

sufficiently allayed their thirst, it was high time to consider how they should get out. Many expedients for this purpose were mutually proposed and rejected. At last, the crafty fox cried out with great joy, A thought has just entered my mind, which I am confident will extricate us out of our difficulty. Do you, said he to the goat, only rear yourself on your hinder legs, and rest your fore-feet against the side of the pit: in this posture will I climb up to your head, whence I shall be able with a spring to reach the top; and when I am once there, you are sensible it will be very easy for me to pull you out by the horns. The simple goat liked the proposal well, and immediately placed himself as directed; by means of which the fox, without much difficulty, gained the top. And now, said the goat, give me the assistance you proposed. Thou old fool, replied the fox, hadst thou but half as much wit as beard, thou wouldst never have believed that I would hazard my own life to save thine. However, I will leave thee with a piece of advice, which may be of service to thee hereafter, if thou shouldst have the good fortune to make thy escape. *Never venture into a pit again, before thou hast well considered how to get out of it.*