A Monkey Is Still a Monkey

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Once, there lived a large monkey that was remarkably intelligent and as faithful as a dog. Impressed by its loyalty and cleverness, a king grew very fond of it. He believed the monkey would make a better personal guard than any human.

The king reasoned that people could become careless or even fall asleep while guarding him, but an animal would never deliberately betray its master. Trusting the monkey completely, he appointed it as his personal bodyguard. From that day on, the monkey remained constantly by the king's side and was free to move anywhere within the palace.

One afternoon, the king was resting peacefully on a luxurious feather bed. The monkey stood beside him, gently fanning him while keeping watch. Suddenly, a fly landed on the king's chest. The monkey chased it away with the fan. Moments later, the fly returned. Again, the monkey drove it away, but it kept coming back and sitting in the very same place.

Frustrated and unable to control its anger, the monkey thought, "This time I'll make sure you never return." Looking around, it noticed the king's sword. Believing it had solved the problem, the monkey lifted the sword and struck the fly with all its strength.

In an instant, the fly escaped unharmed, but the sword split the sleeping king's chest, killing him.

The story teaches a timeless lesson: intelligence alone is not enough. Wisdom, sound judgment, and self-control are equally important. A foolish person, no matter how loyal or well-intentioned, can cause great harm. That is why it is often said that a wise enemy is better than a foolish friend. Blind loyalty without wisdom can be more dangerous than open opposition guided by reason.