

Story 1381 (1989 Tape 5)

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The Wolf, the Fox, and the Lion's Share

One day a wolf was hunting in a forest, and after a while it managed to catch and kill a wild ox. Shortly after the wolf had begun to eat the ox, a fox came along and sat nearby waiting to eat some of the ox after the wolf had satisfied its own hunger. But almost immediately a lion appeared and asked, "What are you doing here?"

The wolf answered, "I hunted down this wild ox, and I was just getting ready to eat it, but since the two of you are also here, we can share the meat."

The lion said, "Good! Go ahead and divide the ox meat for us, Brother Wolf." The wolf carefully divided the ox into three parts. The lion, however, was displeased with the amount of meat he was given, and so he killed the wolf. Turning then to the fox, he said, "Brother Fox, now you divide the meat."

The fox also divided the meat into three parts, but he said to the lion, "This part is for your breakfast. This

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part is for your lunch. And this part is for your dinner, Your Majesty. I can eat whatever leftovers there may be."

"Bravo, Brother Fox!" said the lion. "How did you learn to make such a just division?"

"I learned it from the condition of Brother Wolf," answered the fox.