天方夜潭

|英汉对照| 故事精选

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阿里巴巴和四十大盗 Alibaba and the Forty Thieves 渔夫和魔鬼的故事 The Fisherman and the Jinnee



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BO Alibaba and the Forty Thieves



There once lived in a certain town of Persia two brothers, one named Kasim and the other Ali Baba. After their father's death they divided the little wealth he had left to them with equitable division, and had lost no time in wasting and spending it all. The elder, however, presently married a wife, the daughter of a rich merchant, so that when his father-in-law went to the better world, he became owner of a large shop filled with rare goods and costly wares and of a storehouse stocked with precious stuffs, likewise of much gold that was buried in the ground. Thus he was known throughout the city as a wealthy man. But the woman whom Ali Baba had married was poor and needy. They lived, therefore, in a mean hovel, and Ali Baba had to make his living by cutting wood in a neighboring forest, which he brought upon three asses into the town to sell.

It happened one day that Ali Baba had cut dead branches and dry wood sufficient for his need, and had placed the load upon his beasts, when suddenly he caught sight of a dust cloud rising high in air and moving rapidly toward him, and when he closely considered it, he saw a troop of horsemen riding swiftly to reach him. At this sight he was extremely

从前,波斯国的某城市里住着兄弟俩,哥哥叫卡希姆,弟弟叫阿里巴巴。父亲死后,哥俩平分了父亲遗留下来的一点财产,自谋生路,但很快钱财就花光了。然而不久卡希姆与一个富商的女儿结了婚。因此,他的岳父去世后,他继承了产业,拥有一家经营珍稀货物的大店铺和一座储藏了珍贵器皿的仓库,并获得了一大笔埋藏在地下的黄金。这样,卡希姆很快就成为城市里闻名的大富商了。可是阿里巴巴娶了一个穷苦女子,夫妻俩过着贫苦的生活。他们住在一间破屋子里。阿里巴巴每天赶着三头毛驴去附近的树林中砍柴,再驮到集市上去卖,以此维持生计。

有一天,阿里巴巴砍下足够用的枯树枝和干柴,捆成驮子,让毛驴驮着,这时候,他看见远处突然出现一股烟尘,弥漫着直向上空飞扬,朝他这儿卷过来,而且越来越近。靠近以后,他才看清原来是一支马队,正急速向他这个方向冲来。见此情景,阿里巴巴非常害怕,怕他们是一伙强盗,他们不仅会杀了他还会掠走



alarmed. Fearing that they were a band of robbers who would kill him and drive off his donkeys, he began to run. But since they were near-hand and he could not escape from out the forest, he drove his animals laden with wood into a byway of the bushes and climbed up a huge tree to hide himself herein. And he sat upon a branch, from where he could see everything beneath him while none below could catch a glimpse of him above, and that tree grew close beside a rock which towered high above head.

The horsemen, young, active, and stout riders, came close up to the rock face and all dismounted. Ali Baba took good note of them, and soon he was fully persuaded by their behavior that they were a troop of robbers who, having robbed a caravan, brought their booties to this place with intent of concealing it safely in some cache. Moreover, he observed that they were forty in number. Ali Baba saw the robbers, as soon as they came under the tree, unbridled their horses and tied them to trees. Then all took off their saddlebags, which proved to be full of gold and silver. Now the man who seemed to be the captain pushed forward, load on shoulder, through bushes, till he came up to the rock, where he uttered these strange words, "Open, Sesame!" And instantly a door opened in the rock. The robbers went in, and last of all their chief, and then the door closed after them.

The robbers stayed some time in the cave, and Ali Baba,



他的驴子,于是他开始逃跑。但是由于那帮人马越来越近,要想逃出森林,已是不可能的了,他只得把驮着柴禾的毛驴赶到丛林中偏僻的小道里,自己则爬到一棵大树上躲起来。那棵大树生长在一个一人多高的巨石旁边。他把身体藏在茂密的枝叶间,从上面可以看清楚下面的一切,而下面的人却看不见他。

这时候,那帮人马已经跑到岩石前面,勒马停步。他们一个个年轻力壮,行动敏捷。阿里巴巴仔细打量,看起来,这是一伙拦路抢劫的强盗,显然是刚刚抢劫了一个商队,到这里来为了将抢来之物安全地隐藏起来。阿里巴巴发现他们共有 40 人。阿里巴巴看着匪徒们来到树下,他们去掉马辔头,把马拴在树上,全都取下鞍袋,里面显然装着金银珠宝。这时,一个首领模样的人背着鞍袋,从树林中一直来到那个大石头跟前,说出这些奇怪地话:"芝麻,开门吧!"立刻大石头出现一道门路,于是强盗们鱼贯而人,那个首领走在最后,接着那道门在他们身后关上了。

强盗们在洞中呆了有一阵时间, 阿里巴巴躲在树上窥探, 不敢下树, 他怕他们突然从洞中出来抓住



fearing they might come out and catch him, was forced to sit patiently in the tree. At last he had determined to mount one of the horses and drive his asses to return townward, when suddenly the door opened again. The robber chief was first to go out, then standing at the entrance, he saw and counted his men as they came out, and lastly he said the magical words, "Shut, Sesame!" With his words, the door closed itself. When all had passed muster and review, each slung on his saddlebags and bridled his own horse, and as soon as ready they rode off, led by the leader, in the direction where they came. Ali Baba remained still on the tree and watched their departure. He didn't climb down until they were completely out of sight, lest one of them possibly return and see him.

Then he thought to himself, "I too will try the function of those magical words and see if at my command the door will open and close. "So he called out aloud, "Open, Sesame! "And no sooner had he spoken than immediately the door flew open. Entering with caution, Ali Baba found himself in a large vaulted cave, lighted from a hole in the top. He had expected to find nothing but outer gloom in this robbers' den, but he was surprised to see the whole room filled with all kinds of treasure — rich silks and carpets, gold and silver ware, and great bags of money. He noticed coins golden and silvern without measure or account, some piled upon the ground and

他。最后,他决心偷一匹马并赶着自己的毛驴溜回城去。就在他刚要下树的时候,山洞的门突然又开了,强盗头目首先走出洞来,他站在门前,清点他的喽啰,见他们都出来后,便开始念咒语:"芝麻,关门吧!"随着他的话语,洞门自动关了起来。经过首领的清点、检查后,喽啰们便各自走到自己的马前,把空了的鞍袋挂在马鞍上,系上马辔头,接着一个个纵身上马,跟随首领,朝来时的方向扬长而去。阿里巴巴呆在树上看着他们离去,直到他们走得无影无踪之后,才从树上下来。他之所以不敢贸然从树上下来,是害怕强盗当中会有人突然又返回来发现他。

此刻,他暗自道:"我要试验一下这句咒语的作用,看我是否也能将这个洞门打开和关上。"于是他大声喊道:"芝麻,开门吧!"他的喊声刚落,洞门立刻打开了。他小心翼翼地走了进去,举目一看,那是一个有穹顶的大洞,从洞顶的通气孔透进了光线。开始,他以为既然是一个强盗穴,除了一片阴暗外,不会有其他的东西。可是他惊奇地发现,洞中堆满了各种财宝,珍贵的丝绸、毡毯和金银器皿,还有多得无法计数的金币银币,有的散堆在地上,有的盛在皮袋中。看见这么





others bound in leathern bags and sacks. Seeing these goods and moneys in such abundance, Ali Baba was firmly convinced that thieves must have stored their gains and spoils in this place not during a few years only but for many generations.

When he stood within the cave, its door had closed upon him, yet he was not dismayed, since he had kept in memory the magical words. He took no notice of the precious stuffs around him, but applied himself only and wholly to the sacks of moneys. With this in mind he brought out as many bags of gold as he thought his asses could carry, then he loaded them upon his animals, and covered his plunder with sticks and wood, so none might discern the bags but might think that he was carrying home his usual ware. With that, using the words "Shut, Sesame!" he closed the door.

Presently, having laden his asses, Ali Baba urged them before him with all speed to the city. Reaching home, he drove them into the yard, and shutting close the outer door, took down first the sticks and wood and then the bags of gold, which he carried in to his wife.

She felt them, and finding them full of coin, suspected that Ali Baba had been robbing, and blamed him for doing so ill a thing. Ali Baba said to his wife, "Indeed I am no robber. You ought to know me well." Then he told her of his adventure, and began to pour the gold from the bags in heaps

多的金银财宝,阿里巴巴深信这肯定是一个强盗们数 代而非几年经营、掠夺所积累起来的宝库。

阿里巴巴进入山洞后,洞门又自动关闭了。他毫不惊慌,因为他已记住了这道门的开启咒语,不怕出不了洞。他对身边的财宝并不感兴趣,只是迫切需要金钱。因此,考虑到毛驴的运载能力,他尽可能多地带几袋金币,放在驴背上,再盖上树枝和干柴,这样,人们不会看见钱袋,看到的只是他平日驮回家的柴禾。做好了这一切,阿里巴巴随即说道:"芝麻,关门吧!"洞门应声关闭。

阿里巴巴赶着驮着金钱的毛驴很快返回城中。到家后,他将驴赶进院关上院门,卸下树枝、干柴和金袋子,把装着金币的袋子搬进房内,摆在老婆面前。

他老婆看见袋中装的全是金币,便以为阿里巴巴抢了人,所以责怪他不该去做这样的坏事。"我没抢劫。你应该知道我的,我从不做坏事。"然后阿里巴巴把山中的遭遇告诉了老婆。接着,他把金币倒了出来,一古脑儿堆在她的面前。阿里巴巴的老婆听了,惊喜



before her, and her sight was dazzled by the sheen and her heart delighted at his story. Then she began counting the gold, but Ali Baba said, "O silly woman, that will take too long. I must dig a hole and bury it at once, so none may know its secret." "You are right, "said his wife, "but let me first measure it. I will go borrow a measure of someone while you dig the hole. "And he replied, "As you like, but be sure not to tell any person. "So she went off in haste to Kasim's home to borrow weights and scales. As she could not find Kasim, she said to his wife, "Lend me, I pray you, your scales for a moment. "Her sister-in-law replied, "Do you need the bigger balance or the smaller?" and the other rejoined, "I need not the large scales, just give me the little, "and her sister-in-law cried, "Stay here a moment while I look about and find you want."

With this pretext Kasim's wife went aside and secretly put some wax at the bottom of the measure so that she might know what thing it was Ali Baba's wife would weigh, for she made sure that whatever it be, some bit of it would stick to the wax. So the woman took this opportunity to satisfy her curiosity, and Ali Baba's wife, without any suspicion, carried home the scales and began to weigh the gold, while Ali Baba was still digging. After the money was weighed, they put it into the hole, which they carefully filled up with earth. Then the good wife took back the scales to her sister-in-law, all unknowing

万分,光灿灿的金币使她眼花缭乱。她开始忙着去数那些金币。阿里巴巴说:"你这个蠢女人!这么数下去,什么时候才数得完呢?我要先挖个坑,赶快把这些金币埋藏起来,这样就不会有人知道这个秘密了。""好吧,"他妻子答道,"但我们还是应该借个量器量一量,看看这些金币到底有多少。这样,我去借吧,你先挖洞。""随你便,但你千万要注意,别对任何人说。"他叮嘱说。阿里巴巴的老婆急忙到卡希姆家中借量器。卡希姆不在家,她便对他老婆说:"嫂嫂,能把你家的量器借我用一下吗?""行呀,不过你要借什么量器,大升还是小升呢?"她的嫂子回答说。"不需要大的,给我小升就行了。""你稍微等一下,我这就去给你拿。"卡希姆的老婆答应道。

找了这个借口,卡希姆的老婆进里屋去拿量器,并偷偷地在升的底部,刷上一点蜂蜡,因为她相信无论量什么,总会粘一点儿在蜡上。她想用这样的方法满足自己的好奇心。阿里巴巴的老婆毫不怀疑她嫂子,拿着升急忙回到家中,立刻开始用升量起金币来。阿里巴巴只管挖洞,待她老婆量完金币,他们两人一起动手,把金币搬进地洞,小心翼翼地盖上土,埋藏了起来。当这个好心肠的女人把升送还她嫂子时,她



that a coin had adhered to the cup of the scales. But when Kasim's wife perceived the gold coin, she fumed with envy and wrath, saying to herself, "So ho! They borrowed my balance to weigh out the gold?" And she marveled greatly that so poor a man as Ali Baba had gotten such store of wealth that he had to weigh it with a pair of scales.

Now after long pondering the matter, when her husband returned home at dusk, she said immediately to him, "O Kasim, your brother is richer than you. He does not count his money, he measures it. He has such heaps of gold that he must weigh his moneys with scales, whereas you are indeed satisfied to count your coin." "How do you know this?" asked Kasim. And in answer his wife related all about the pair of scales, and how she found a coin stuck to them, and showed him the gold coin, which bore the mark and superscription of some ancient king.

Kasim couldn't get to sleep by reason of his envy and admiration. Next morning he rose before sunrise and went to Ali Baba, saying, "O my brother, you pretend to be poor and yet you measure gold, but in effect you have a store of wealth so abundant that you must weigh your gold with scales." Ali Baba said, "What did you say? I can't understand you. Make it clear. "And said Kasim with great anger, "Don't pretend that you are ignorant of what I said, and don't deceive me." Then, showing him the gold, he cried, "Thousands of gold

却全然不知有一个金币粘在了升上。但当卡希姆的老婆发现了升上竟粘着一枚金币,顿生嫉妒、愤怒之心,她自言自语说:"啊呀!原来他们借我的升是去量金币啊。"她心想,阿里巴巴这样一个穷光蛋,怎么会获得一笔巨富,竟然用升去量金币呢?她对此诧异不已。

卡希姆的老婆左思右想,不得其解。直到日暮,卡 希姆回到家时,她立即迫不及待地对他说:"哦,卡希 姆呀!你兄弟阿里巴巴可比你富多了。他都不数钱了, 竟然用升来量。他用升来量一堆堆的金币,而你就满 足数你那点儿钱。""你是从哪儿听说的?"卡希姆问 道。卡希姆的老婆立刻把阿里巴巴的老婆前来借升还 升的经过,以及自己发现粘在升底的一枚金币等事, 一五一十说了一遍,然后把那枚铸有某个古代帝王姓 名、年号等标识的金币拿给他看。

卡希姆听完此事,又是忌妒,又是羡慕,弄得自己整夜辗转难眠。次日天不亮他就急忙起床,前去找阿里巴巴,说道:"兄弟啊!你表面装得很穷,其实你积蓄了无数的金币,数目之多,竟然要用升量了。""你能把话说清楚些吗?我一点儿也不明白你在说些什么。"阿里巴巴回答道。"你别装糊涂!你非常清楚我在说什么,不要骗我了。"卡希姆怒气冲冲地把那枚金币拿给



coins such as these you have put by, and meanwhile my wife found this one stuck to the cup of the scales. "Then Ali Baba understood how both Kasim and his wife knew that he had store of gold coins, and said in his mind that it would not avail him to keep the matter hidden, but would rather cause ill will and mischief, and thus he was induced to tell his brother everything concerning the robbers and also of the treasure stored in the cave.

When he had heard the story, Kasim exclaimed, "I must know the certainty of the place where you found the moneys and also the magical words whereby the door opened and closed, otherwise I will discover all, and you will lose all." Therefore Ali Baba told him his tale, not forgetting the magical words, and Kasim, who kept careful heed of all these matters, next day set out, driving ten mules he had hired, and readily found the place which Ali Baba had described to him. And when he came to the aforesaid rock and to the tree where Ali Baba had hidden himself, and he had made sure of the door he cried in great joy, "Open, Sesame!" The door yawned wide at once and Kasim went in and saw the piles of jewels and treasures lying ranged all around, and as soon as he stood amongst them the door shut after him, as usual. He walked around in ecstasy marveling at the treasures, and when weary of admiration, he gathered together bags of moneys and placed