

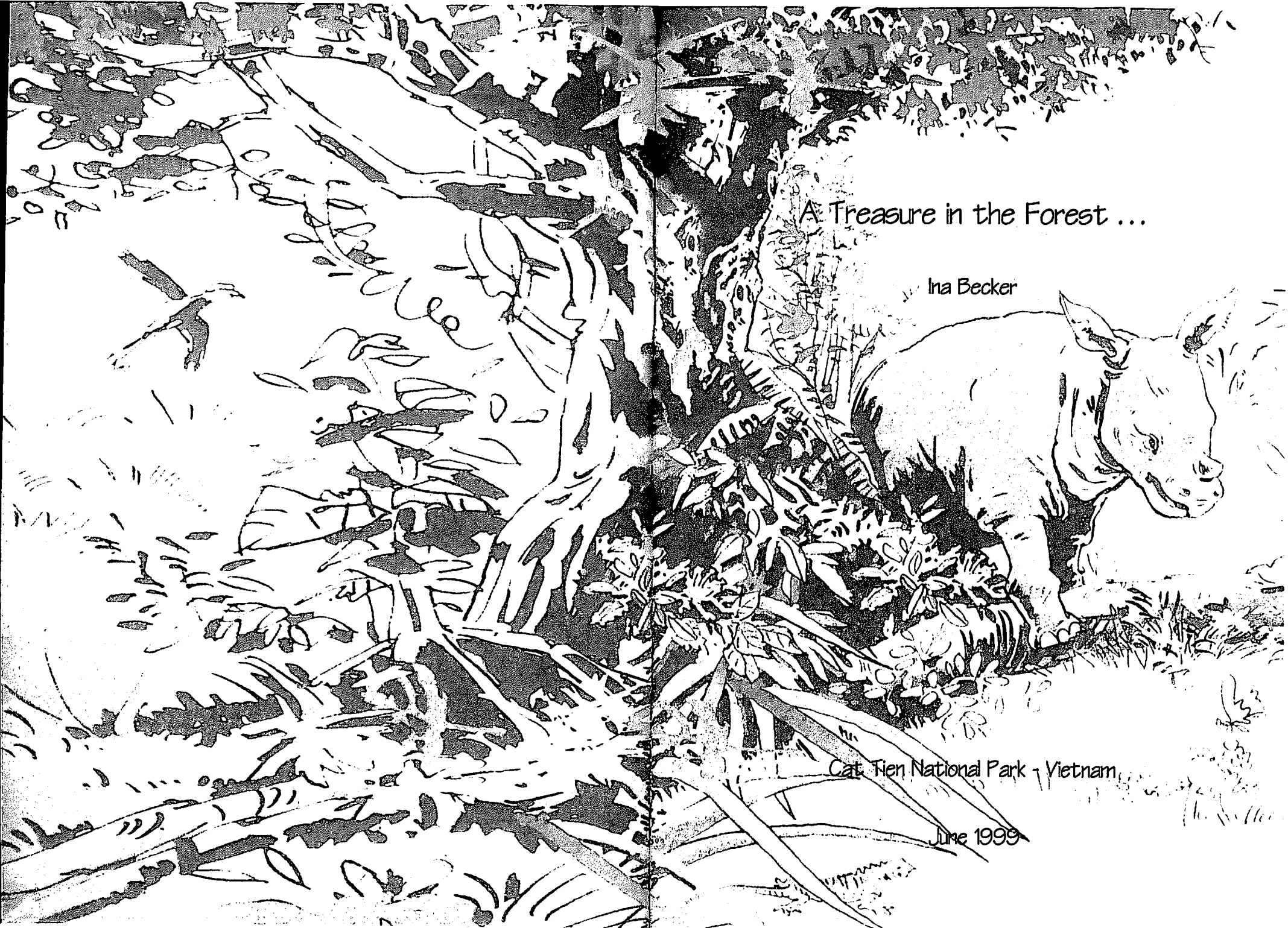


A Treasure in the Forest

The Cat Tien National Park Conservation Project
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BY ANA BECKER
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A Treasure in the Forest ...

Ina Becker

Cat Tien National Park - Vietnam

June 1999

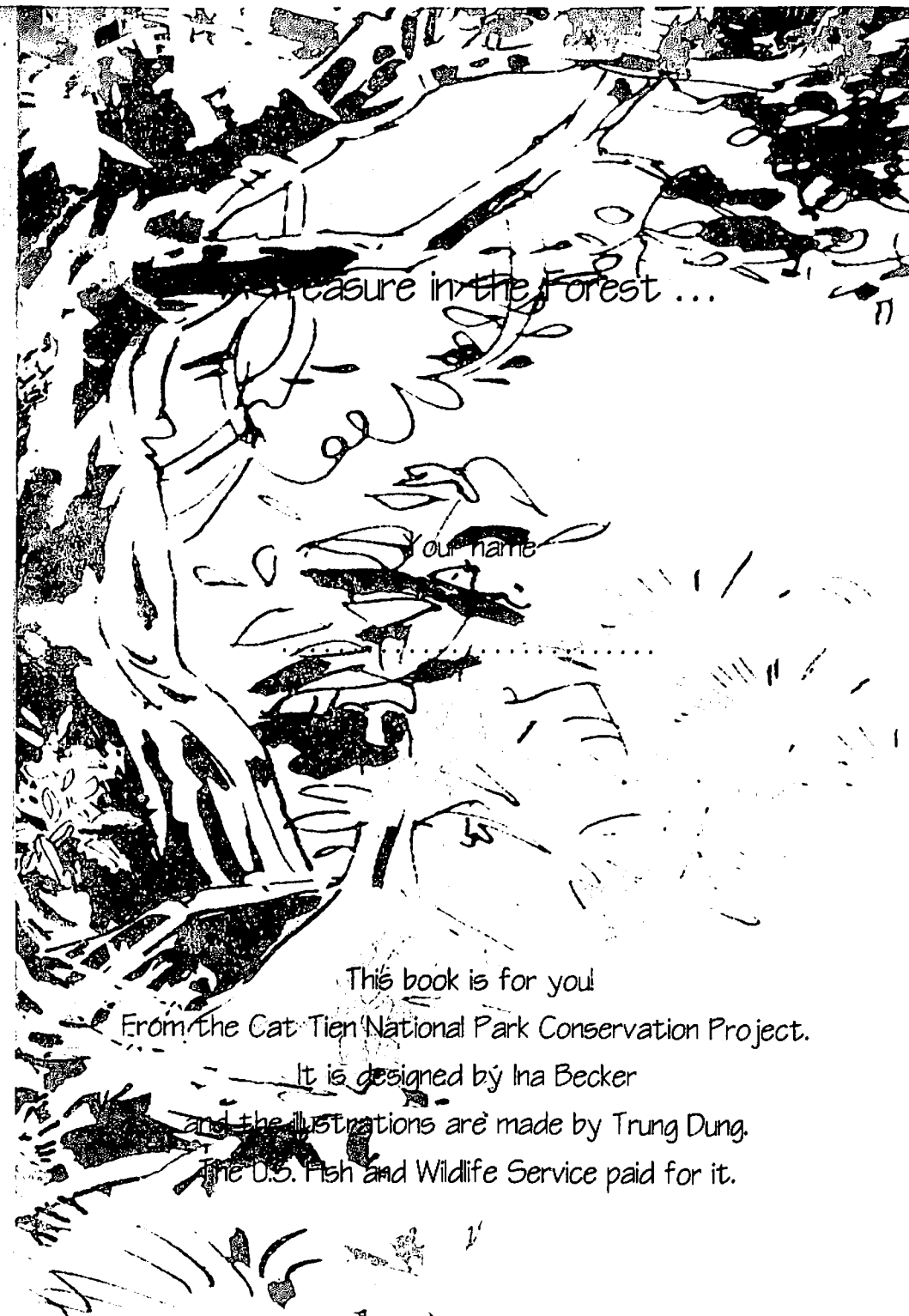
A TREASURE IN THE FOREST . . .

Chịu trách nhiệm xuất bản : Trần Đình Việt
Biên tập : Hoàng Mai
Sửa bản in : Hoàng Tân



Nhà xuất bản Thành phố Hồ Chí Minh
62 Nguyễn Thị Minh Khai, Quận 1
ĐT : 8225340 - 8296764 - 8220405 - 8222726 • Fax : 84.8.298540

In 9.000 cuốn tiếng Việt & 1.000 cuốn tiếng Anh, khổ 14 x 20,5cm, tại XN In Tạp chí Trẻ
Số XB : 555-15/XB-QLXB, ngày 1/7/1999. In xong và nộp lưu chiểu tháng 12/1999.



Hello!

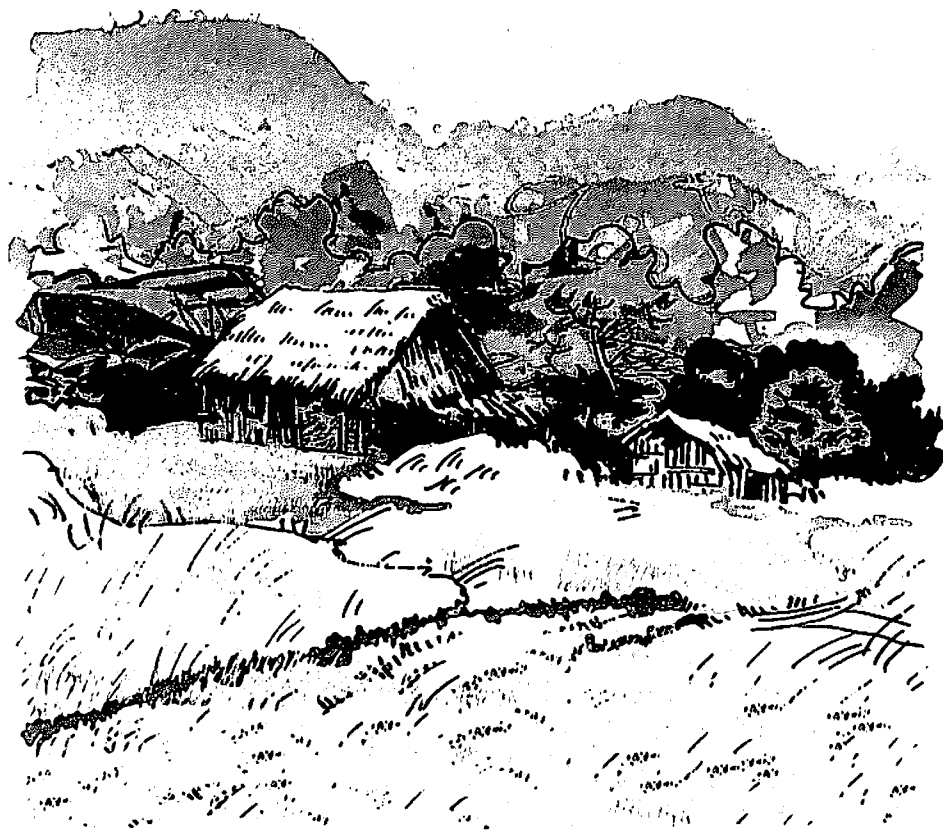


You must have heard about me ...

Let me tell you something about myself
so that you get to know me better.



My name is Treasure
and I am from the rhino family that lives in Vietnam.



I live in the forest with my mother,
not far away from you.

This is how I look!



I am a young rhino-girl
and I am one and a half years old.

My father does not always stay with my mother and I.
We meet every now and then!



As you can see he is a big guy!!
He is also very strong.
I am very proud of my father.



We rhinos

like to walk
around

in the forest ...

... and I stop wherever I see things to eat.
Rhinos love to eat flowers, herbs, grasses
and leaves of many different trees.

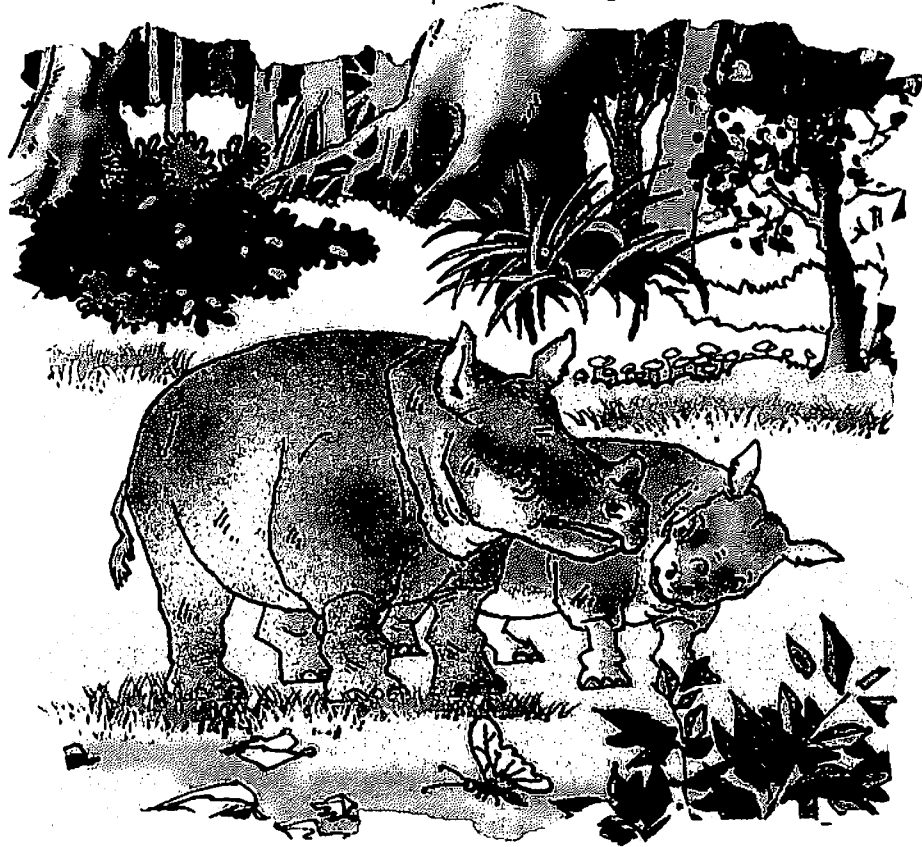


We also like to play in the water!



The forest, the plains and the wetlands are our home. We enjoy living there. Such areas are also good places to live for many other animals.

My mother is a very nice and friendly rhino. She teaches me to find my way around in the forest and shows me safe places to jump in the water. She also tells me to watch out for people and for traps of hunters. And of course she helps me finding food.



In the afternoon, before it is getting dark, my mother likes to tell me stories. I enjoy her stories very much, especially the ones about the time when she was young.

When my mother was a young rhino girl, the forest was big, much bigger than it is now. In those days there were many rhinos around. She used to have some nice friends. Every time they met, the rhino kids had a lot of fun together.



I would love to have a friend of my own age, to play with.
Do you have friends?

Nowadays there is not much forest left. We can't go to the flat lands with grasses, ponds and streams because people came to live and work there.

The small forest where I live has just enough food for a small number of rhinos.



To be honest, I don't like some of the food over here. And I am really sick of eating bamboo leaves every day. I sometimes really want to eat something else, something very delicious. . .

There are only a few rhinos living here and so far I did not meet a rhino of my own age. Although I am very happy with my mother, and I like it when my father is around, I sometimes feel a bit lonely.



I wish I had a nice rhino friend. . .

Not long ago I was listening to my parents who were talking with each other. They had heard that the rhinos here, in this forest, are the only ones left in Vietnam. Mom and dad were even saying that we are the only Vietnamese rhinos in the world.

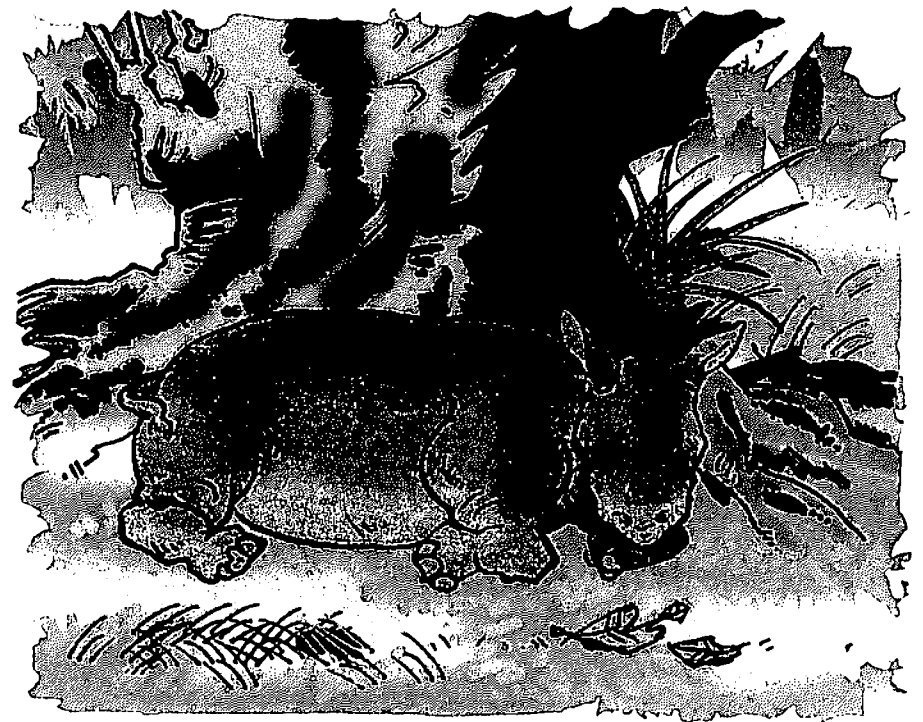
That conversation made me really sad.



Do you think it is true what they were saying?

Till then I had always been looking forward to the day I would meet the old friends of my mother and father who must have children as well by now.

If we really are the only rhinos left, what has happened to them and all the other rhinos?



Will I ever find a friend to play with??

And... will there be a husband for me in the future?

You know what?
Maybe you can be my friend as you are living close to the
place where I live. . . .
What do you think of that?



When you are my friend I would feel very happy!
And if you make sure the trees in the forest will not be cut,
and people do not take our food away or hunt us, we can be
friends forever!!

It will be really good if especially you, and the other people
living close to where we stay, protect the forest and all
the animals living in it. The more people who like to be my
friend and help us rhinos to keep our home, the better!!



Not many people in the world have rhinos living so close to
them as you do. All over the world forests are
disappearing. And many forests have lost their
treasures.

Not many people can say they are a friend of me,
Treasure, the Vietnamese rhino. But you can!
And believe me, that is very special!

WE ARE FRIENDS OF

TREASURE

THE
RHINO

LET'S PROTECT THE RHINOS
AND THEIR HOME

Let's be friends!!

