

The Sick Lion

Story

An old and feeble lion realized he could no longer provide himself with food by force. He decided that he must resort to trickery instead to get his food. So he retired to his den and lay down pretending to be sick. His sickness was made known to all. The animals expressed their sorrow one by one and whenever any animal came to visit him, he ate his visitor up!

After many animals had disappeared, a fox discovered the trick. He went to see the lion but stood a safe distance outside the den and asked him how he was.

“Oh, not very well,” said the lion. “Please, come in to talk with me.”

But the fox said, “I would come inside if I didn't see so many footprints entering your den, but I see no trace of any leaving.”

And the fox went safely on his way.