



# Peace of Heart



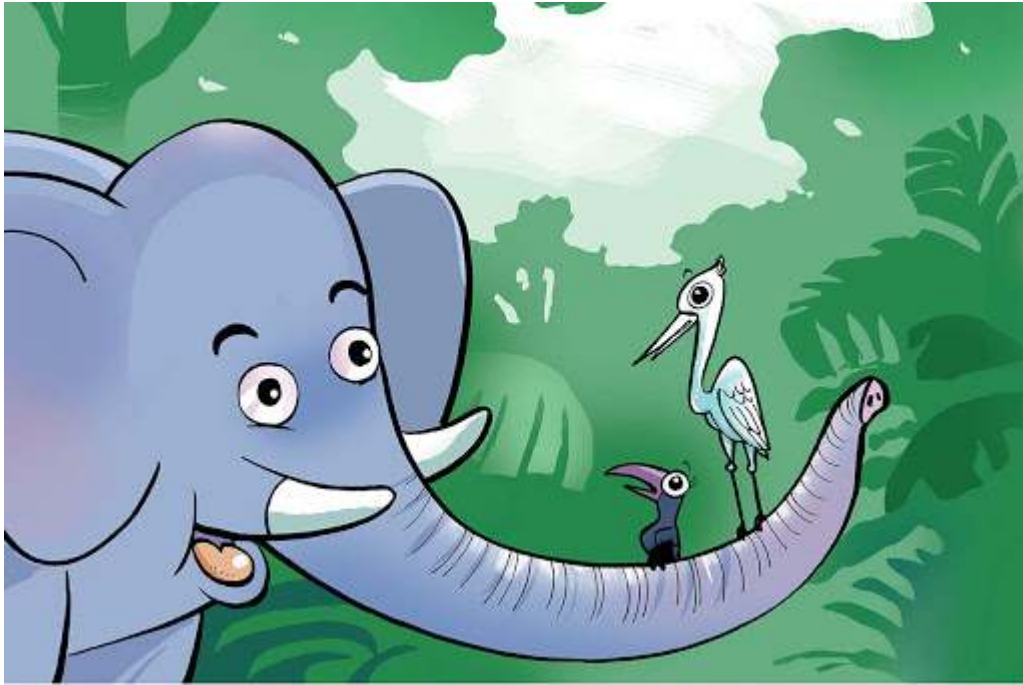
Once upon a time, an egret family and a crow family both moved into the same giant tree in the jungle. The families were worried they would end up fighting each other for space.



When the parents went out to find food, a little egret and a little crow stayed behind. They soon became friends!



They went exploring in the jungle together. Soon, they came across an elephant and a tiger passing each other on a narrow trail. They thought these two creatures were going to attack each other, but the elephant and the tiger each went their own way. The little birds were amazed.



The elephant explained, 'We have the same strength, but our food is not the same, so we don't need to fight. We can let each other go our own way, even though the path is narrow.'



Later, while taking a rest, they heard some voices. A mother cat was giving milk to a baby rat.



The mother cat said, 'I have lost my children and this baby rat doesn't have a mother. This is how I help someone in need.'



Further down the trail, they saw a dog. What was he doing? The dog was giving his food to a tiny kitten.





The dog explained that big animals should be kind to small animals.



The little birds were excited by what they had learned! They realized there was no need for animals of equal strength to fight. Everyone should help the needy. And big animals should be kind to small animals. Maybe their families would be happier if they tried these things! They couldn't wait to tell their parents.



The egret family and the crow family began to follow the ideas that their children had learned. Now they are united and live together happily in the giant tree.



Questions: 1. What did the two bird families worry about? 2. What did the elephant, the mother cat and the dog say? 3. What did the little birds realize? 4. What are three things you remember from the story?



The Third Story Project, a collaborative effort between the Myanmar Storytellers and the Benevolent Youth Association (Yangon), creates and produces children's books in Burmese and other Myanmar languages to distribute free of charge to children around Myanmar. The stories are written and illustrated by Myanmar artists for a Myanmar audience and



address issues of peace, tolerance, diversity, gender, environment and child rights.

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Original Story

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