

The Monkey and the Lion

- Narrator:** In the jungle of Ya-ba-ya-ba, there were two friends, Maki the monkey and Leon the lion. It was really odd that they were friends, because not only were they different, but they also argued a lot. One day as they were crossing a stream, Leon screamed at Maki.
- Leon:** Maki, get down from that tree! Help me catch some fish for dinner.
- Maki:** Nah, I'll stay up here. I already have some food here, I'll just point out any fish I see from up here.
- Leon:** But, but, well alright, but there you go again Maki. It's your turn to help me but you're not. This is the third time you've done this to me!
- Maki:** Chill out partner, it's no big deal. I told you, I'll help you from up here. Hey look! There's one to your left. Hurry!
- Narrator:** And so Leon caught himself a big fish to eat. As they were both resting, Leon felt a nagging itch on his back.
- Leon:** Maki my friend, could you scratch my back, it would feel so good if you would do that.
- Maki:** Sure, there you go. Well, time for my nap.
- Leon:** Hey, that's too quick. I'm still itching!
- Maki:** Stop complaining. There were just some broken twigs tangled in your coat. They're gone now.
- Leon:** How come you don't like doing anything for me, and even when you do, you are always done in a hurry with some lame excuse?
- Maki:** What are you talking about? I help you, you're just never satisfied. Quit nitpicking so much.
- Leon:** Since we became friends, you either ignored me or hardly helped me. I have been counting the times. It's been three times you left me by myself, two times you didn't share your food, and this is the fifth time you barely touched my back to scratch it. I am getting tired of all this. If this continues, I will eat you for my next supper!
- Maki:** Like you would really do that. I'm your friend, remember, you love me. You won't harm me.
- Leon:** Well, I may be your friend, but I can get pretty mad. If I can't eat you, maybe I'll give you to the other lions in the jungle!
- Maki:** Why are you so angry, I thought we were friends. Did I really do things that would make you mad?
- Leon:** Well, it's just that I expect certain things from you, you know. You just don't do enough for me. You see, I have it all written down on this tree trunk the number of times I was mad at you. Every time I write down something, I was ready to eat you.
- Maki:** Wow, you're counting my errors? How come you have not eaten me already?
- Leon:** Well, since we are friends, I try to forgive you each time. Just don't make me so mad next time, or you might end up becoming monkey stew!
- Maki:** Hey, bet you can't catch me!
- Narrator:** As Leon was still talking, Maki suddenly started running. For a moment, Leon just sat there, starting to get mad for being ignored again. But then, jumped up to chase after Maki. As soon as he did, the biggest bear claw he ever saw in his life just barely missed him.

Leon: Yikes! Here I come Maki.

Narrator: Later Leon realized that instead of counting Maki's faults, it was much better to accept him as he was, and forgive rather than hate. Having Maki as a friend was much more important than complaining, after all he saved his life.