

| 中国教子故事 |

STORIES OF CHINESE
CHILDREN EDUCATION

曾子杀猪

Zeng Zi Kills the Pig



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Edited by
Zhao Zhenwan

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Zeng Zi

Kills the Pig

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前言



中国有很多古老美丽的故事和传说，这些故事都充满了纯真的思想和深邃的人文气息，因此便构成了中华民族的精神象征之一，这些故事更巩固了中国人的同源意识。

在这套“幼学启蒙丛书”中，内容涵盖了大家所熟悉的民俗故事、神话故事、节日故事、名胜传说与古代名医、贤哲、名相、名将、帝王、智童、科学家、智谋、诗书故事等等，总计八十册。为了让孩子们了解祖先们活动的广阔天地和历代的政治变迁、科学发展与文学艺术上的成就，我们运用最精炼的文字与生动的插画，将其一一呈现给中国儿童，并使得这些久远的历史人物，轻松地进入儿童的思想领域，与他们的血脉相连接。

身为中国人，对中华民族的认知，就好像一个做儿女的，应该了解他的大家庭一样，如此他才会对这个家庭有感情、有责任。我们希望这套书的出版，能够引导孩子在人生记忆力最好的时候，去了解祖国历史的脉络、认同中华民族的生活轨迹与精神内涵，从而拥有高瞻远瞩的智慧，成为一个心胸开阔、人格健全的人。

“幼学启蒙丛书”，是为中国儿童编辑的，为这一套丛书撰稿和绘图的儿童文学工作者，都以传统文学和艺术观点来诠释中国古老的神话、传说和历史，我们希望这套丛书能为每一个中国家庭，每一个中国儿童所喜爱。

赵镇琬

Preface

China is a beautiful treasure-house of ancient tales and folklore. Here are stories filled with sincere reflection echoing the vast and deep spirit of our culture and civilization. These represent the best of Chinese culture—tales that uphold a people's sense of their common origin.

This collection of *First Books for Early Learning* offers stories familiar to all of us. Drawn from folklore and mythology, along with the origins of special days in the traditional calendar and of famous places, these eighty books also recall ancient physicians, philosophers and thinkers, figures famed for statecraft, generals, royalty, prodigies and scientists, remembered through tales of wisdom and great poetry.

To give Chinese children all over the world an understanding of their ancestors' lives, and the changes through the different ages of China's history, scientific development and achievements in arts and literature, we have brought together concise language with most vivid illustrations. These ancient historical figures also give inspiration and ideas to children to connect with their own roots.

As Chinese, we know Chinese history well as a son or a daughter knows his or her family. Only with such knowledge can one possess a depth of passion and a sense of responsibility. It is our wish that this collection will guide children at an early age to learn from the history of our nation and to identify with the social progress and philosophical spirit of the Chinese people. We hope our children will develop wider horizons of wisdom to become open-minded yet with a rooted outlook on life.

First Books for Early Learning was originally compiled in Chinese for the children of China. The writers and artists who contributed to this collection have used the perspective of traditional literature and arts to interpret Chinese mythology, legends and history. We hope this collection will be enjoyed by Chinese people—and, now in translation, also by people all over the world—and all children who want to learn more about China.

Zhao Zhenwan





曾子病了很长时间，虽然家人不停地寻医求药，但他的病情总是不见好转，反而日渐严重。他的两个儿子曾元和曾华，看着父亲瘦削的面孔、深陷的双眼，感到父亲活在世上的日子可能不多了，不由得红了双眼。父亲循循善诱，平日教诲他们的情景也一幕一幕浮现在眼前。

曾华首先想到的是那个杀猪的故事。

Zeng Zi had been ill for a very long time. Despite his family's attempts to find the best doctors and medicines, his health did not improve. Instead, his condition gradually worsened. His two sons, Zeng Yuan and Zeng Hua, seeing his emaciated cheeks and sunken eyes, realized that there would not be a great number of days left for their father. Every time they thought of their father, their eyes turned red. They had vivid memories of the lessons their father had taught them. Frequent scenes of their father giving them lessons played vividly through their minds.

Zeng Hua would always first remember the killing of the pig.

那还是在曾华三四岁时，一次，母亲有急事上街，曾华紧拉着她的衣服，又哭又闹，非要跟着去。母亲左哄右哄都不行，最后只好说：“你在家待一会儿，母亲回来就把小猪杀了，炖肉给你吃。”曾华一听，高兴了，才放母亲走。

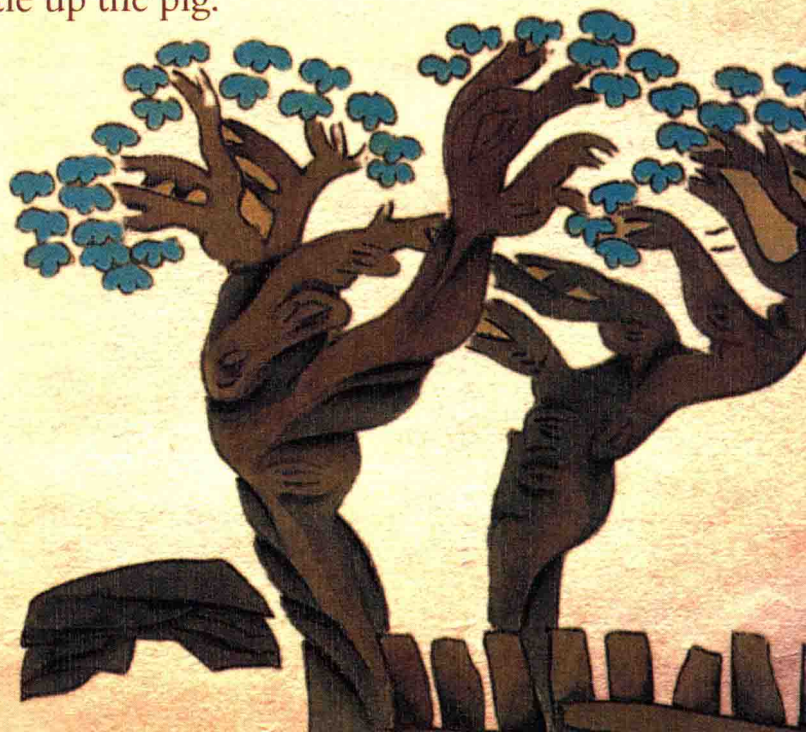
This happened when Zeng Hua was about three or four years old. One day, his mother had to go out in a hurry, but Zeng Hua would not let her go. He cried and threw a tantrum. He hung on to her robe and insisted on going with her. His mother tried all kinds of bribes and tricks, but nothing worked. So finally, she said, "You stay home and wait for me. When I come back, I am going to slaughter the small pig and make a good stew for you." Zeng Hua got excited and was happy to let his mother go.





没想到，母亲刚走不久，父亲回来了。曾华高兴地迎上去，把母亲要杀猪的事说了一遍。父亲听后，想了一会儿，说：“你俩来帮忙，我们杀猪吧！”说罢就去找绳子捆猪。

His father unexpectedly came home early that day, soon after his mother had left. Zeng Hua greeted his father happily and told him that his mother was going to slaughter the pig. Hearing that, Zeng Zi paused and did some thinking. He said to his sons, “Come and help me then. Let’s go slaughter the pig.” Then he went to look for a rope to tie up the pig.



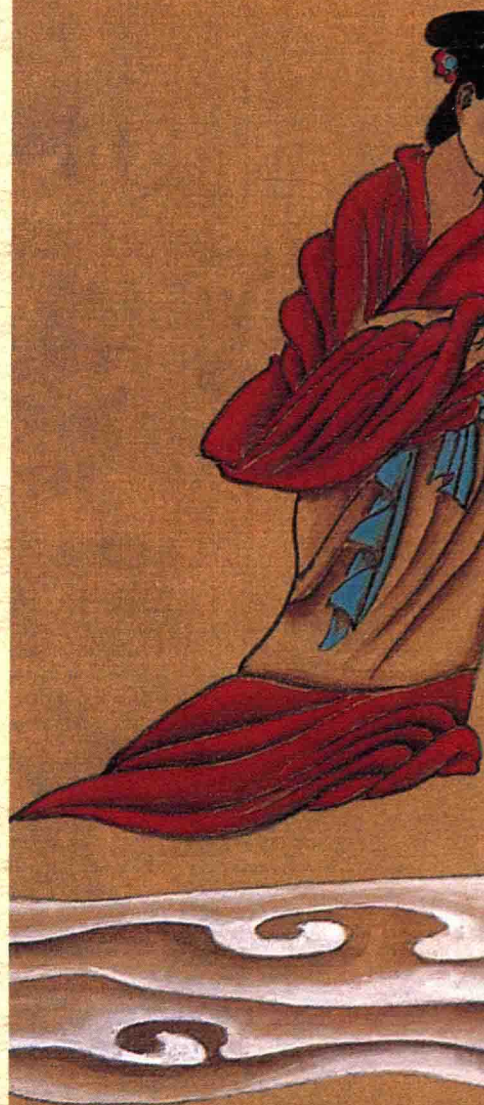
正在这时，母亲回来了，见此情景，先是一惊，接着马上明白了是怎么回事。她连忙制止父亲，说：“我刚才才是和孩子说着玩的呀，你怎么当真要杀猪呢？”

父亲说：“做人最重要的就是诚实，教育孩子更应当这样。孩子年纪小，不懂事，全靠父母教育。你现在欺骗他，就会教他学会欺骗，这怎么能行呢？”

At this time, Zeng Hua's mother came home. She was stunned by what was going on. When she found it out, she immediately tried to stop Zeng Zi.

She said, "I was just joking with the child. How can you take it so seriously and kill the pig?"

Zeng Zi said, "The most important thing in one's life is honesty. That is what we should teach our children. Children at this young age do not have wisdom. They need their parents to educate them. If you deceive Zeng Hua now, what you are teaching him is how to deceive."







这样，父亲说服了母亲，真的把小猪杀了。

So Zeng Zi persuaded Zeng Hua's mother and
slaughtered the pig at last.





一阵急促的咳嗽声打断了兄弟二人的回忆，曾元赶紧过去扶起父亲，曾华去端水，兄弟二人忙了好一阵，曾子的喘息才平复了。他说：“你们快扶我起来，我有话对你们说。”

Now the two brothers were roused out of their recollections by the sound of violent coughing. Zeng Yuan immediately went over to his father and helped him to sit up. Zeng Hua went to get a bowl of water for his father. They tried their best to ease their father's coughing. After some time, their father finally stopped coughing. He then said, "Now help me get up. I need to say something to you."