

Penguin  Readers



BBC



DYNASTIES

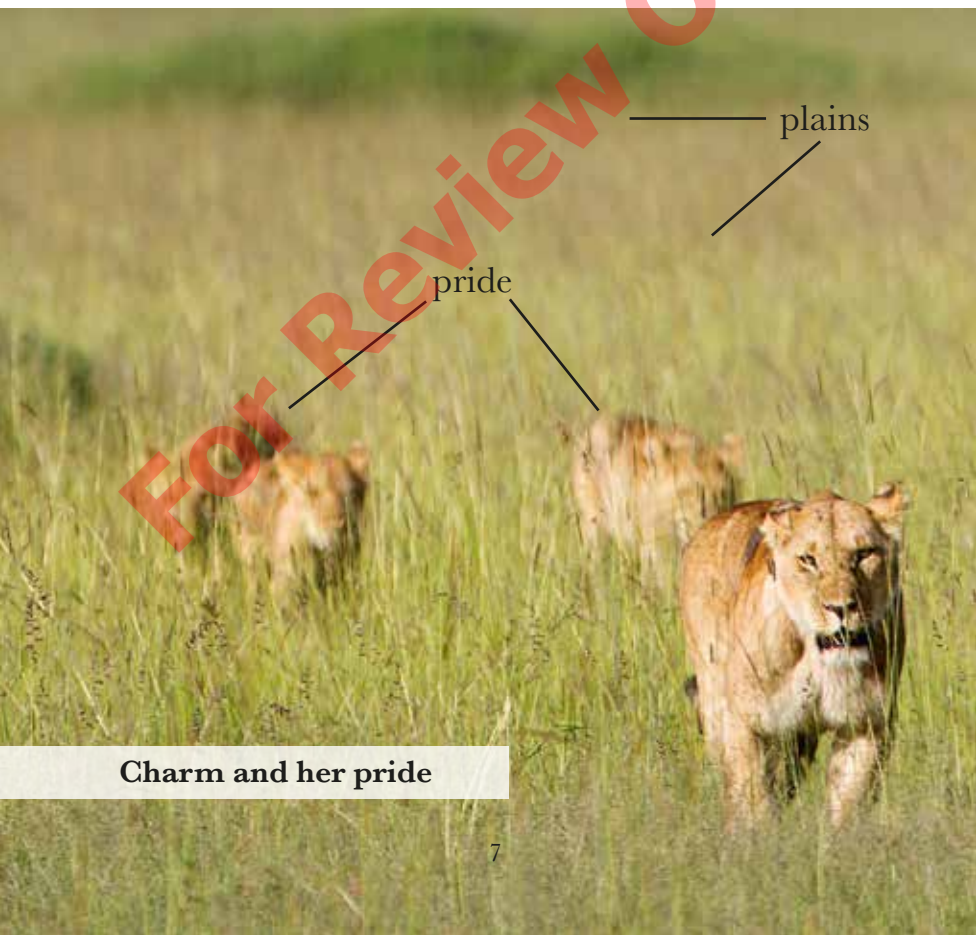
Lions

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Charm's pride

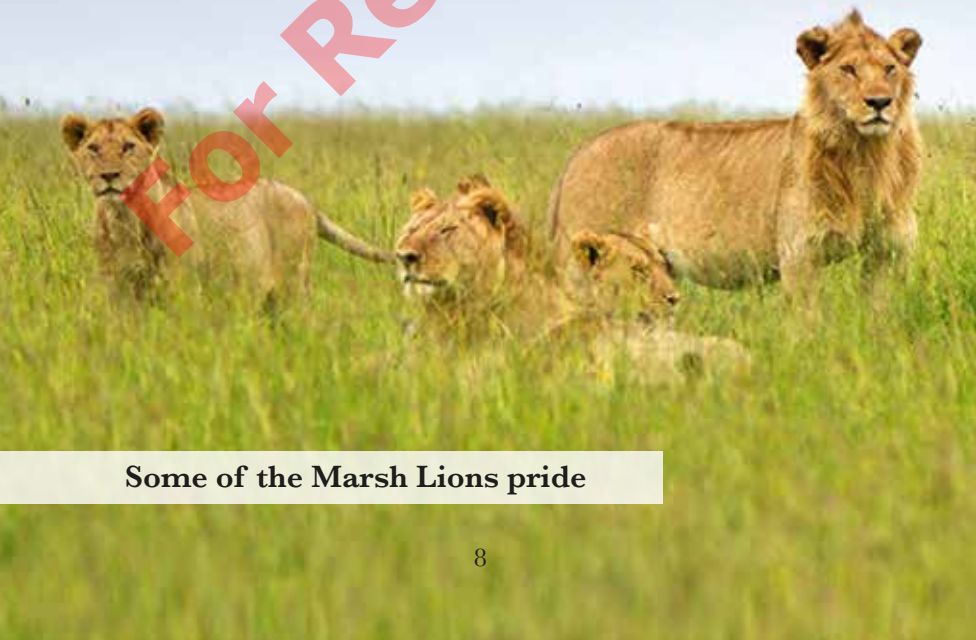
This is Charm. She is the **leader** of the Marsh Lions pride. The Marsh Lions live near the Mara River, on the **plains** of Kenya's Masai Mara, in Africa.



Charm and her pride

There are often thirty lions in big prides. But Charm's pride has only ten lions in it. The leader of a pride is always a lioness – an **adult female** lion.

The lionesses in the pride **hunt** for food, and they look after the cubs. The adult **males fight other male** lions and animals. They **protect** the **females** and their cubs.



Some of the Marsh Lions pride

Female lionesses with their cubs



But Charm's pride is not **safe**, because there are no adult males in her pride. And there are only two adult females – Charm and her **cousin**, Sienna.

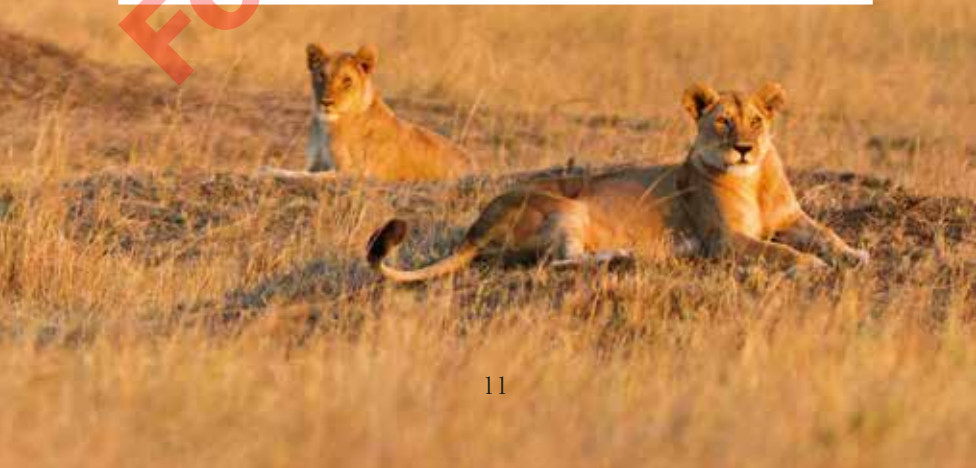
Why did the adult males **leave** the pride?
No one knows.

Charm protects her pride.

The other lions in the pride are Charm's and Sienna's children. Charm's daughter Yaya and her son Tatu are three years old. Her young son and daughter, Alan and Alanis, are there, too.

Sienna's three-year-old son, Red, and her other young son and two daughters live with them, too.

Tatu with his sisters and brother



Because there are no adult males, **life** is not easy for Charm. Her sons and daughters cannot hunt for food, because they are very young. Only Charm and Sienna can hunt for the hungry pride.

Alan and his sister Alanis

