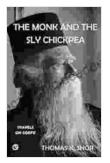
## The Monk and the Sly Chickpea

Once upon a time, there was a cunning chickpea named Chico. Chico lived in a field with his many siblings, but he was always looking for a way to outsmart the others and get ahead. One day, as Chico was hopping around the field, he saw a monk walking towards him. The monk was carrying a large bag of chickpeas, and Chico's eyes lit up with glee.



#### The Monk and the Sly Chickpea: Travels on Corfu

by Thomas Shor

🚖 🚖 🚖 🌟 4.6 out of 5	
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Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
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Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Chico knew that the monk was on his way to the monastery, where he would use the chickpeas to feed the other monks. Chico decided that he wanted to get his hands on some of those chickpeas, but he knew that he couldn't just ask the monk for them. The monk would never give them up willingly.

So Chico came up with a plan. He waited until the monk was walking past, and then he jumped out from behind a rock and shouted, "Stop! Thief!"

The monk was startled and turned around to see Chico standing there. "What's the matter?" he asked.

"That bag of chickpeas you're carrying," said Chico. "You stole it from me!"

The monk was shocked. "I did not steal anything from you," he said. "These chickpeas are mine. I bought them from the market."

"That's not true!" said Chico. "I saw you take them from my field just this morning."

The monk sighed. "This is ridiculous," he said. "I have no time for this. I'm on my way to the monastery to feed the other monks."

"Well, if you're not going to give me back my chickpeas, then I'm going to have to tell the abbot," said Chico.

The monk groaned. He didn't want to get involved in a dispute with the abbot. He knew that the abbot would side with Chico if he heard Chico's story.

"Alright," said the monk. "I'll give you some of my chickpeas. Just let me go."

Chico smiled. He had outsmarted the monk! He took the chickpeas that the monk gave him and ran off, leaving the monk to continue on his way.

Chico was so proud of himself for what he had done. He had gotten his hands on some free chickpeas, and he had outsmarted the monk in the process. He couldn't wait to tell his siblings all about it. But when Chico got back to his field, he found that his siblings were not as impressed with his story as he had thought they would be. They told him that he had been foolish to steal from the monk. They said that the monk was a good man who was always helping others.

Chico was taken aback. He had never thought of the monk as a good man before. He had always thought of him as a greedy old man who was always trying to take advantage of others.

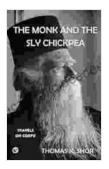
But as Chico thought about what his siblings had said, he realized that they were right. The monk had not stolen the chickpeas from him. He had bought them from the market. And the monk had not wanted to give Chico any of his chickpeas. He had only done so because Chico had threatened to tell the abbot on him.

Chico realized that he had been wrong to steal from the monk. He had also been wrong to lie to the monk about where the chickpeas had come from. He had let his greed get the better of him, and he had almost lost his siblings' respect in the process.

Chico decided to go back to the monastery and apologize to the monk. He told the monk that he had been wrong to steal from him and that he was sorry. The monk forgave Chico and told him that he was glad that he had come back.

Chico learned a valuable lesson that day. He learned that it is important to be honest and to be kind to others. He also learned that greed can lead to bad decisions. The next time Chico saw the monk, he gave him a handful of chickpeas. The monk smiled and thanked him. Chico was glad that he had made things right with the monk. He knew that he would never steal from him again.

**Moral of the story:** It is important to be honest and to be kind to others. Greed can lead to bad decisions.

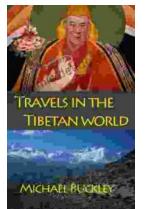


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