

This story begins long ago, deep in the jungle.

One day, Bagheera the panther heard a strange sound coming from the river. He went to see what it was and found a basket in a broken little boat. Inside the basket was a tiny baby boy, crying.

"Why, it's a Man-cub," said Bagheera. "I can save it from the river, but it needs food and a mother's care. Who could do that?"

Then Bagheera remembered that there was a family of wolves nearby who had recently had a litter of cubs. He picked the basket up in his mouth and carried it to the wolves' den.

這個故事發生在很久之前一個森林的深深處。

有一天，黑豹巴希拉聽見河邊傳來一把奇怪的聲音，於是他走去看個究竟，發現一艘破爛的小船上有一個籃子，籃子裡面有一個小男嬰正在哭泣。

「為甚麼呢？這是人類——孩子。」巴希拉說，「我可以把他從河裡救上來，但他需要食物和母親照料呀。誰可這樣做？」

接口，巴希拉記起附近有一家狼，他們最近生了一群小狼，於是巴希拉用口拾起那個籃子，把它帶到狼的洞穴裡。



The wolves took the Man-cub in and loved him as if he were their own. They named the boy Mowgli, and he grew up safe and happy with the other cubs.

When Mowgli was ten years old, Shere Khan, the fierce tiger, heard about the Man-cub and came searching for him. Shere Khan hated and feared humans. He was determined to kill Mowgli.

The wolf pack held a meeting and decided that, for his own good and for the safety of the pack, Mowgli would have to leave. Bagheera offered to take him to the Man-village just beyond the jungle.

那群狼收留了那人類孩子，並把他視如己出的愛他。他們稱他做毛忌，他跟其他幼狼一起平安又快樂地成長。

到毛忌十歲的時候，兇惡的老虎謝利聽到有關那人類孩子的事，於是便前來尋找他。謝利既討厭又害怕人類，所以他誓要殺死毛忌。

那群狼聚集一起討論，決定為了毛忌口想及狼群的安全，毛忌不得不離開。巴希拉表示帶他往就在森林後方的人類村莊去。



Mowgli was angry and upset. "Why do I have to leave the jungle?" he asked. "I'm not afraid of the tiger. And the jungle is my home too!" Bagheera tried to explain that Shere Khan would soon find him, and that neither wolves nor panthers would be strong enough to protect him.

"I don't need your protection," Mowgli shouted. "And I'm not going with you." He grabbed hold of a tree and held tight.

Bagheera tugged at Mowgli's clothing, but the boy wouldn't budge. At last Bagheera gave up. He let go and stalked away, leaving Mowgli alone.

毛忌感到氣憤和失落。

「為甚麼我要離開森林？」他問道，「我並不懼怕那隻老虎，而且森林也是我的家呀！」巴希拉嘗試跟他解釋說謝利很快便會找到他，而狼群和豹群都沒有一隻有足夠力氣保護他。

「我不需要你們保護。」毛忌喊道，「我也不會跟你走。」他用力抓緊一棵樹。

巴希拉用力拉口他的衣服，但他一動也不動。巴希拉終於放棄，放手踱步離去，留下毛忌一人。

