

驴孩子

Donkey Child

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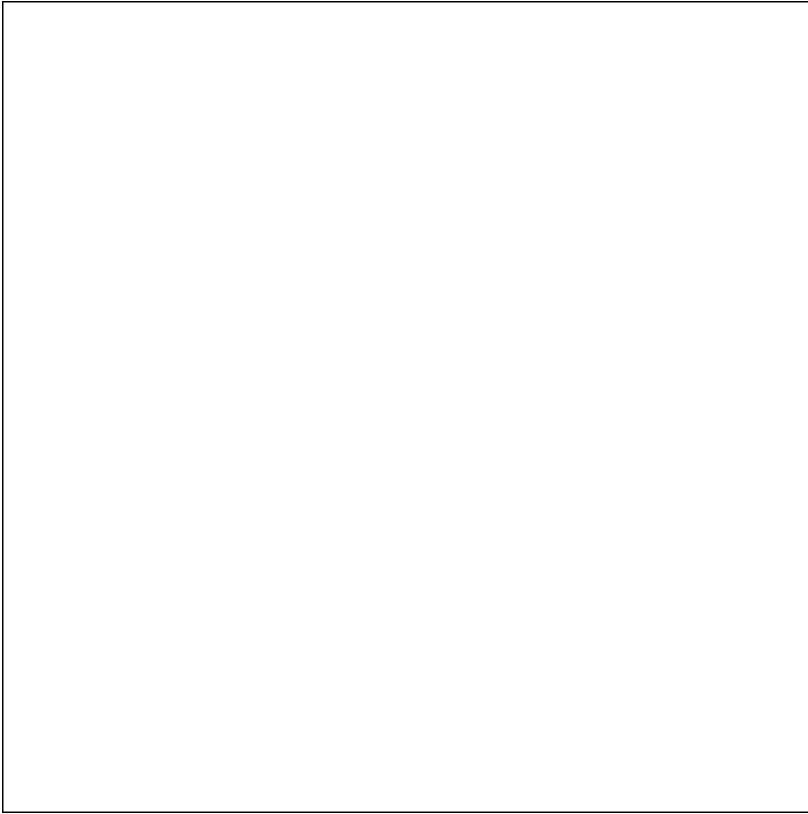
 Vicky Liu

 Chinese (Mandarin) / English

 Level 3

(imageless edition)

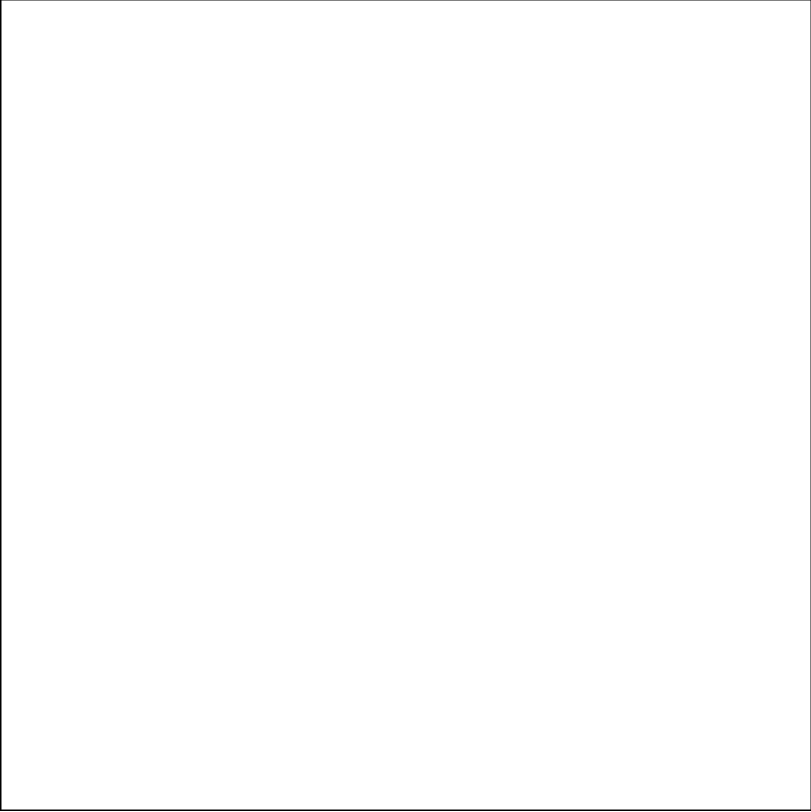




有个女孩最先发现了远处有个奇怪的身影。

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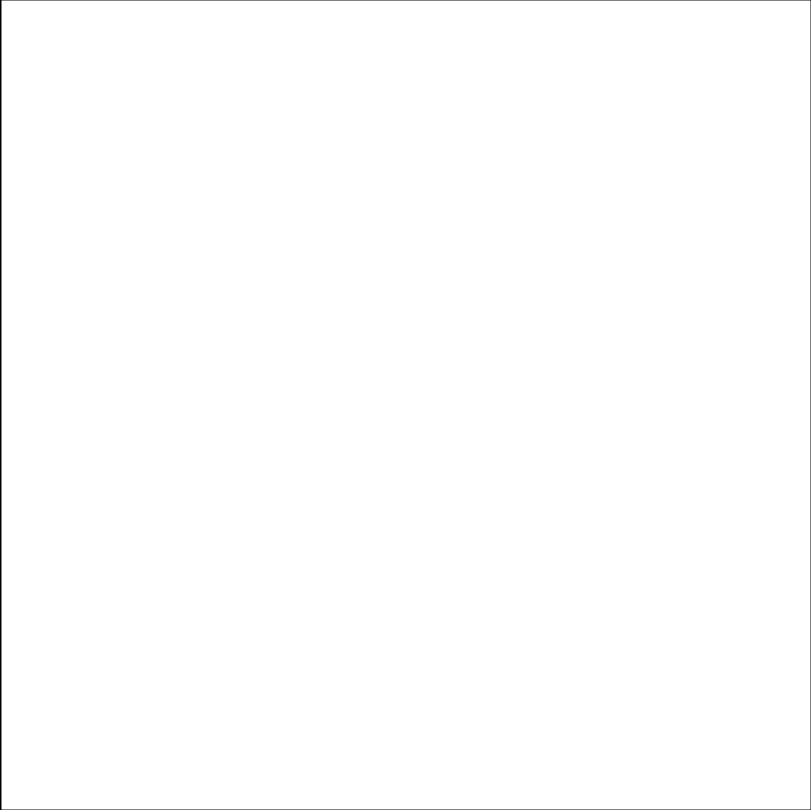
It was a little girl who first saw the mysterious shape in the distance.



那个身影越靠越近，她看清楚了，那是一个快生孩子的妇女。

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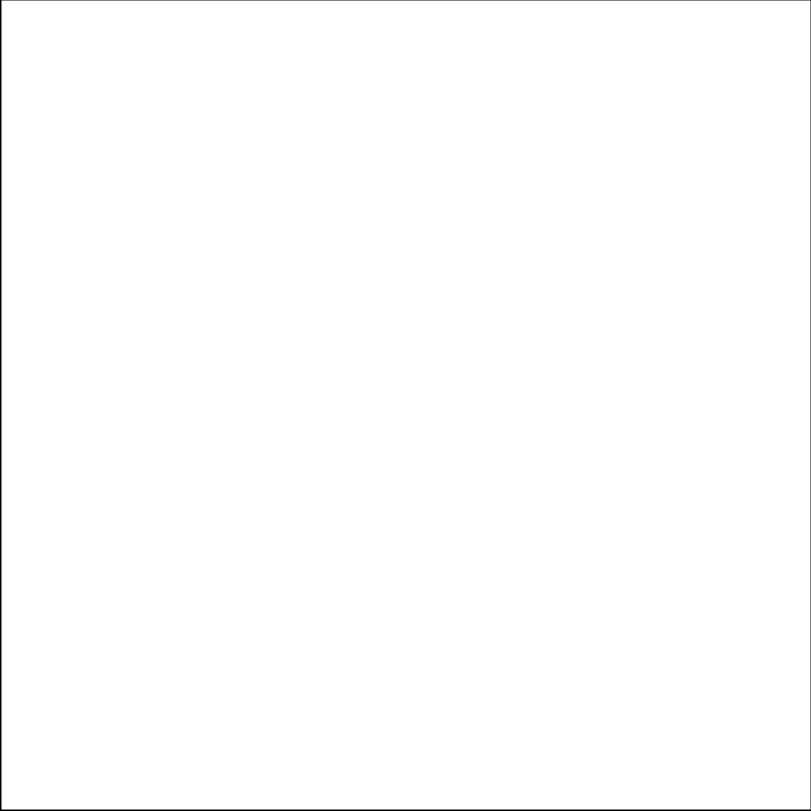
As the shape moved closer, she saw that it was a heavily pregnant woman.



女孩有点儿害羞，但她还是勇敢地走上前去。和女孩随行的人们说：“我们必须和她呆在一起，我们必须保护她和她的孩子。”

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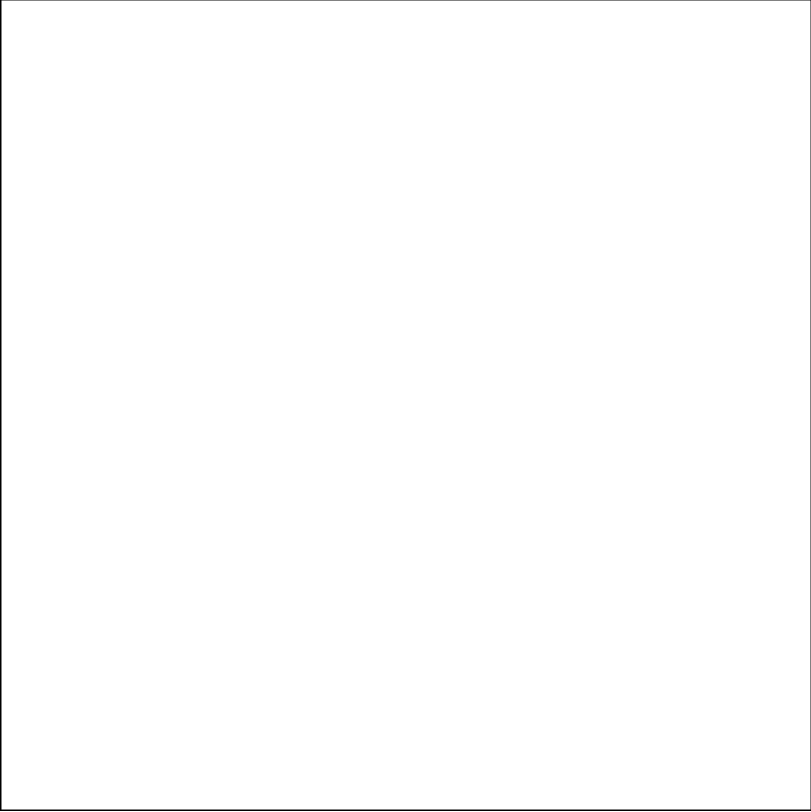
Shy but brave, the little girl moved nearer to the woman. "We must keep her with us," the little girl's people decided. "We'll keep her and her child safe."



孩子很快就要降生了。“用力啊！”“快拿毯子来！”“水！”“再用点力！”

...

The child was soon on its way. “Push!”
“Bring blankets!” “Water!”
“Puuuuusssshhh!!!”



当他们看到孩子时，所有人都吓了一跳，“一头驴？”

...

But when they saw the baby, everyone jumped back in shock. “A donkey?!”

大家七嘴八舌吵起来。一些人说：“我们说过要保护母亲和孩子的，我们必须这样做。”但是还有一些人反驳说：“但是他们会给我们带来厄运。”

...

Everyone began to argue. “We said we would keep mother and child safe, and that’s what we’ll do,” said some. “But they will bring us bad luck!” said others.

妇女发现自己又孤零零一人了。她不知道该拿这个奇怪的孩子怎么办，她也不知道自己该怎么办。

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And so the woman found herself alone again. She wondered what to do with this awkward child. She wondered what to do with herself.



最后，她决定接受这个孩子，做他的妈妈。

...

But finally she had to accept that he was her child and she was his mother.

如果这个孩子一直这般大小，不长大的话，一切都会变得不一样。但是这个驴孩子越长越大，现在他再也不能趴在妈妈的背上。无论他多么努力，他始终不能像人类一样。他的妈妈累了，放弃了。有时候，她让他做一些动物会做的工作。

...

Now, if the child had stayed that same, small size, everything might have been different. But the donkey child grew and grew until he could no longer fit on his mother's back. And no matter how hard he tried, he could not behave like a human being. His mother was often tired and frustrated. Sometimes she made him do work meant for animals.

驴孩子感到迷茫，也很生气。他这个也不能做，那个也不能做。他不能这样，也不能那样。有一天，他太生气了，一脚把他的妈妈踹到地上。

...

Confusion and anger built up inside Donkey. He couldn't do this and he couldn't do that. He couldn't be like this and he couldn't be like that. He became so angry that, one day, he kicked his mother to the ground.



驴孩子羞愧极了，他逃跑了，跑得越远越好。

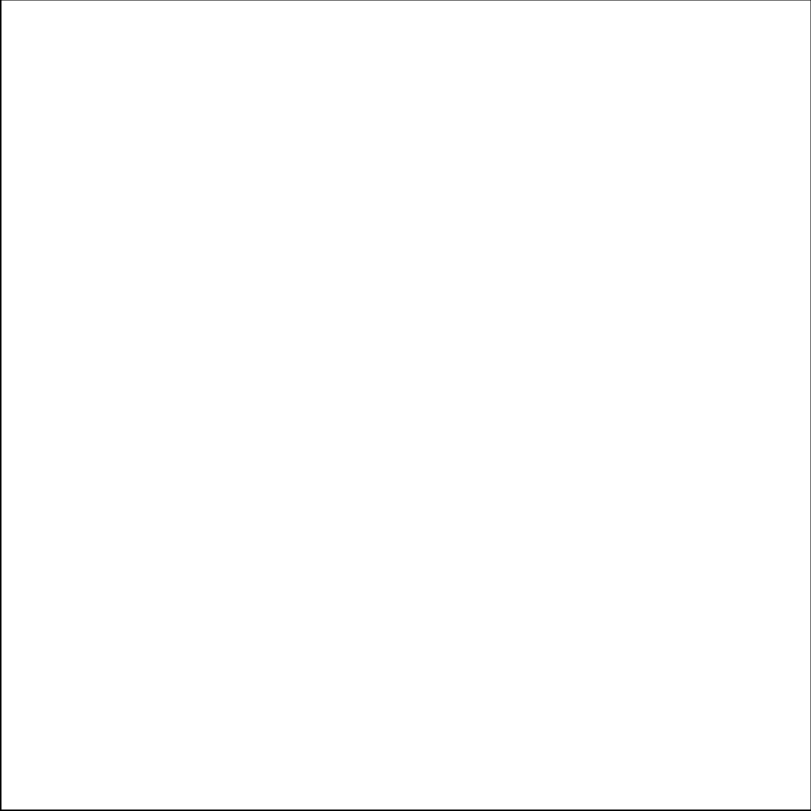
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Donkey was filled with shame. He started to run away as far and fast as he could.

当他停下来时，天已经黑了，驴孩子迷路了。他在黑暗中哼哼，“哧哧”，黑暗中传来了回声，“哧哧”。他孤零零的一个人，卷成了一团，心中充满烦恼，沉沉地睡去。

...

By the time he stopped running, it was night, and Donkey was lost. "Hee haw?" he whispered to the darkness. "Hee Haw?" it echoed back. He was alone. Curling himself into a tight ball, he fell into a deep and troubled sleep.



驴孩子醒了，他发现有个老人低头盯着他。他看着老人的眼睛，感觉到了一丝希望。

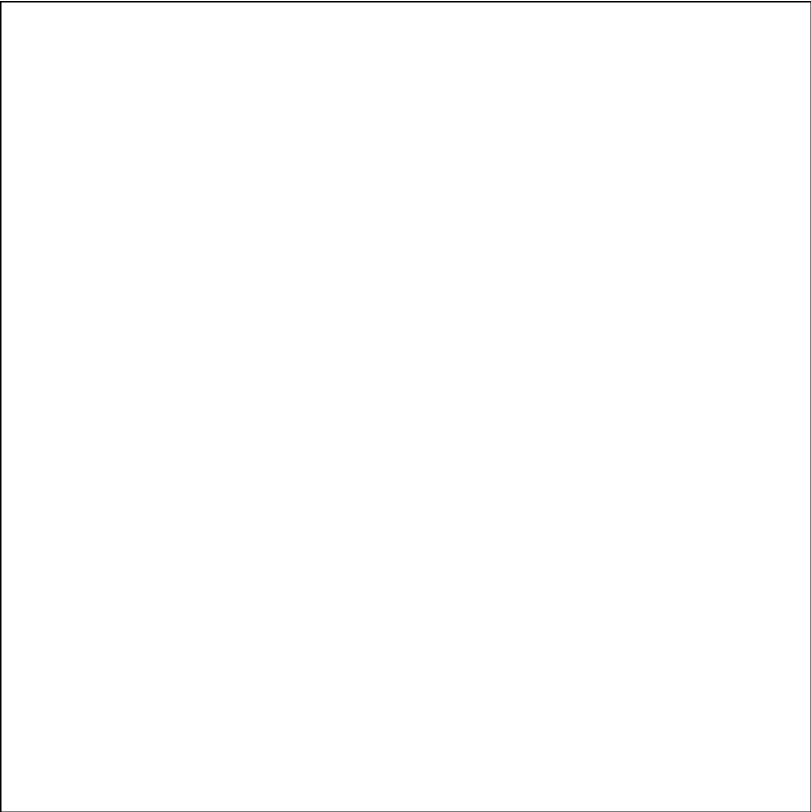
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Donkey woke up to find a strange old man staring down at him. He looked into the old man's eyes and started to feel a twinkle of hope.

驴孩子和老人住在一起，老人教会他很多生存的本领。驴孩子认真地听着，学得很快。老人也学了很多。他们互相帮助，遇到开心的事情就一起哈哈大笑。

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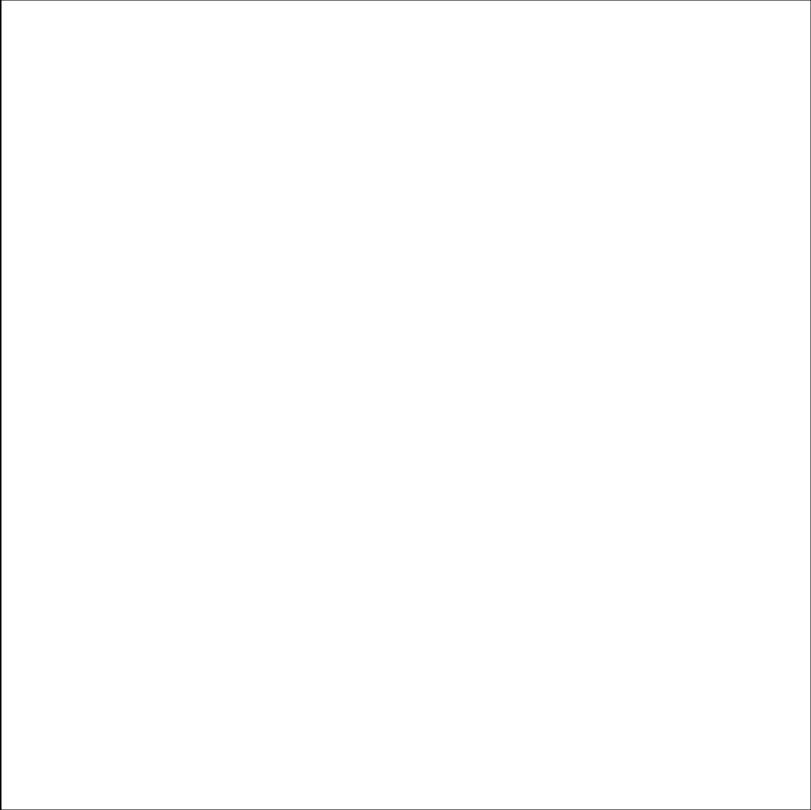
Donkey went to stay with the old man, who taught him many different ways to survive. Donkey listened and learned, and so did the old man. They helped each other, and they laughed together.



一天早上，老人让驴孩子带他到山顶。

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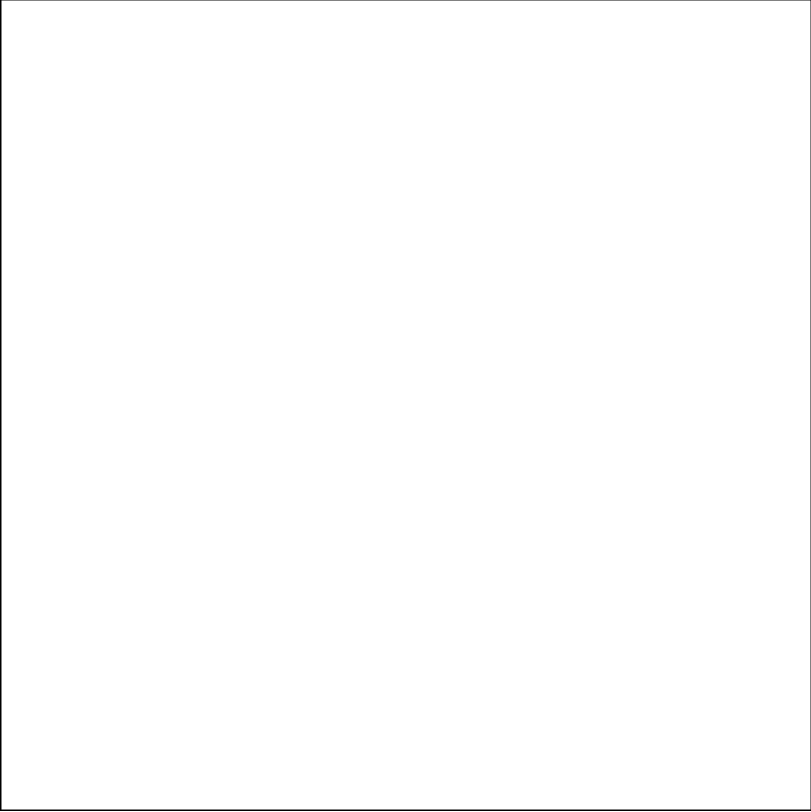
One morning, the old man asked Donkey to carry him to the top of a mountain.



他们登上山顶，环绕在云雾中，睡着了。驴孩子梦到他的妈妈生病了，正在呼唤他，然后他就醒了……

...

High up amongst the clouds they fell asleep. Donkey dreamed that his mother was sick and calling to him. And when he woke up...



……云雾消失了，他的朋友——那个老人——也消失了。

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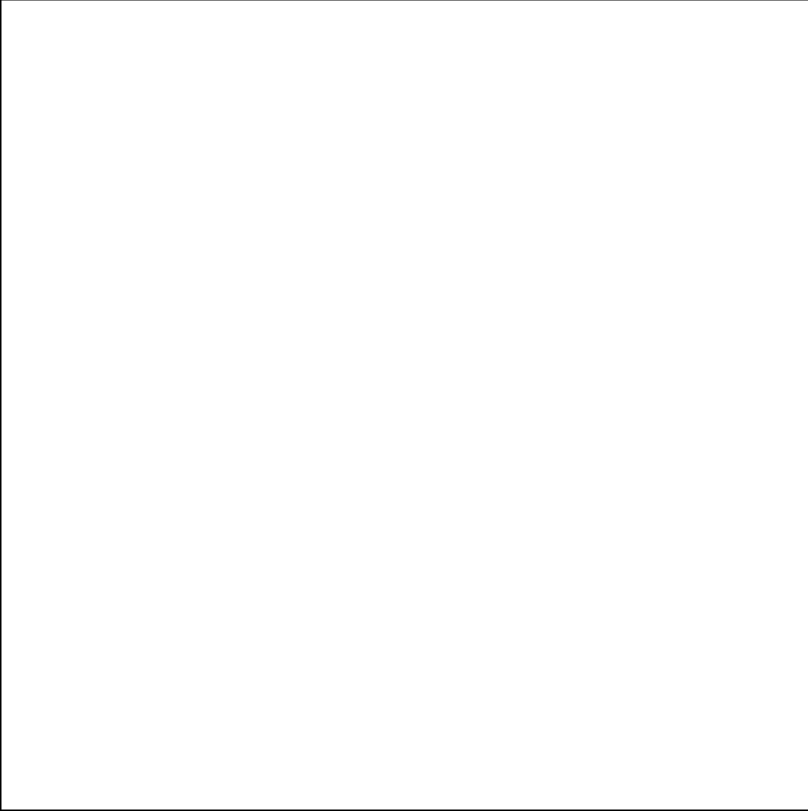
... the clouds had disappeared along with his friend, the old man.



驴孩子终于知道要做什么了。

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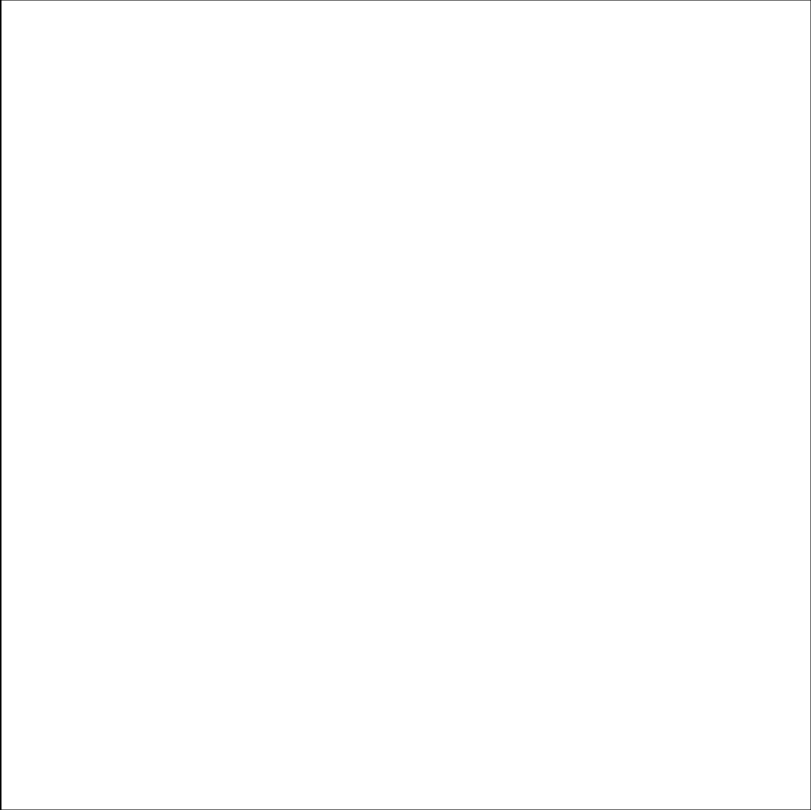
Donkey finally knew what to do.



驴孩子找到了他的妈妈，她孤零零一个人，正在为走失的孩子伤心。他们互相打量了很久，然后紧紧地抱在了一起。

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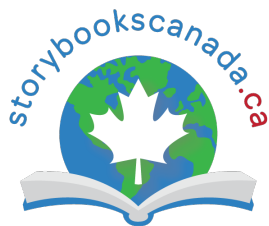
Donkey found his mother, alone and mourning her lost child. They stared at each other for a long time. And then hugged each other very hard.



驴孩子和妈妈住在一起，慢慢长大，学会了如何共同生活。渐渐的，其他的家庭也搬到他们附近，住了下来。

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The donkey child and his mother have grown together and found many ways of living side by side. Slowly, all around them, other families have started to settle.



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