

Childhood of Ji-shib'

The boy above hurriedly gathered what stones and sticks he could, while Ji-shib' passed over the space to the nest. There he could at least have a little room to dodge and step about when the bird attacked him.

But for some reason the bird did not come, and the little eagles were tied in their new cradle, and there they swung while Ji-shib' retraced his dangerous path. Far below them they found the dead mother-bird, and lugged her home for her beautiful feathers.

Outside their wigwam in the village they built a platform in a tree, and on it constructed a wigwam-cage of willows for their new pets. When the boys had nothing else to do, they very well spent their time trying to catch enough small game to fill up the rapidly growing stomachs of those two young eagles.

During the entire Spring a change was slowly coming over Ji-shib', and yet he scarcely knew it. It was a steady, gradual change of both body and mind. He was outgrowing his childhood.