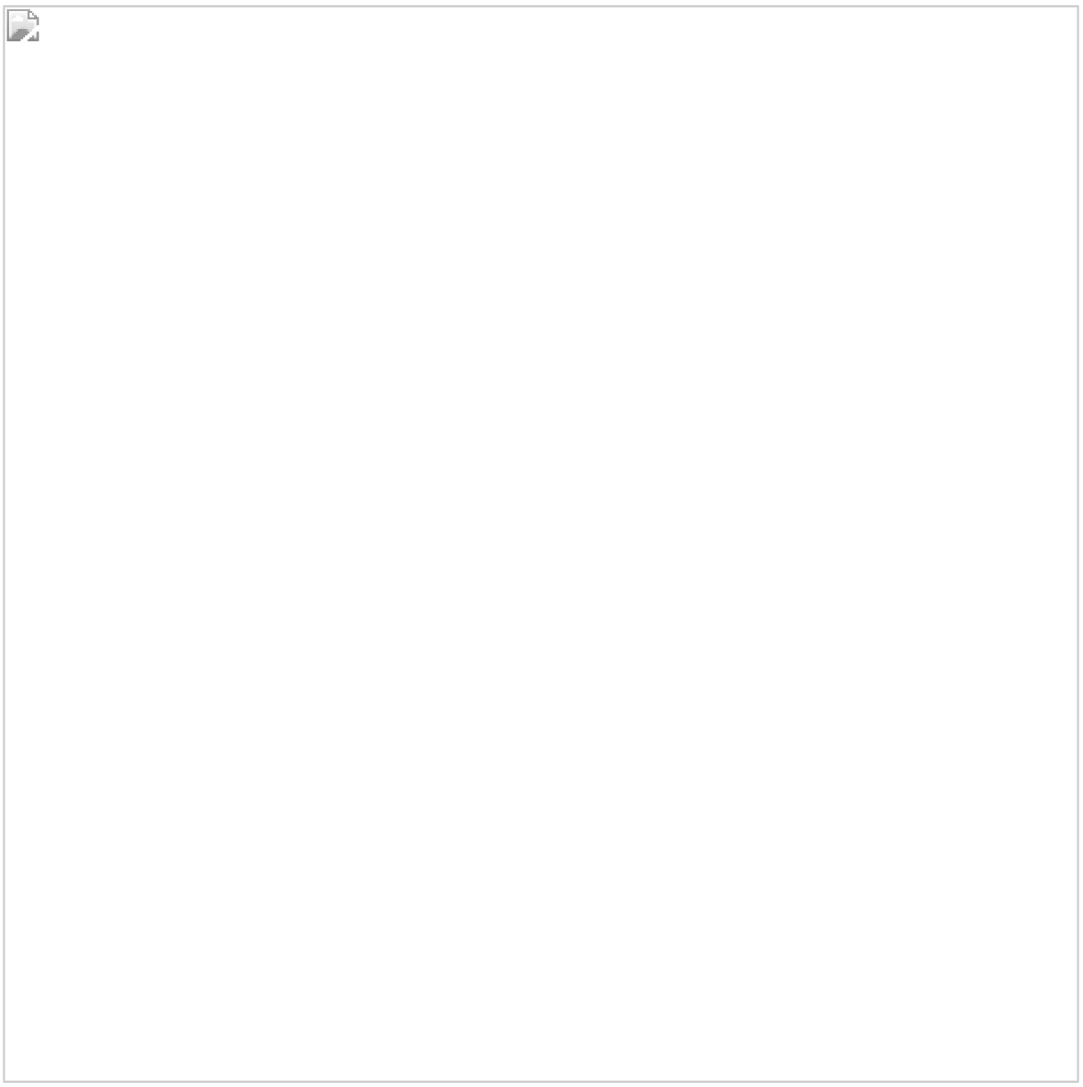
It stood straight up on two legs. Its face was pale and bare. And it smelled strange and sharp, unlike anything in the forest.

Bambi's mother leaped away, and Bambi ran after her as fast as he could, until he had no breath left.

"That was He," said the mother. The deer called the hunter "He," and they were afraid of Him.

TALK ABOUT IT

Bambi's mother helped him know when to run. Who helps you stay safe?

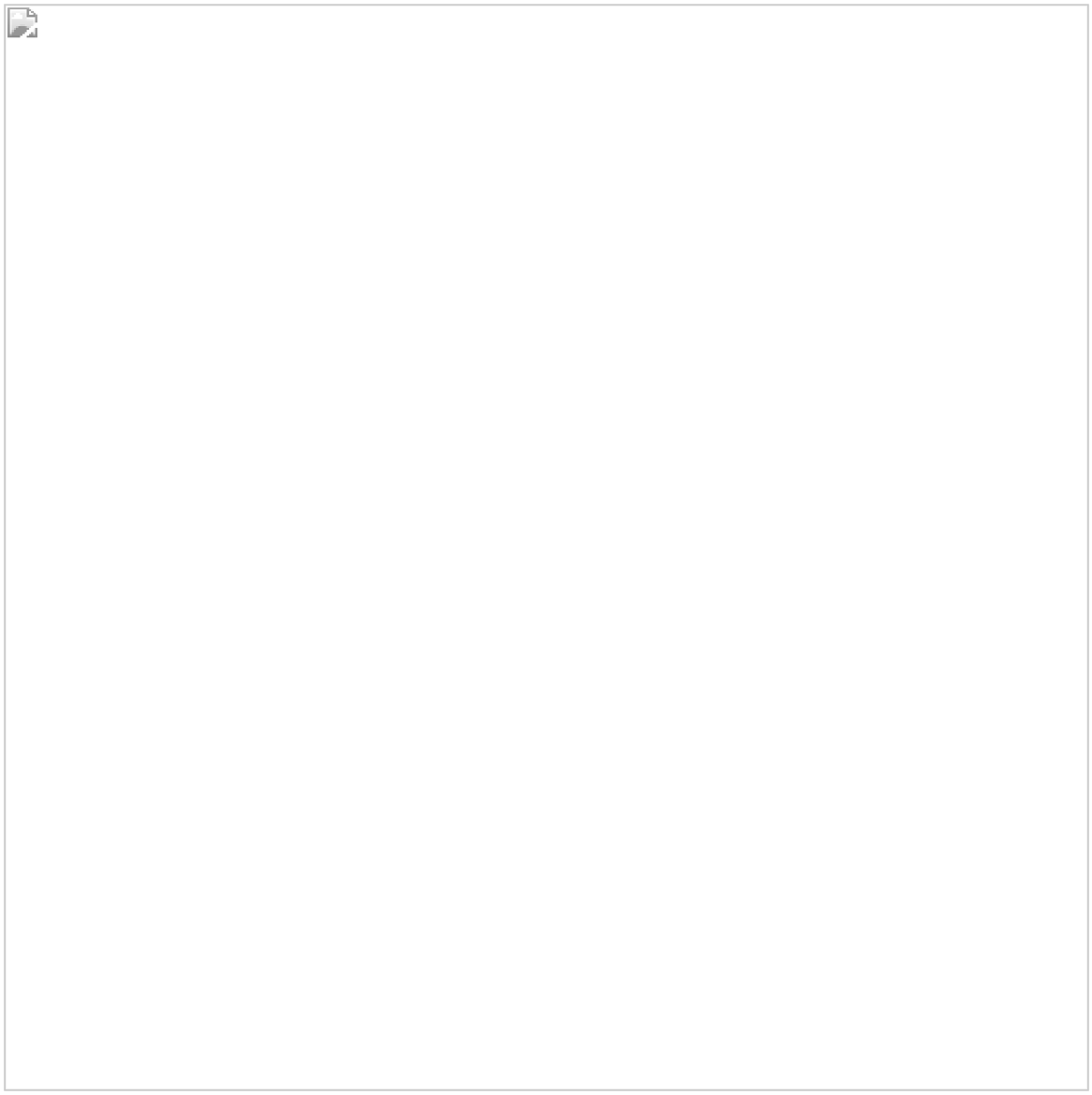


Think about it

1. What did the deer call the hunter?

- ○ “He”
- ○ “Friend”
- ○ “The Prince”

The Old Stag



Sometimes Bambi's mother went away for a while, and Bambi stood alone in the forest calling, "Mother! Mother!"

One day a huge old stag stepped out of the trees, with great antlers and a gray face. He was the oldest and wisest deer in the forest.

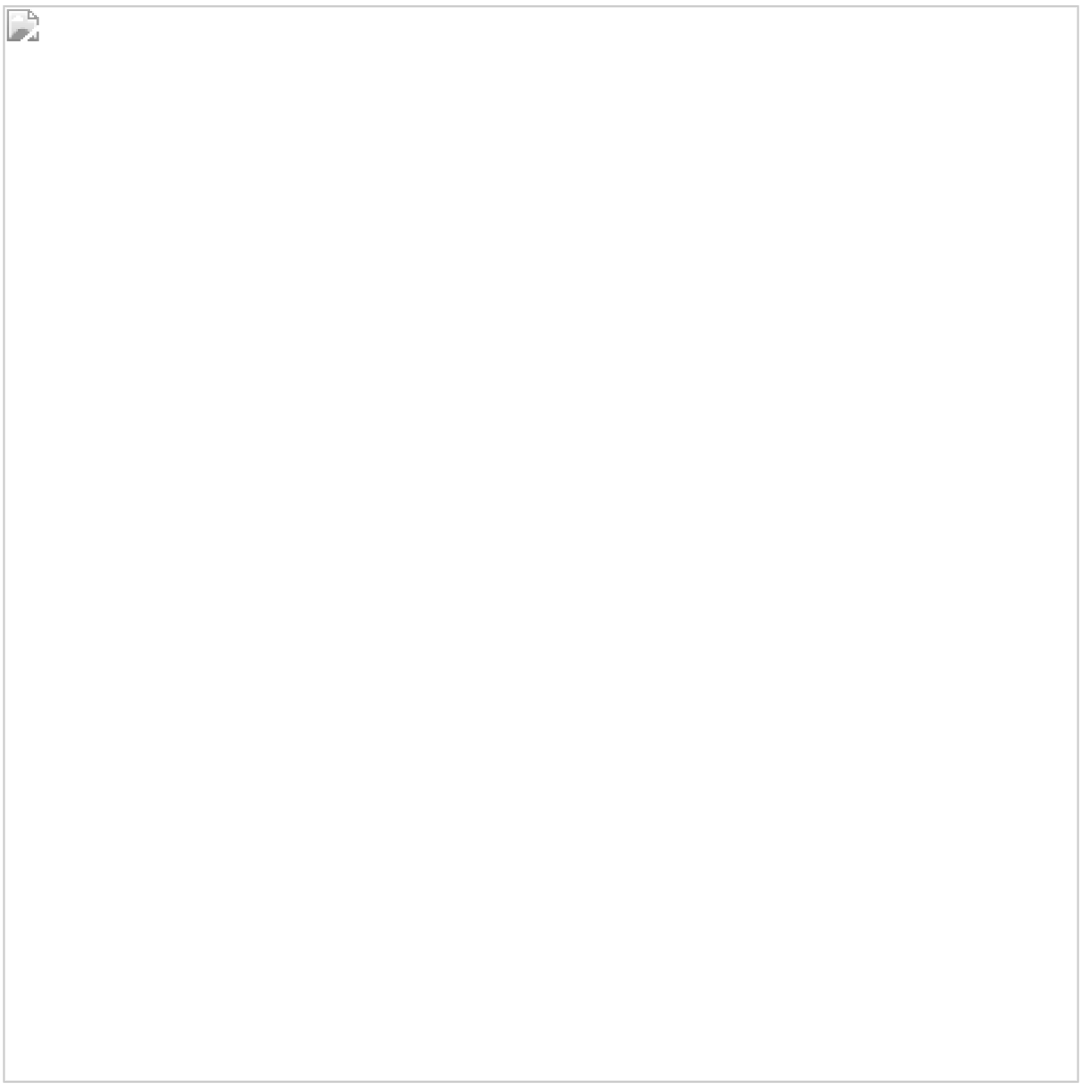
"What are you crying about?" he asked. "Your mother has no time for you now. Can't you stay by yourself?"

Then he was gone. Bambi was frightened, but he admired that deep, strong voice. He wanted to be like the old stag someday.

TALK ABOUT IT

The old stag wanted Bambi to be brave. What helps you be brave when you're by yourself?

The Old Stag · another picture

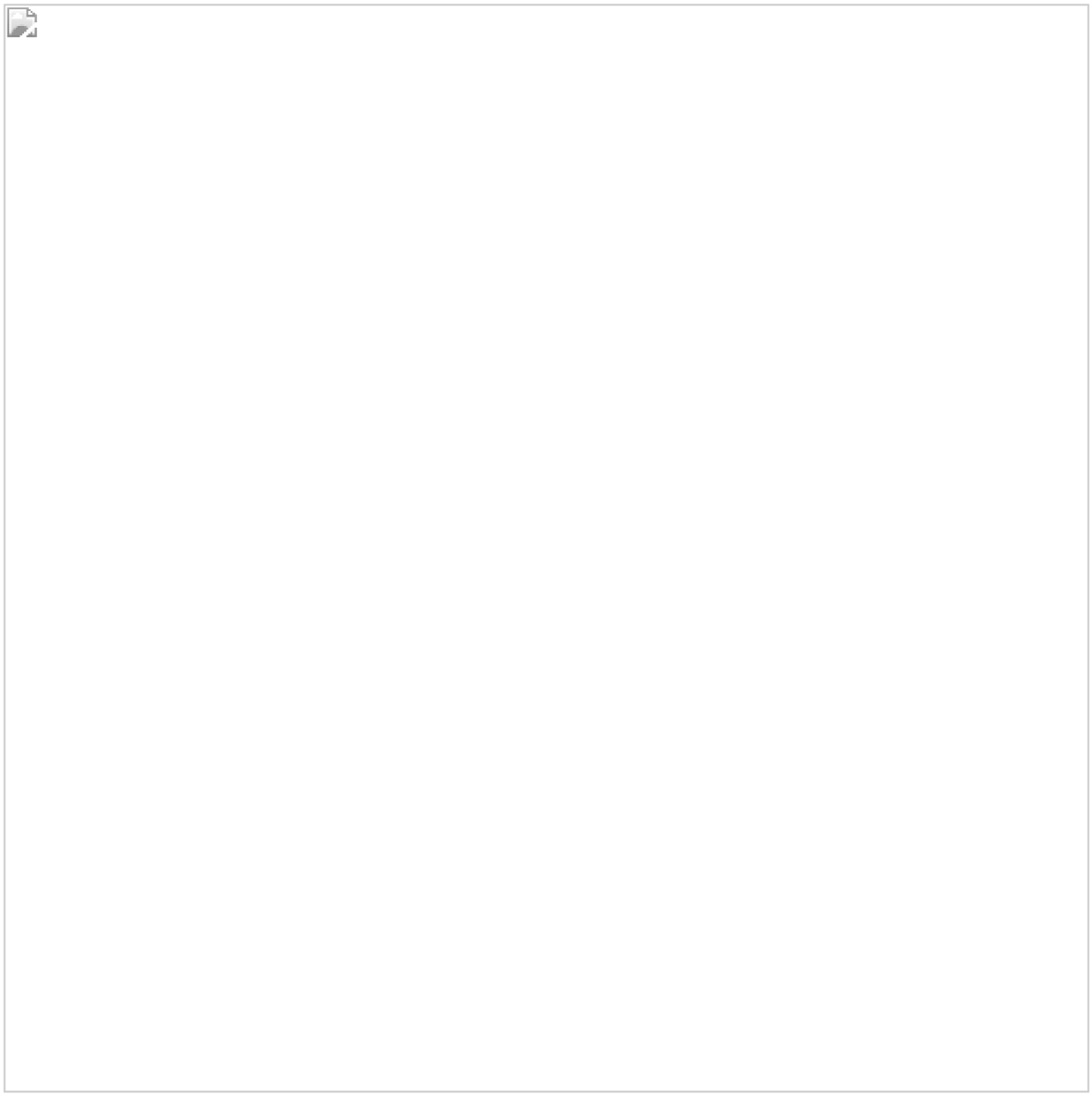


Think about it

1. What did the old stag ask Bambi?

- ○ “Can’t you stay by yourself?”
- ○ “Do you want to play?”
- ○ “Are you hungry?”

Two Leaves



Autumn came. High on a branch, two leaves hung side by side. Almost all the other leaves had already fallen.

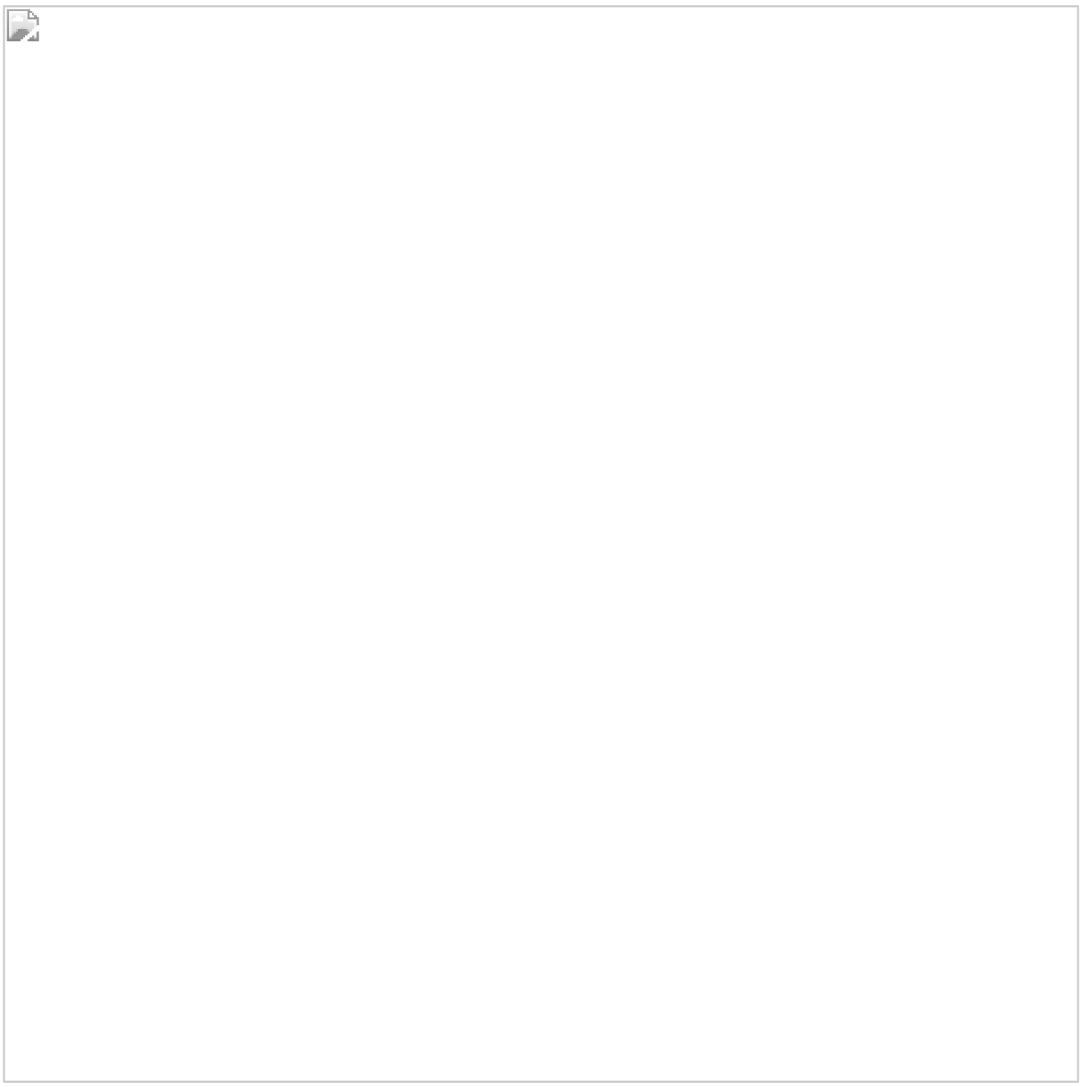
“It’s not the way it used to be,” said one. They remembered summer, the warm sun and the soft rain.

“Why must we fall?…” the first leaf asked quietly.

They talked and wondered, and comforted each other. Then the wind came, and the second leaf let go, and floated down, down, down. Winter had come.

TALK ABOUT IT

The two leaves stayed close and comforted each other. Who stays close to you when things change?

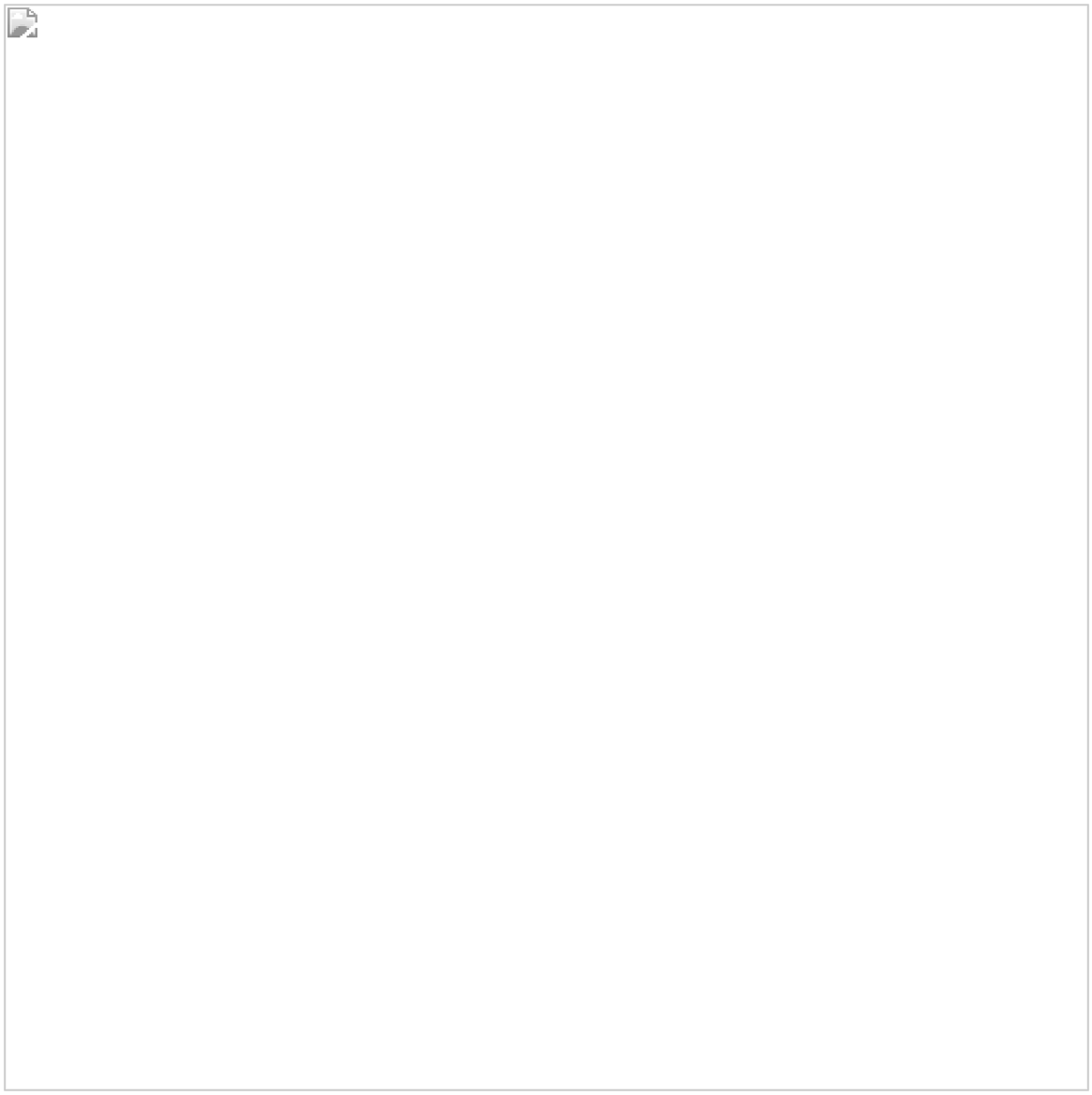


Think about it

1. What season came after the leaves fell?

- ○ Summer
- ○ Winter
- ○ Spring

A Hard Winter



Winter was long and hungry. Snow covered the grass, and the deer ate bark and dry twigs.

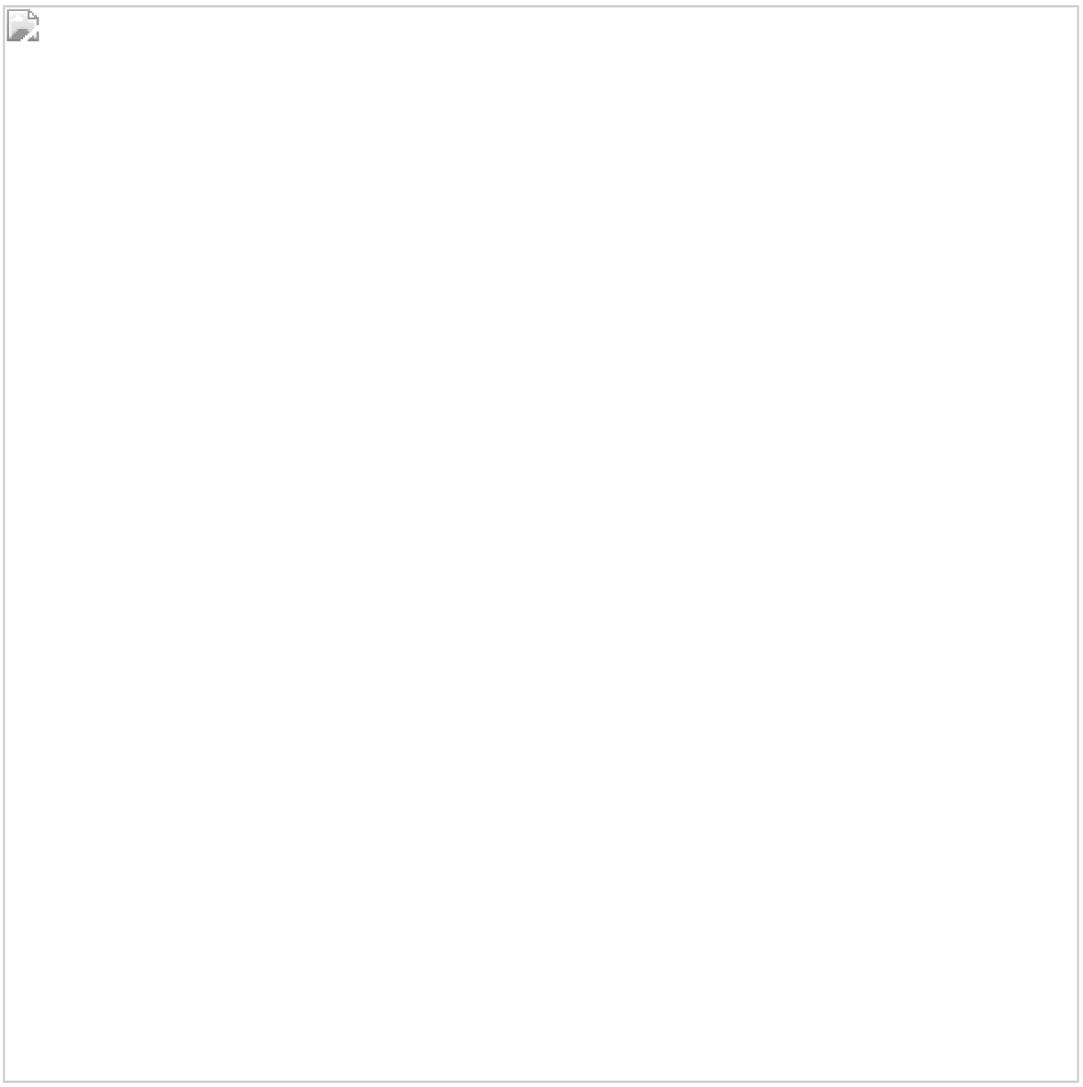
One day men came into the forest, many of them, shouting and beating the trees. All the animals ran.

Bambi's mother said, "When we have to cross the open place, run as fast as you can. Even if I fall, don't pay any attention to me, just keep on running."

Bambi ran and ran. When it was quiet again, he looked for his mother everywhere. But she did not come back. "Bambi never saw his mother again."

TALK ABOUT IT

Bambi lost his mother. How could a friend help someone who has lost someone they love?



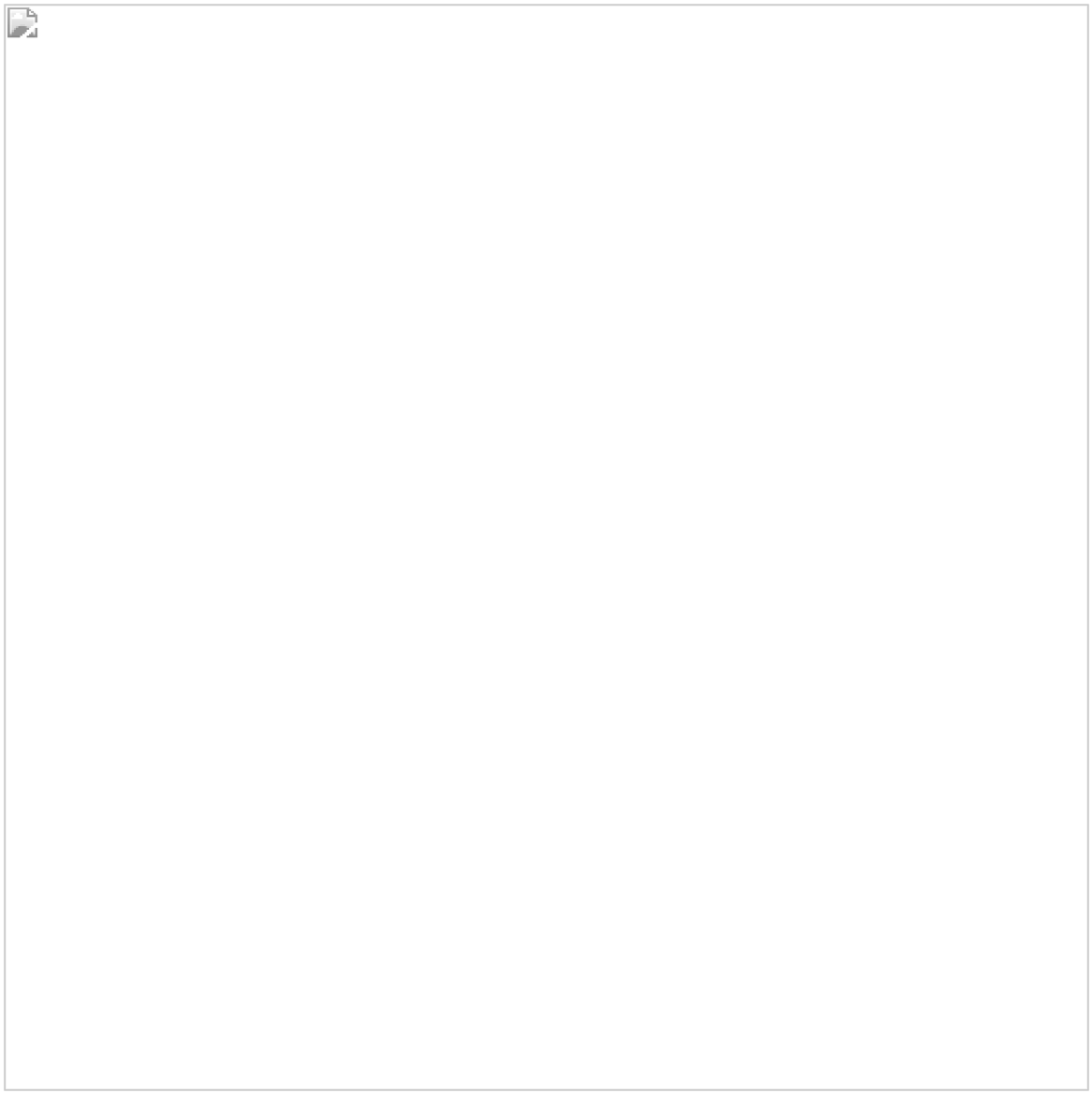
Think about it

1. What did Bambi's mother tell him to do?

- ○ Keep running, no matter what
- ○ Hide in the snow
- ○ Stay with her

2. What do you think Bambi needed most after that day?

Act Bravely



Spring came again, and Bambi was growing up. Little antlers had grown on his head, covered in soft fuzz, and he rubbed them on the hazel bushes until they were smooth and hard.

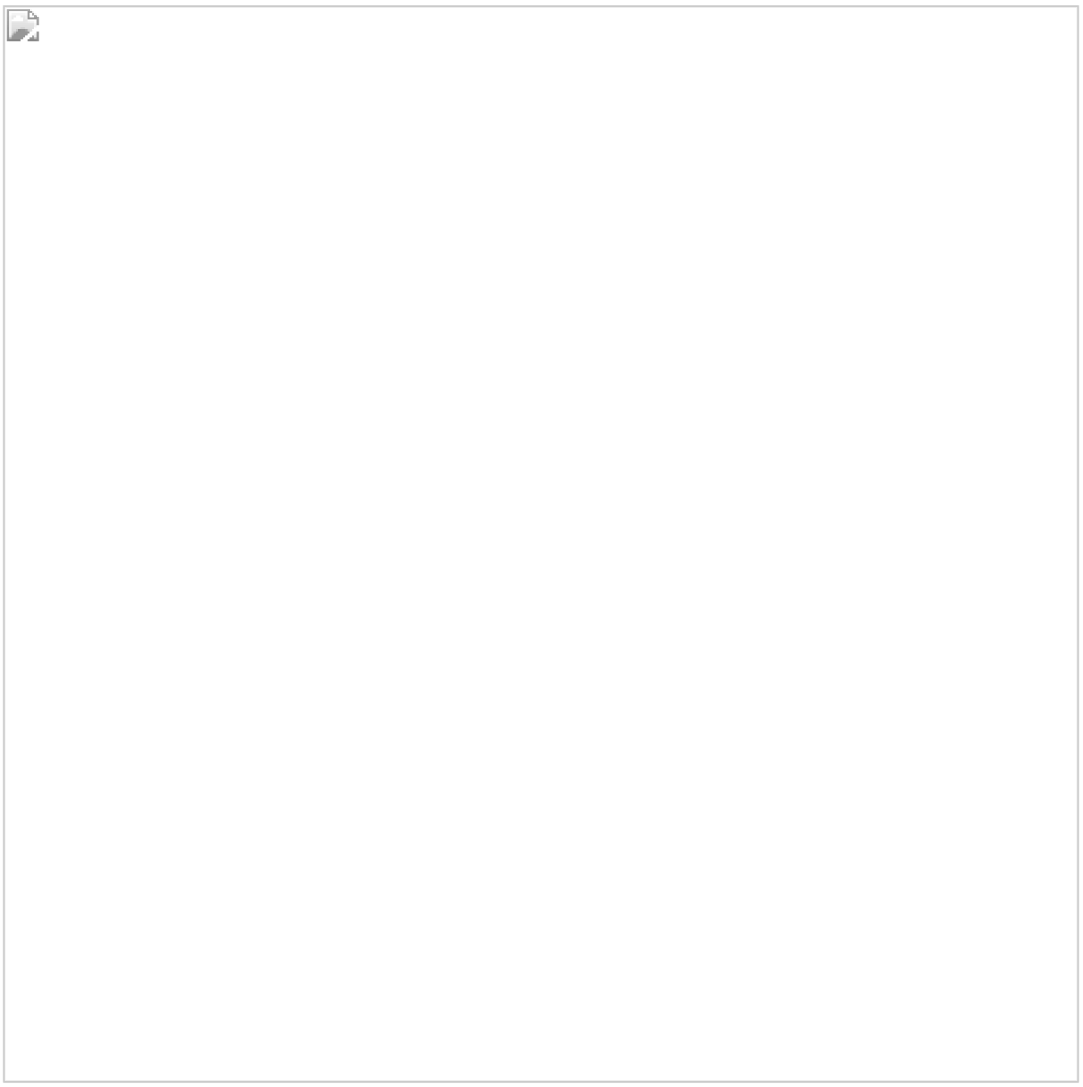
The squirrel admired them. The woodpecker laughed. The older bucks chased him off.

One day the old stag came to look at him. He looked Bambi up and down for a long time. Then he came close.

“Act bravely,” said the old stag.

TALK ABOUT IT

What is a brave thing someone your age can do?

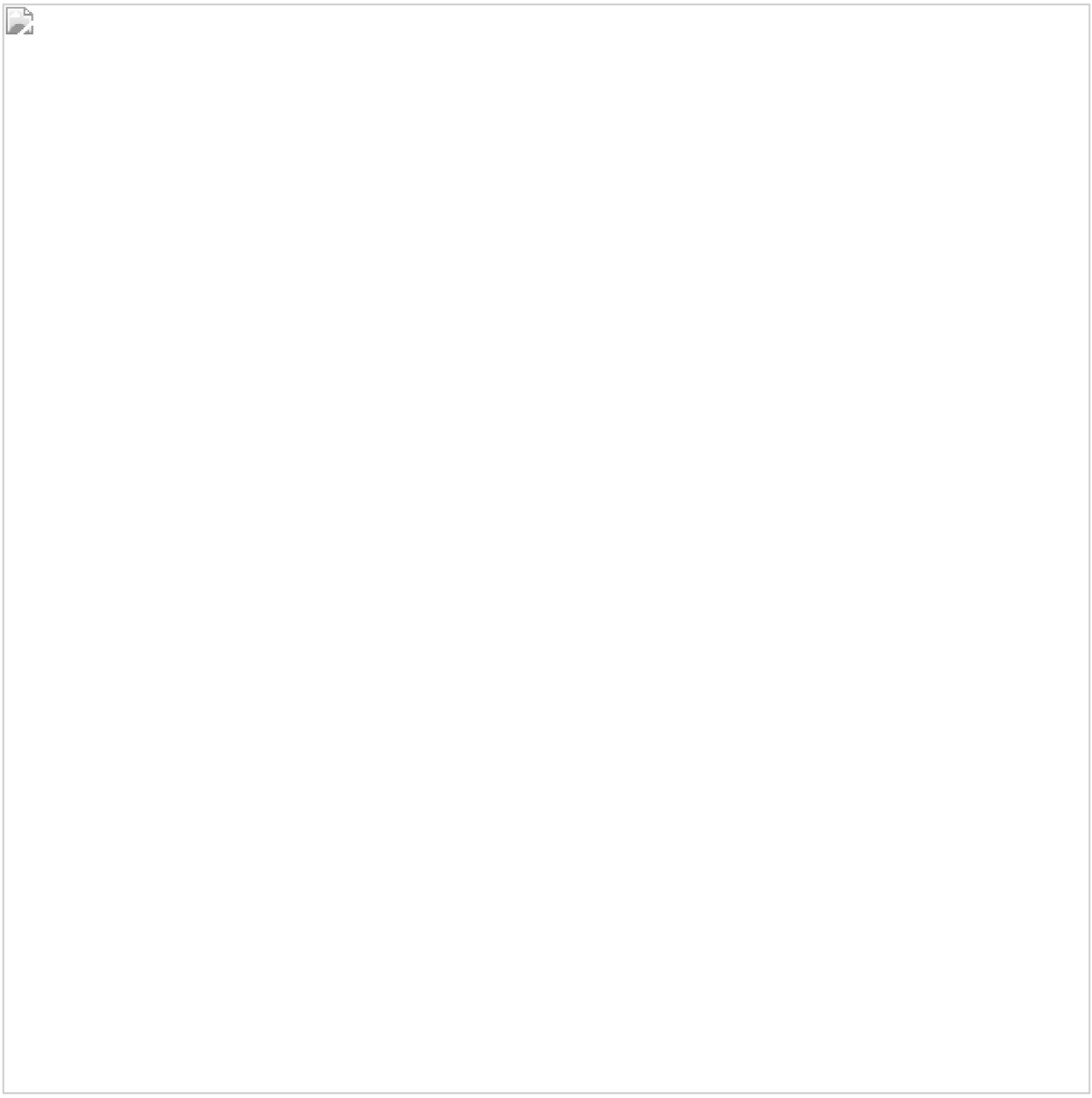


Think about it

1. What did Bambi rub his antlers on?

- ○ Hazel bushes
- ○ Rocks
- ○ The snow

Faline



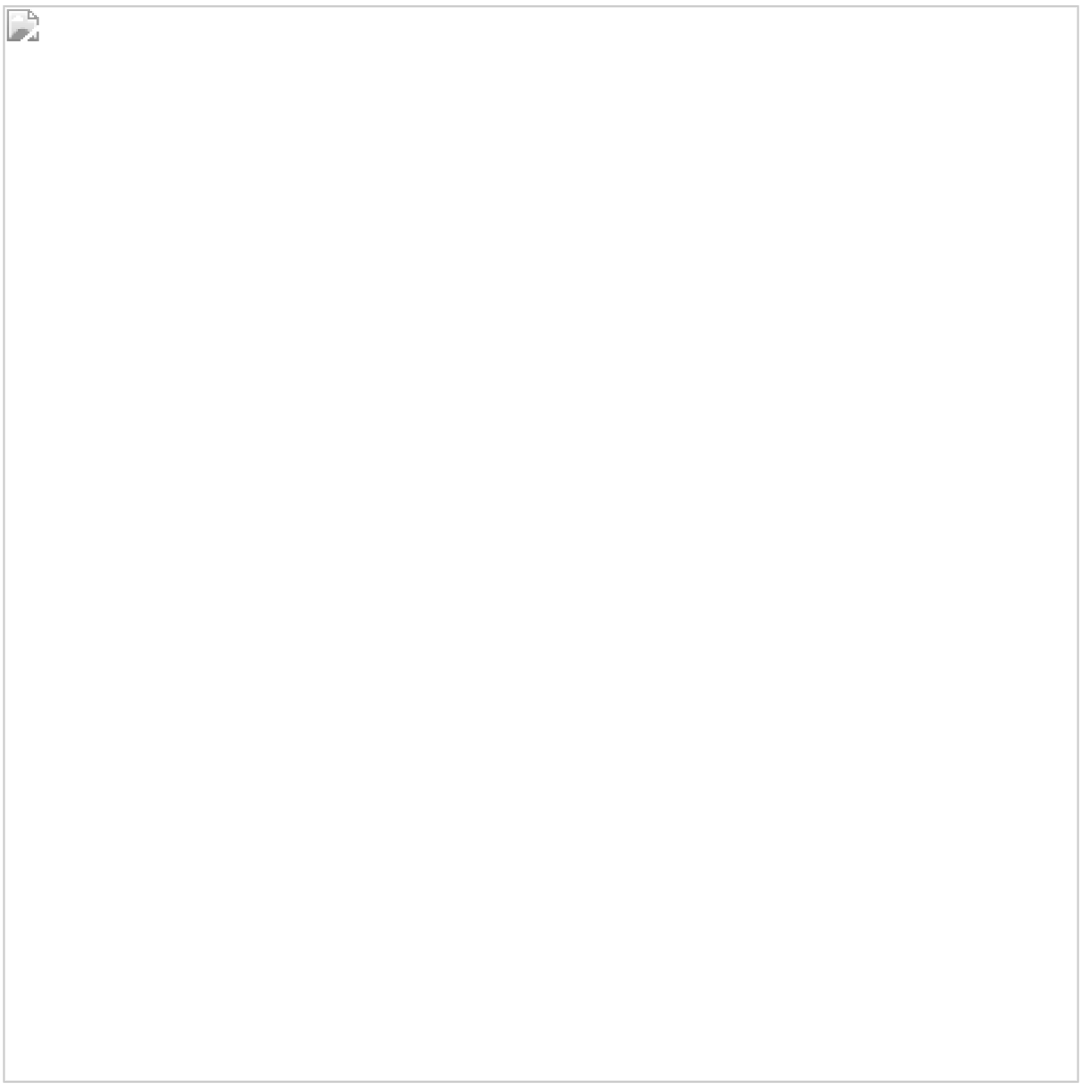
In summer, Bambi found Faline again, all grown up. They played tag on the meadow, just as they had when they were small.

“I wanted … I wanted to ask you … do you love me, Faline?…” And Faline stayed.

Then two other young stags, Karus and Ronno, came to chase Bambi away. Bambi stood his ground and pushed back with his antlers until they gave up. When Ronno asked for mercy, Bambi let him go.

TALK ABOUT IT

Bambi let Ronno go when Ronno asked for mercy. Why do you think that was a good choice?

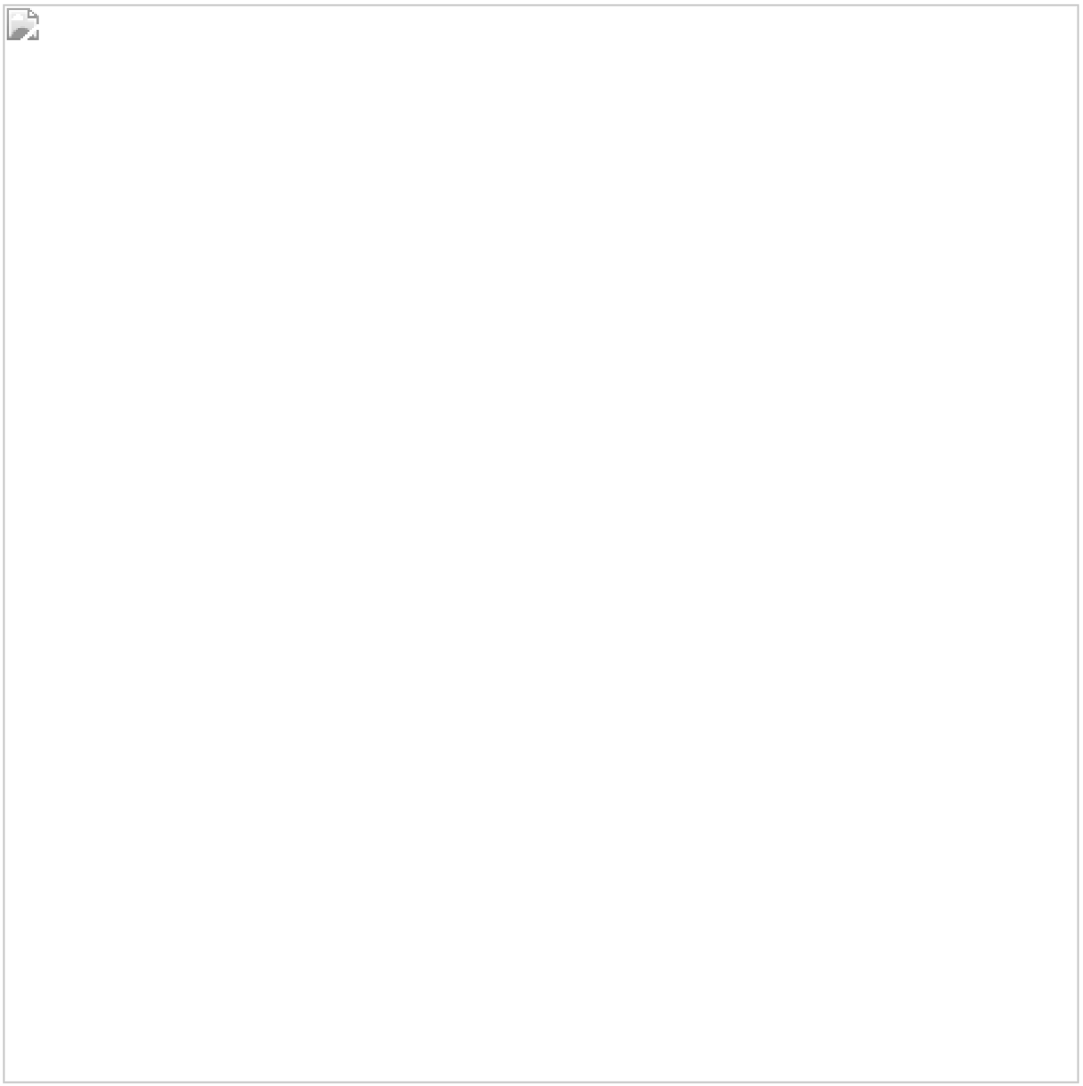


Think about it

1. What did Bambi do when Ronno asked for mercy?

- ○ He let him go
- ○ He chased him forever
- ○ He called the hunter

The Trick Call



One hot day Bambi heard a voice that sounded just like Faline calling, “Come, come!”

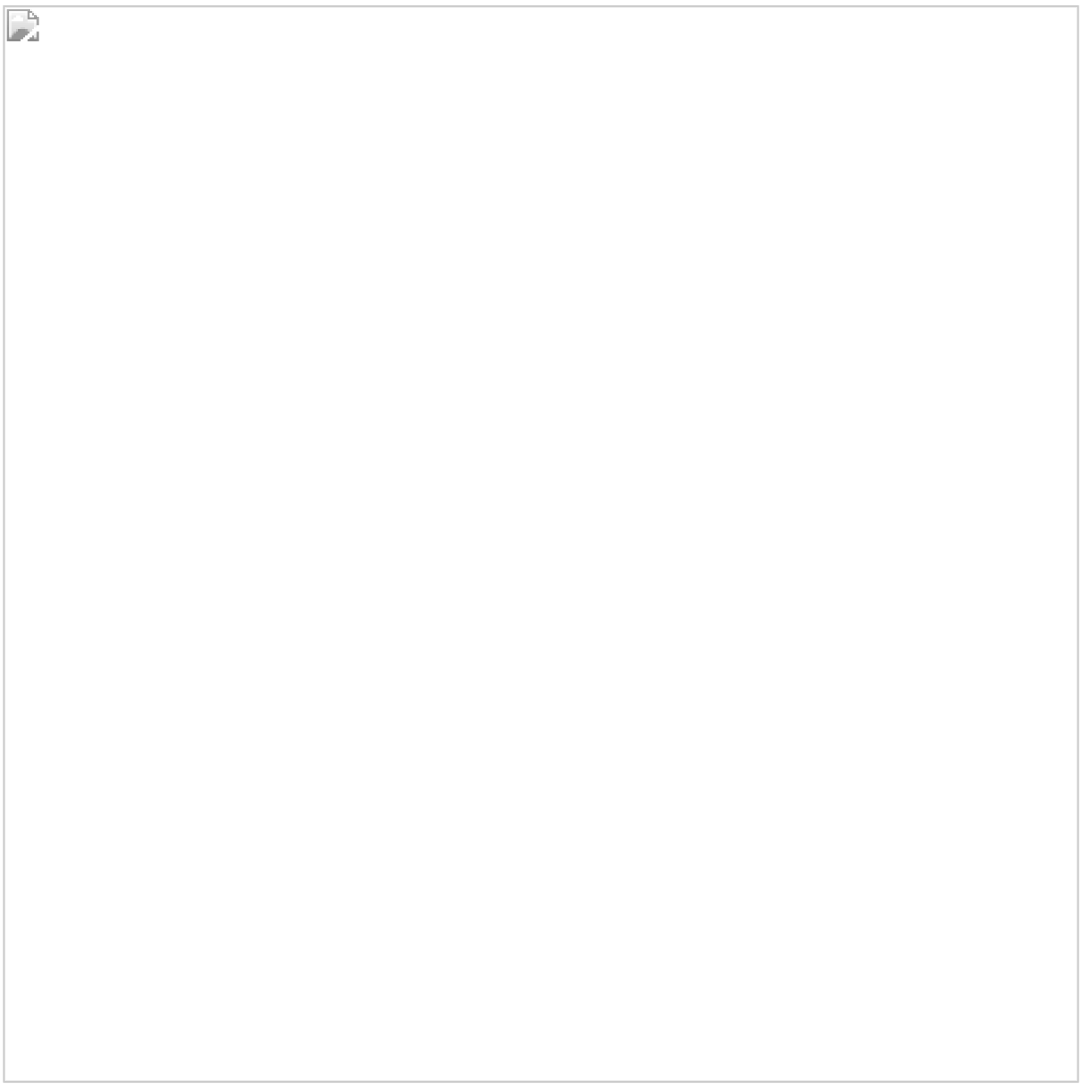
He started toward it. But the old stag stepped in front of him. “Listen to me,” he said.

“Later,” Bambi pleaded, “I’ll come right back.” “No,” said the old stag sadly, “you’ll never come back, never again.”

The old stag led him quietly around through the bushes, and there, hiding where the call came from, was He, pretending to be Faline. The old stag had saved Bambi’s life.

TALK ABOUT IT

The old stag stopped Bambi from making a mistake. Who helps you when you’re about to make a mistake?

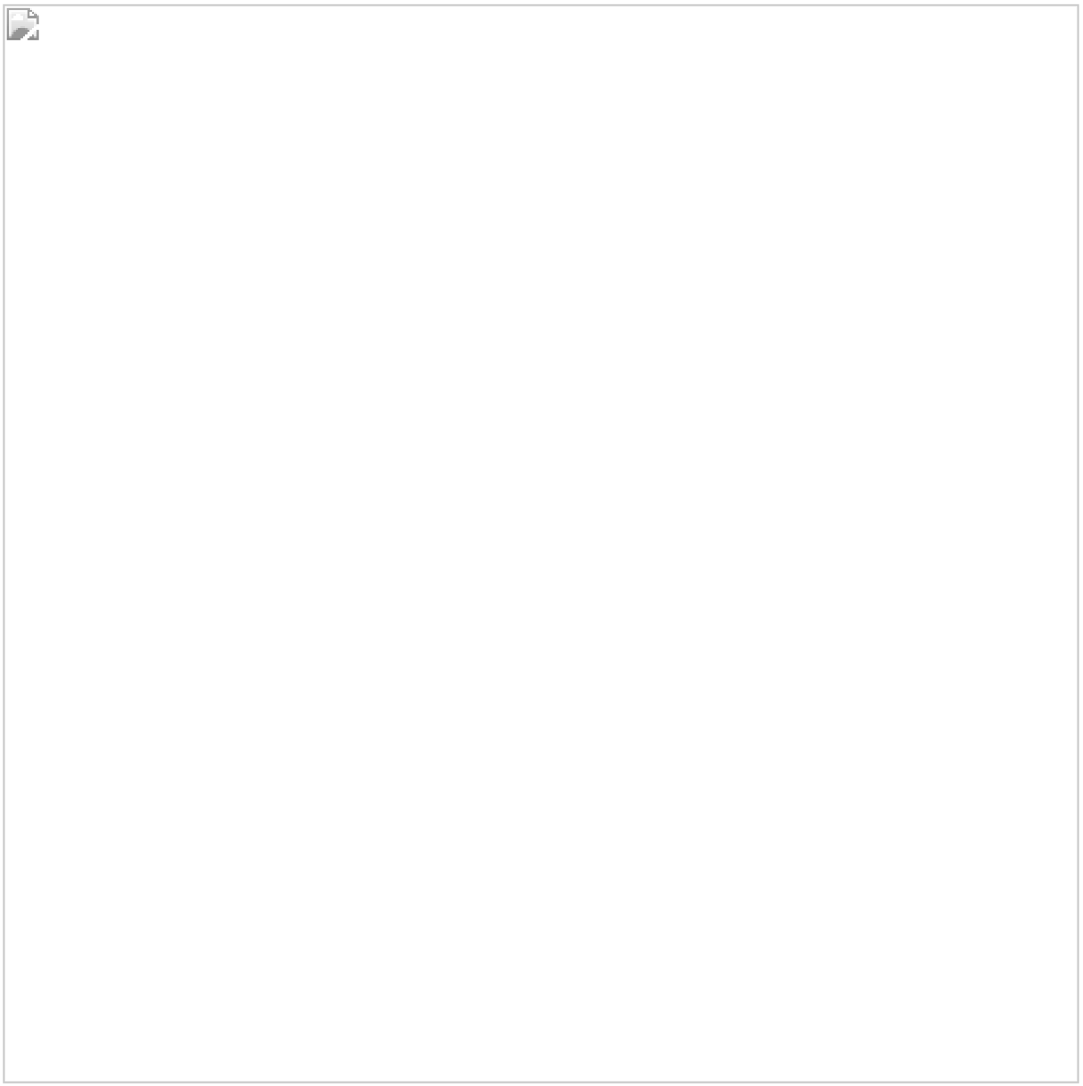


Think about it

1. Who was really making the call?

- ○ Faline
- ○ The hunter, pretending
- ○ Gobo

Gobo Comes Home



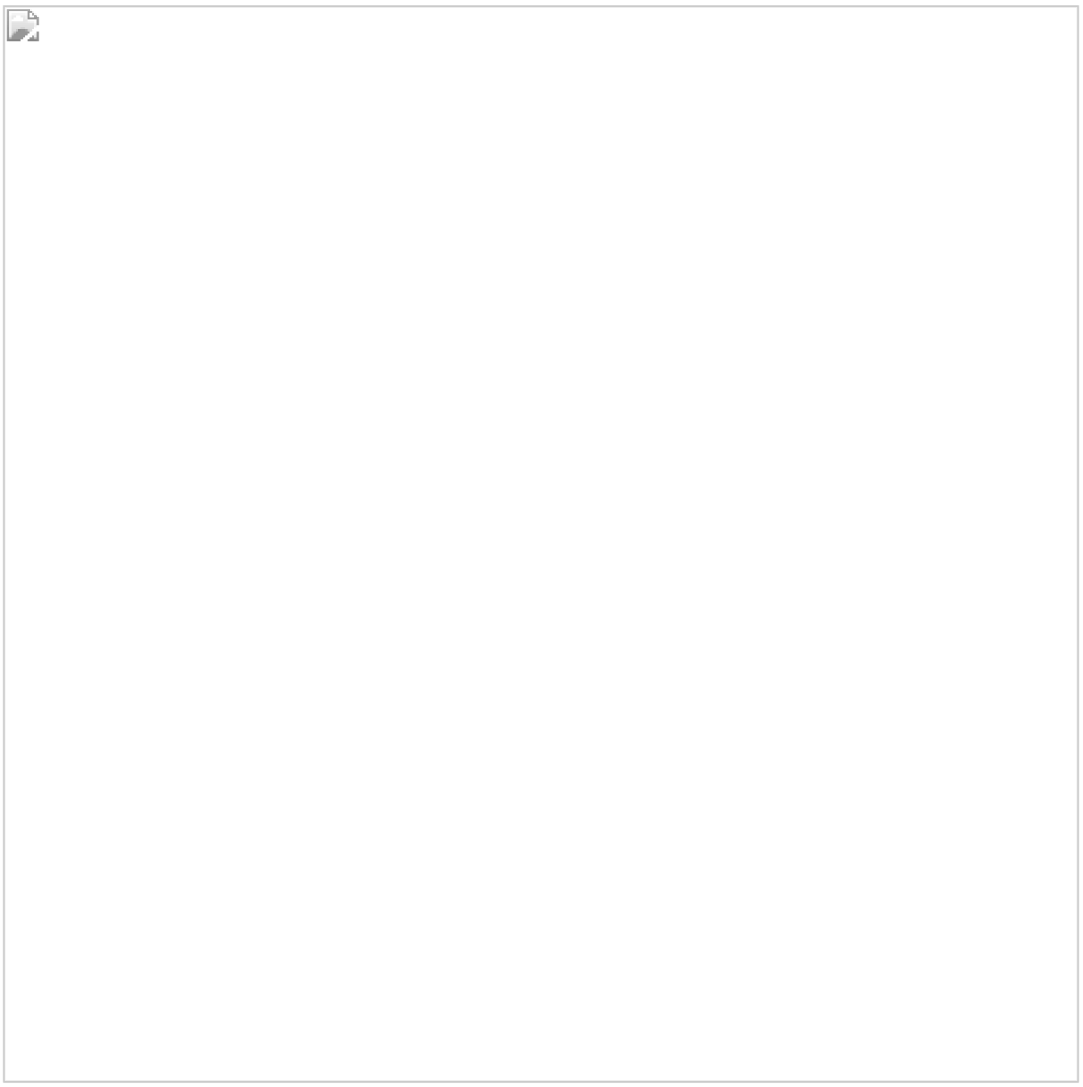
Everyone thought Gobo had been lost in the snow that hard winter. But one day, a deer walked onto the meadow, and it was Gobo, alive and well!

His mother, Aunt Ena, did not ask a single question. “She bathed him tirelessly in her kisses, as she had when he was born.”

Gobo told everyone how He had found him in the snow, carried him to a warm place with hay, and fed him all winter.

But the old stag saw the braided band of horsehair still around Gobo’s neck, where He had tied him, and said softly, “You poor thing!” He knew Gobo had forgotten how to be careful.

TALK ABOUT IT
Aunt Ena didn’t ask any questions. She was just glad Gobo was home. Who is always glad to see you?

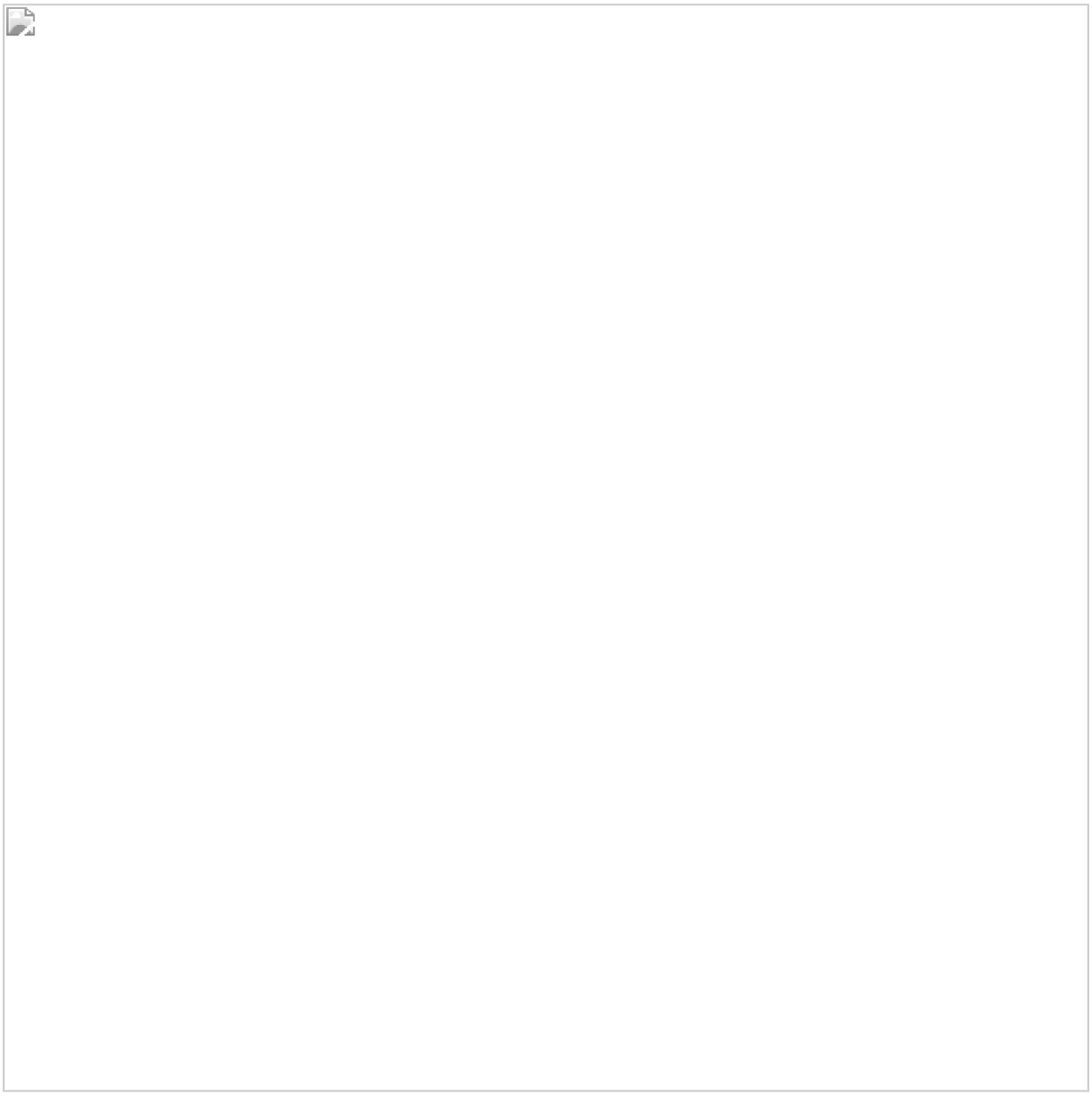


Think about it

1. What did Aunt Ena do when Gobo came home?

- ○ She kissed him all over
- ○ She scolded him
- ○ She ran away

Lie Still



One day Bambi and the old stag found Friend Hare lying on the ground. A wire loop was caught around his neck, and the more he pulled, the tighter it got.

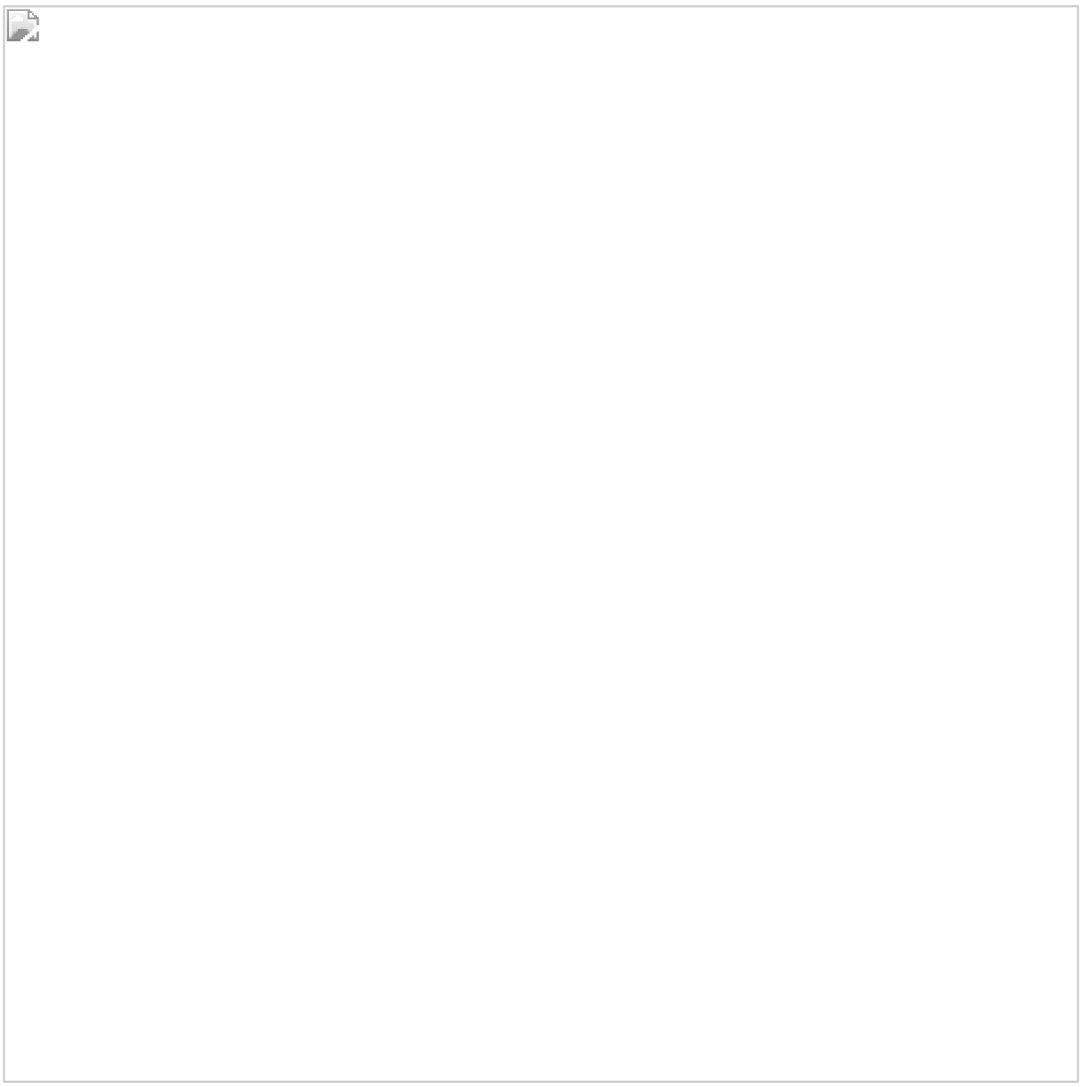
“Friend Hare, it’s I. Don’t move now. Lie perfectly still,” said the old stag.

Very gently, the old stag worked the tip of his antler under the wire, little by little, until the loop came loose. Friend Hare was free!

“We must learn to live and be cautious,” the old stag told Bambi.

TALK ABOUT IT

The old stag stopped to help a hare. Have you ever stopped to help someone smaller than you?



Think about it

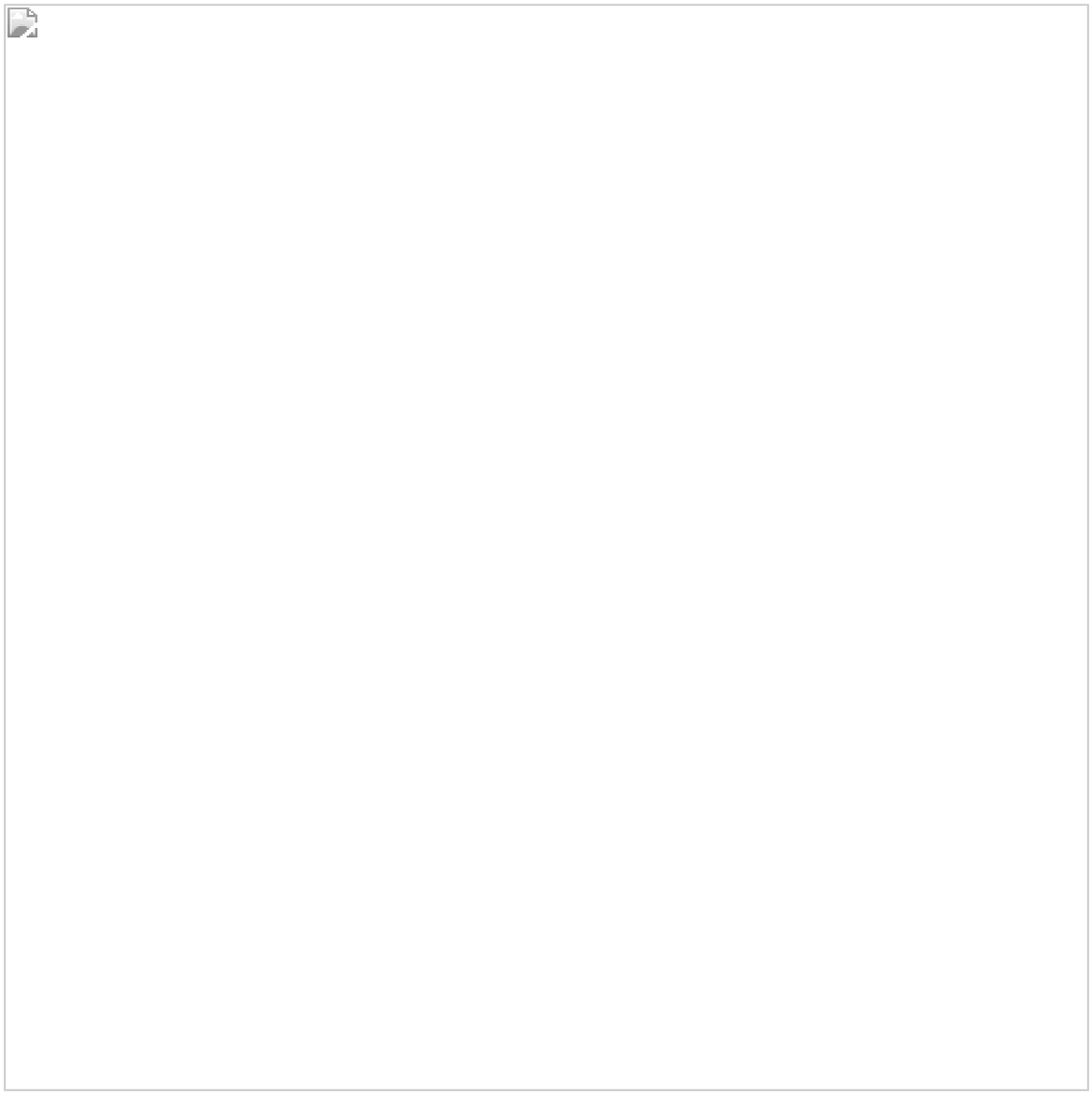
1. How did the old stag free Friend Hare?

- ○ With the tip of his antler
- ○ He bit the rope
- ○ He called for help

2. What did Friend Hare have to do to be saved?

- ○ Lie perfectly still
- ○ Pull harder
- ○ Run away

Up, Bambi!



One morning a sound like thunder cracked, and Bambi felt a hot sting in his shoulder. He fell in the leaves. It felt good just to lie there.

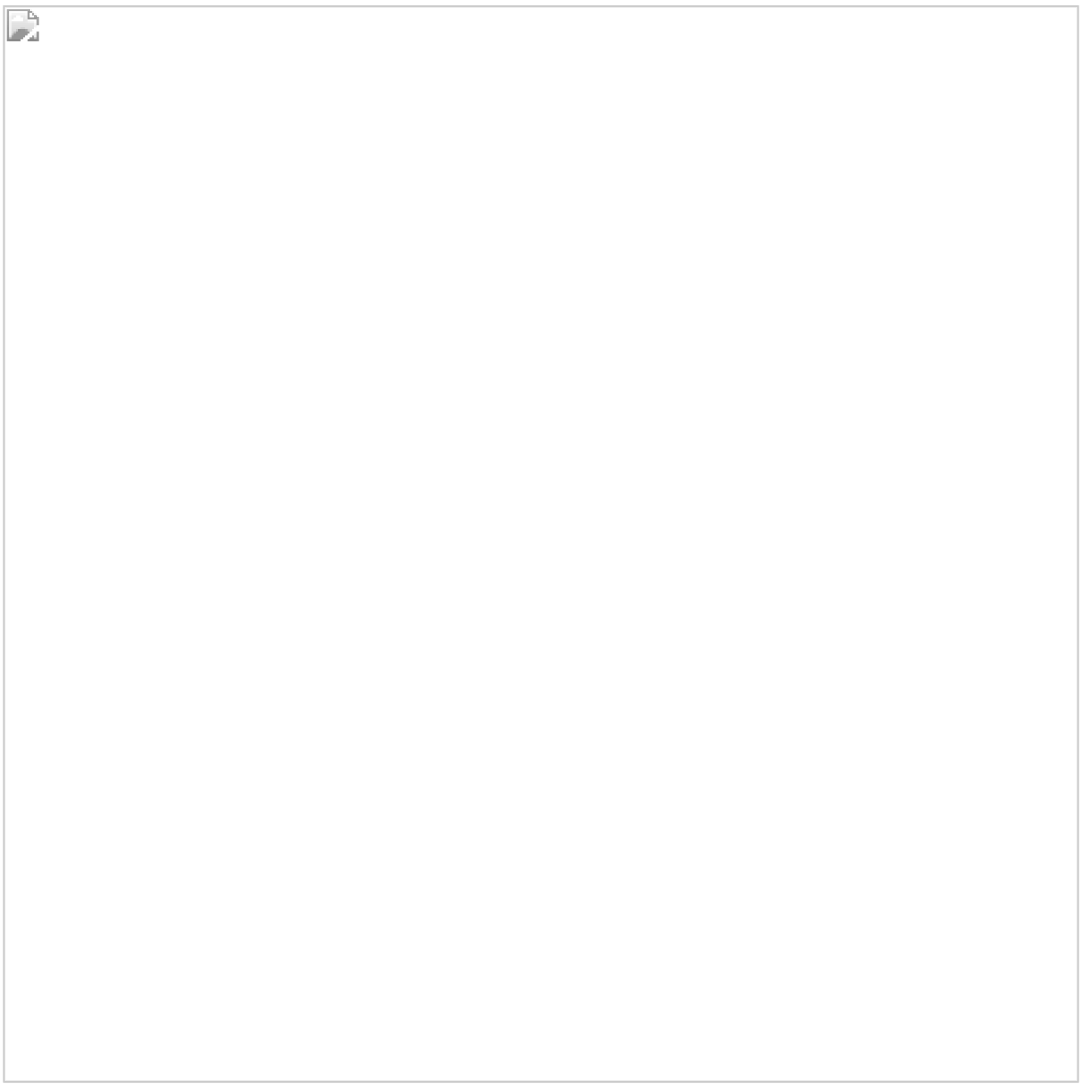
“Up, Bambi! Get up!” The old stag was beside him, nudging him gently. “Get up! You must get away, my son.”

My son! Bambi was on his feet at once. The old stag led him in circles to hide his tracks, and showed him bitter leaves that would help him heal.

Then he brought Bambi to a hollow under a fallen tree, hidden by thick bushes. “You’ll be safe here.” And day by day, Bambi got well.

TALK ABOUT IT

The old stag called Bambi “my son.” Who cares for you when you are hurt?



Think about it

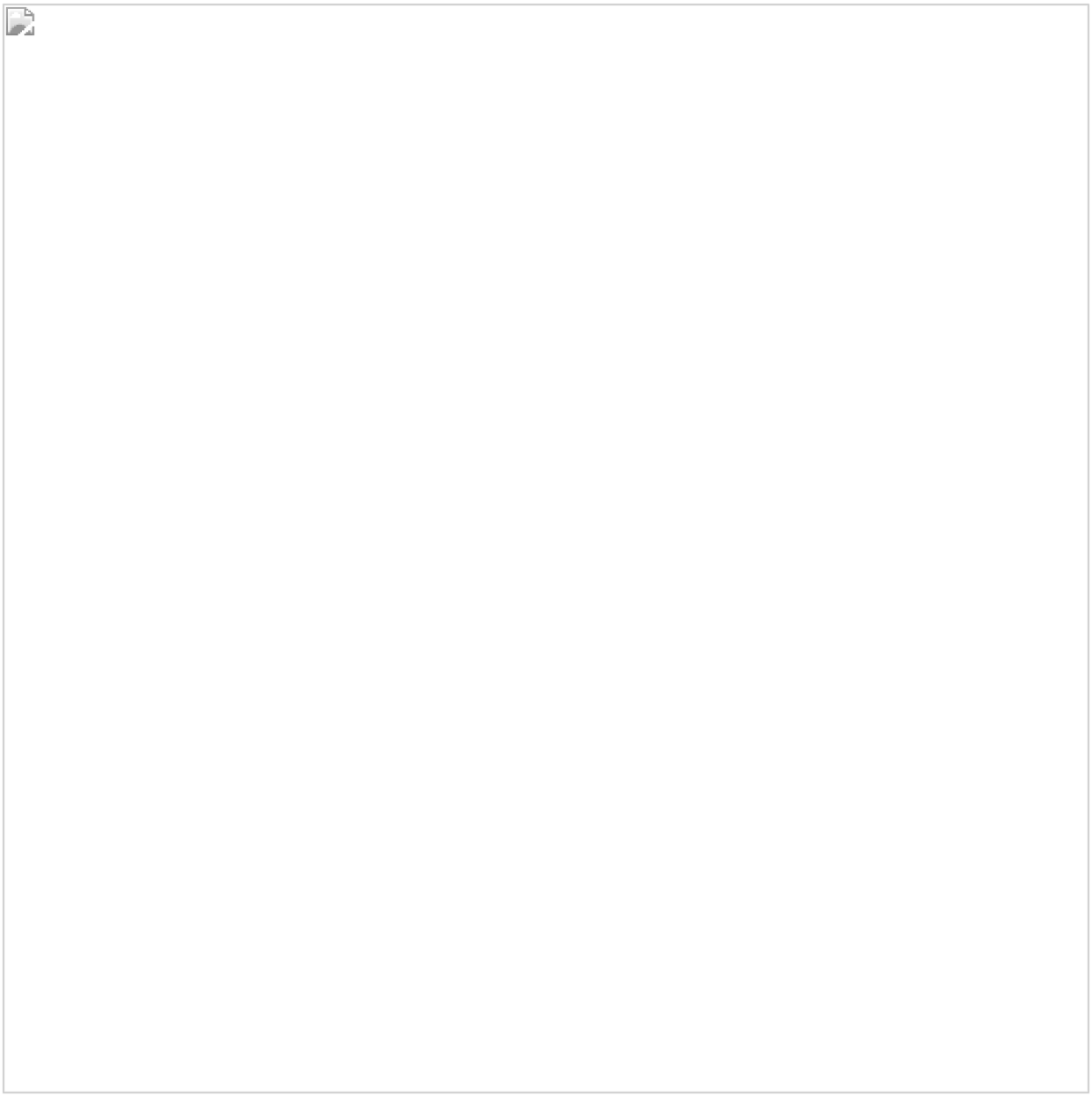
1. What did the old stag call Bambi?

- ○ “My son”
- ○ “Little one”
- ○ “Stranger”

2. Where did Bambi rest and get well?

- ○ In a hollow under a fallen tree
- ○ In the open meadow
- ○ By the river

The Screech-Owl



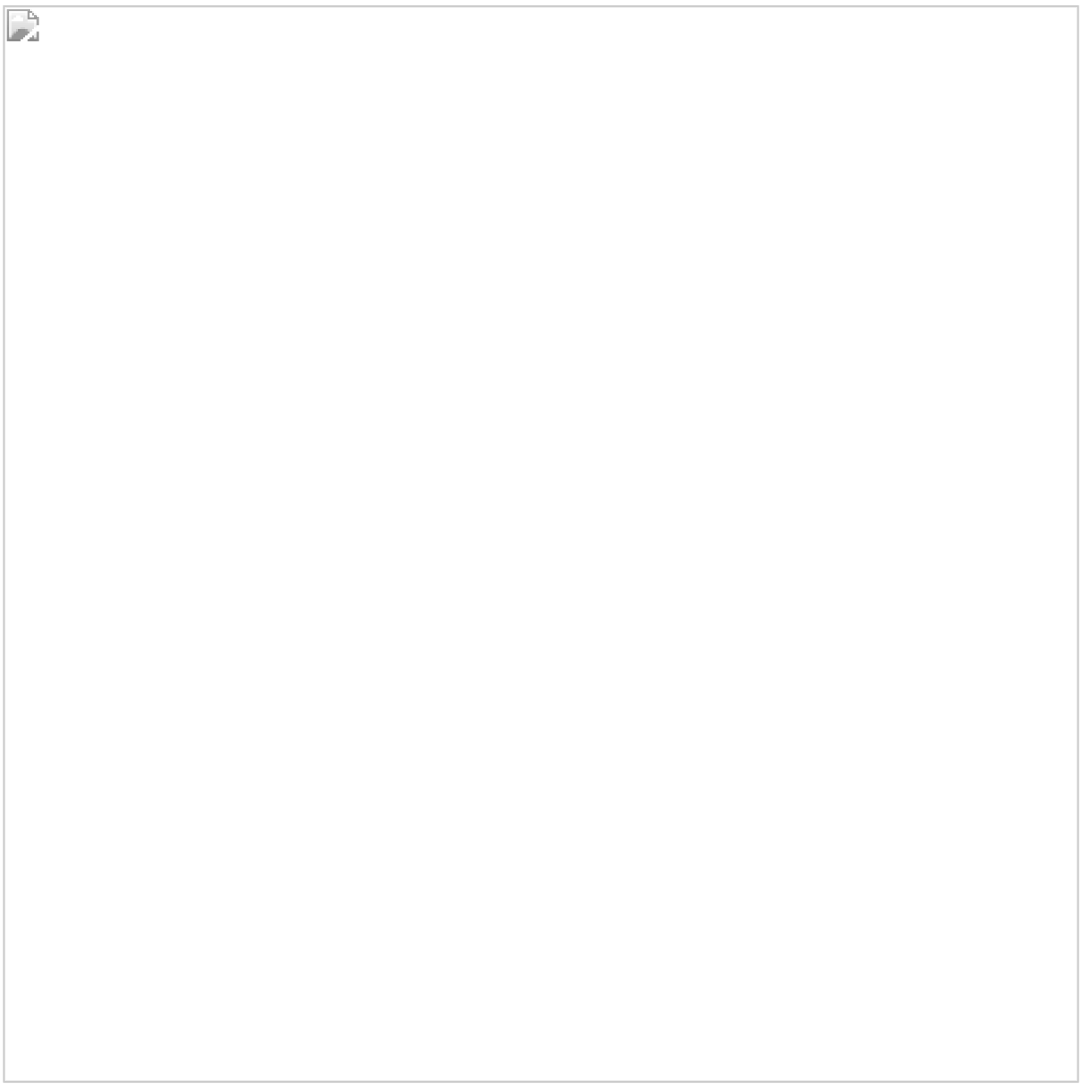
While Bambi rested, a little screech-owl liked to fly at him in the dark and shriek, to see if he would jump.

“Did I scare you?” the owl would ask. “Really?”

Bambi wasn’t scared at all any more. But he didn’t want to spoil the old owl’s fun. He thought, “Let the little old child enjoy himself.” So he let the owl think he had scared him.

TALK ABOUT IT

Bambi let the owl feel good, even though he wasn’t really scared. Is there a gentle way you can make someone feel good today?

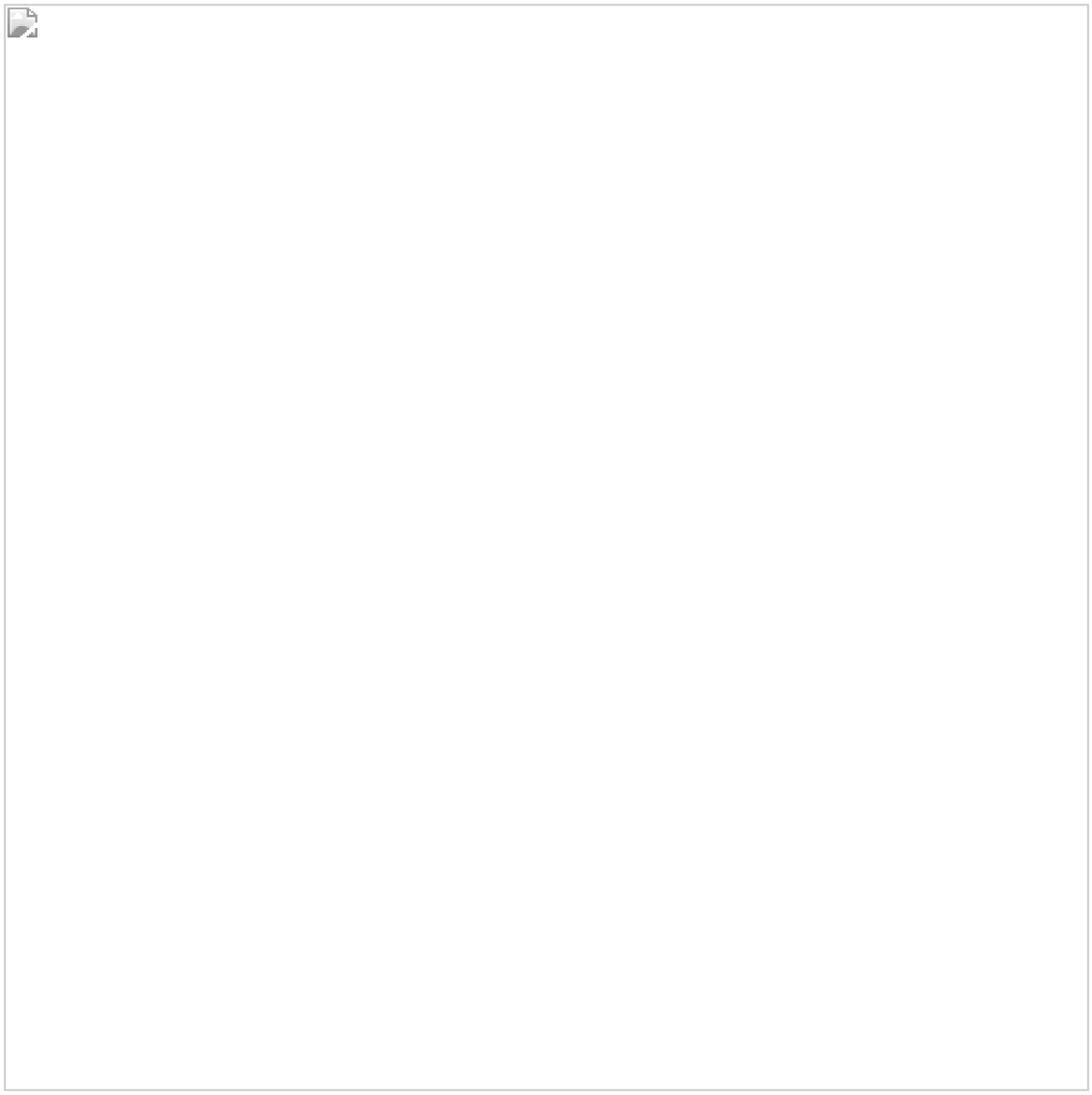


Think about it

1. Why did Bambi let the owl think he was scared?

- ○ To be kind to him
- ○ Because he really was
- ○ To trick him

There Is Another



Many of the animals said that He, the hunter, was all-powerful, stronger than anything.

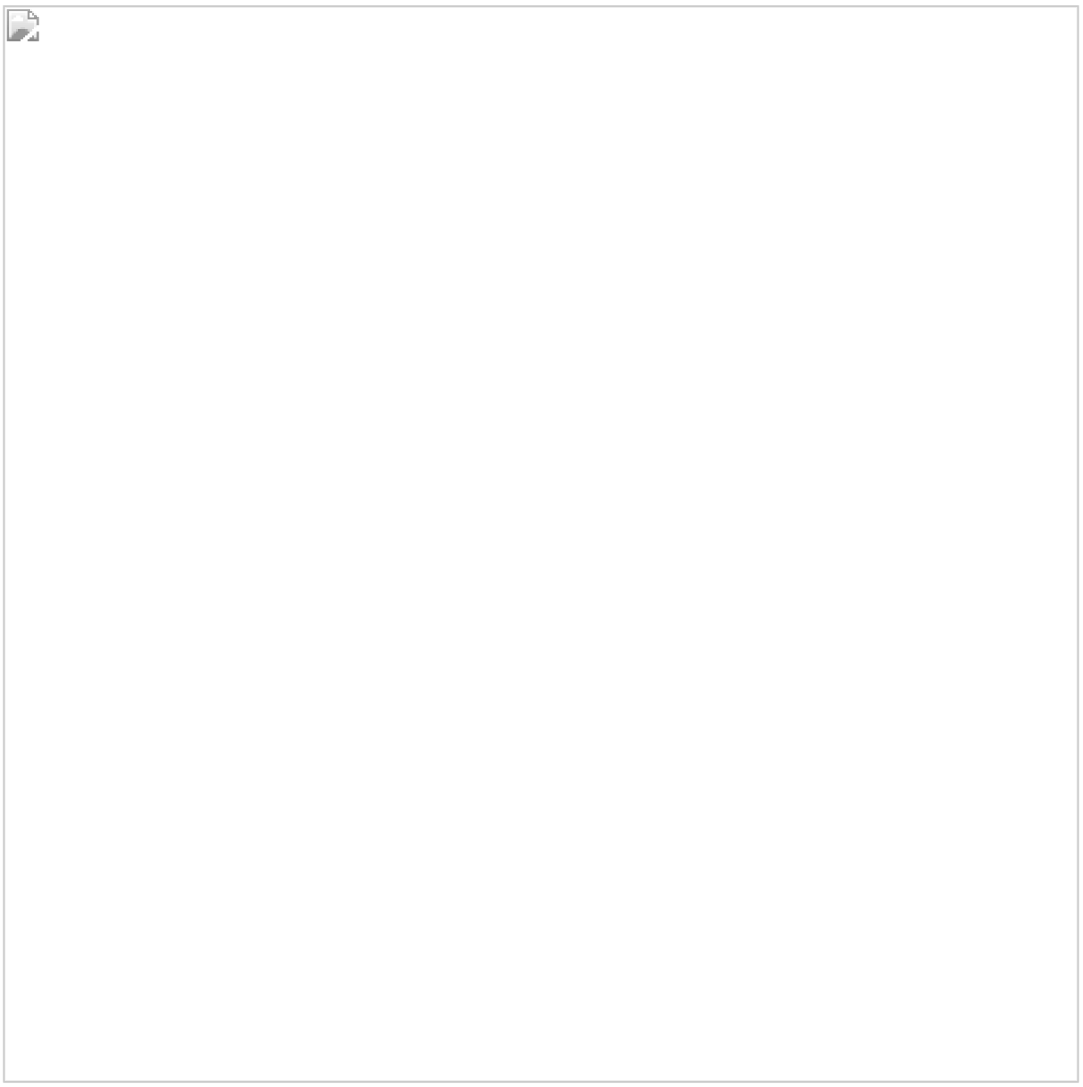
One snowy day, the old stag led Bambi to a place where a hunter lay still in the snow. He was hurt and did not move.

“Do you see, Bambi?” said the old stag. “He isn’t all-powerful as they say.” He could be hurt and afraid, just like the deer.

“Then speak,” the old stag said. Bambi trembled and answered, “There is Another who is over us all, over us and over Him.”

TALK ABOUT IT

Bambi said there is Another who is over everyone. Who do you think he meant?



Think about it

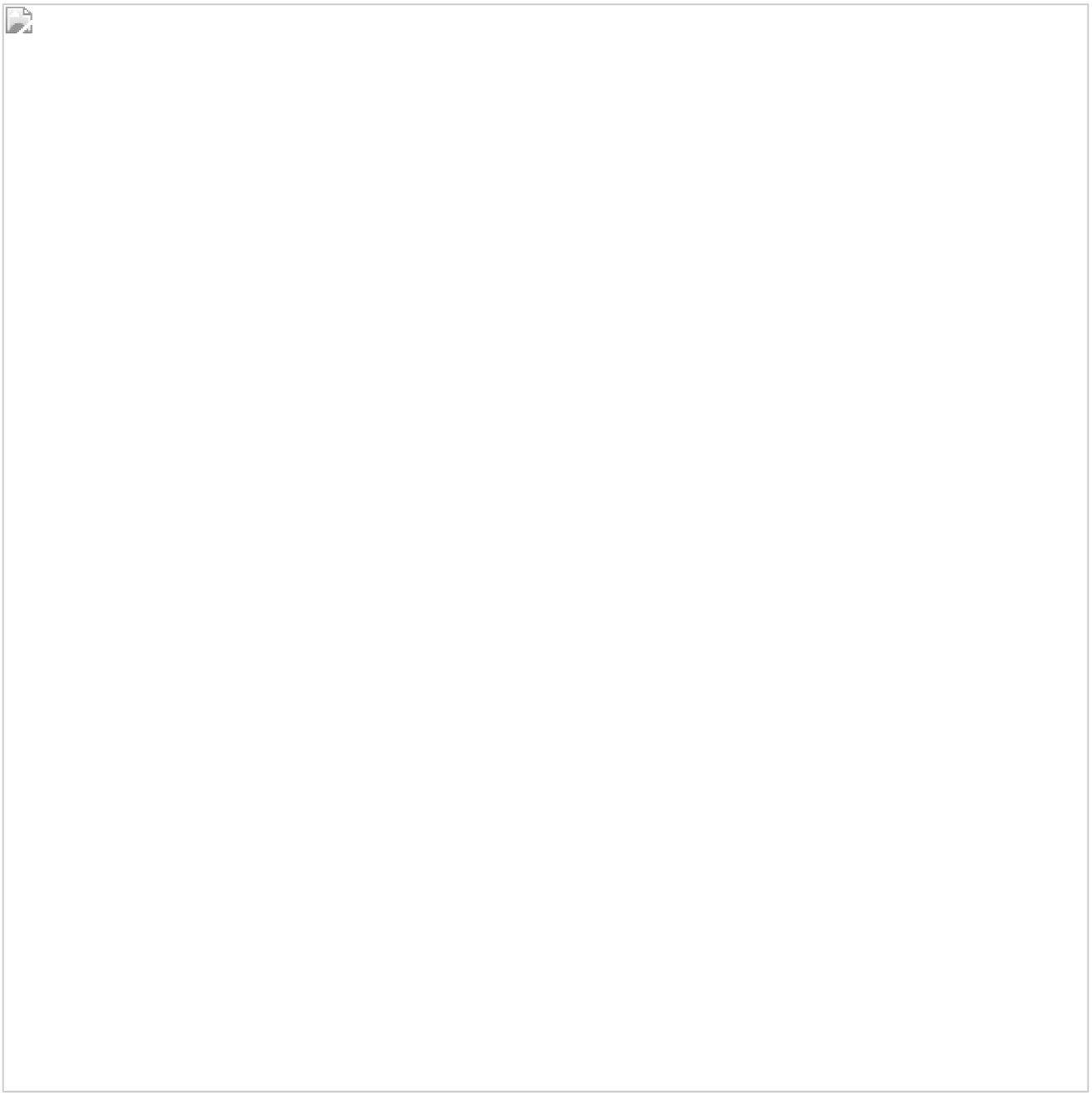
1. What did Bambi learn about the hunter?

- ○ He was not all-powerful
- ○ He was the strongest of all
- ○ He was a deer

2. Who did Bambi say is over everyone?

- ○ Another, over us all
- ○ The old stag
- ○ The magpie

Good-by, My Son



The old stag was very old now. He said it was time for him to go and find a quiet place to rest.

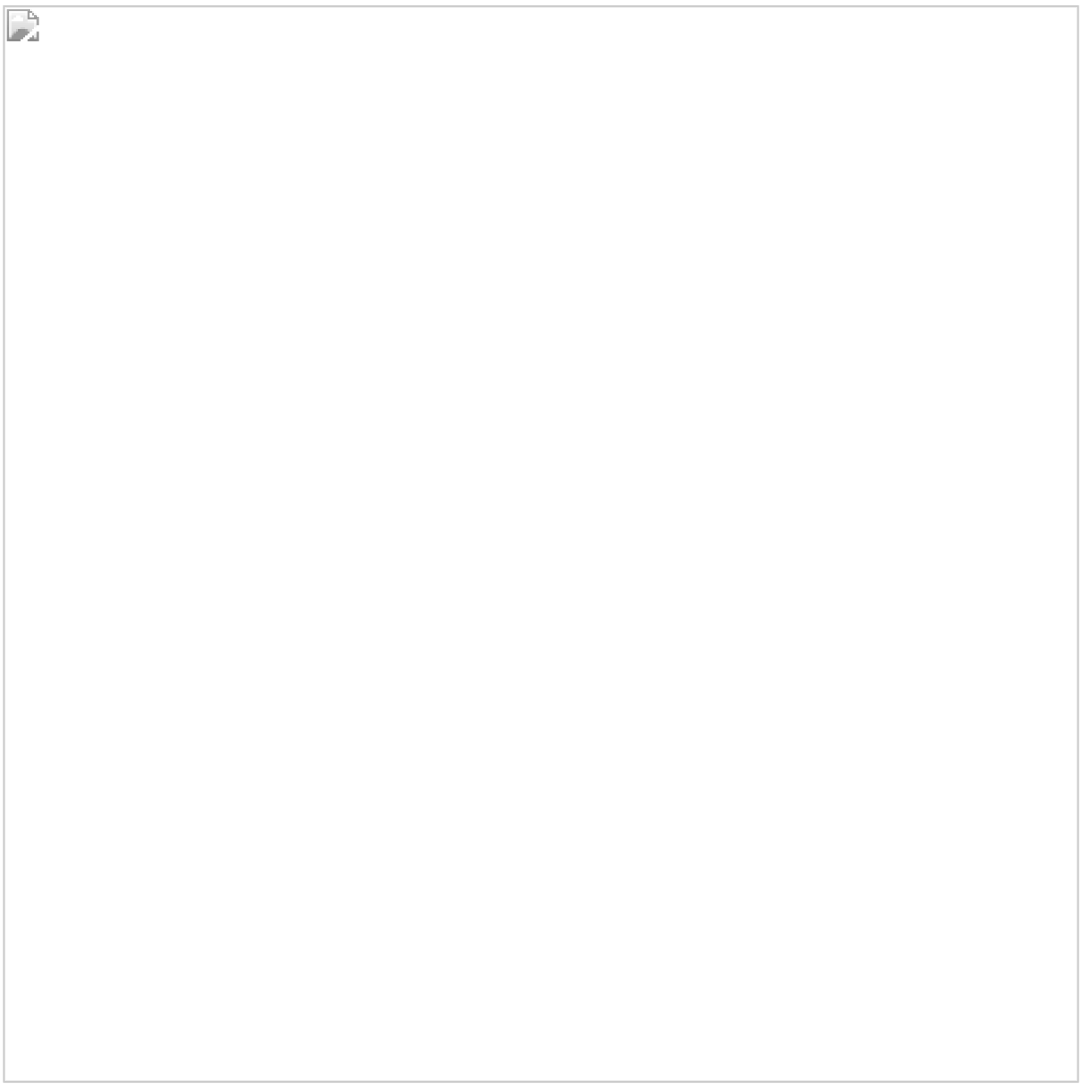
Bambi tried to speak, but the old stag stopped him gently.

“Good-by, my son. I loved you dearly.”

And he walked slowly away into the trees.

TALK ABOUT IT

The old stag told Bambi he loved him. Who could you tell “I love you” to today?

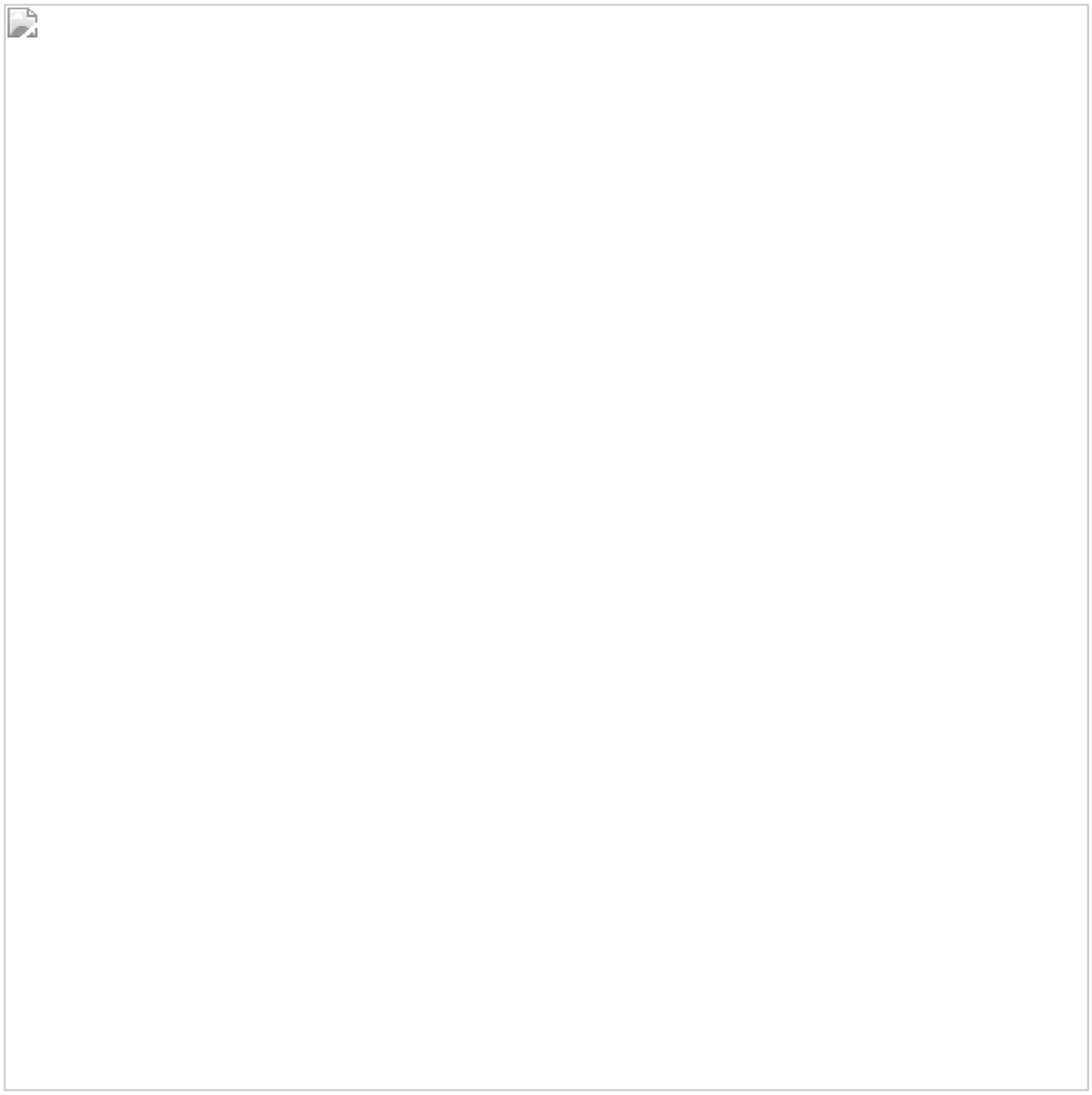


Think about it

1. What were the old stag's last words to Bambi?

- ○ "Good-by, my son. I loved you dearly."
- ○ "Run fast!"
- ○ "Stay by yourself."

Two Little Fawns



Many seasons later, Bambi was a great stag himself, with tall antlers and a wise, gray face.

One summer morning he heard two little fawns in red coats with white spots, calling, “Mother! Mother!”

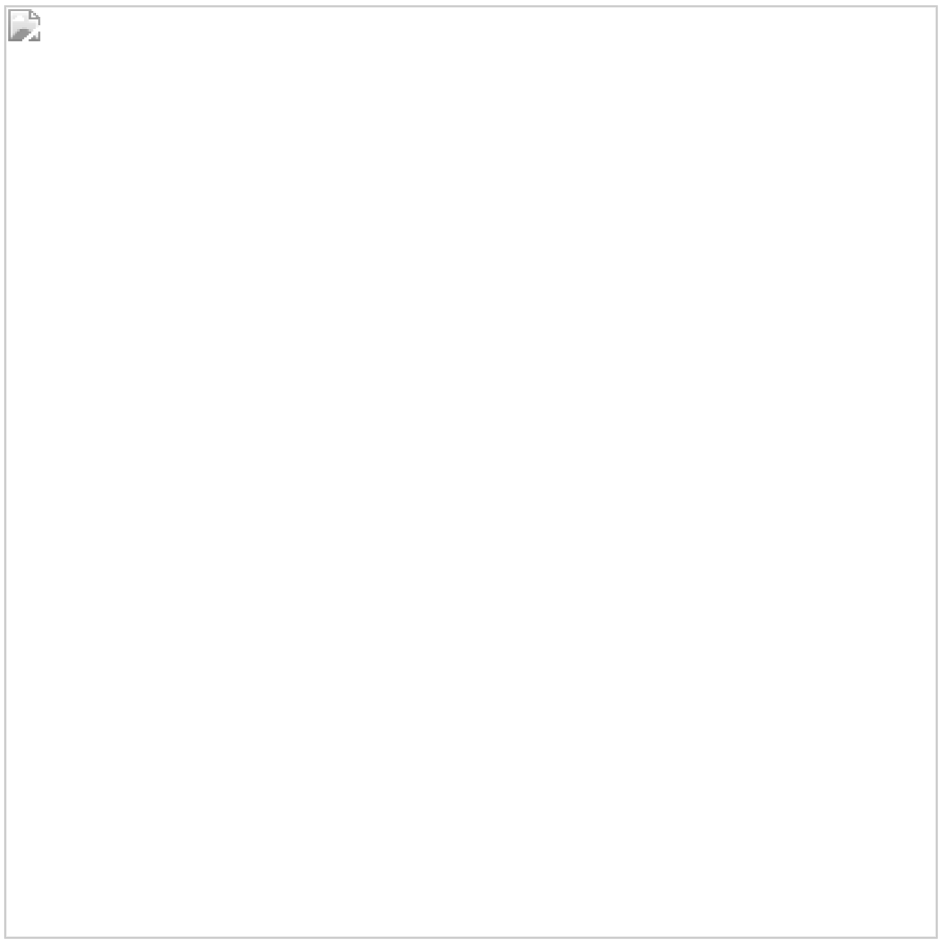
Bambi stepped out of the bushes. “Your mother has no time for you now,” he said. He looked into the little brother’s eyes. “Can’t you stay by yourself?”

Then he walked on into the woods. But he kept thinking about the little brother, and he liked him. And the little sister looked just like Faline when she was small.

TALK ABOUT IT

Bambi grew up to be like the old stag. Who would you like to grow up to be like?

Two Little Fawns · another picture



Think about it

1. What did Bambi say to the little fawns?

- ○ “Can’t you stay by yourself?”
- ○ “Come play with me!”
- ○ “Run away!”

2. How was Bambi like the old stag at the end of the story?

3. The old stag wanted Bambi to be brave alone. Who helps you be brave, so you don’t have to do it alone?

“There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

— Yeshua HaMashiach

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