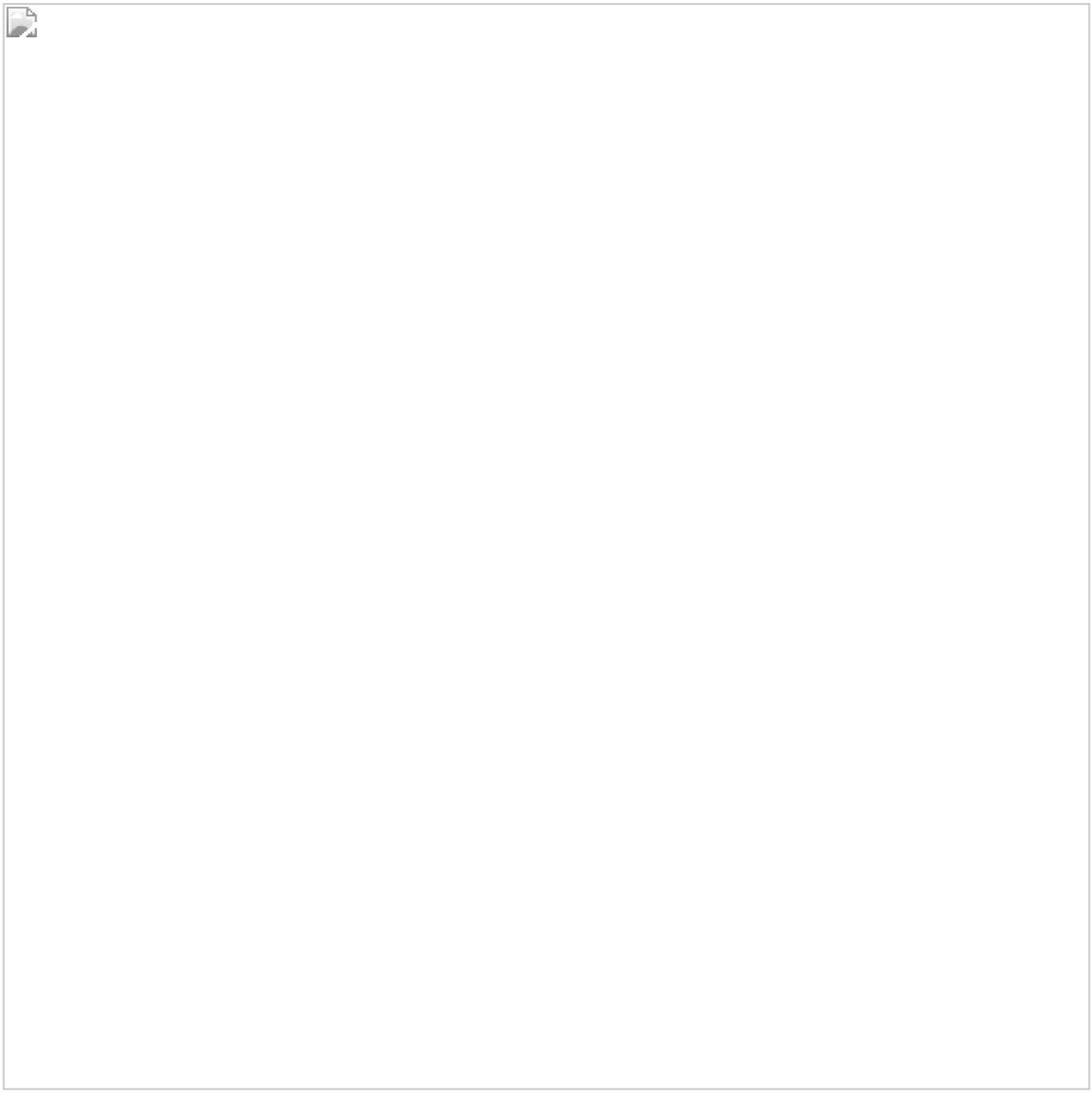
COLORING THE CLASSICS

How the Monkey Saved His Troop

A Tale from India



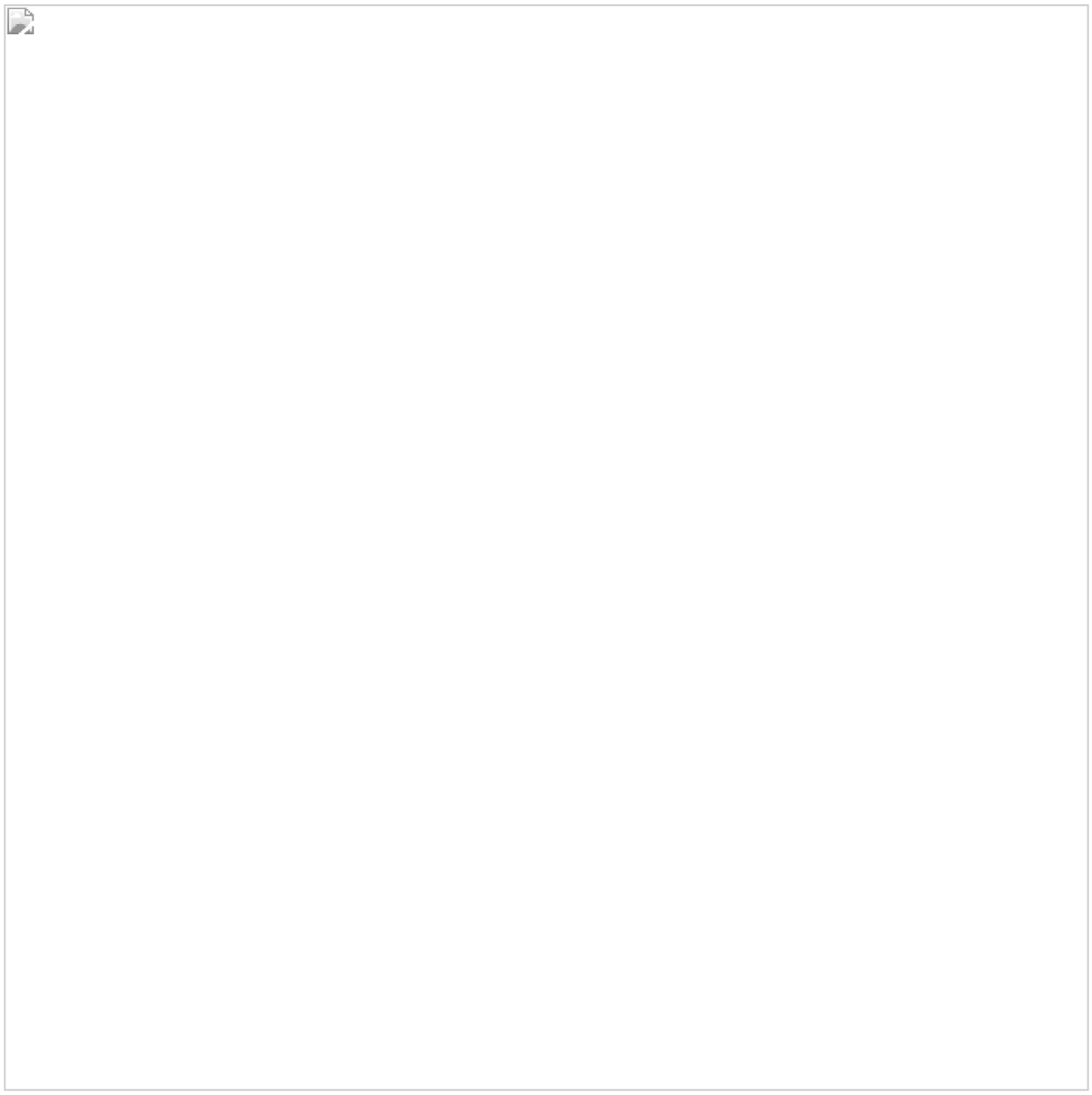
A mango-tree grew on the bank of a great river. Its fruit fell on the ground and into the river.

TALK ABOUT IT

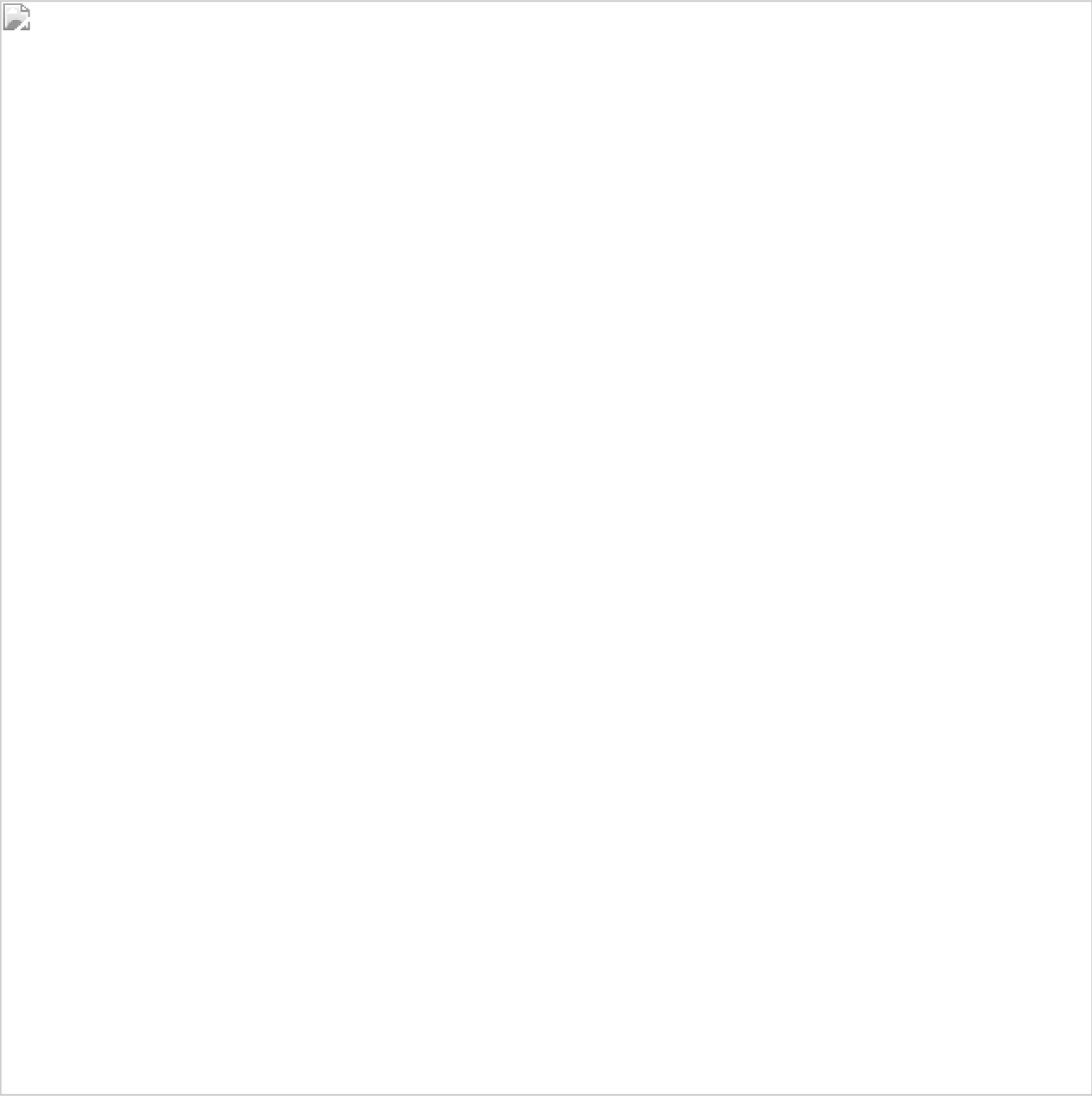
Mangoes grew on this tree. What is your favourite fruit?

This book belongs to _____

How the Monkey Saved His Troop · another picture



The Mango-Tree

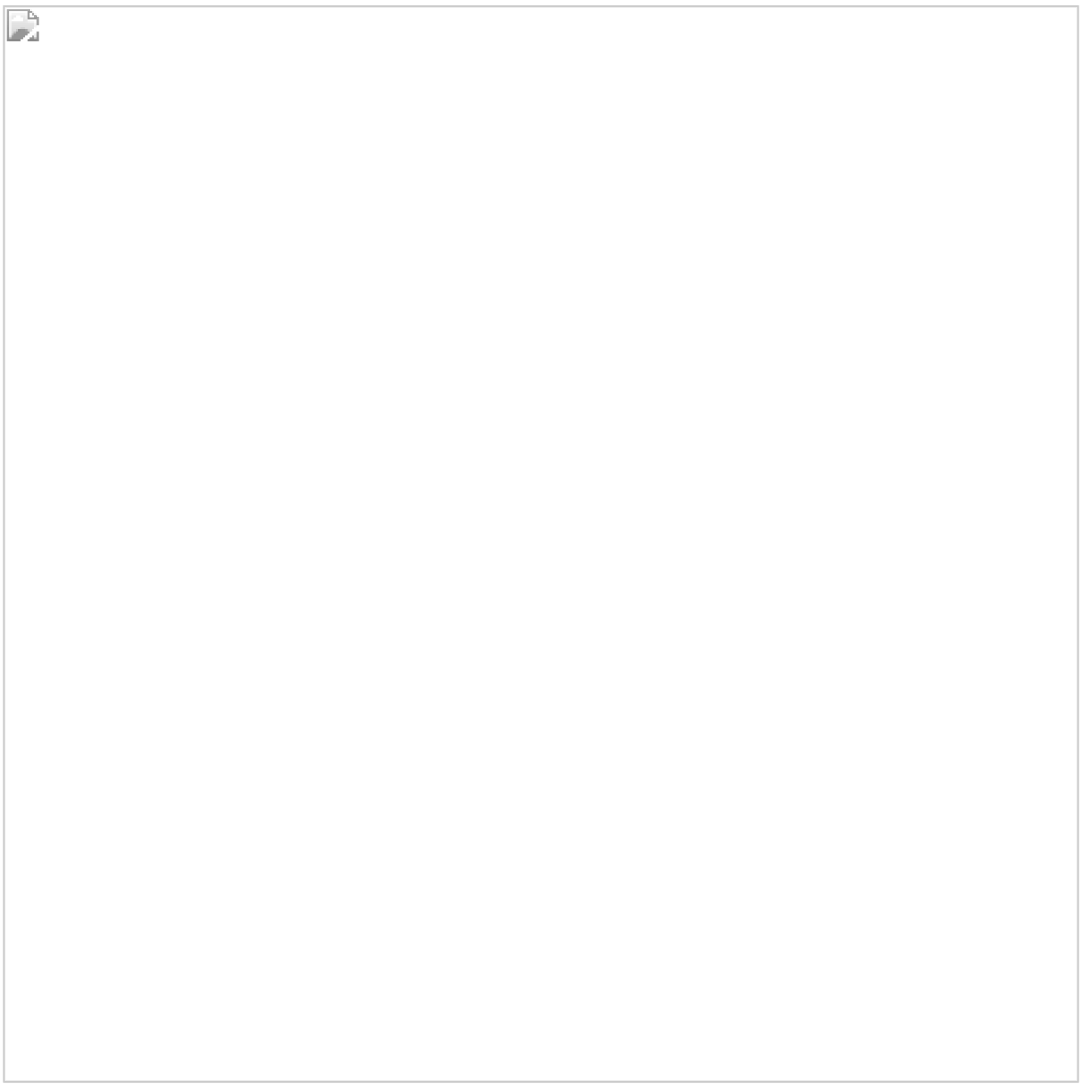


Every night a troop of Monkeys gathered the fruit that lay on the ground. Then they climbed up into the tree to get the mangoes.

The mangoes were like large, juicy peaches.

TALK ABOUT IT

The Monkeys went to the tree together. Who do you like to go places with?

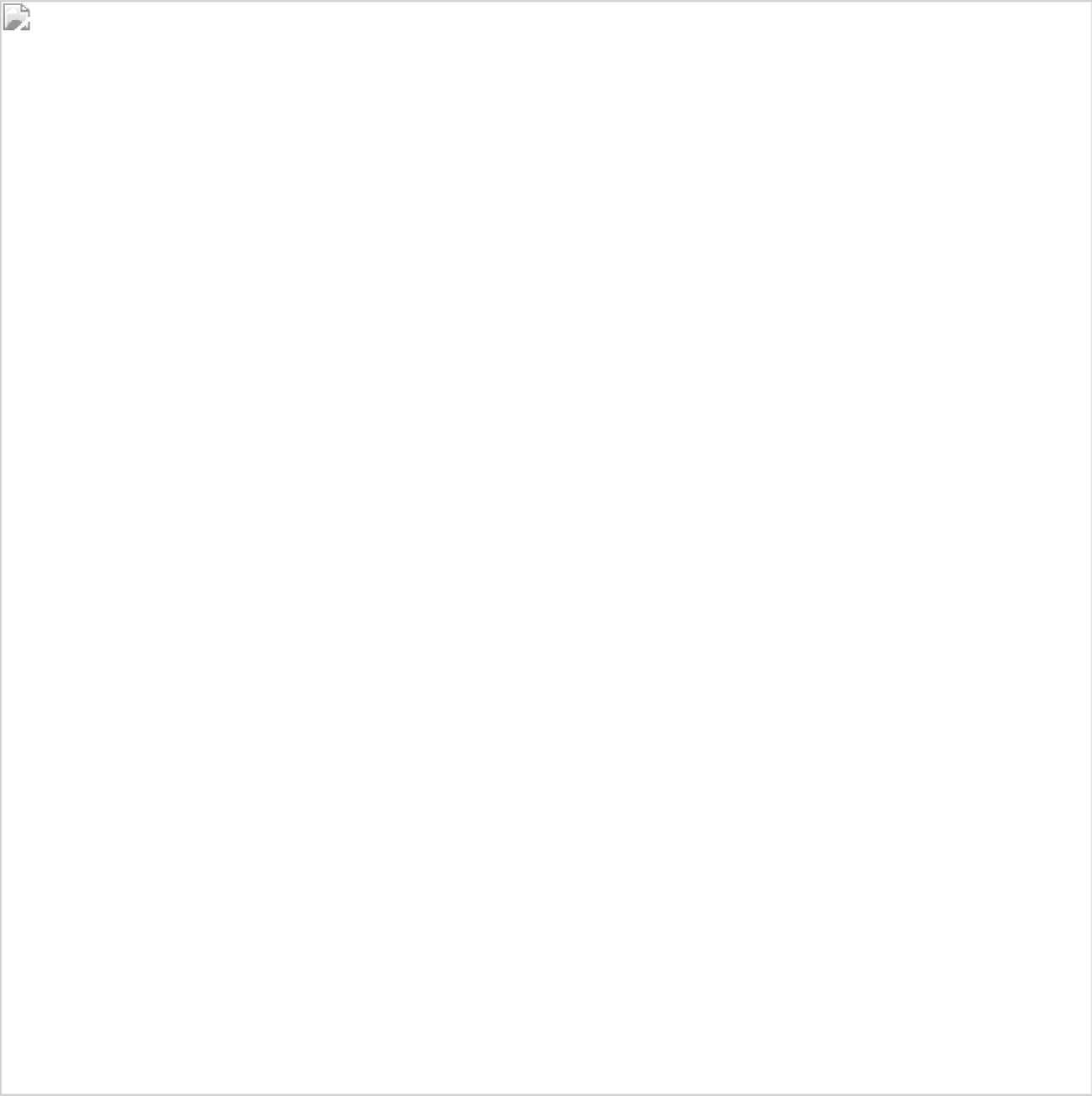


Think about it

1. Where did the mango-tree grow?

- ○ On a hill
- ○ On the bank of a great river
- ○ In a king's garden

The Strange Fruit

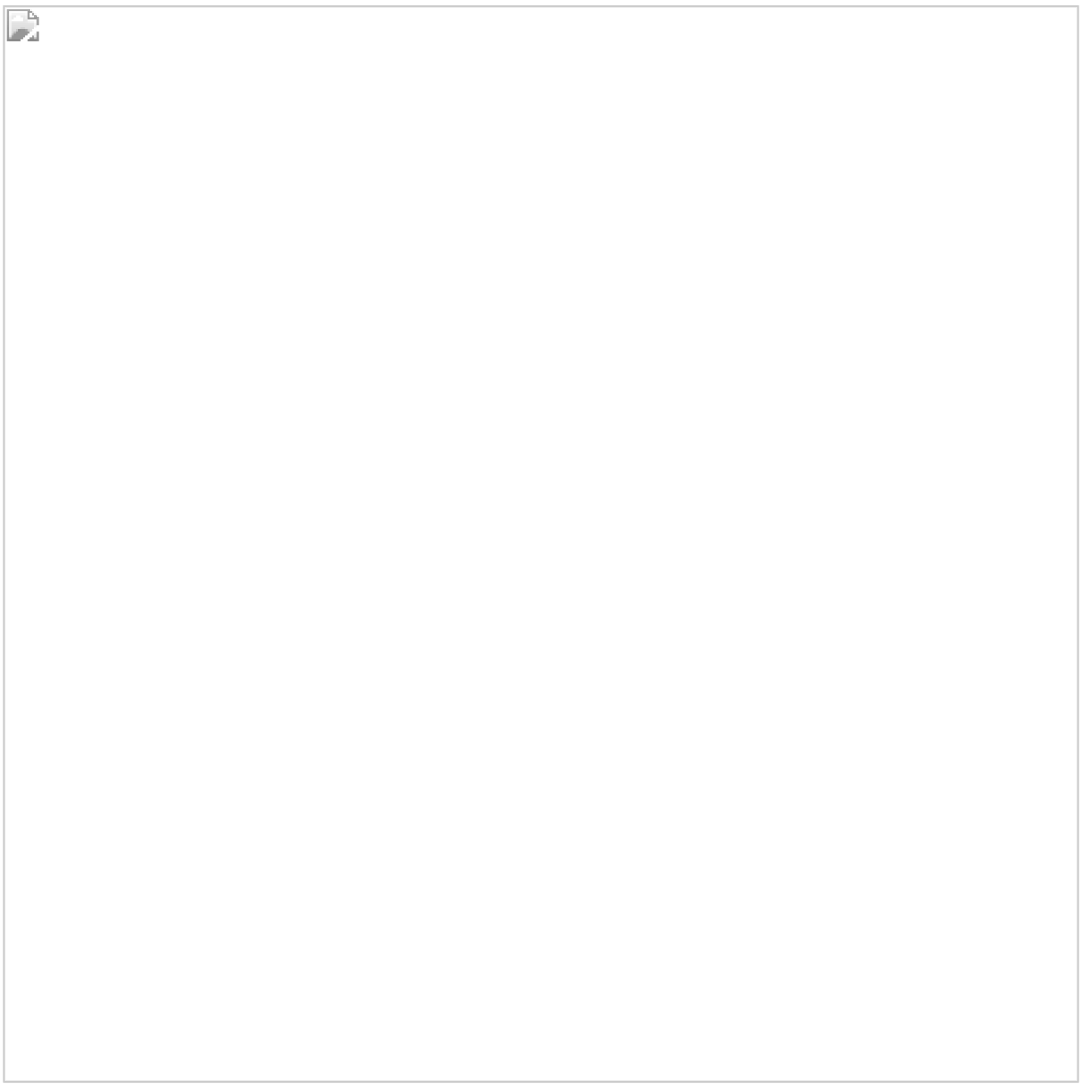


One day the king of the country stood on the river bank, many miles below the mango-tree. He was watching the fishermen with their nets.

The fishermen found not only fishes but a strange fruit. They took it to the king. “What is this?” asked the king. “We do not know, O King,” they said.

TALK ABOUT IT

Have you ever found something and not known what it was? What did you do?

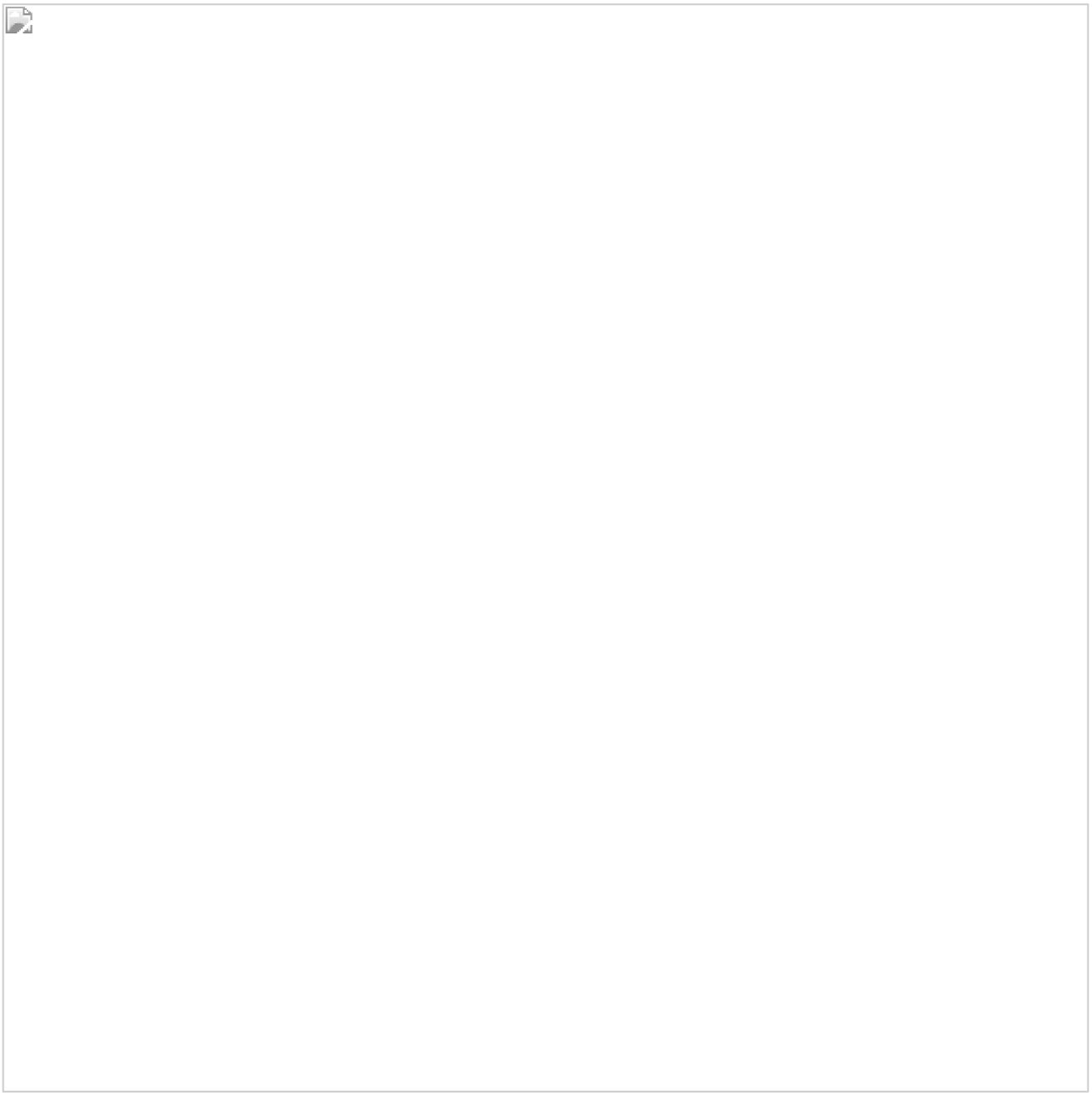


Think about it

1. What did the fishermen find in their nets besides fishes?

- ○ A strange fruit
- ○ A golden ring
- ○ A small boat

A Taste of Mango

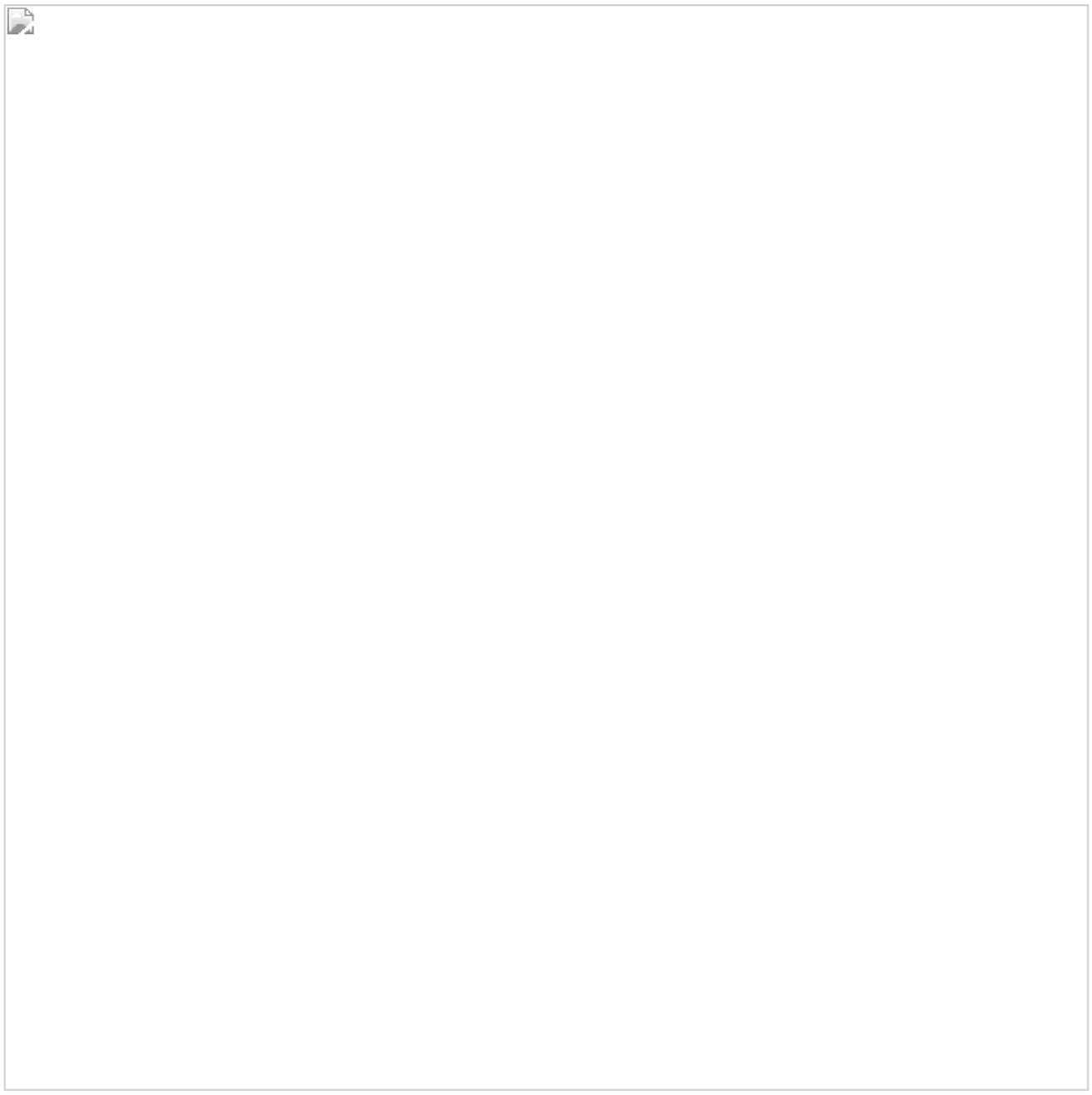


“Call the foresters,” said the king. “They will know what it is.” The foresters said it was a mango, and that it was very good to eat.

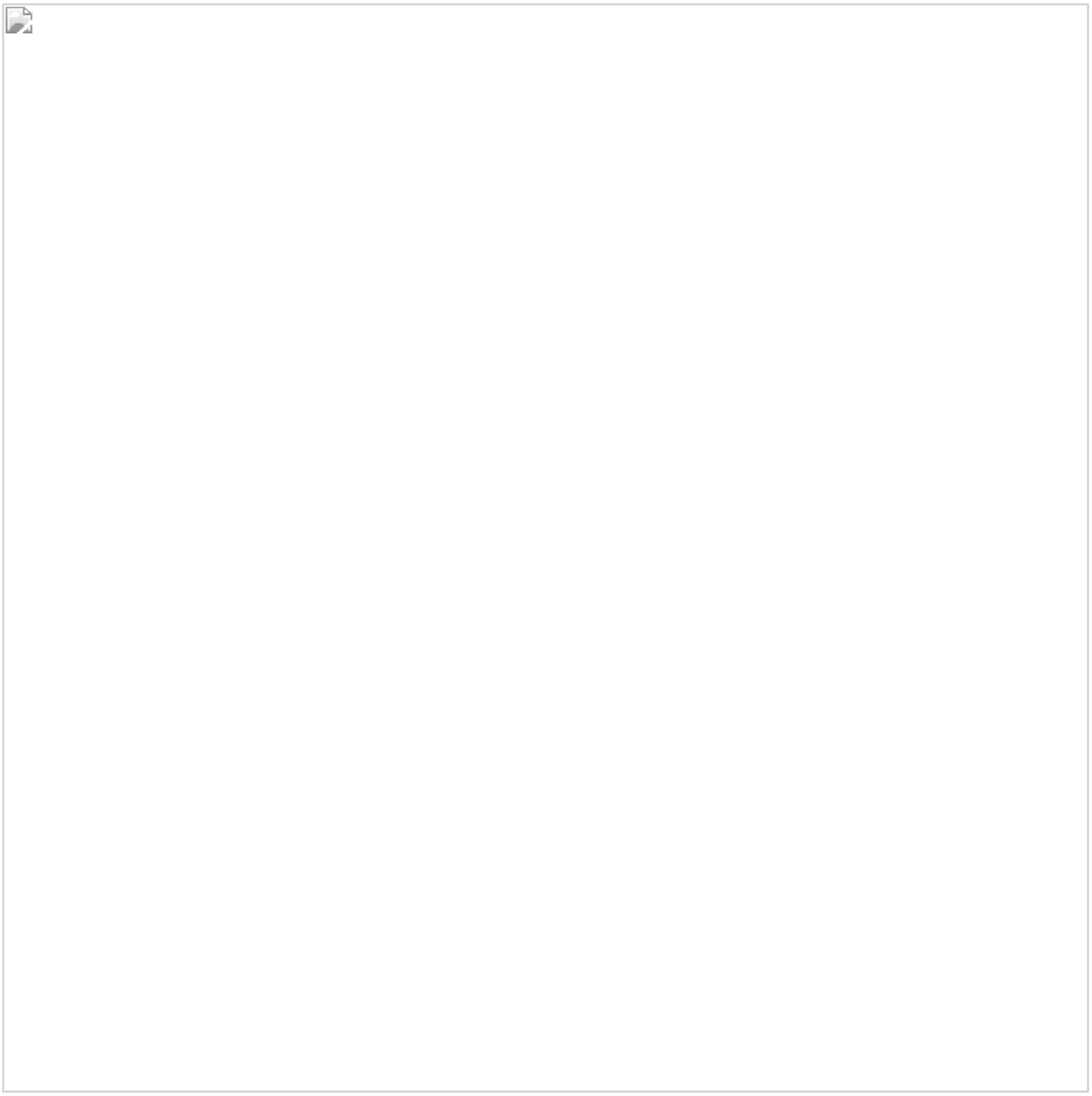
So the king cut the mango and gave some to the princes. He ate some himself. They all liked it very much.

TALK ABOUT IT

Who do you ask when you want to know something?



Up the River



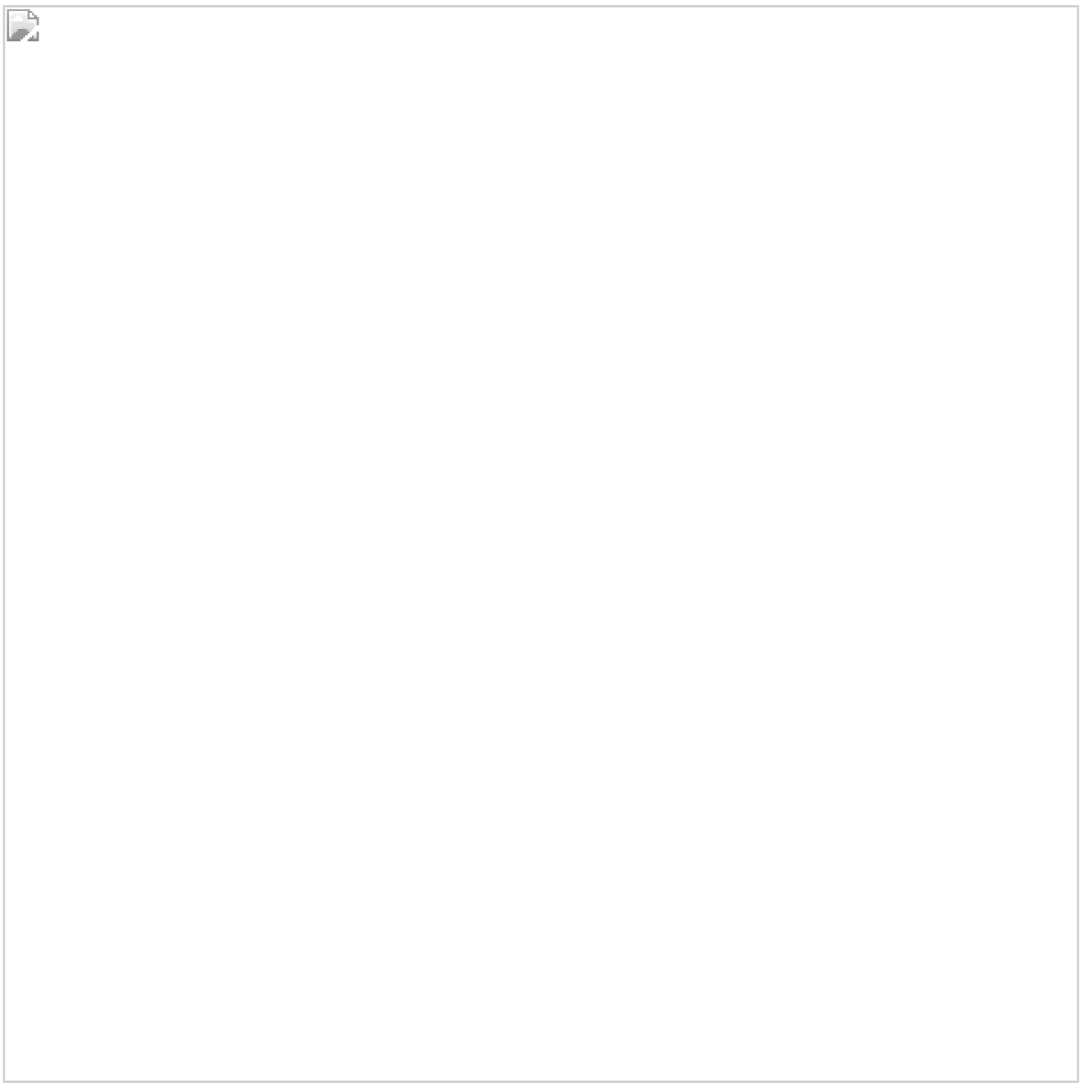
“Where does the mango-tree grow?” asked the king. The foresters said it was many miles farther up the river.

“Let us go and see the tree and get some mangoes,” said the king. He had many rafts joined together, and they went up the river until they came to the tree.

TALK ABOUT IT

The king wanted more mangoes, so he travelled a long way. What would you travel far for?

Up the River · another picture

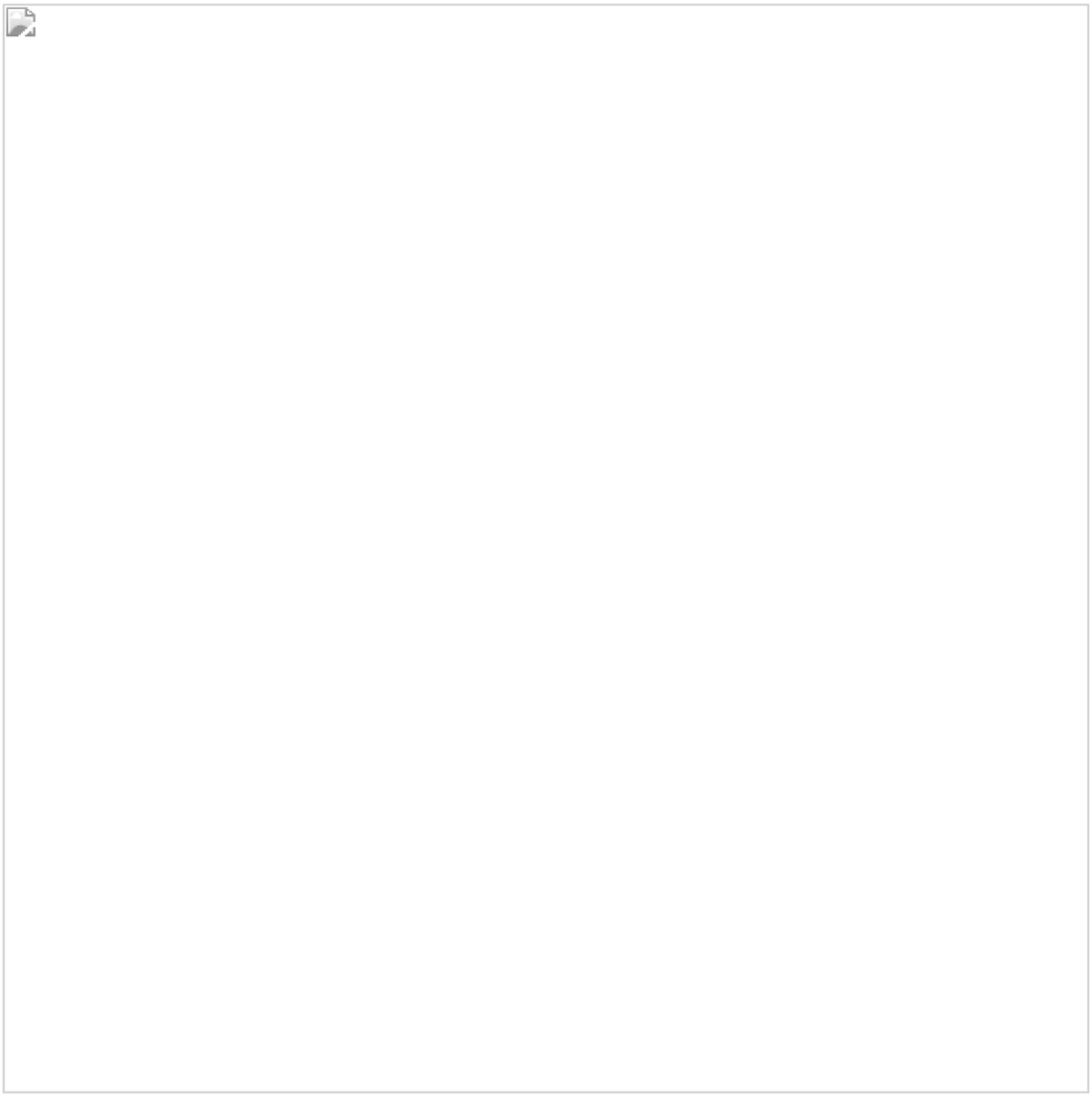


Think about it

1. How did the king go up the river?

- ○ On many rafts joined together
- ○ On elephants
- ○ On a single boat

A Noisy Night

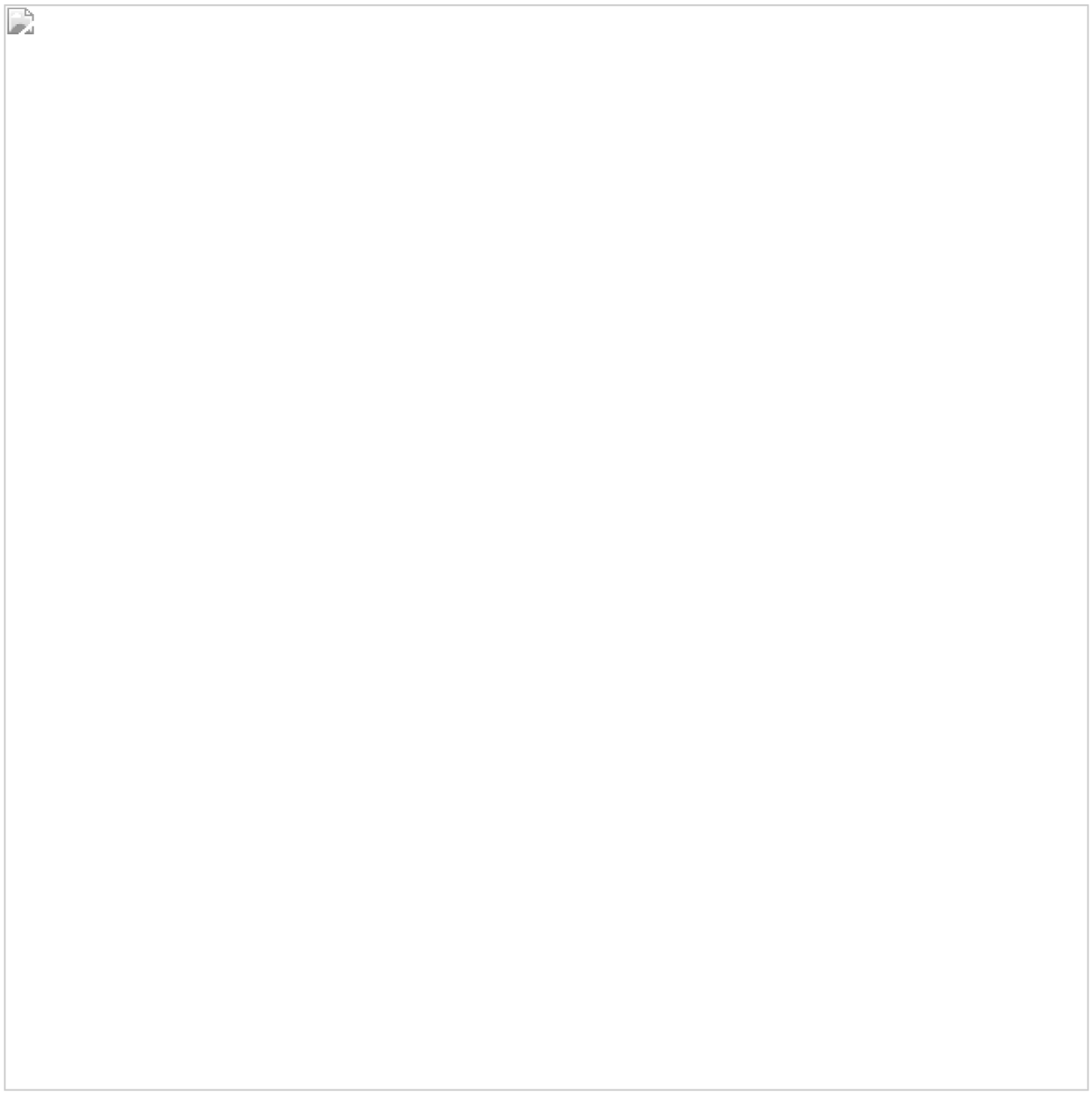


The king and his men gathered the mangoes that lay under the tree. They liked them so well that the king said, “Let us stay here to-night, and gather more fruit in the morning.” They had their supper under the trees, and then lay down to sleep.

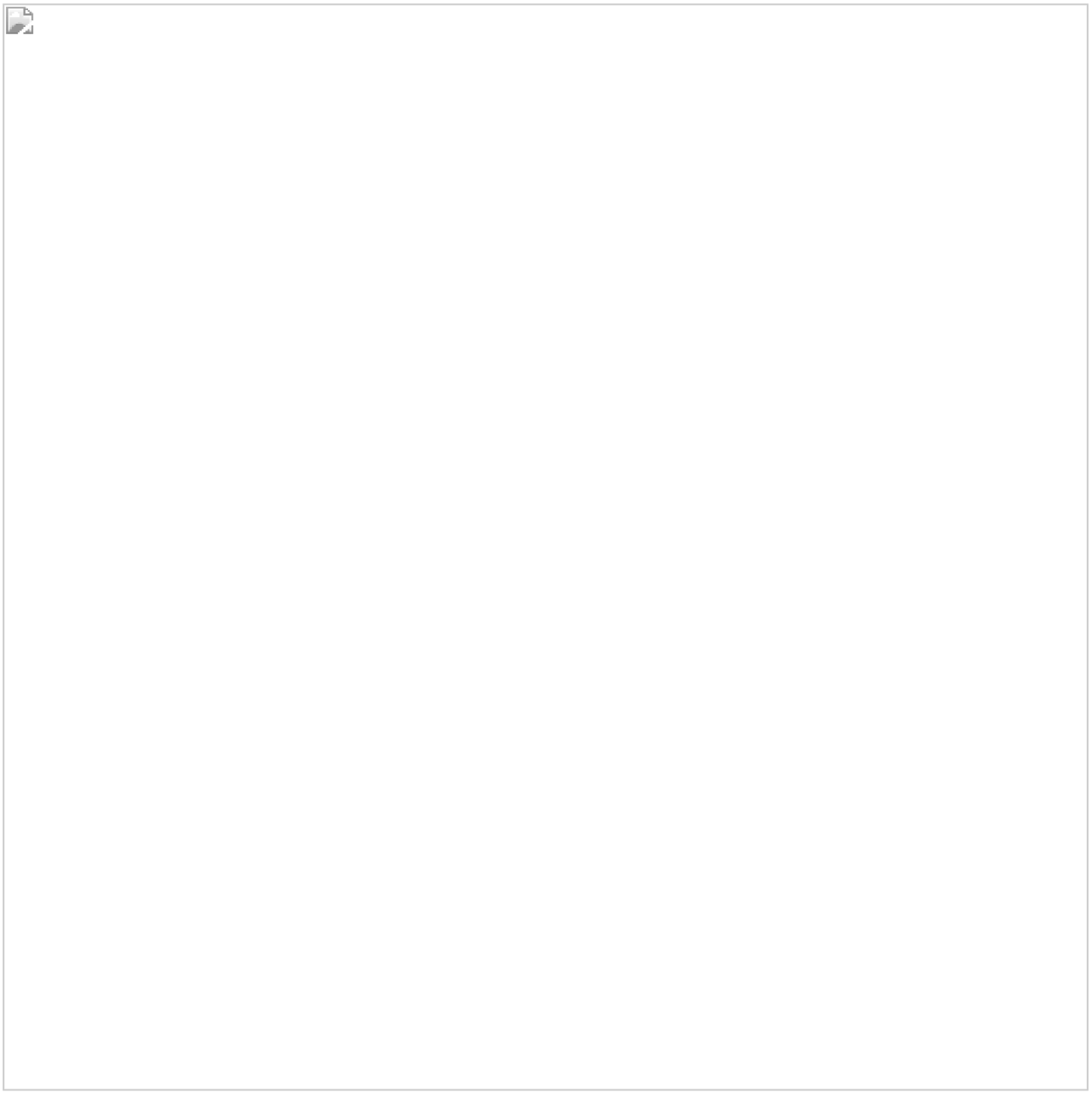
When all was quiet, the Chief of the Monkeys came with his troop. They jumped from branch to branch, picking and eating mangoes, and chattering to one another. They made so much noise that they woke up the king.

TALK ABOUT IT

The Monkeys were chattering and did not know anyone was near. Have you ever been too loud at the wrong time?



The Archers

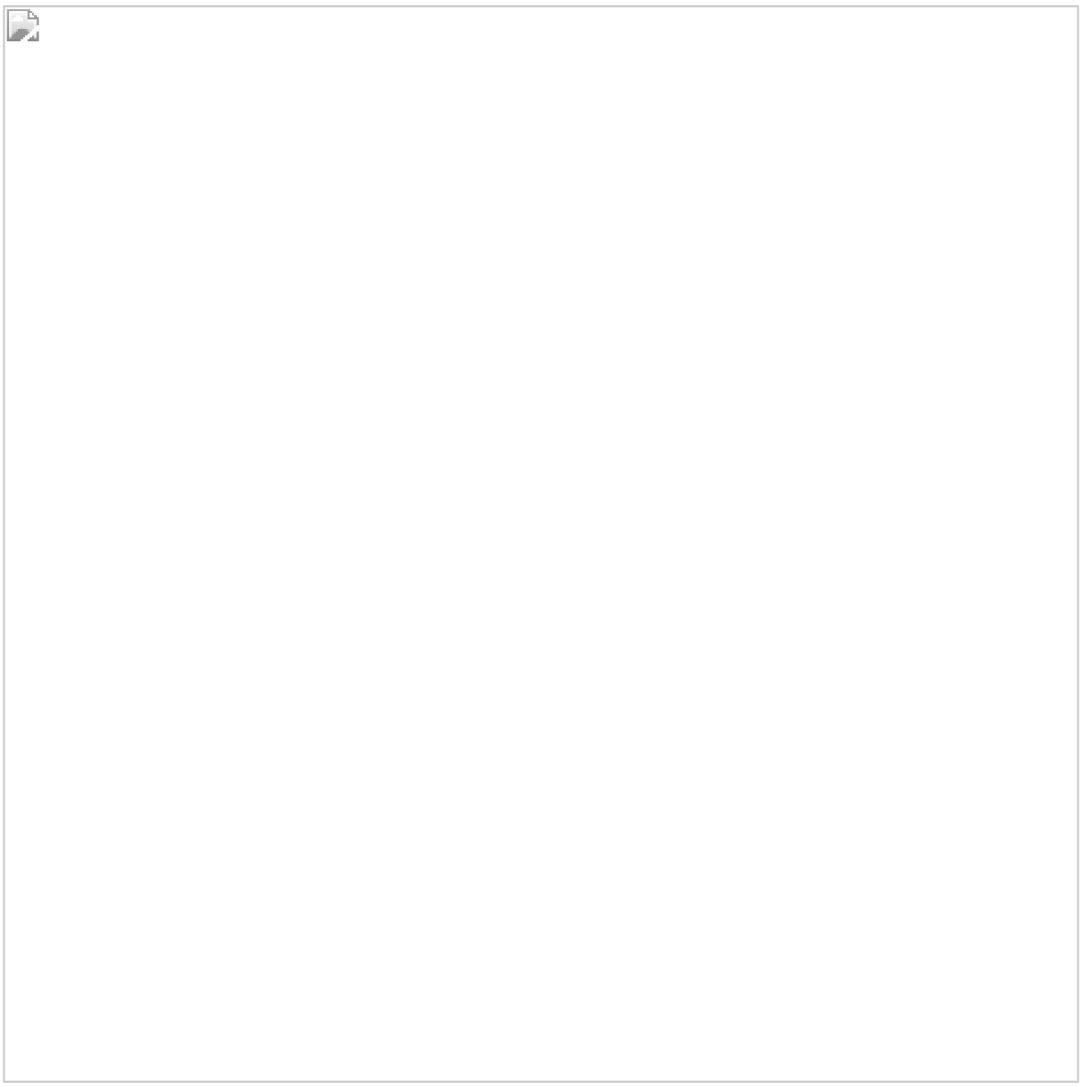


The king called his archers. He told them to stand under the mango-tree and shoot the Monkeys as they came down. In the morning they would have Monkey's flesh as well as mangoes to eat.

The Monkeys saw the archers standing around with their arrows ready. They ran to their Chief. “O Chief, the archers stand around the tree ready to shoot us! What shall we do?” They shook with fear.

TALK ABOUT IT

The Monkeys ran to their Chief. Who do you go to when you are scared?



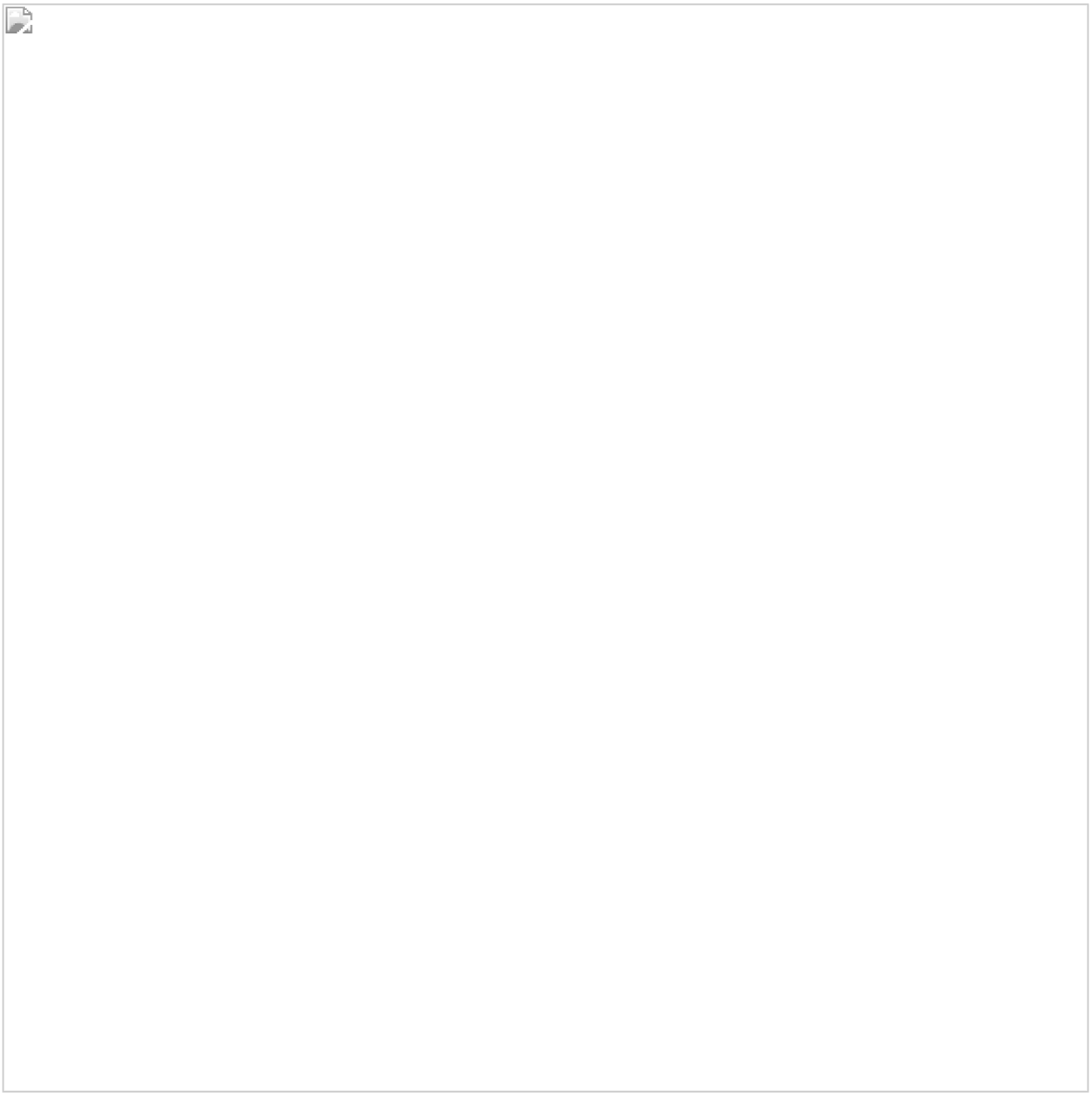
Think about it

1. Who did the Monkeys run to?

- ○ The king
- ○ Their Chief
- ○ The fishermen

2. Was the king being kind to the Monkeys? What do you think?

The Chief Speaks



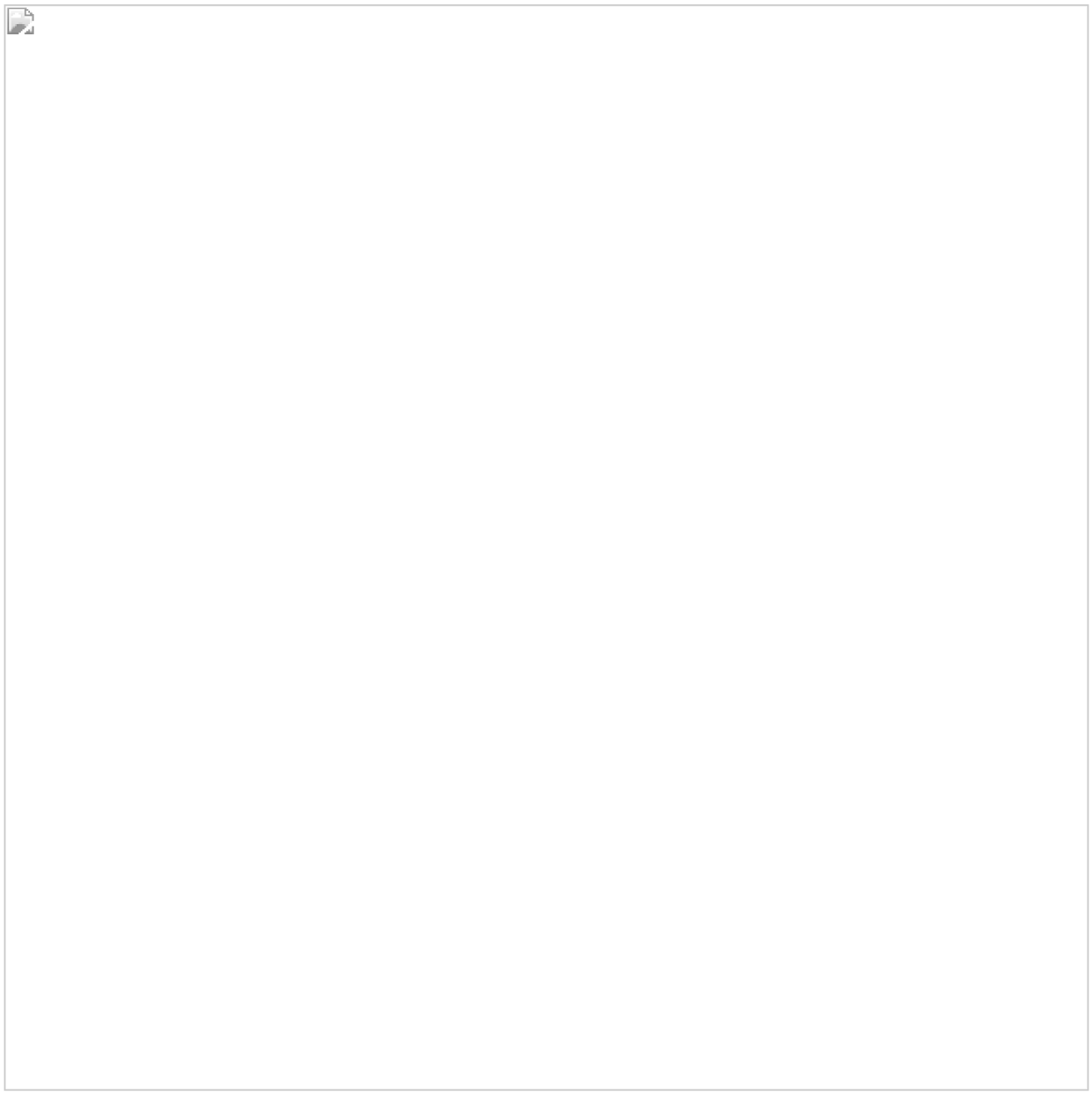
The Chief said: “Do not fear; I will save you. Stay where you are until I call you.”

The Monkeys were comforted, for he had always helped them whenever they had needed help.

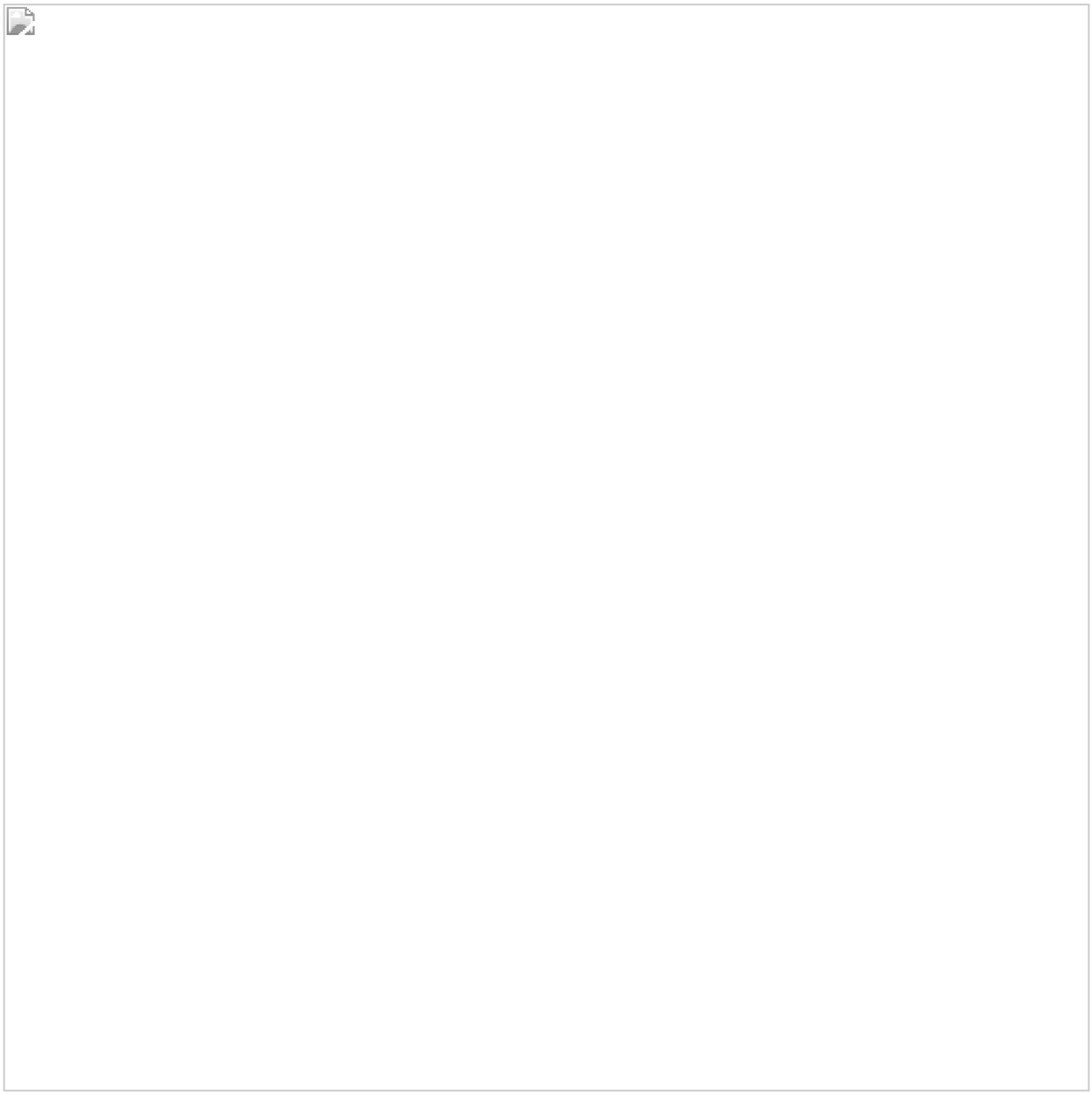
TALK ABOUT IT

The Chief had always helped them. How does someone help you, again and again?

The Chief Speaks · another picture



A Bridge of His Back

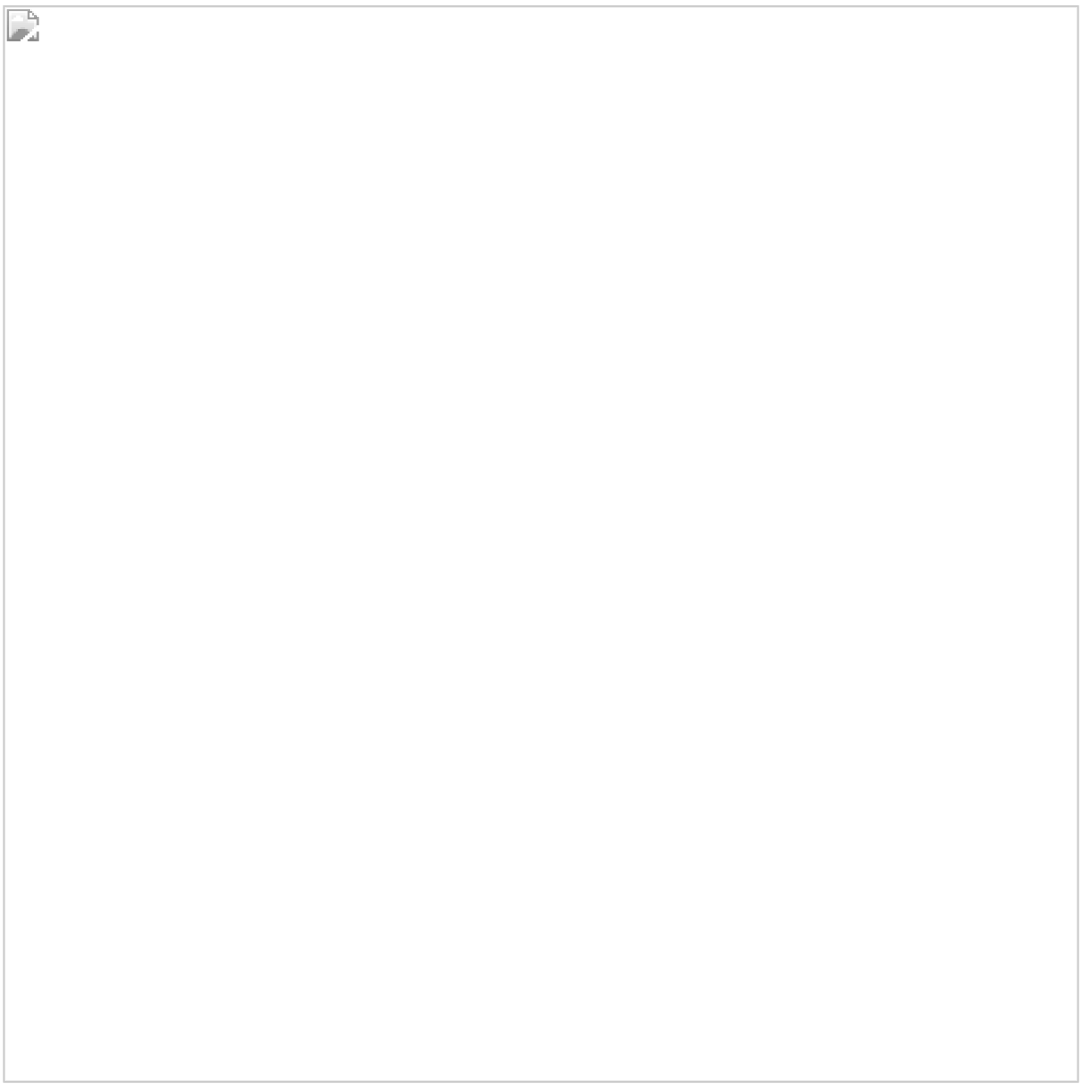


The Chief ran out on a branch that hung over the river. The branches of the tree across the river did not quite meet it. He said to himself: “If the Monkeys try to jump across from this tree to that, some of them will fall into the water and drown.”

He thought, and then he said: “I know what I shall do. I shall make a bridge of my back.”

TALK ABOUT IT

The Chief thought about the others before himself. How can you tell when someone is doing that?

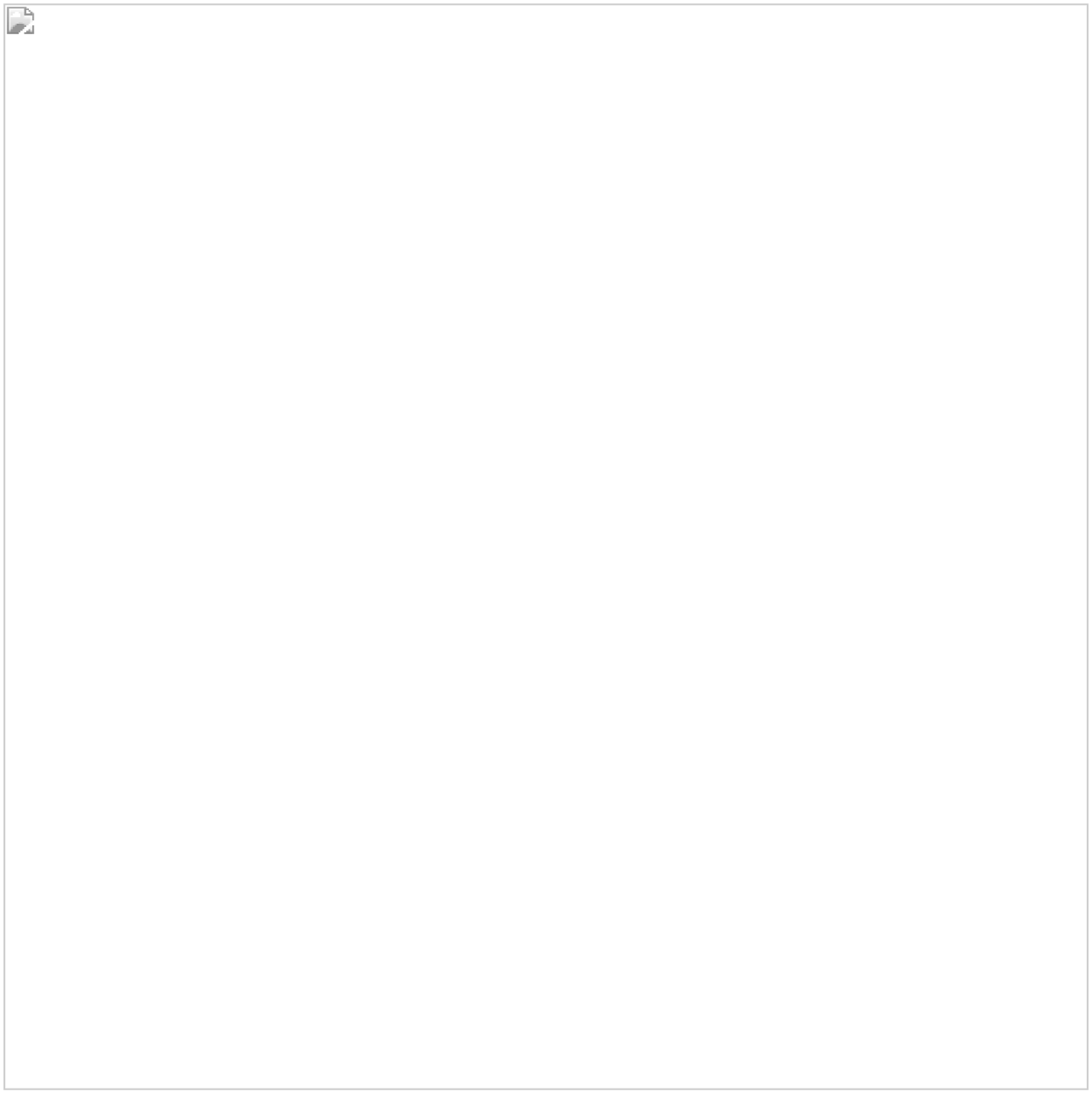


Think about it

1. What was the Chief's plan?

- ○ To make a bridge of his back
- ○ To hide in the leaves
- ○ To swim across the river

Across the River

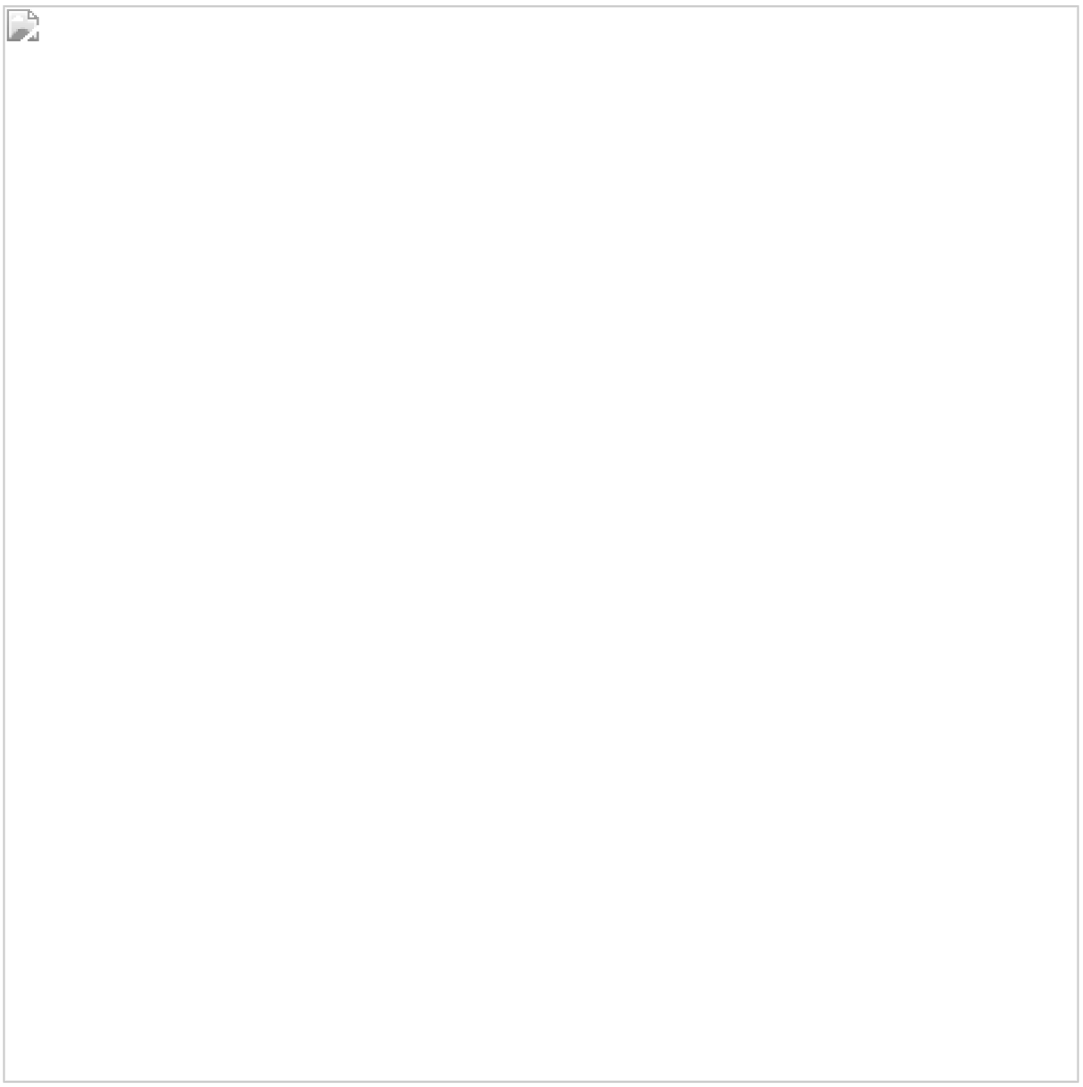


The Chief reached across and took hold of the longest branch of the tree across the river. He called, “Come, Monkeys; run out on this branch, step on my back, and then run along the branch of the other tree.”

The Monkeys did as the Chief told them. They ran along the branch, stepped on his back, and ran along the other branch. They swung themselves down to the ground, and away they went back to their home.

TALK ABOUT IT

Every Monkey got across safely. What would you say to the Chief?

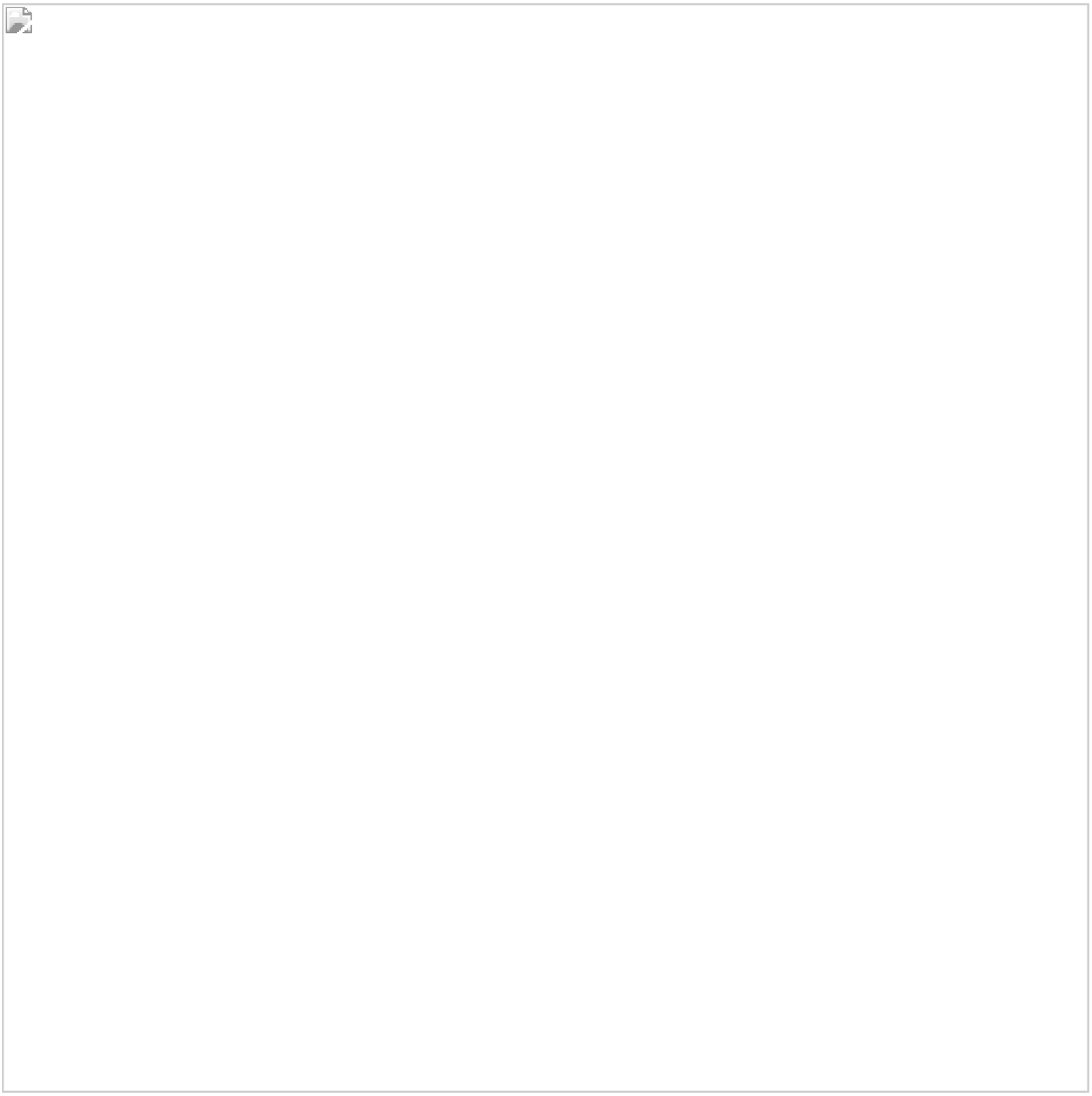


Think about it

1. Where did the Monkeys go once they were across?

- ○ Back to their home
- ○ Up to the king
- ○ Into the river

The King's Promise

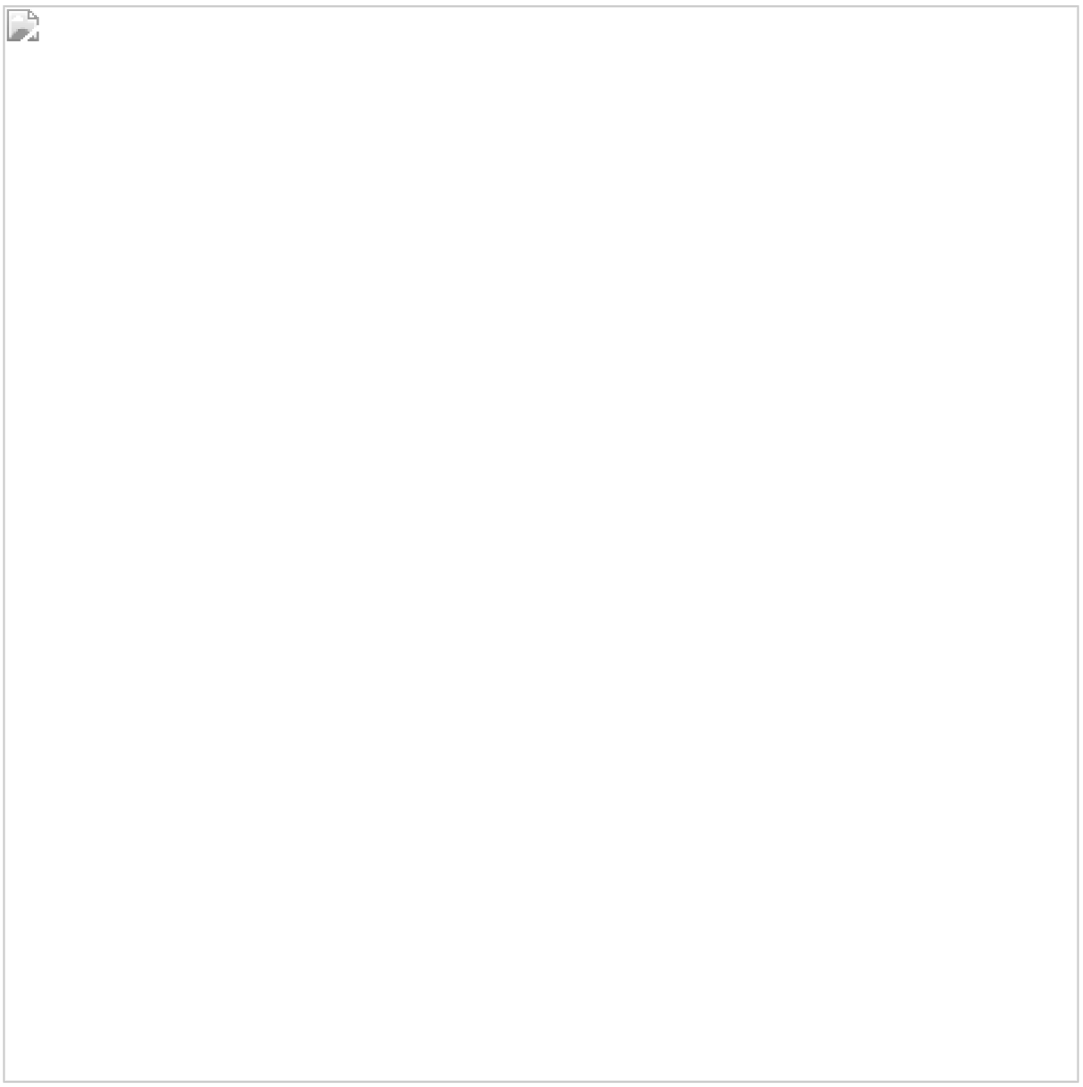


The king had seen all that was done by the Chief and his troop. “That big Monkey,” he said to the archers, “saved the whole troop. I will see to it that he is taken care of the rest of his life.”

And the king kept his promise.

TALK ABOUT IT

The king changed his mind after he saw the Chief's kindness. Have you ever seen something that changed your mind?



Think about it

1. What did the king do at the end?

- ○ He kept his promise to take care of the Chief
- ○ He sailed home with the Monkeys
- ○ He built a new bridge

2. Why do you think the king made that promise?

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

— Yeshua HaMashiach

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