

THE STORY OF THE 2 MONKS

There was once 2 monks, a novice and a senior monk on a journey to a retreat at a far away monastery. Along their journey, they encountered a river that required crossing. At the edge of this river, they discovered a woman who was unable to cross on her own. The senior monk turned to the novice monk and reminded him of his vow of celibacy, which dictated that he was not allowed to have any physical contact with a female. The senior monk proceeded to cross the river on his own. The novice monk thought for a moment before picking up the woman and carrying her across the river. Once across the river, the woman thanked him and he continued on his journey. As the monks continued to walk, the senior monk reprimanded the novice monk for violating his vow's and continued to complain to the young monk for quite some time. The novice monk finally turned to the senior monk and said "I left the woman back there at the edge of the river. You are still carrying her." The senior monk, surprised by this comment, thought for a moment, apologized, and thanked the novice monk for his wisdom.

