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## The Lion and the Mouse



Retold by Harriet Rosenbloom Illustrated by Lauren Gallegos

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Lion lay asleep on a sunny afternoon.

Mouse was hurrying home through the tall grass.



She stumbled upon Lion and woke him.
Lion trapped Mouse under his huge paw.



He lifted her by the tail.

He swung her slowly

through the air.

"An afternoon snack," Lion said.

"Delightful."



Mouse felt his hot breath on her fur. She was so scared.

Her voice was just a squeak.

"Spare me," she cried, "and one day I will help you in return."

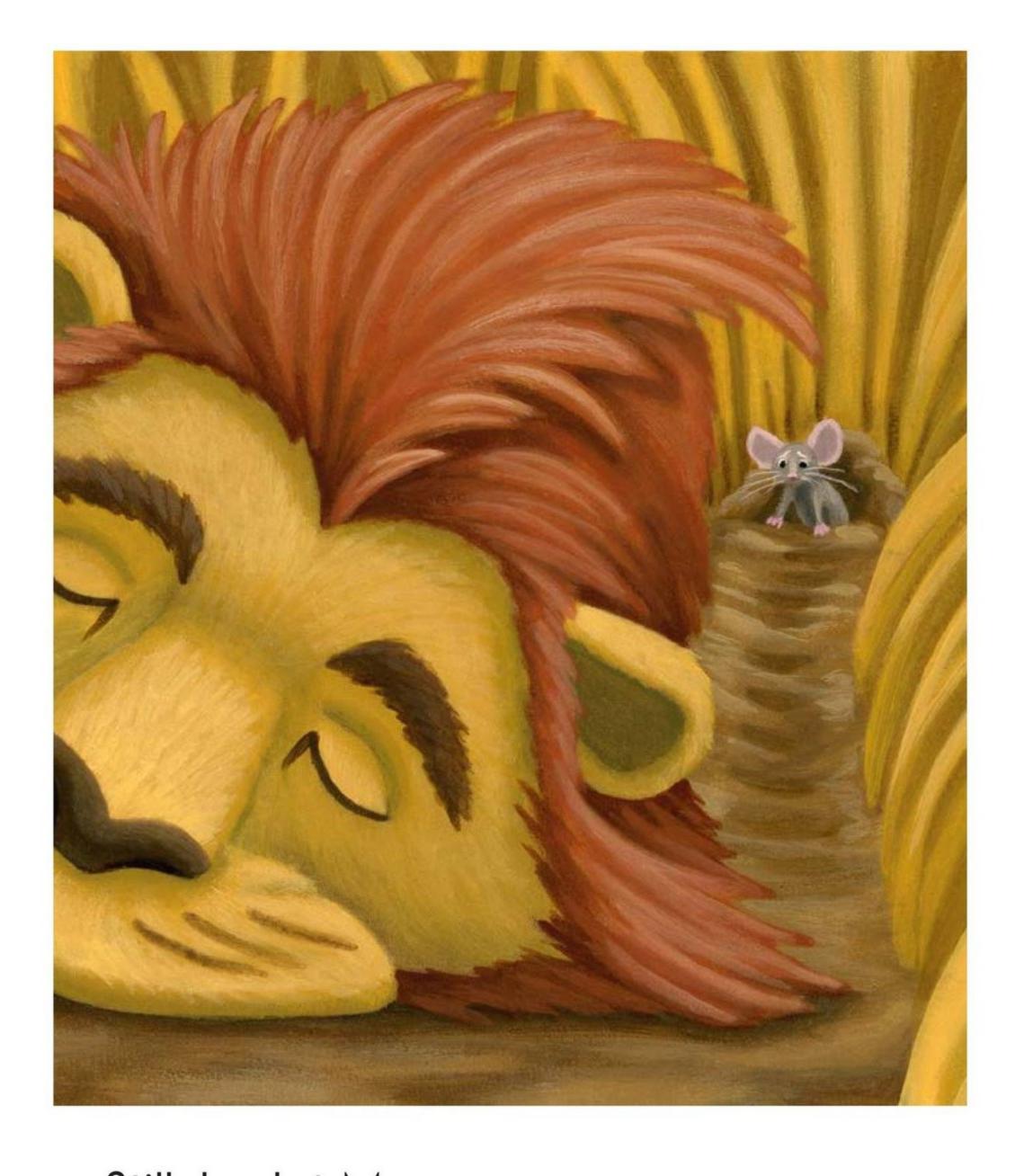


Lion laughed loudly.

Mouse trembled.

"You, help me?" he laughed.

"You are a funny little one."



Still, he let Mouse go.

He soon dozed off again

under the hot sun.

Mouse dashed home.

She was happy to be alive.



The day came when Lion stepped into a hunter's net.

He was trapped.

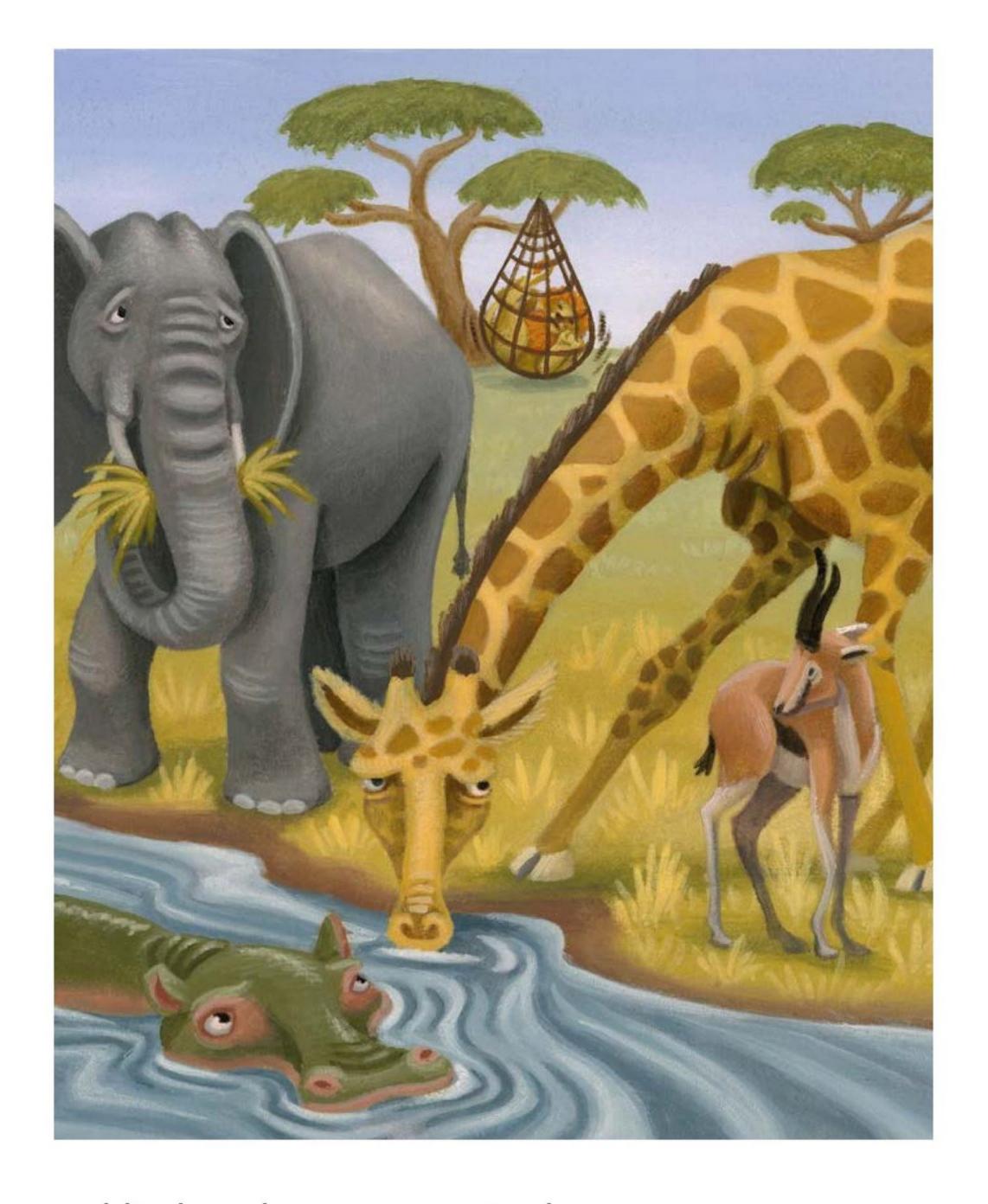
Lion struggled.

The net pulled tighter.



Lion roared in anger.

Then he roared in fear.



His loud roar carried in every direction.

Many animals heard him.

None came to help.

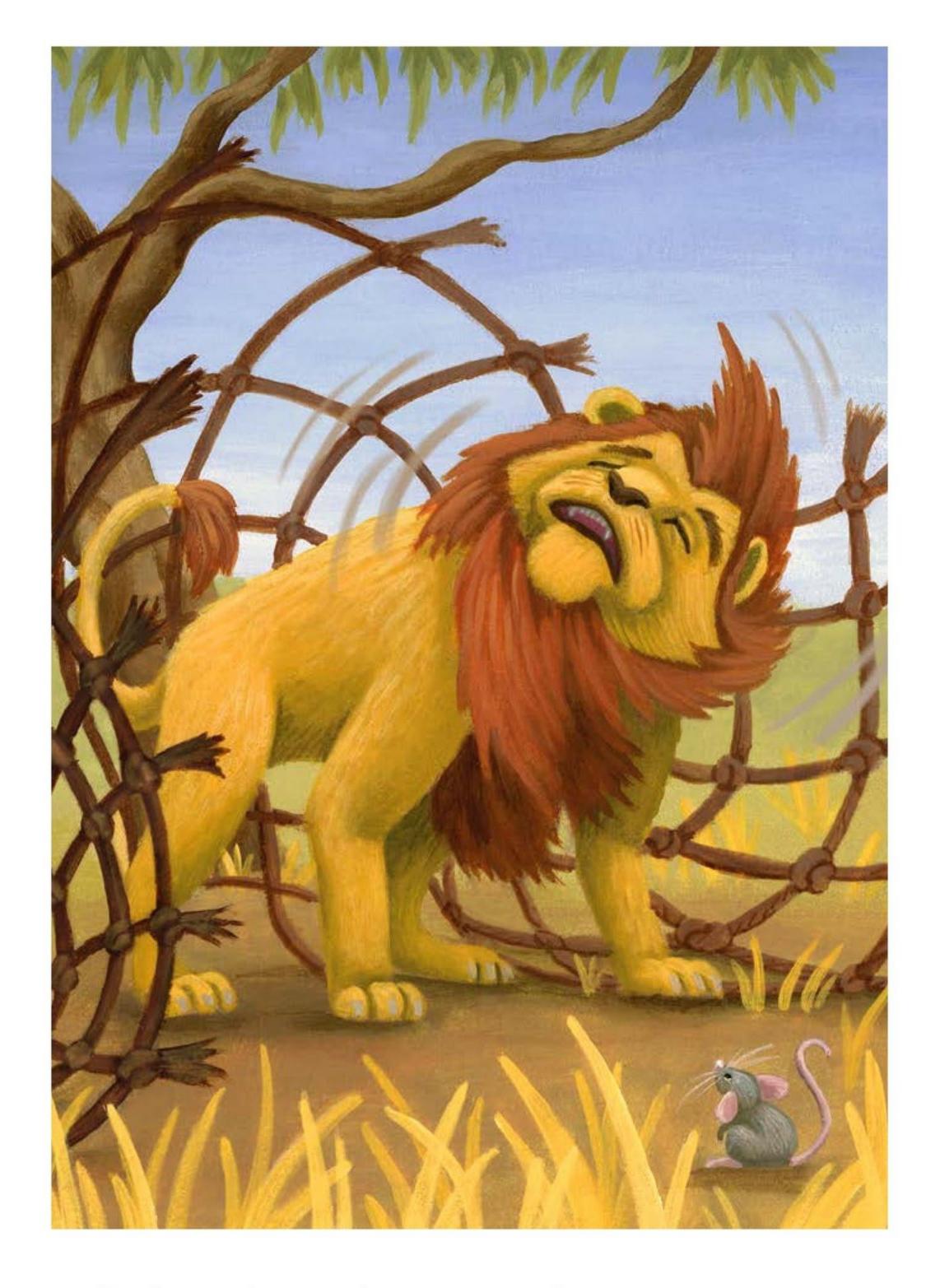


None dared to free Lion, except Mouse.

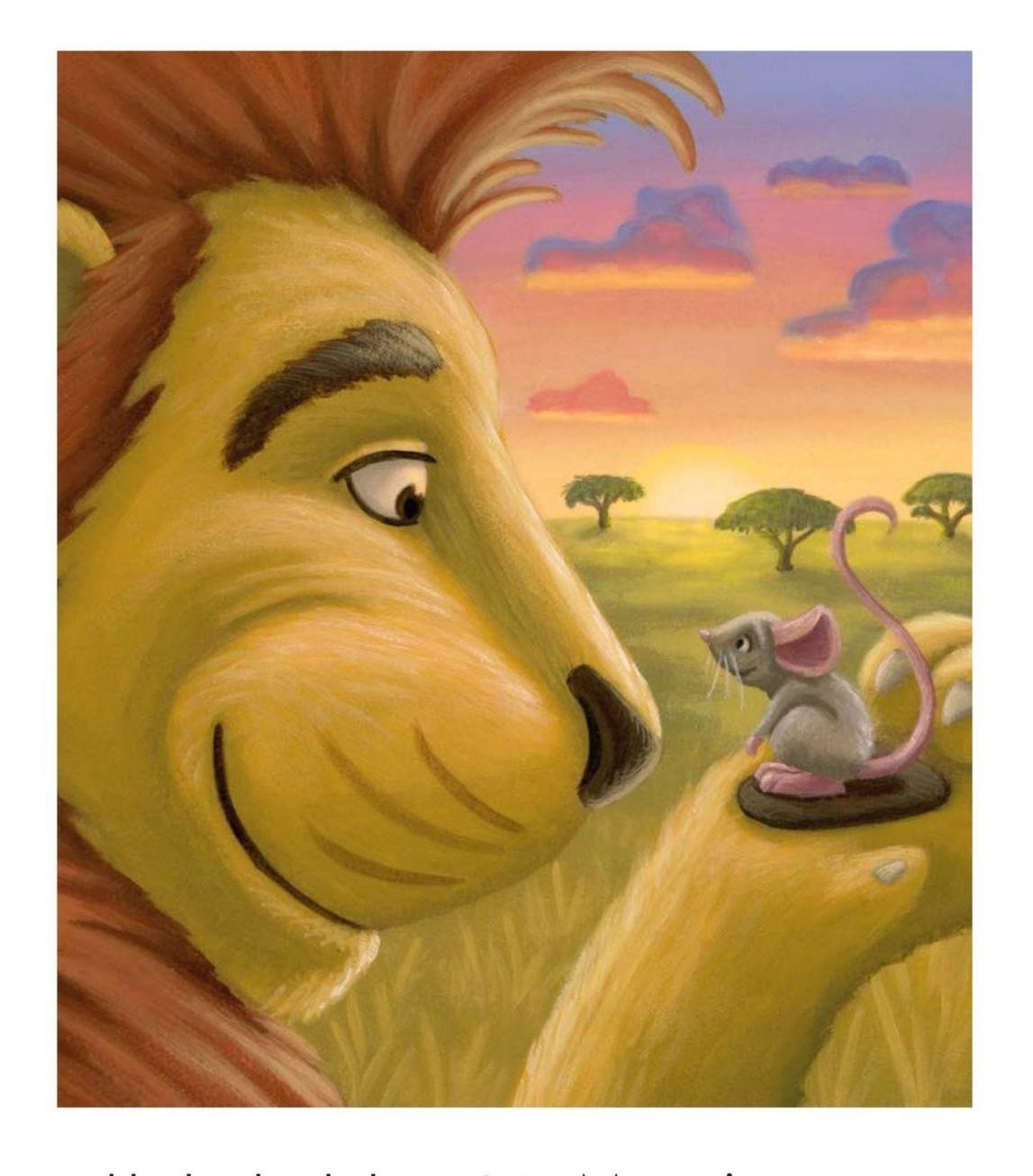
Mouse ran to Lion's side.

She found him in the trap.

Mouse **chewed** away the net with her sharp little teeth.



Before long, Lion was free. Lion shook off the ropes.



He looked deep into Mouse's eyes. "Thank you, little friend," Lion said. "You are most welcome, big friend." Mouse replied.

"What you give is what you get."



Mouse's words still hold true today. What is just as true?
That even a little mouse can help a **mighty** lion.

## Glossary

chewed (v.) bit something over and over again using the teeth (p. 12)

help (v.) to give or do something that makes life easier for another (p. 6)

mighty (adj.) very powerful, strong, or large (p. 15)

to save from death,
destruction, or harm
(p. 6)

struggled (v.) used force to try to get free of something (p. 9)

trapped (adj.) stuck in a trap or kept from leaving a particular place (p. 4)

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