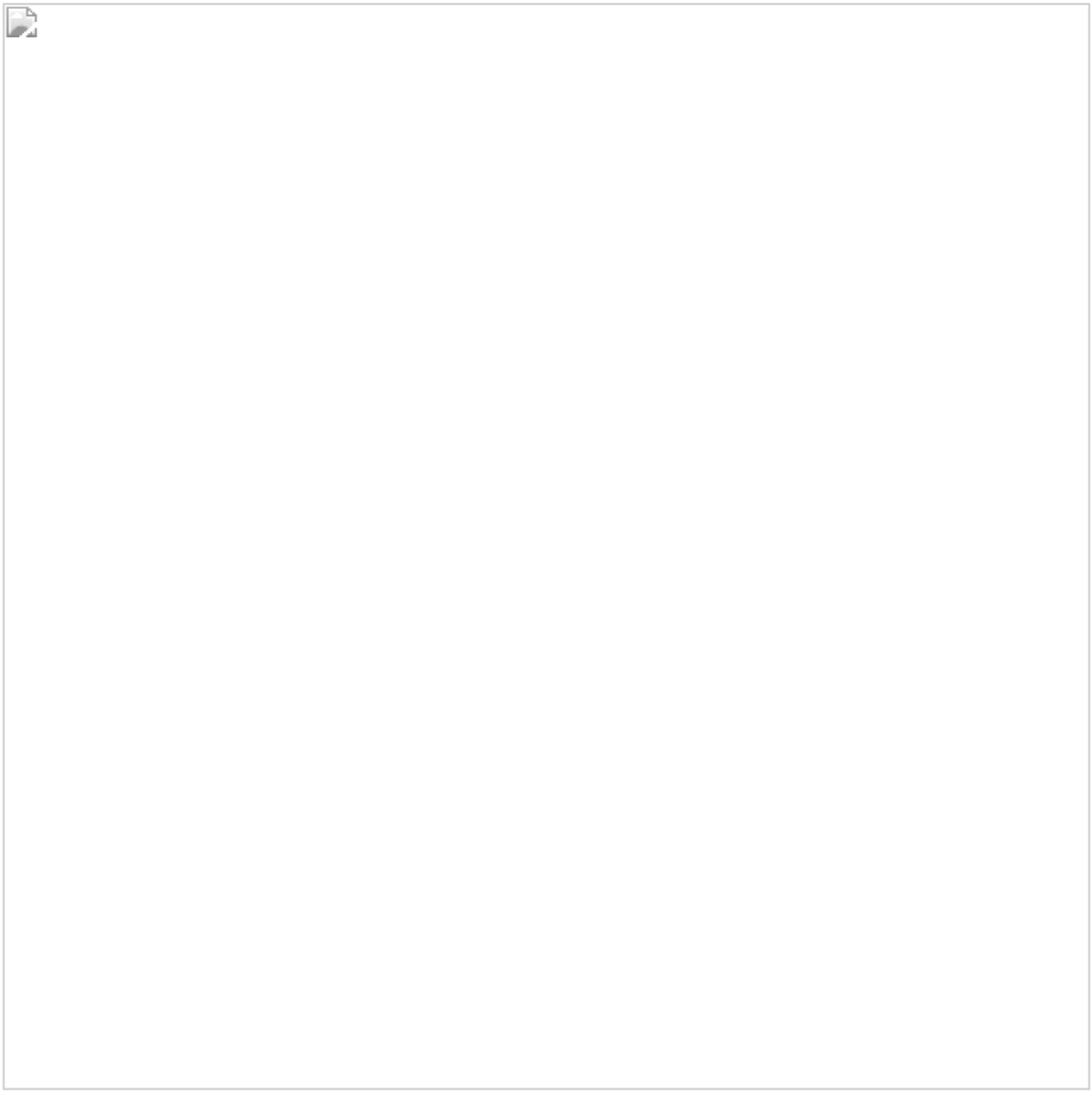
COLORING THE CLASSICS

The Quarrel of the Quails

A Tale from India



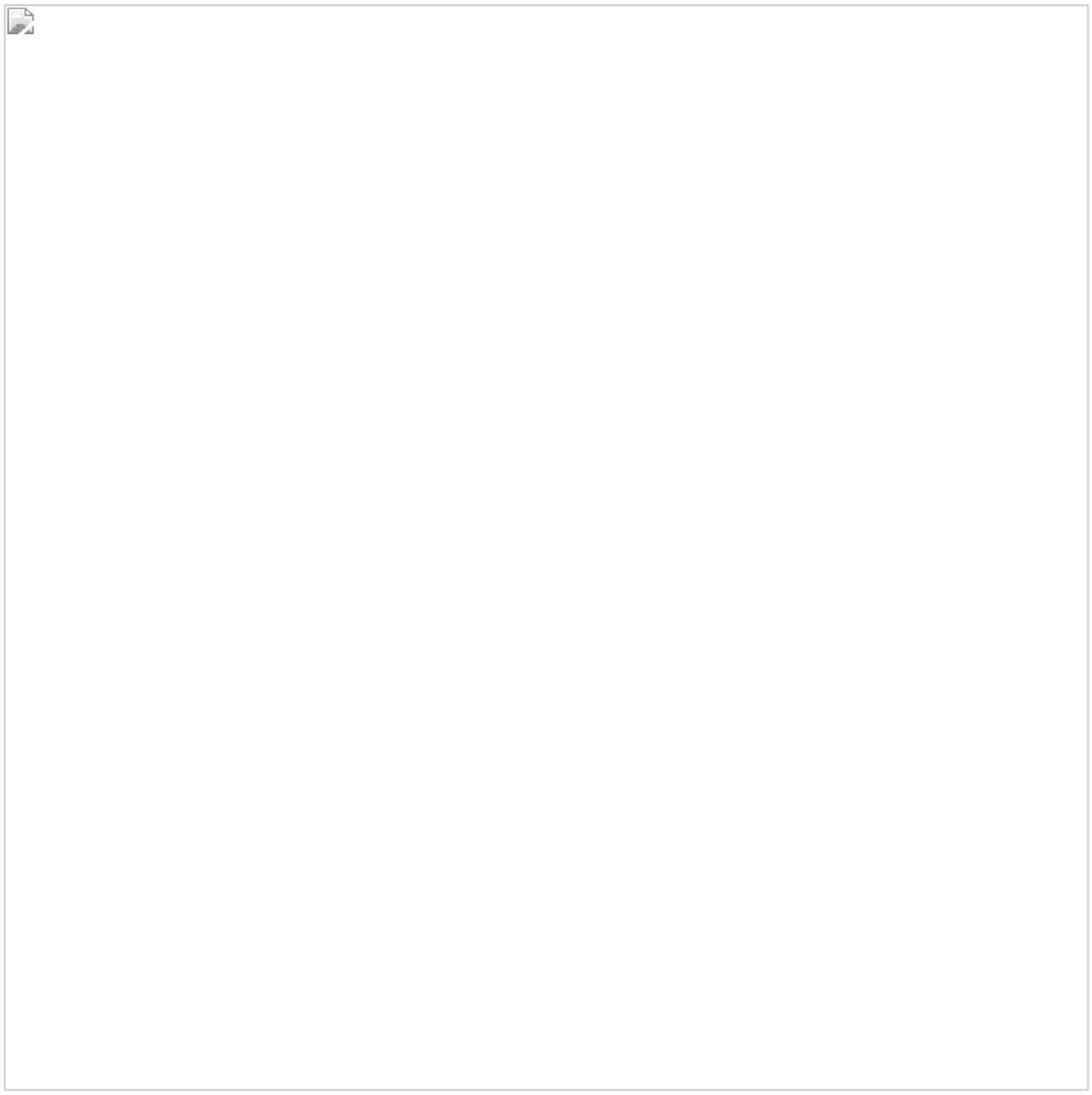
Once upon a time many quails lived together in a forest. The wisest of them all was their leader.

TALK ABOUT IT

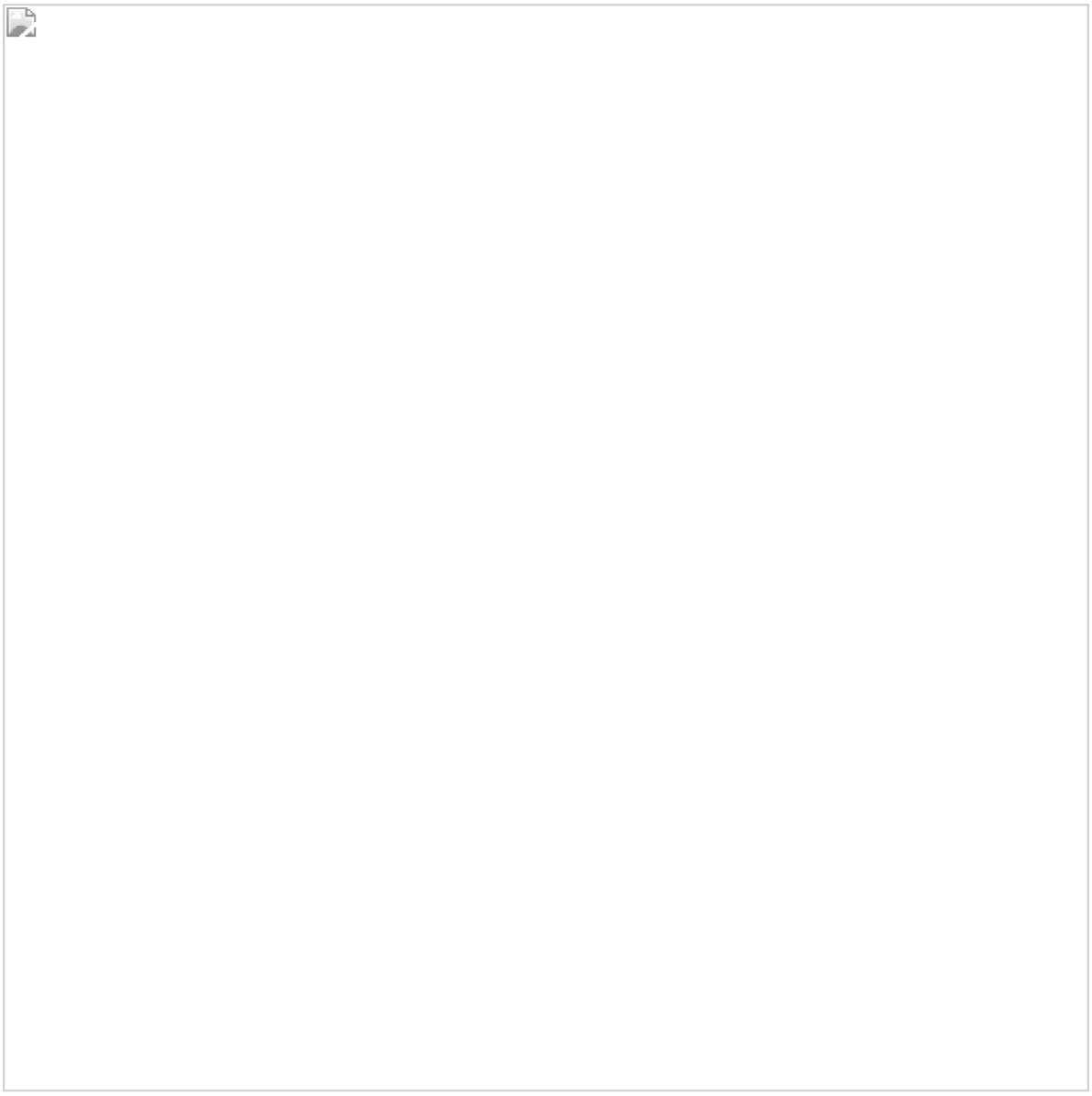
The quails lived together in one forest. Who do you live close to?

This book belongs to _____

The Quarrel of the Quails · another picture



The Fowler



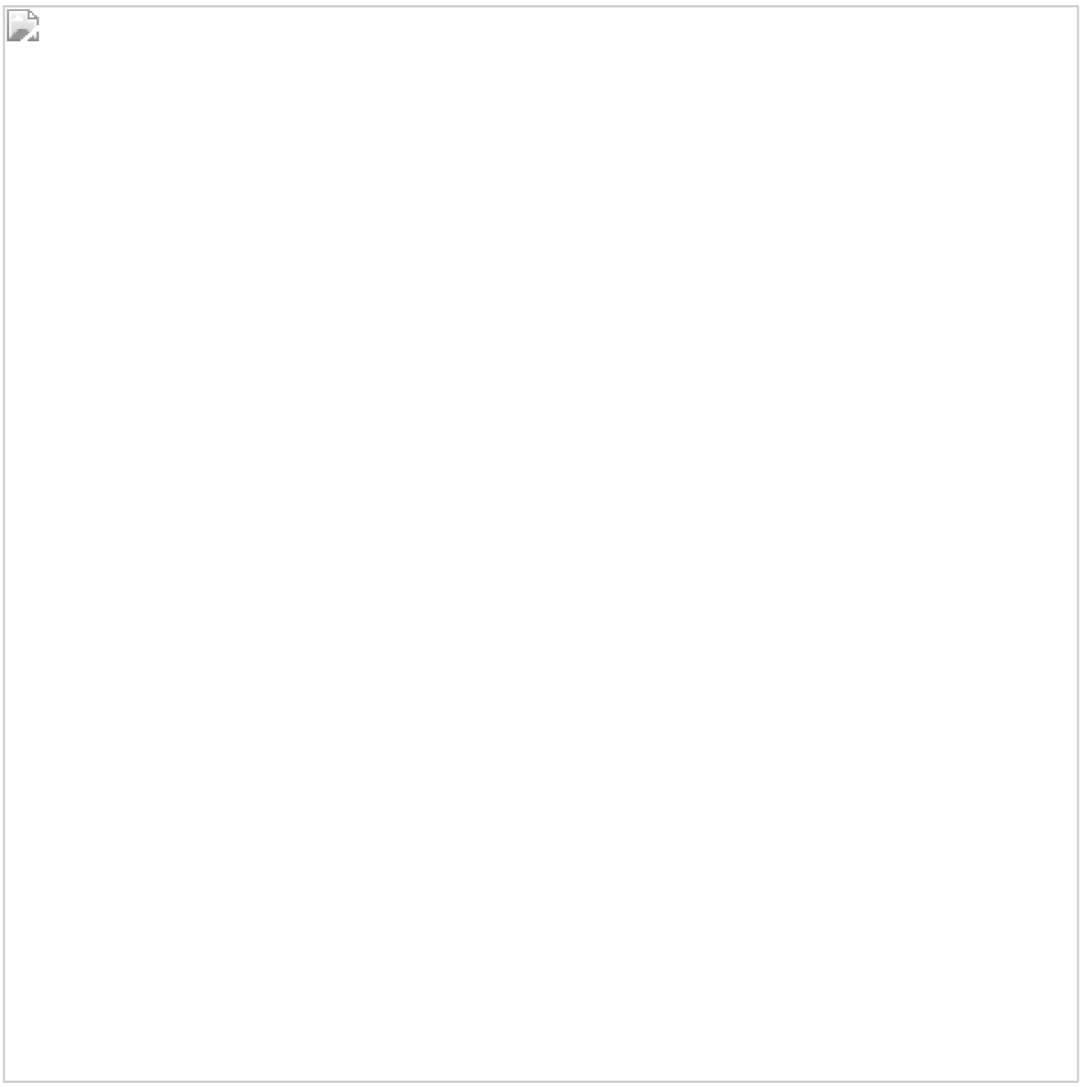
A man lived near the forest. He earned his living by catching quails and selling them.

Day after day he listened to the note of the leader calling the quails. By and by this man, the fowler, could call the quails together too.

The quails heard the note and thought it was their leader. When they were crowded together, the fowler threw his net over them and off he went into town, where he sold all the quails he had caught.

TALK ABOUT IT

The quails thought the call was their leader's. Has anyone ever fooled you by sounding like someone else?

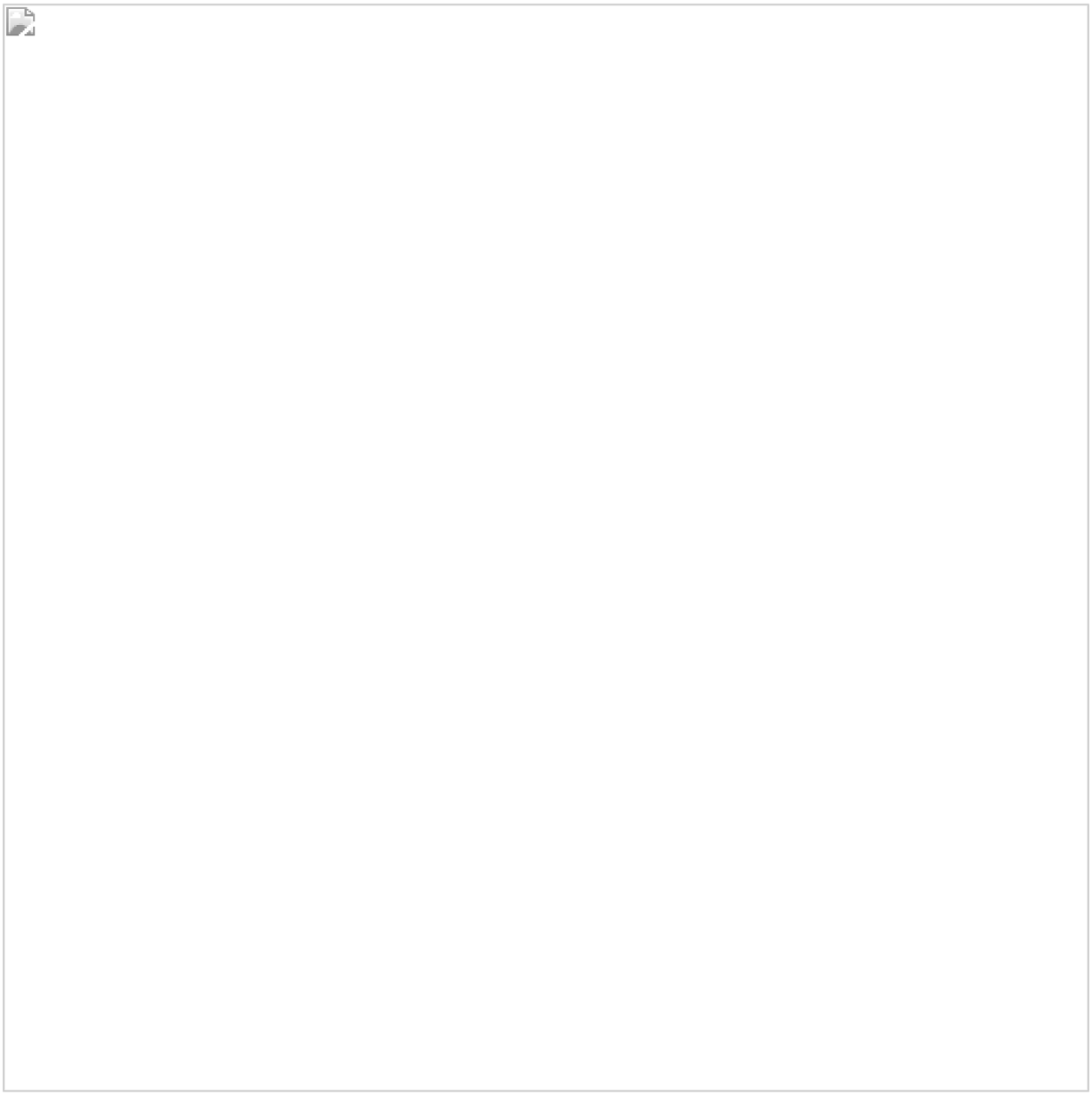


Think about it

1. How did the fowler call the quails together?

- ○ He sang the leader's note
- ○ He rang a bell
- ○ He left out seeds

The Leader's Plan



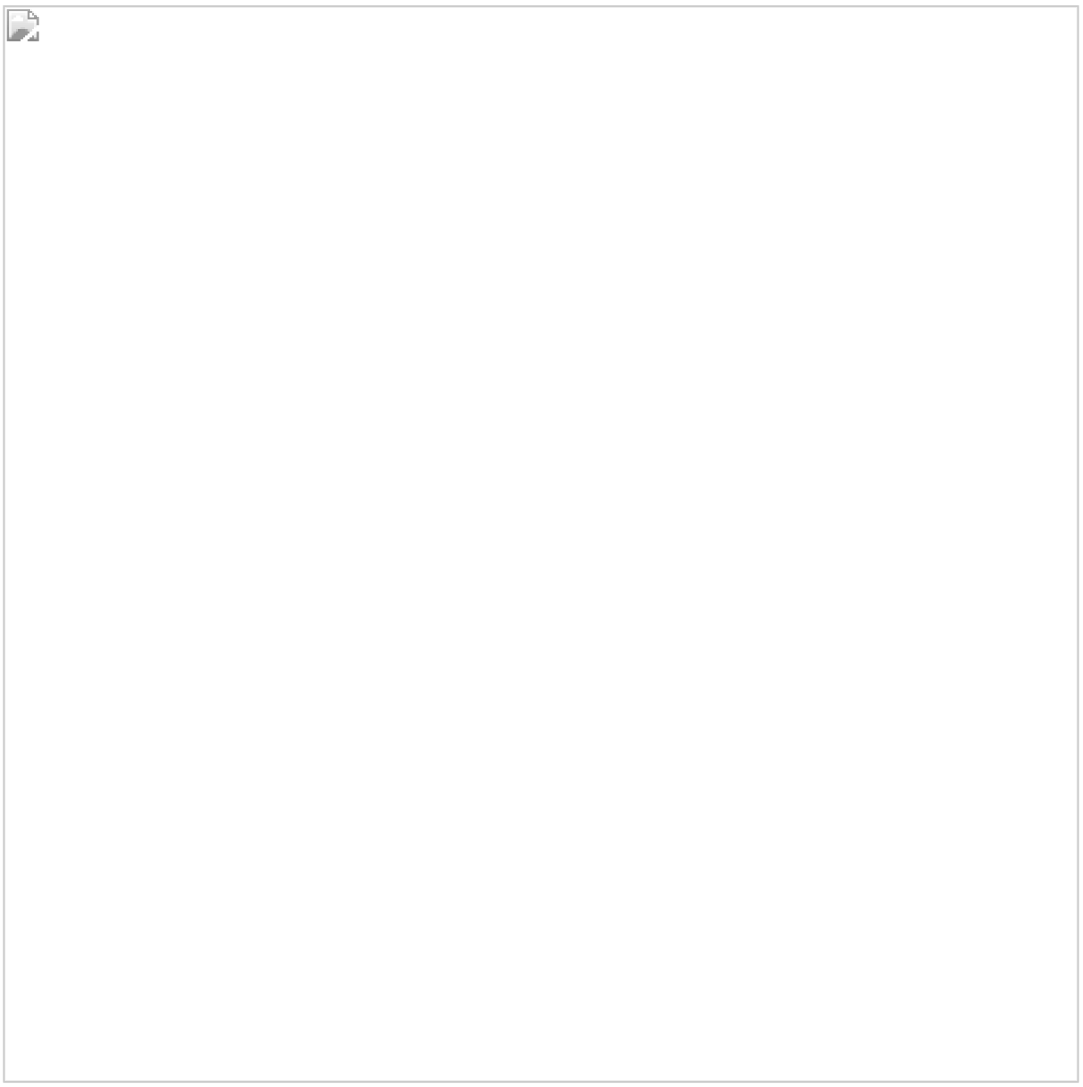
The wise leader saw what the fowler was doing. He called the birds to him and said, “This fowler is carrying away so many of us, we must put a stop to it.”

“The next time the fowler throws a net over you, each of you must put your head through one of the little holes in the net. Then all of you together must fly away to the nearest thorn-bush. You can leave the net on the thorn-bush and be free yourselves.”

The quails said that was a very good plan, and they would try it.

TALK ABOUT IT

The plan only works if every quail does their part. Why do you think that matters?

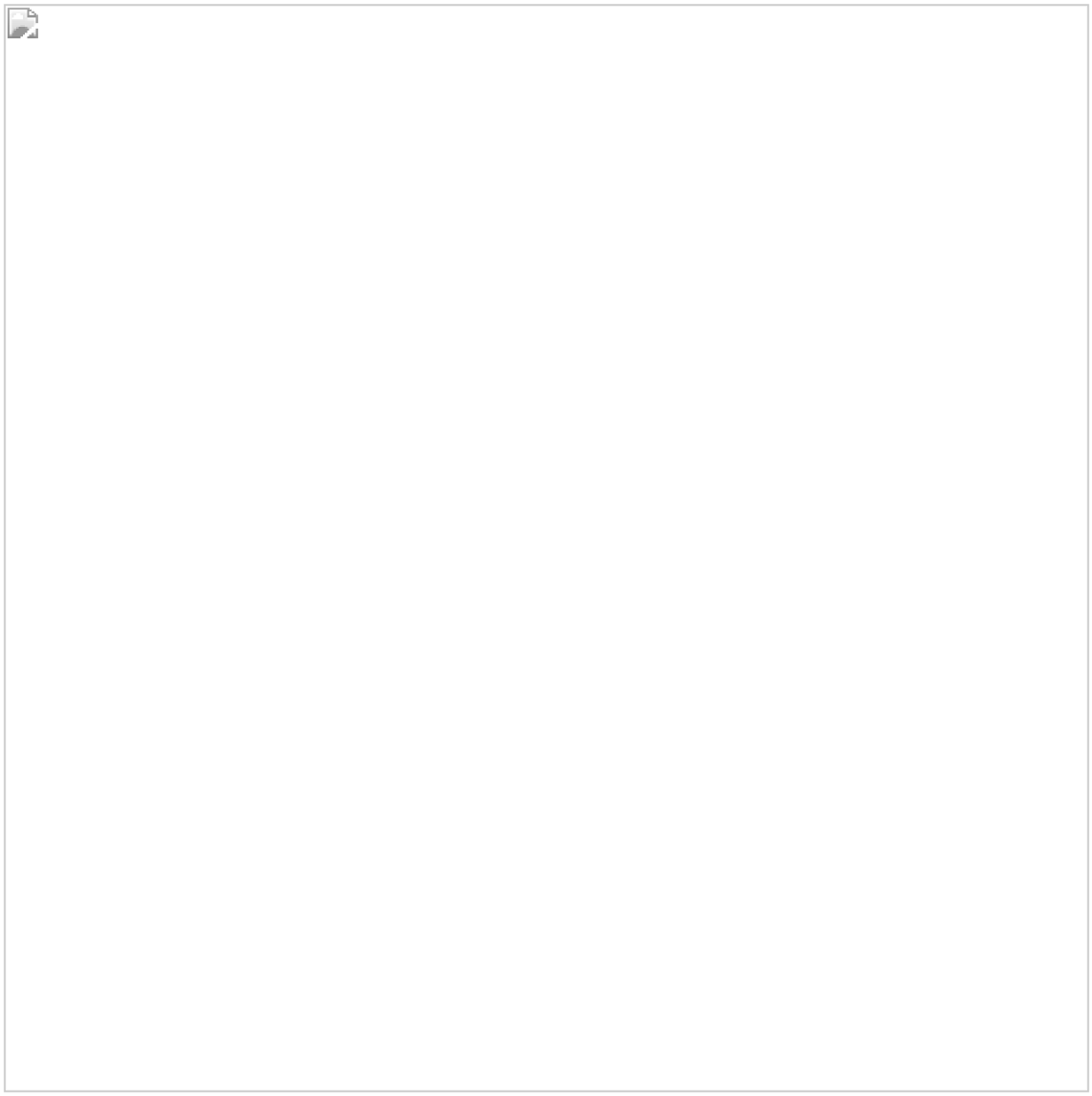


Think about it

1. Where were the quails to leave the net?

- ○ In the river
- ○ On a thorn-bush
- ○ At the fowler's house

It Works



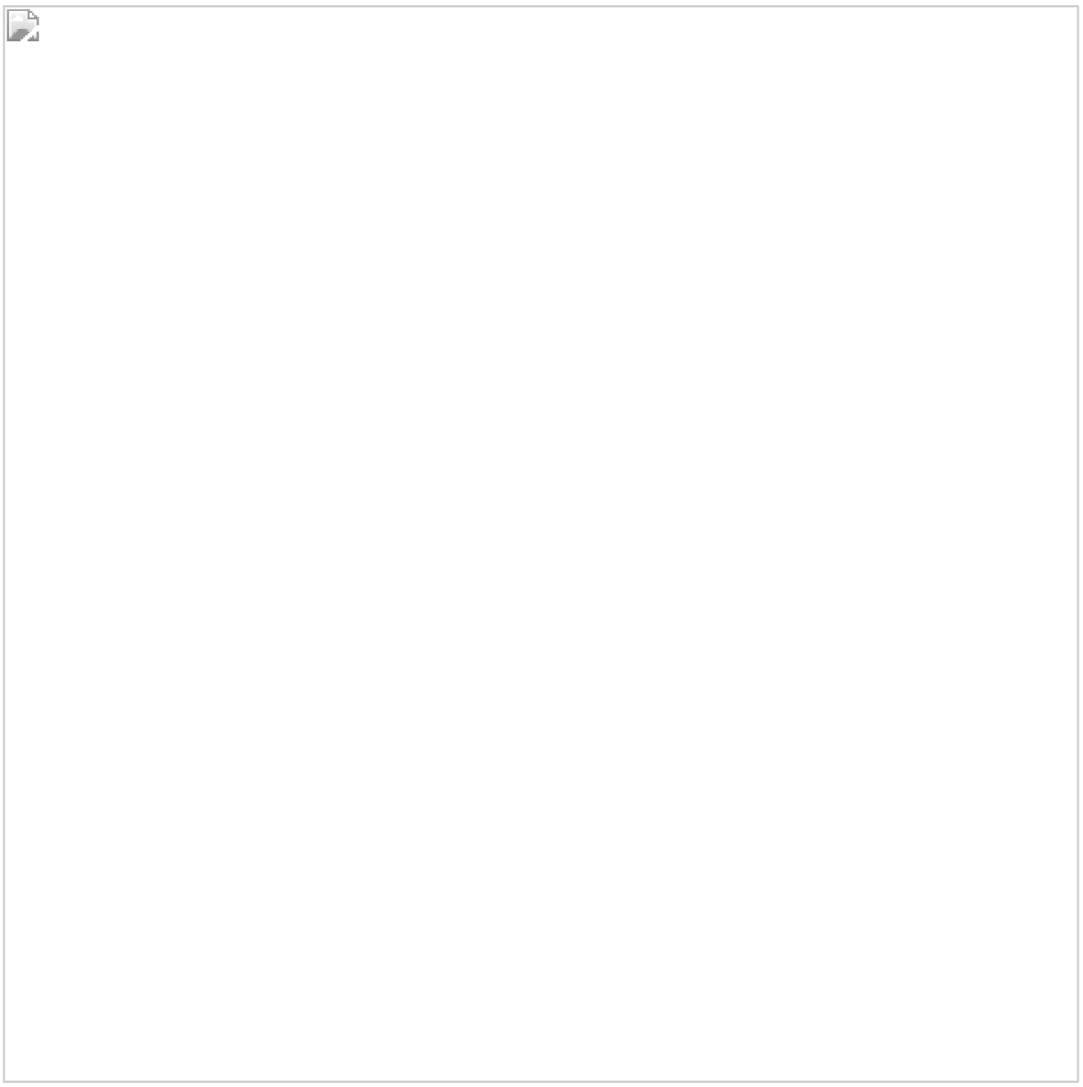
The very next day the fowler came, called them together, and threw his net over them. Up went the net, and the quails flew it to the nearest thorn-bush and left it there. Then back they flew to tell their leader his plan had worked.

The fowler was busy until evening getting his net off the thorns, and he went home empty-handed. The next day the same thing happened, and the next.

His wife was angry because he brought home no money. But the fowler said, "The fact is those quails are working together now. As soon as the quails begin to quarrel I shall be able to catch them."

TALK ABOUT IT

The quails got free by working together. When have you done something with other people that you could not do alone?



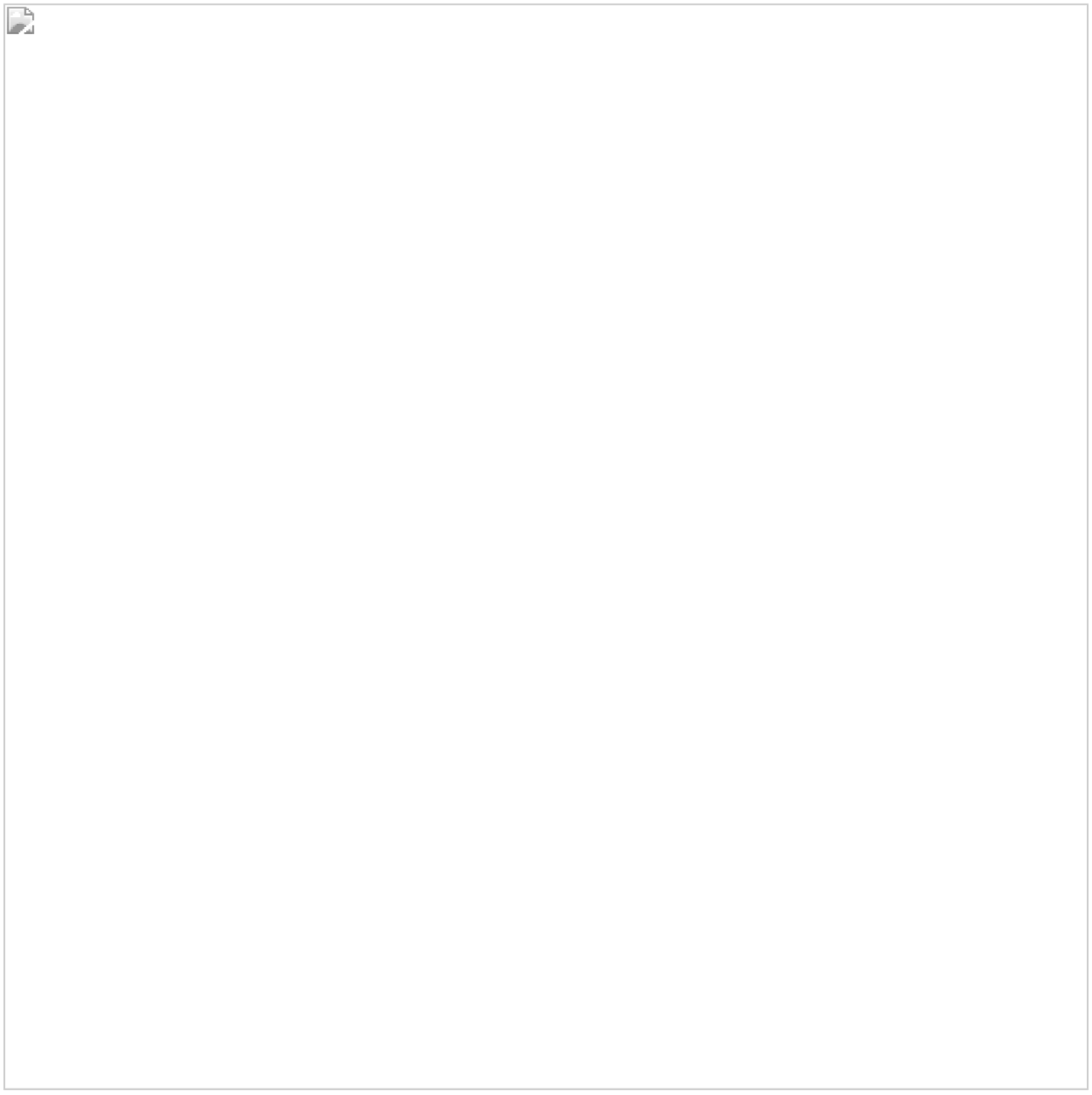
Think about it

1. What did the fowler say he was waiting for?

- ○ A rainy day
- ○ For the quails to begin to quarrel
- ○ A bigger net

2. What do you think is the hardest part of working together?

Whose Head?



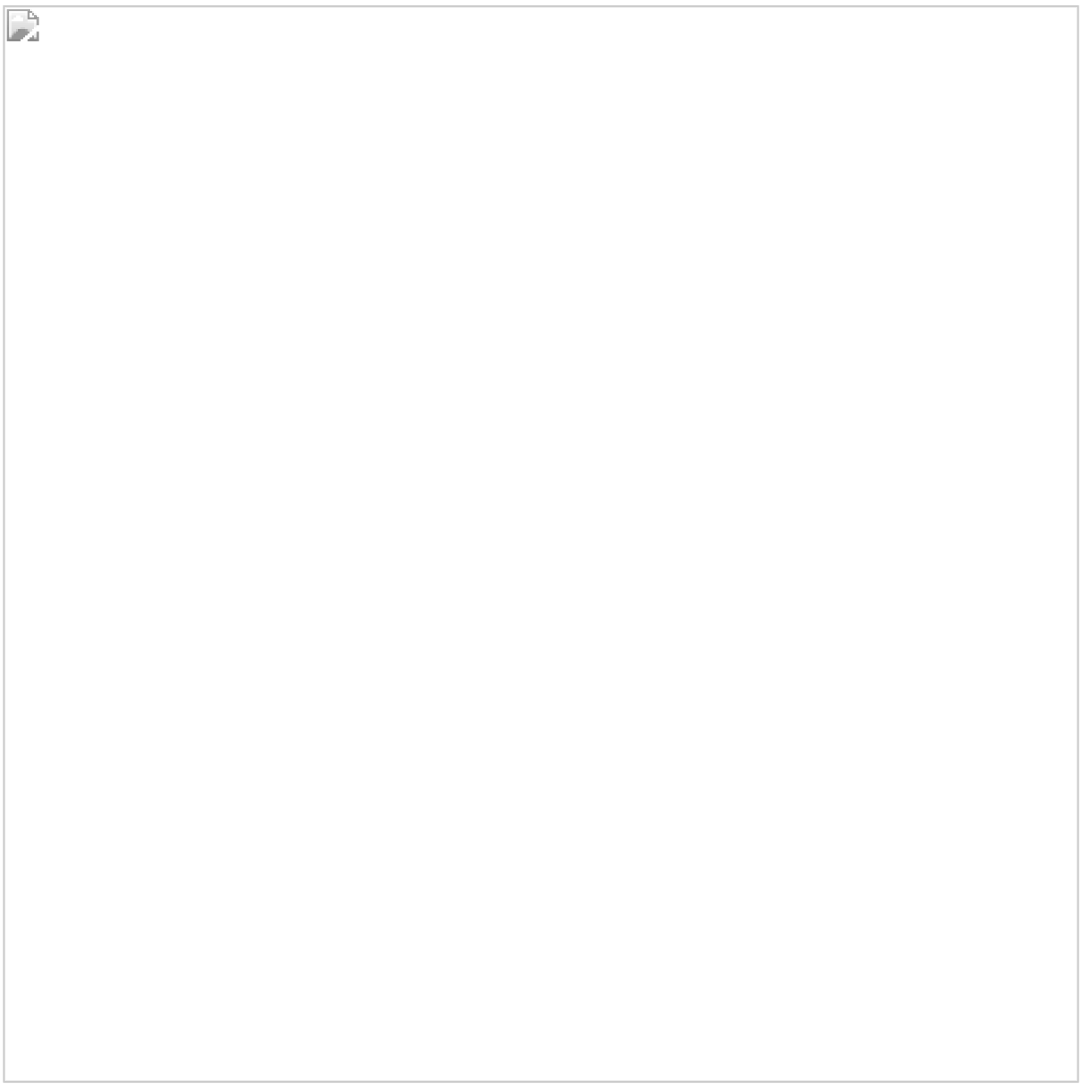
Not long after this, one of the quails was landing on their feeding ground. By accident he trod on another quail's head.

“Who trod on my head?” the second quail cried angrily.

“I did; but I didn't mean to. Don't be angry,” said the first quail. But the second quail was angry and said mean things.

TALK ABOUT IT

The first quail said it was an accident. What would you say if you stepped on someone by mistake? What would you want to hear back?

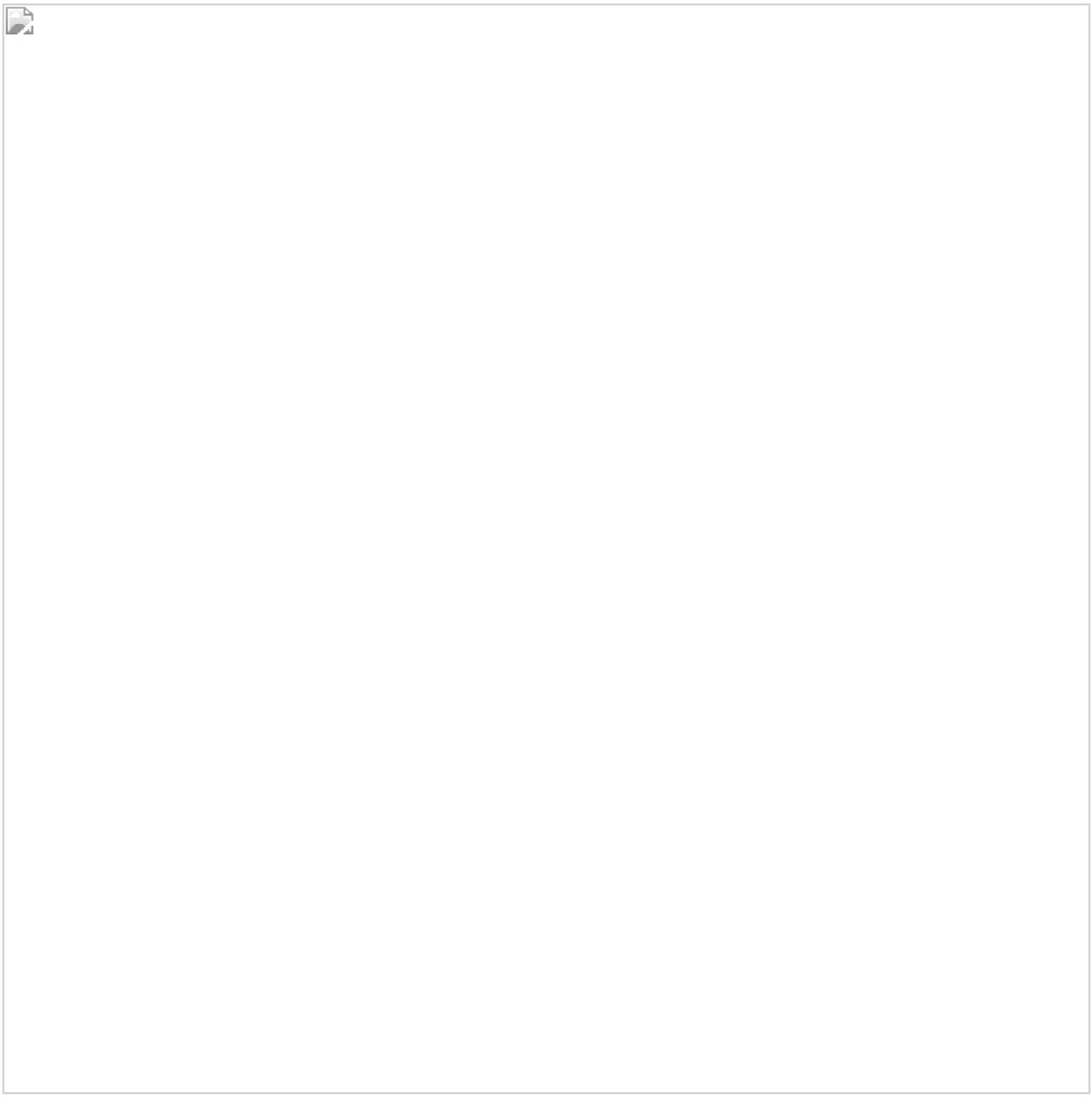


Think about it

1. What did the first quail say?

- ○ “I did; but I didn't mean to.”
- ○ It was not me
- ○ You should watch where you sit

Taking Sides



Soon all the quails had taken sides in the quarrel.

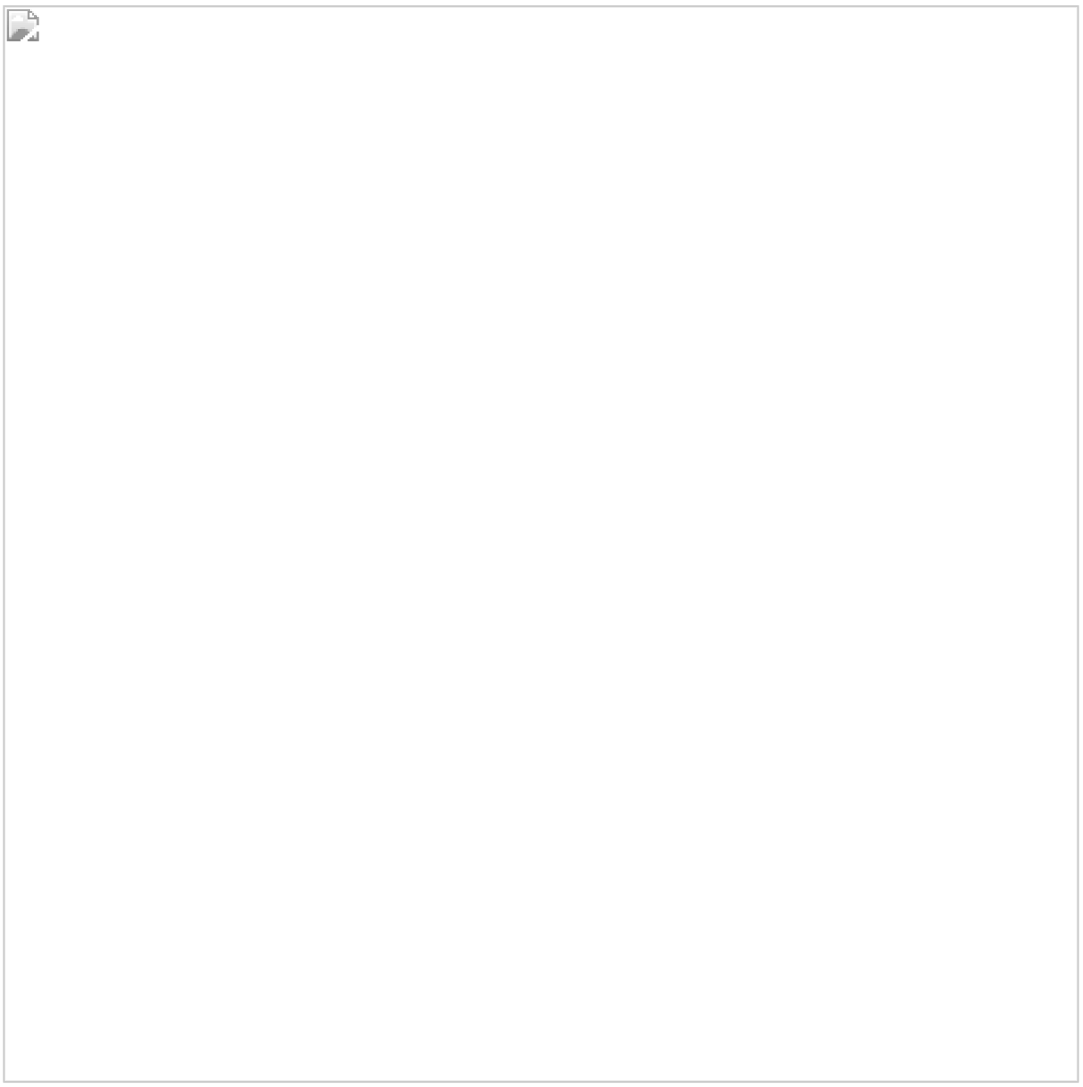
That day the fowler came and flung his net over them. This time they did not fly off with it. One side said, “Now, you lift the net,” and the other side said, “Lift it yourself.”

“You try to make us lift it all,” said the quails on one side. “No, we don't!” said the others. “You begin and we will help.” But neither side began.

TALK ABOUT IT

Neither side would begin. What could one quail have done to start things over?

Taking Sides · another picture

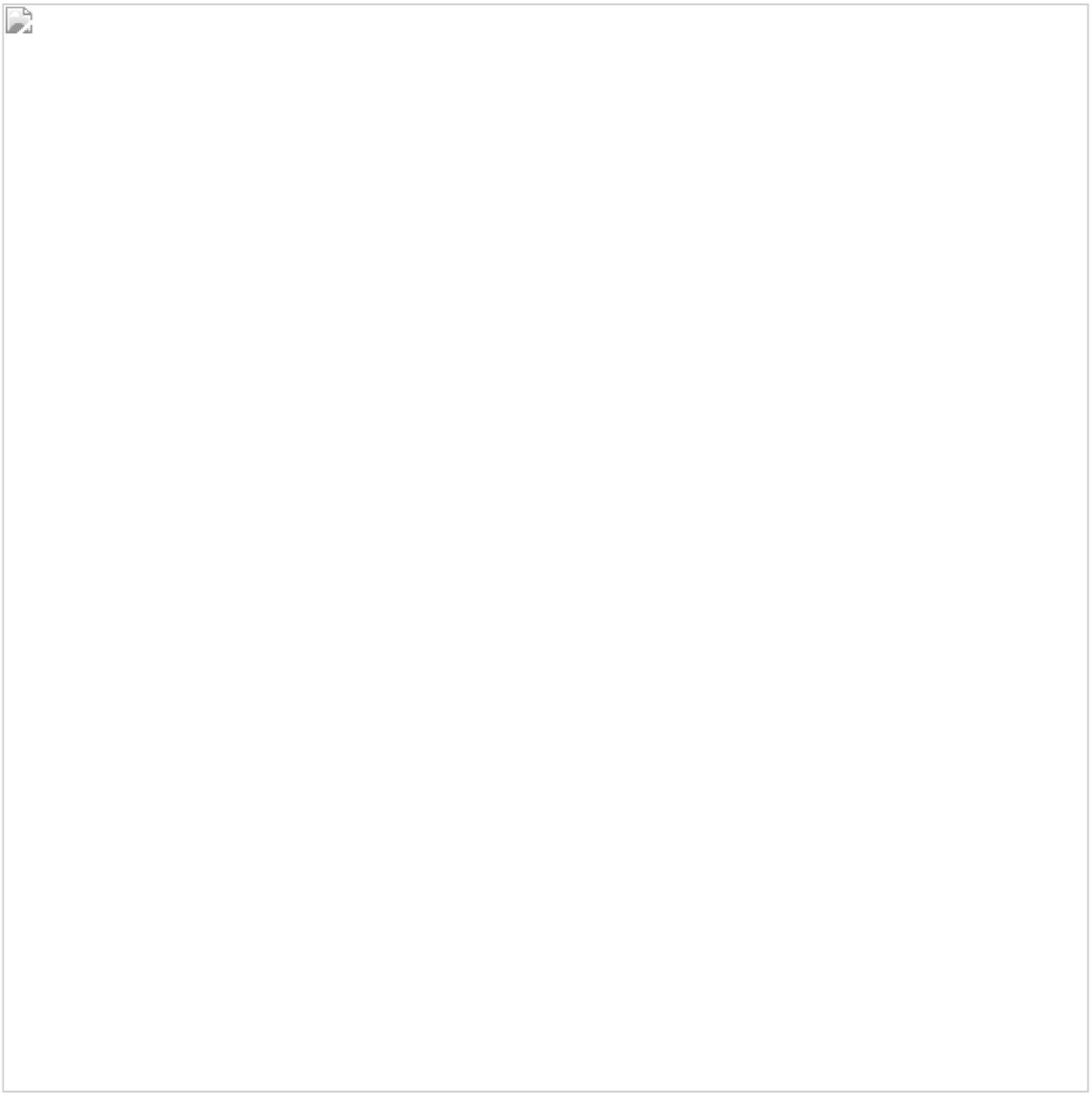


Think about it

1. Who began to lift the net?

- ○ The leader
- ○ The first side
- ○ Neither side

Caught

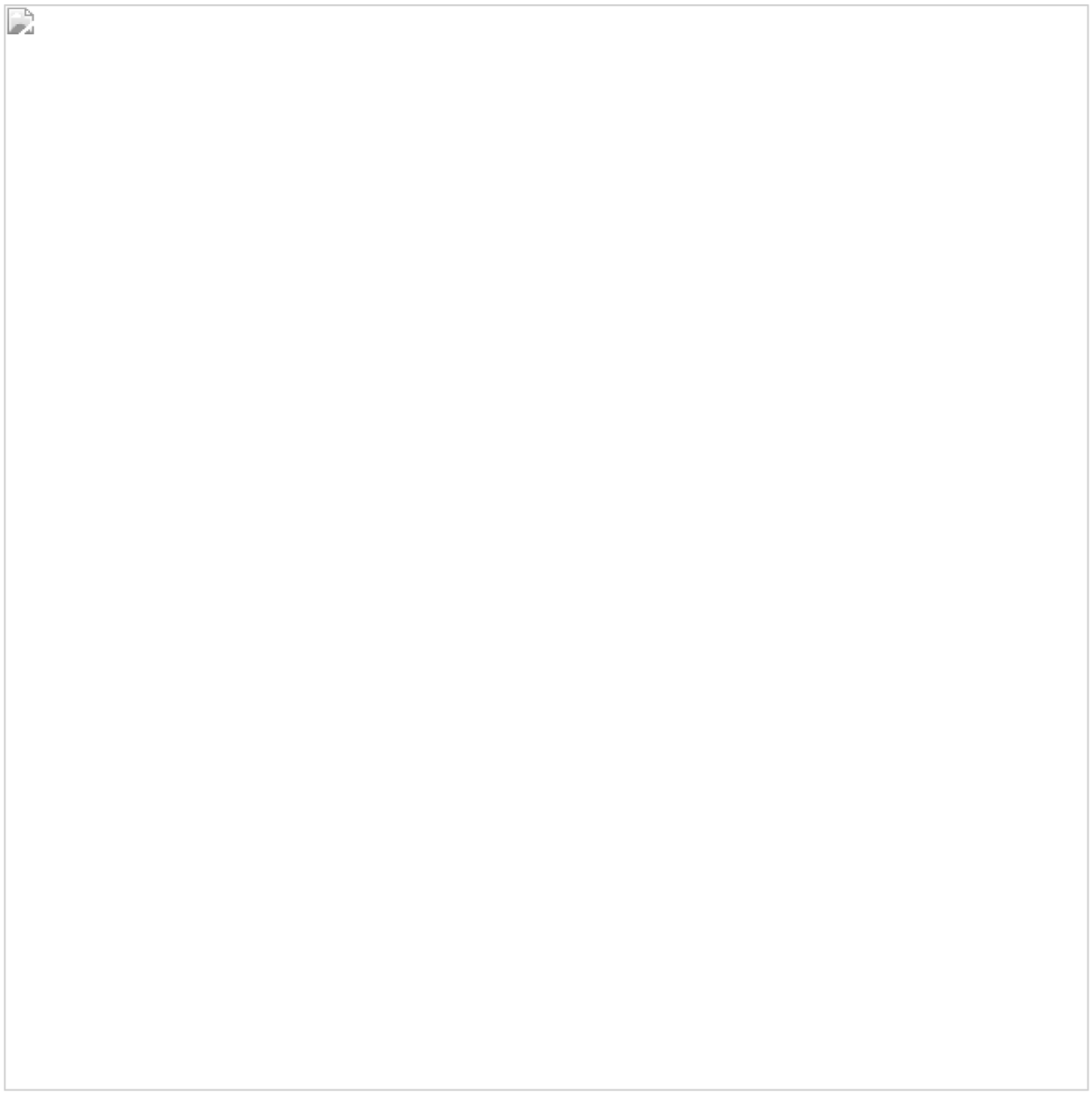


So the quails quarreled, and while they were quarreling the fowler caught them all in his net.

He took them to town and sold them for a good price.

TALK ABOUT IT

What do you think the quails would say to each other now?



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

— Yeshua HaMashiach

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