



MOJOS JOURNEY

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Level 4



CHAPTER 1 - MOJO UNDERSTANDS HOW TO GET SAFALAN

Deep in the green forest of **Milin**, there stood a monkey by the name of **Mojo**. Mojo was a smart monkey, but was still young and had to learn a lot.

There was a loud crash from the top of the trees. A bird had fallen through the branches.

Mojo looked up at the sky, towards the tall trees. Among the tallest trees he could see - large, red juicy fruits called safalan.

Safalan was the most delicious fruit in the forest of Milin. However it was very difficult to get safalan. The safalan tree was very tall -taller than all other trees. The wood of the tree was very slippery. The branches were very weak and would break if any bird sat on it.

Mojo would sit many nights in his little cave and look at the stars in the sky - dreaming about the day when he would get a safalan.

Sometimes Mojo would wake up with his tongue sticking out, because he was always dreaming of safalan.

One evening Mojo saw an older monkey carrying a safalan towards the river. Mojo got very excited, he ran after this monkey and asked - "what is your name? "He replied "My name is Wisdom". Then Mojo asked him - "how did you get the safalan? Please tell me".

Wisdom says - "I cannot tell you my method - that is a secret. You will have to find the answer yourself." Saying this wisdom went away.

Mojo waited by the river everyday – and asked wisdom the same question. The answer was always the same. Mojo then said – “If you teach me, I will share my safalan with you”.

Wisdom was moved by his determination. So wisdom said – “I do not need your fruit. I will not give you my secret. My secret will not work for you. I will give you some advice. If you follow this advice, you will find the way to safalan on your own.”

Mojo could not wait. Wisdom said – “Don’t waste your time sitting on the ground, when your goal is high up in the sky.

You must **work hard every day** to try and reach the fruit. Also you must **think different**; if you try the same thing everybody else has you will get the same result. And finally **don’t give up** when others make fun of you.”

Mojo went back to his cave happy. He was very eager to wake up the next day and start. The next day was a bright day in the forest of Milin.

Mojo ran to the nearest safalan tree and charged up the trunk. He was feeling good as he climber higher, but then suddenly he hit a slippery spot and tumbled down onto the forest floor. This kept happening again and again and again until the sun went down.

Mojo started walking back to his cave, when he saw a frog holding a red flower and looking at it. He was going to ask the frog what he was doing, but he was too tired and walked away.

Another new day in Milin – this time Mojo charged up again and tried to throw a rope, but the branches were too high. Mojo tumbled again. This time there were a group of monkeys watching the show.



They all started snickering “He he he, hahaha!” - making fun of the fallen Mojo. Mojo remembered what wisdom said – “don’t give up when others make fun of you”. So Mojo continued his hard work.

Many days passed, Mojo got up without fail at the crack of dawn and started to try different methods to get to the safalan. Some days he got close to the top but most days he fell down and used to get hurt on his body. Every day in the evening while walking back to his cave he saw the same frog - holding and staring at the same red flower. Mojo could not understand what the frog was doing.



After almost one month, Mojo was very tired and was just sitting – He saw the same frog again. He asked the Frog – “what is your name?” The frog did not look away from the flower and replied – “My name is Baka.” So Mr. Baka, what are you doing with this flower? To which the frog replied “Patience my friend will help you understand many things. Just wait and watch”. As the sun went down, some flies and bees could not see Baka and thought that the red-flower was a good place to rest. Slowly the number of flies increased until the entire flower was covered. Then Baka –struck like lightning. With a quick motion of his sticky tongue.



Mojo went back to his cave and started thinking. Baka was not running around after the flies. Baka had carefully understood the best method to catch what he wanted. And patience was a big part of it.

The next day morning instead of charging up the tree as usual, Mojo sat under the tree and started writing down all the methods he had tried - Ropes, leaves, swinging from other trees etc. Now he started thinking "can I mix these ideas to find the best way to reach the safalan?" Then it struck him like a lightning - he needed some sharp objects to pierce the trunk, then he would not slip halfway.

So Mojo went around the forest looking for sharp objects. That is when he saw Urso the bear and Agila the eagle. They both were great friends. He saw that they were laughing and playing near the river. He saw the great wings of the eagle and the strong arms of the bear and thought – they must be really lucky. However he was in a hurry, so he picked a few sharp stones and rushed to the tree. It took a few tries before Mojo was able to use the sharp stones to climb the tree. But now he was not slipping and he kept climbing higher and higher, until he reached the top. He looked down from the tree, everything looked very small.

There were no monkeys making fun of him, no Mr. Baka, no wisdom - all he could see was the vast, green forest of Milin. Only then did he realize how big the forest was and how small he was. Now, Mojo was afraid to climb the branches. He knew the branches were very thin and would break. If Mojo fell from the top, then the injury would be very serious. So carefully Mojo stretched as far as he could and grabbed the closest safalan. Ah at last! He quickly clambered down and ran to the river - he ran past Baka the frog, Urso the Bear and Agila the eagle and washed his precious fruit. Suddenly wisdom appeared from behind – “Congratulations Mojo!” Mojo did not turn around; he was too busy enjoying his first safalan – sweet, juicy and delicious. Once Mojo had finished, he looked at wisdom and smiled. “Thank you wisdom”.

Wisdom replied – “Always remember – Hard-work, thinking different and not giving up will help you succeed in what you want. I am now getting old and will not be around for long, I have 6 leaves which I want to give you. Each leaf has a message written on it and is rolled and tied so you cannot read the message. Every time you have a problem, open one of the leaves and you will get some helpful advice.”

Mojo, thought “why not open everything together?”, but then he remembered Baka s’ advice – Patience. So Mojo thanked wisdom for the leaves and kept them safely in his cave. As the sun went down, Mojo was looking at the stars, he did not feel the pain of falling many times, he did not feel the insult from his other monkey friends, he could not taste the safalan either – All he could feel was the happiness from reaching his goal.

CHAPTER 2 - MOJO BUILDS A TEAM

One day while washing the safalan, suddenly there was a loud splash - a fish jumped out of the water and snatched Mojo s' fruit. Mojo was not happy; he had spent the whole day getting the fruit.

Mojo was always dreaming about getting more safalan. One day in his sleep after eating safalan, Mojo was dreaming that he was swimming in a large pool filled with safalan. Mojo was smiling in his sleep.

The days passed, Mojo would climb using his new tools and bring down a safalan. However after a tiring days' work of climbing the tallest trees in Milin – he only had One safalan to eat when he came down. Sometimes he would climb right to the top and find that there were no safalan' s within his reach and he would have to climb a different tree.

Mojo was happy that he could eat a safalan when he wanted - but he thought, “I should be able to get more safalan every time I climb”. As he thought about this new goal, he remembered what wisdom told him.

So that night he went back to the cave and opened one of the leaves. Wisdom had written a small message on the leaf – “Remember that you can **achieve more as a team**, than as an individual. Every member of the team has strengths that can give you a big advantage when you combine them”

Mojo was surprised – he went to sleep thinking about how to use the message. The next day he woke up and asked himself “who is strong enough to shake a safalan tree so that all the fruit can fall down?” He realized there is nobody strong enough to shake it from the bottom, but if Urso the bear could reach the top, he could shake all the branches to make the fruit fall down. But Urso would never be able to climb the tree. He started walking towards the river, he saw Baka the frog holding a string and staring at a small cup sitting far away. Again he was surprised by the strange Mr. Baka - but he was too busy to stop and ask him anything.

He reached the river and started looking down the river. He remembered the first time he climbed to the top of the safalan. He was able to see the top of all the trees. Which ones had a lot of fruit, which ones were drying etc? Mojo thought to himself – “who would be able to see the picture from the top and tell us which tree to climb – before we started? - Then I would climb that tree”

This was getting confusing – It seemed like the message was not clear. How can we find a team that could do all these great things? He was angry and started walking back to his cave. There was Mr. Baka again! - Still staring at the cup tied to a string. So he asked him – “Baka, please tell me what you are doing with this new set of tools? Where is your flower?” Baka replied “Mojo, the flower was for flies, this cup is for beetles. The beetles do not care about flowers. The beetles like the honey drops I place under the cup” Mojo was interested – “What about the string?” to which Baka replied “The string allows me to do what I want without standing near the cup. The beetle would never come near the cup if I was standing close by” Mojo was about to ask the next question, when Baka suddenly pulled the string, the cup fell down on top of a large blue beetle. Baka looked up and smiled at Mojo – “See? I can do what I want without being there” Mojo thanked Baka and walked back to his cave. His mind was circling with many questions. The next day morning, he walked to Urso the bear and said “Hi, Mr. Urso have you ever tasted a safalan?” Urso was a bit surprised – “What do you mean? You know that it is impossible to get that fruit” Mojo smiled – It was, but if we create a team we will have plenty of safalan.



Urso did not understand Mojo. He started scratching his head. "What is this team you talk about?" Mojo was about to start – but he realized that Urso was too busy scratching his belly. Mojo said – "why don't you call your friends too?"

Urso looked up and called for his friend Agila the eagle – "Agila! Come down, listen to this monkey, he is saying many strange things". Agila flew down with her magnificent wings and looked at Mojo with care. Agila did not waste any time. "What do you want?" Mojo got scared, he said – "Madam Agila, I think that we can all have many safalan if we work as a team". Agila replied - "have you ever eaten a safalan?"

Mojo said “yes of course, they are very delicious”. Both Agila and Urso started looking more carefully at Mojo. Agila quickly said – “Prove it”.

Mojo knew that this was going to happen. He had carried a safalan with him. He takes it out from behind him and cuts it into half. He gives each half to Urso and Agila. They both started eating the fruit greedily. After the fruit was eaten – they looked at Mojo a little more seriously.

Mojo quickly says – “If you come to the edge of the river tomorrow, I can show you how we can have many more delicious safalan.” Saying this Mojo walks away. He knew that they would come. The next day Mojo, Agila and Urso reach the river. Mojo says – “Agila, when you fly you have seen the tree with the most safalan. Do you know which one it is?”

Agila remembered the tree behind the rocks had a lot of red safalan, many more than the others. The three walked to the tree behind the rocks. Urso started looking up and got excited – “Wow! This is grrreat! I am going to climb.” He rushed up the tree, but after a while he slipped and fell with a loud thud. “Ouch! Agila! This plan is not working.” Agila was smiling, while many other monkeys were laughing at Urso. “Get away!” growled Urso.

Mojo said – “Wait Urso, I have a better plan”. Next Mojo starts climbing with his stones. He reaches the top. Both Agila and Urso get excited. “Throw me some safalan!” shouted Urso. Instead, Mojo ties a rope to the top of the tree and then throws it down. Mojo then climbs down and ties the second end of the rope to Urso’s leg. Urso was confused! Urso was looking at the rope on his leg. Mojo threw a rock at Urso. “Grrrouch! What was that? I am going to get you...” Urso charged after Mojo. Urso reached the end of the rope and suddenly THUD!! He falls on his face.

The next thing they see - many safalan start falling on the ground because, Urso had shaken the tree. It was raining safalan. All three of them watched as the safalan s’ started falling down. Agila smiled – she knew that they would make a good team. Urso was sitting with the rope still tied to his leg. But he was busy chomping a safalan. He had forgotten all the pain. Days passed, the three of them were very good at getting safalan. Agila found the best tree, Mojo climbed it and Urso would shake the tree with the rope. They would end the day with many safalan. One day while he was washing the safalan in the river, he saw Baka again. This time Baka was sitting under a small shrub. There was a cobweb with many flies stuck. Because of the strong wind the flies fell of the web and Baka caught it.



Mojo could see that the spider was not happy. He had just lost his food. Mojo started thinking; the wind was not the spiders fault. Is it fair that he lost his food? He sat all evening thinking about it. He knew it was time to open the next leaf.



CHAPTER 3 - MOJO LEARNS TO SAVE

Far away in the horizon, Mojo could see dark clouds gathering. Suddenly there was a loud CLAP of thunder. It echoed through the forest.

Mojo understood that something new was coming. He slowly opened the next leaf to see what advice wisdom had –

“Always save some portion of your most precious things for a rainy day”

The next day, the clouds were still far away, but they were approaching slowly. Mojo rushed to the river and told his team that we should save some of the safalan.

In the evening, Agila flew to her nest at the top of the rocks and saved some safalan. Mojo went to his cave and saved some of that day's safalan. But Urso was happy to eat everything. "Slurp, scrunch!! Great! The safalan is really tasty" said Urso.

Days passed. Agila and Mojo always saved some safalan, but Urso always finished his share. One day Agila said "Mojo, have you noticed that some of the old safalan is getting rotten. They will be of no use. What should we do?" Mojo replied – "yes, you are right. I have an idea. Let us go meet Raphael tomorrow".

Raphael was a rabbit that lived in the forest of Milin. He was very good at digging carrots from the ground.

Agila and Mojo went to Raphael the next morning. Mojo said "Raphael, would you like to eat some safalan?" Raphael got excited – "Yess! I would love sssafalan!"

Agila said – "we will give you safalan in exchange for carrots – But...."

Raphael could not control his excitement – "Yesss! Tell me ...But what?"

"I want 2 carrots for every safalan I give you." said Agila. Raphael thought for a moment, and replied "Ssssure why not? Let's do it"

Everyday Agila and Mojo exchanged some of the old safalan for the carrots which they saved.

But as the days passed the dark clouds came closer and closer. All the animals in the forest could hear the loud thunder and feel the wind getting stronger.

Mojo knew he had enough safalan saved to feed him when the storm comes. But as the wind got stronger, Mojo felt a bit scared.

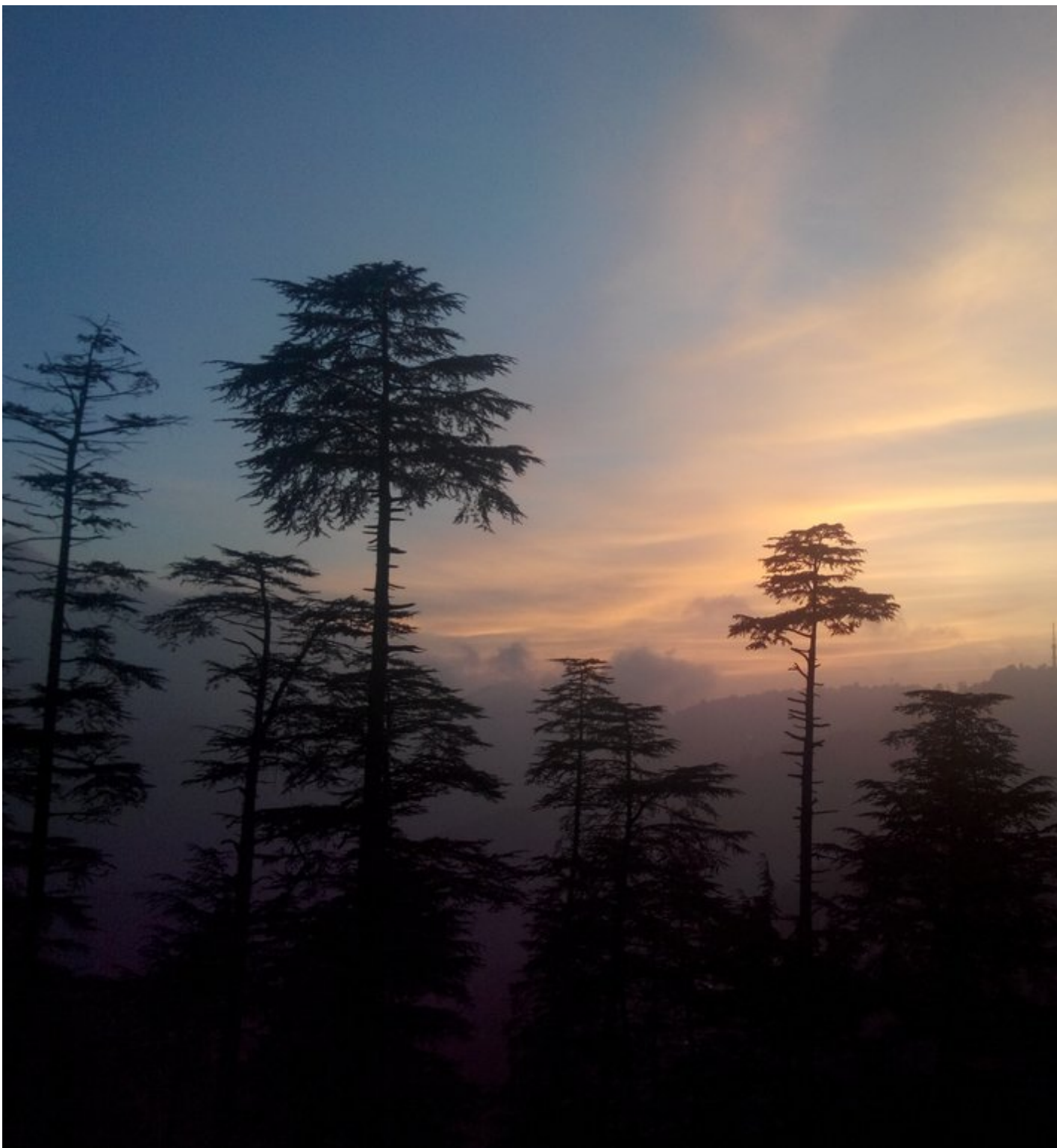
On his way back to the cave one day – he saw Baka the frog digging a hole. Smiling at Baka, Mojo asked “Mr. Baka so what are you trying to catch today? Is this your new trick?”

Baka looked up and said – “I am not catching anything. I am making a shelter. When the storm comes I want to be protected from the wind and the rain. So I am digging a hole”

Mojo walked back to his cave thinking. “Baka is right. There will be winds and rain. Even I should do something.”

The next day evening, Mojo started building a door for his cave with wooden branches and leaves - As usual the monkeys in the forest started making fun of Mojo. But Mojo remembered the words of wisdom and did not give up. He continued to work hard and finished his door. The forest was awoken the next day by the loudest thunder Milin had ever heard. It was raining heavily and the wind was sweeping away branches. Nobody could come out in the morning to do anything.

Mojo and Agila were not worried. They had saved food and did not have to leave their homes. Mojo was very comfortable because he was protected from the wind and water. All his monkey friends were shivering under the forest branches without any food. The storm continued for many days. The animals that did not save any food were starving. Mojo kept worrying about his friend Urso – who did not save anything. When the storm stopped, Mojo and Agila rushed to Urso's cave. They found Urso lying down and weak. He was unable to speak. Mojo gave him some carrots to give him some strength. Urso looked up and said. "Thank you Mojo, I should have taken your advice. How did you know all this?" Mojo smiled and replied – "come with me, you need to rest. You can rest in my cave. I have food for you"



That evening the three friends sat in Mojo's cave. Mojo shared his safalan and carrots with them and slowly told them the story of his journey from a young monkey to a wise team leader.

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MOJOS JOURNEY

(English)

Deep in the imaginary forest of Milin, Mojo the monkey is gripped by the intense desire to get the most delicious fruit in Milin called Safalan. Mojo encounters many hurdles on the way to his goal. He is helped by other animals in Milin in different ways – some give him advice, some collaborate and some show him practical examples. Each chapter imparts a key message that Mojo realizes through his journey. The book has 3 chapters. Mojo is a young and ambitious monkey, who slowly evolves from a novice into a wise team leader. Mojo embodies the spirit of wanting something and finding ways to get to the final goal.

This is a Level 4 book for children who can read fluently and with confidence.



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