

The King of the Birds

Retold by Toby Baldwin

Long, long ago there was a huge group of birds. They decided that they should have a king. Messengers was sent out to deliver some important news. There was going to be a grand gathering. The oldest bird (and possibly the wisest) announced a special speech. Who will be the King?

The birds paused and looked at each other. Then it began.

"The biggest bird," said the biggest.

"No, the smallest bird," said the smallest.

"The bird with the most colour."

"The most popular," said the sparrows.

"The birds with the most spots," said the guinea fowl.

The birds were nearly as loud as the monster! Then it was decided. Whoever can fly the highest will be king.

At once they shot into the sky. The birds that couldn't fly just watched them disappear into the white mist of clouds.

The eagle was flying the highest, but when he couldn't fly any higher, a tiny little wren popped out of his feathers. The wren furiously flapped his tiny, little wings, really wanting to win.

So it was decided.

The eagle and the wren fell to the ground. The wren hid in a thorn bush safe from the eagle's angry eye. The wren thought that the bird who could fly the highest was pretty good but the cleverest bird was even better.