

Messenger's Proclamation

The most worthy
and beautiful
daughters in the
land are invited to
appear before the
King, and he will
choose one to
become Queen!

Manyara's Journey

Read about Manyara's journey and decide what you would do.

That night when everyone was asleep, Manyara stole quietly out of the village. She had never been in the forest at night before and she was frightened, but her greed to be the first to appear before the king drove her on. In her hurry, she almost stumbled over a small boy who suddenly appeared, standing in the path.

The boy told her he was hungry and asked her politely for something to eat.

1. What would you do? Why?

After travelling for what seemed to be a great distance, Manyara came to a small clearing. There, silhouetted against the moonlight was an old woman seated on a large stone.

The woman gave advice. She told Manyara that she would see laughing trees but must not laugh in return. She told her that she would meet a man with his head under his arm and that she must be polite to him.

2. What would you say? Why?

Manyara came to the grove of trees and they did seem to laugh at her.

3. What would you do if the trees laughed at you? Why?



Later Manyara saw the man with head tucked under his arm.

4. What would you do? Why?

Story Questions

1. Were you surprised about how Manyara treated those she met?
Why/Why Not?
2. What did Manyara say about the monster that she saw?
3. How do you think Nyasha felt as she went into the chamber?
4. Why did Mufaro say that he was the happiest father in all the land, at the end of the story?

