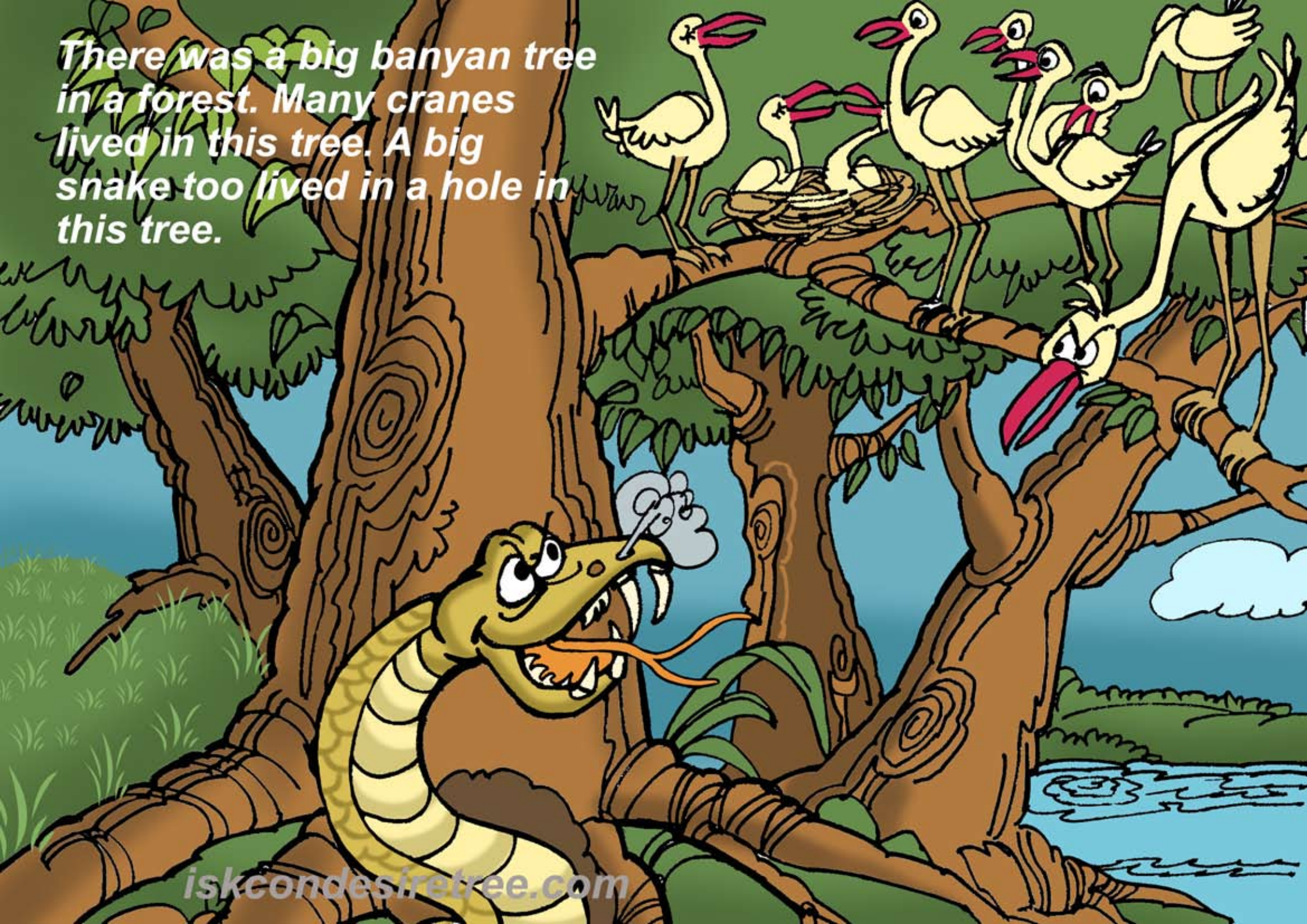
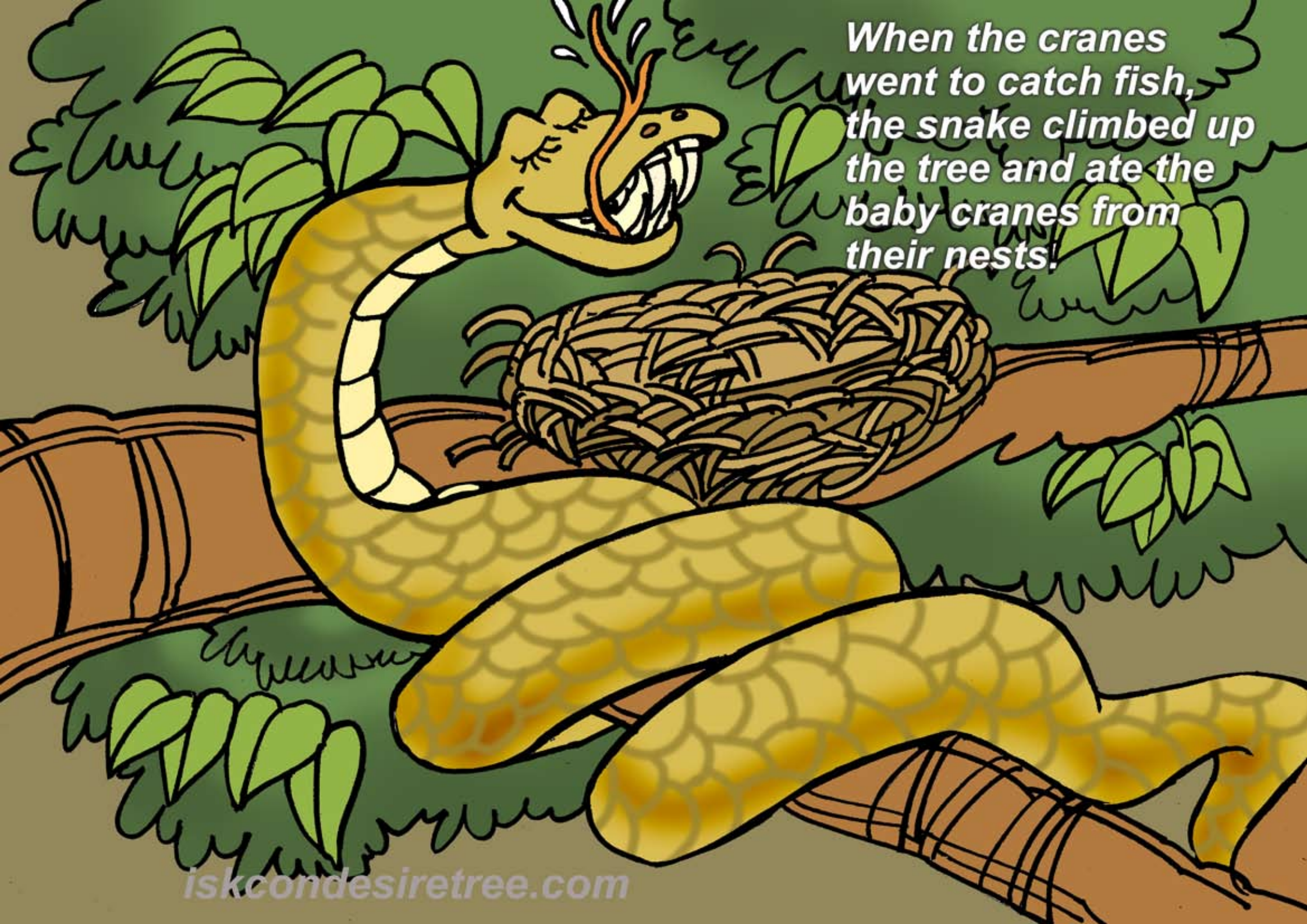


Wise Enemy

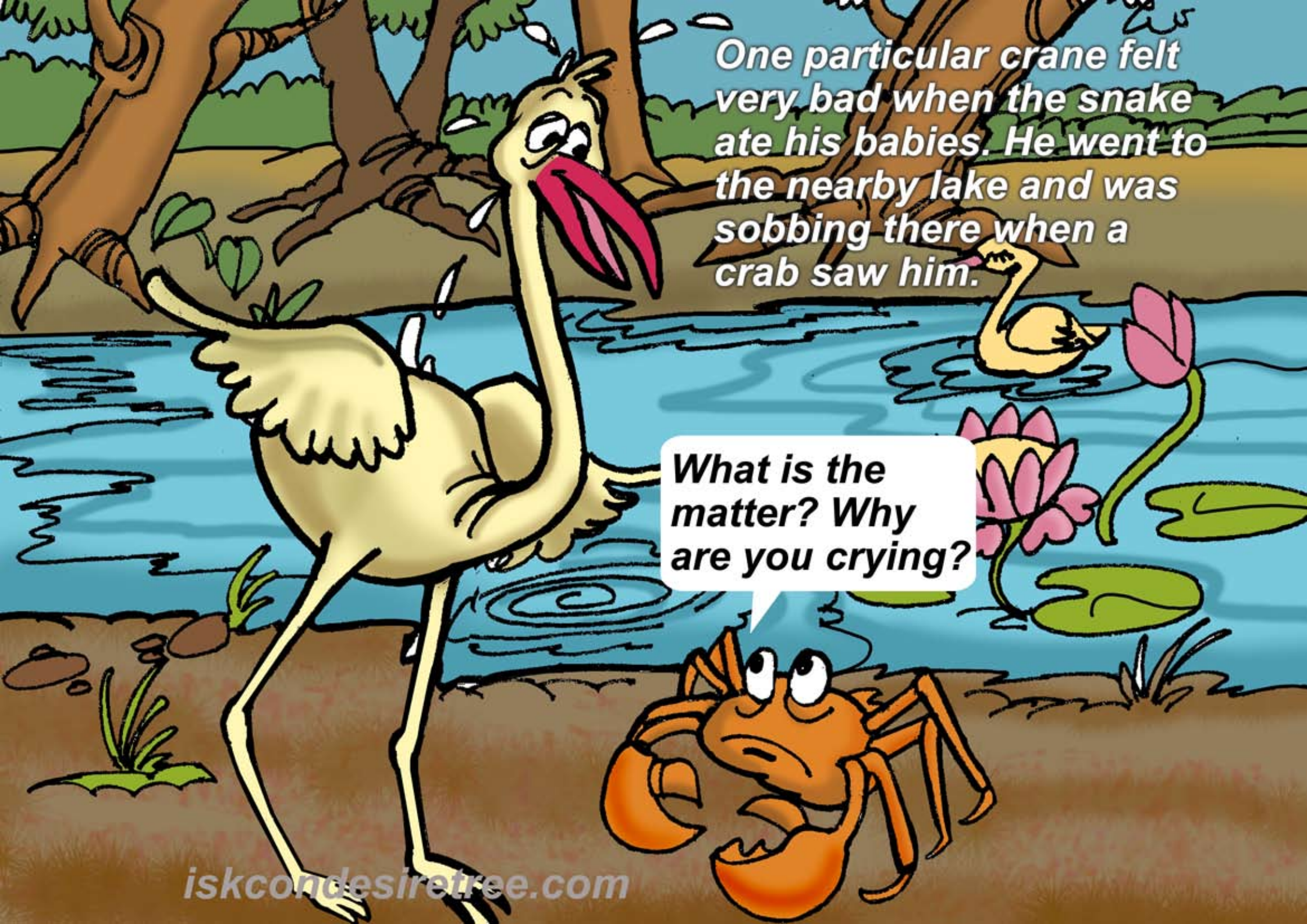


*There was a big banyan tree
in a forest. Many cranes
lived in this tree. A big
snake too lived in a hole in
this tree.*



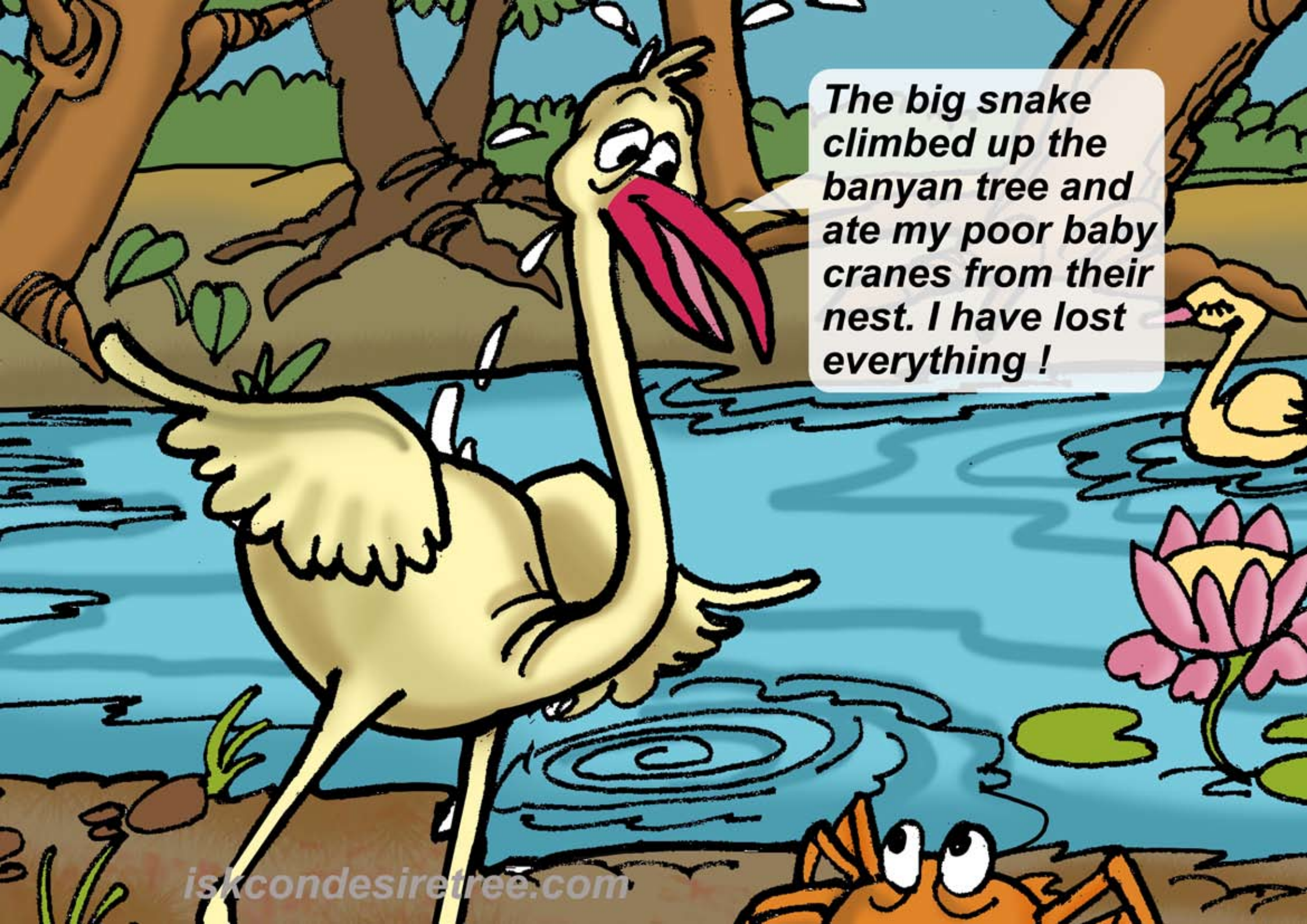


When the cranes
went to catch fish,
the snake climbed up
the tree and ate the
baby cranes from
their nests!



One particular crane felt very bad when the snake ate his babies. He went to the nearby lake and was sobbing there when a crab saw him.

What is the matter? Why are you crying?



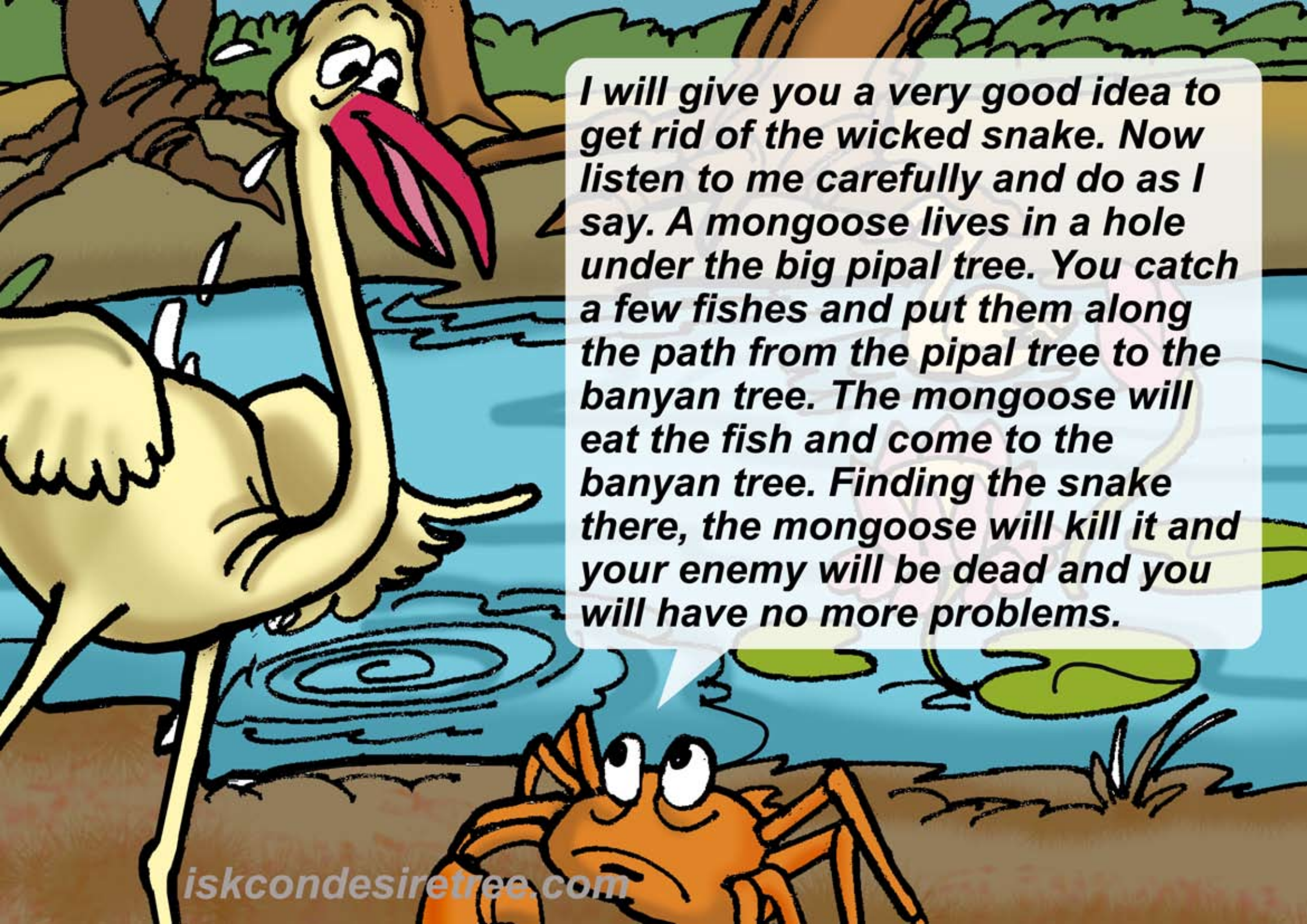
**The big snake
climbed up the
banyan tree and
ate my poor baby
cranes from their
nest. I have lost
everything !**



I want to take revenge. Can you guide me?

The crab thought to himself...

Oh ! This wicked crane is our enemy. He too eats our babies and we too suffer. Then does he feel bad about us ? Then why should we help him ? In fact, we too should take revenge on the crane ! Now I will give him an idea which instead of helping him will ruin him !



I will give you a very good idea to get rid of the wicked snake. Now listen to me carefully and do as I say. A mongoose lives in a hole under the big pipal tree. You catch a few fishes and put them along the path from the pipal tree to the banyan tree. The mongoose will eat the fish and come to the banyan tree. Finding the snake there, the mongoose will kill it and your enemy will be dead and you will have no more problems.

*The crane liked this idea. He did exactly
as the crab had told him.*



The mongoose came there as it was foreseen and he did kill the snake. But after killing the snake, he started living in the hole where the snake once lived.



Mongoose then climbed the tree and killed all the cranes, one by one and ate them. Thus, the crane got rid of the snake and the crab got rid of the cranes.

Ha! Ha! All my enemies are killed !

MORAL:

A dangerous enemy's advice is as dangerous as the enemy himself. You should therefore think twice before you follow such advice.