

中  
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# 丛林故事

THE JUNGLE  
STORY

【英】吉卜林◎著  
辛 静◎译



《哈里·波特》作者 J.K. 罗琳  
最喜爱的英美经典文学名著

中国书籍出版社



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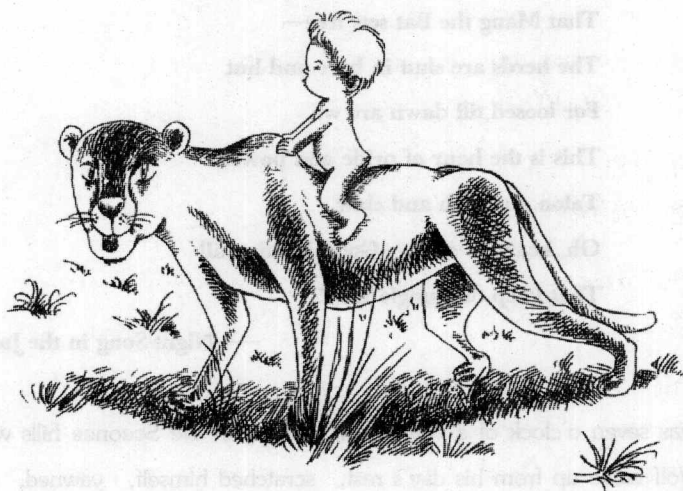
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## Chapter I Mowgli's Brothers



## Chapter 1 Mowgli's Brothers

Now Rann the Kite brings home the night  
That Mang the Bat sets free—  
The herds are shut in byre and hut  
For loosed till dawn are we.  
This is the hour of pride and power,  
Talon and tush and claw.  
Oh, hear the call! —Good hunting all  
That keep the Jungle Law!

—Night-Song in the Jungle

It was seven o'clock of a very warm evening in the Seeonee hills when Father Wolf woke up from his day's rest, scratched himself, yawned, and spread out his paws one after the other to get rid of the sleepy feeling in their tips. Mother Wolf lay with her big gray nose dropped across her four **tumbling, squealing** cubs, and the moon shone into the mouth of the cave where they all lived. "Augrh! " said Father Wolf. "It is time to hunt again." He was going to spring down hill when a little shadow with a bushy tail crossed the threshold and **whined** : "Good luck go with you, O Chief of the Wolves. And good luck and strong white teeth go with noble children that they may never forget the hungry in this world."

## 第一章 莫格里的兄弟们

现在兰恩释放了黑夜，

蝙蝠曼尼带来了自由——

牛群都被关进了牛棚和茅屋，

因为我们要尽情放纵到黎明。

这是荣耀与权威的时刻，

亮出我们的尖牙、利爪和巨钳。

哦，听那召唤声——祝大家狩猎成功

遵守丛林法则的全体动物们！

——《丛林夜歌》

这是西奥尼山上一个暖融融的傍晚。狼爸爸休息了一整天，七点他从睡梦中醒来，搔了搔痒，打了个哈欠，逐个地伸展着他的爪子，以便驱散爪尖尚存的睡意。狼妈妈躺在那儿，灰色的大鼻子搭在她翻滚嬉闹的四只狼崽子身上。月光照进他们生活的山洞洞口。“噢呜！”狼爸爸说，“又该去打猎了。”他正准备跑下山坡，一个拖着毛茸茸尾巴的小身影出现在洞口，用哀怨的声音说：“祝您好运啊，狼的首领。也祝福您高贵的孩子们，愿他们能长一副洁白坚硬的牙齿，但愿他们永不忘记这个世界上还有挨饿的。”

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tumble. v. 翻滚，打滚

squeal v. (小孩、猪等)发出长声尖叫

whine v. 哀诉





## The Jungle Story

It was the jackal—Tabaqui, the Dish-licker—and the wolves of India **despise** Tabaqui because he runs about making mischief, and telling tales, and eating rags and pieces of leather from the village **rubbish-heaps**. But they are afraid of him too, because Tabaqui, more than anyone else in the jungle, is apt to go mad, and then he forgets that he was ever afraid of anyone, and runs through the forest biting everything in his way. Even the tiger runs and hides when little Tabaqui goes mad, for madness is the most **disgraceful** thing that can **overtake** a wild creature. We call it hydrophobia, but they call it dewanee—the madness— and run.

“Enter, then, and look,” said Father Wolf stiffly, “but there is no food here.”

“For a wolf, no,” said Tabaqui, “but for so **mean** a person as myself a dry bone is a good **feast**. Who are we, the Gidur-log [the jackal people], to pick and choose?” He **scuttled** to the back of the cave, where he found the bone of a buck with some meat on it, and sat cracking the end merrily.

“All thanks for this good meal,” he said, licking his lips. “How beautiful are the noble children! How large are their eyes! And so young too! Indeed, indeed, I might have remembered that the children of kings are men from the beginning.”

Now, Tabaqui knew as well as anyone else that there is nothing so unlucky as to **compliment** children to their faces. It pleased him to see Mother and Father Wolf look uncomfortable.

Tabaqui sat still, rejoicing in the **mischief** that he had made, and then he said **spitefully**:

“Shere Khan, the Big One, has **shifted** his hunting grounds. He will hunt



那是塔巴奇，一只专门吃残羹冷炙的豺。印度狼们都看不起塔巴奇，因为他总是到处挑拨离间、搬弄是非，在村子的垃圾堆里捡破烂吃。但是，印度狼们也都怕他，因为他比丛林里的其他动物都容易发疯。一发起疯来，他就忘了自己曾经怕过谁，在丛林里横冲直撞，见到什么咬什么。即使是老虎，一看到小塔巴奇犯了疯病，也要逃走躲起来，那是因为，对于野生动物来说，得了疯病是最丢脸的事情了。我们称之为狂犬病，但动物们称它“达瓦尼”——也就是疯病——遇到得赶紧跑。

“那就进来看看吧”，狼爸爸很不友好地说，“不过这儿没什么吃的。”

“对一头狼来说，是没什么可吃的了。”塔巴奇说，“但对我这样一个卑微的人来说，一块干骨头就是一顿美餐了。我们是什么东西呀？豺，哪能这么挑剔呢？”他急匆匆地跑到山洞里面，找到了一块还留着些肉的雄鹿骨头，坐在地上高兴得吧嗒吧嗒啃了起来。

“多谢您的美食”，他添了舔嘴巴说，“这些高贵的孩子多漂亮啊！瞧他们的眼睛，真大呀！又这么年轻！真的，真的，我就知道，大王的孩子一出生就这么气宇非凡！”

其实，塔巴尼和其他动物一样清楚地知道，当面称赞孩子们是很不妥当的做法。看到狼爸爸、狼妈妈不自在的表情，他心里暗自高兴。

塔巴尼一动不动地坐在那里，为自己刚才的恶作剧自鸣得意。然后，他不怀好意地说：

“大家伙萨克汗更换狩猎场了。他告诉我，下个月他将在这儿

despise *v.* 鄙视，藐视  
overtake *v.* 突然侵袭  
scuttle *v.* 急促奔跑  
spitefully *adv.* 恶意地

rubbish-heap *n.* 垃圾堆  
mean *a.* 卑鄙的，卑贱的  
compliment *v.* 称赞，恭维  
shift *v.* 替换，转移

disgraceful *a.* 丢脸的，可耻的  
feast *n.* 盛宴  
mischief *n.* 恶作剧，捣蛋



## The Jungle Story

among these hills for the next moon, so he has told me."

Shere Khan was the tiger who lived near the Waingunga River, twenty miles away.

"He has no right!" Father Wolf began angrily, "By the Law of the Jungle he has no right to change his quarters without due warning. He will frighten every head of game within ten miles, and I—I have to kill for two, these days."

"His mother did not call him Lungri [the **Lame** One] for nothing," said Mother Wolf quietly. "He has been lame in one foot from his birth. That is why he has only killed cattle. Now the villagers of the Waingunga are angry with him, and he has come here to make our villagers angry. They will **scour** the jungle for him when he is far away, and we and our children must run when the grass is set alight. Indeed, we are very grateful to Shere Khan! "

"Shall I tell him of your gratitude?" said Tabaqui.

"Out! " snapped Father Wolf. "Out and hunt with **your** master. **Thou** **have** done harm enough for one night."

"I go," said Tabaqui quietly. "Ye can hear Shere Khan below in the thickets. I might have saved myself the message."

Father Wolf listened, and below in the **valley** that ran down to a little river, he heard the dry, angry, **snarly**, singsong whine of a tiger who has caught nothing and does not care if all the jungle knows it.

"The fool! " said Father Wolf. "To begin a night's work with that noise! Does he think that our buck are like his fat Waingunga bullocks?"

"H'sh. It is neither bullock nor buck he hunts tonight," said Mother Wolf. "It is Man."



座山上狩猎。”

萨克汗是住在20英里外维冈加河畔的一只老虎。

“他没这个权利!”狼爸爸生气地说,“根据丛林法则,他没有权力不事先通知就更换地盘。他会吓跑方圆10英里内的所有猎物,而我——我这两天得捕到双份的猎物才行。”

“他妈妈叫他‘瘸腿’可不是没有原因的”,狼妈妈平静地说,“他一生下来,就瘸了一条腿。所以他只能猎杀耕牛。维冈加的村民都已经被他惹火了,现在他又要来惹我们的村民。到时候村民们定会到丛林搜寻他,而他却早逃走了。村民们定会放火烧野草,我们和孩子们就得逃命。我们还真得谢谢萨克汗了。”

“要我向他转达你们的谢意吗?”塔巴奇问道。

“滚出去!”狼爸爸怒气冲冲地说,“去和你的主子一起捕猎吧,你今天晚上做的坏事已经够多了。”

“我走,”塔巴奇不慌不忙地说,“你们听,萨克汗在下面灌木丛里走动呢。早知道我就不来告诉你们这个消息了。”

狼爸爸竖起耳朵倾听,在下面小河淌过的河谷里,有一只暴怒的老虎。他什么也没逮着,嘴里粗鲁地发出哼哼声,也不在乎整个丛林的动物能否听到。

“傻瓜!”狼爸爸说,“哪有发出这么大声响开始干活的!他以为我们这里的公鹿像维冈加那些肥肥的小公牛一样蠢?”

“嘘!今晚他捕猎的既不是小公牛也不是公鹿,”狼妈妈说,“是人。”

---

lame *a.* 跛的,瘸的      scour *v.* 走遍(某地)搜寻      your *pron.* (古)你的  
 you *pron.* (古)你      have (古) have      valley *n.* (山)谷  
 snarly *adv.* 咆哮的,易怒的



## The Jungle Story

The whine had changed to a sort of **humming** purr that seemed to come from every quarter of the compass. It was the noise that bewilders woodcutters and gypsies sleeping in the open, and makes them run sometimes into the very mouth of the tiger.

"Man!" said Father Wolf, showing all his white teeth. "Faugh! Are there not enough beetles and frogs in the **tanks** that he must eat Man, and on our ground too! "

The Law of the Jungle, which never orders anything without a reason, forbids every beast to eat Man except when he is killing to show his children how to kill, and then he must hunt outside the hunting grounds of his **pack** or tribe. The real reason for this is that man-killing means, sooner or later, the arrival of white men on elephants, with guns, and hundreds of brown men with gongs and rockets and torches. Then everybody in the jungle **suffers**. The reason the beasts give among themselves is that Man is the weakest and most defenseless of all living things, and it is **unsportsmanlike** to touch him. They say too—and it is true —that man-eaters become mangy, and lose their teeth.

The purr grew louder, and ended in the **full-throated** "Aaarh! " of the tiger's charge.

Then there was a howl—an untigerish howl—from Shere Khan. "He has missed," said Mother Wolf. "What is it?"

Father Wolf ran out a few paces and heard Shere Khan **muttering** and mumbling **savagely** as he tumbled about in the scrub.

"The fool has had no more sense than to jump at a woodcutter's campfire, and has burned his feet," said Father Wolf with a grunt. "Tabaqui is with him."



哼哼声变成了低沉的呜呜声，似乎来自四面八方。这种声音常常会使露宿野外的樵夫和吉普赛人迷失方向，甚至有时使他们在逃跑时把自己送进虎口。

“人！”狼爸爸咬牙切齿地说，“呸！池塘里的甲壳虫和青蛙不够他吃的了？他非要吃人不可？而且还是在我们的地盘上？”

丛林法则的规定从来都是不无道理的。它禁止任何一头野兽捕杀人，除非他在教自己的孩子如何捕猎。即使这样，也必须在他的兽群或部落的狩猎地以外的地方行事。制定这条规定的真正原因是猎杀人类迟早会招来骑着大象、带着枪支的白人和成百上千的手持铜锣、火箭和火把的棕色皮肤的人。这样丛林里的所有动物都要遭罪。而动物们自己对这个规定的理解是：人类是所有生物中最软弱、最缺少防御能力的，所以对人类下手，是最卑鄙的。他们还说——这可是真的——吃人的动物会长疥癣，牙齿会脱落。

呜呜声越来越大，最后就变成了老虎扑食时发出的洪亮的吼叫：“啊呜！”

接着萨克汗发出一声嚎叫——缺乏虎威的一声吼叫。“他没扑到，”狼妈妈说，“怎么回事？”

狼爸爸跑出几步，听到萨克汗在矮树丛里打着滚，一边粗鲁地咕哝着。

“这傻瓜居然跳到樵夫的篝火上，把脚烫伤了，”狼爸爸嘀咕着，“塔巴奇和他在一块儿。”

“有什么东西上山来了，”狼妈妈一只耳朵抽搐了一下，说道，“做好准备。”

humming *adj.* 发嗡嗡声      tank *n.* 水池      pack *n.* 兽群      suffer *v.* 遭受苦难  
unsportmanlike *a.* 没有风度的，不光明正大的      full-throated *a.* 声音洪亮的  
mutter *v.* 咕哝，抱怨      savagely *adv.* 粗鲁的，残暴的





## The Jungle Story

"Something is coming up hill," said Mother Wolf, twitching one ear. "Get ready."

The bushes rustled a little in the thicket, and Father Wolf dropped with his **haunches** under him, ready for his **leap**. Then, if you had been watching, you would have seen the most wonderful thing in the world—the wolf **checked** in mid-spring. He made his bound before he saw what it was he was jumping at, and then he tried to stop himself. The result was that he shot up straight into the air for four or five feet, landing almost where he left ground.

"Man!" he snapped. "A man's cub. Look!"

Directly in front of him, holding on by a low branch, stood a naked brown baby who could just walk—as soft and as dimpled a little atom as ever came to a wolf's cave at night. He looked up into Father Wolf's face, and laughed.

"Is that a man's cub?" said Mother Wolf. "I have never seen one. Bring it here."

A Wolf accustomed to moving his own cubs can, if necessary, mouth an egg without breaking it, and though Father Wolf's jaws closed right on the child's back not a tooth even scratched the skin as he laid it down among the cubs.

"How little! How naked, and—how bold!" said Mother Wolf softly. The baby was pushing his way between the cubs to get close to the warm **hide**. "Ahai! He is taking his meal with the others. And so this is a man's cub. Now, was there ever a wolf that could boast of a man's cub among her children?"

"I have heard now and again of such a thing, but never in our pack or in my time," said Father Wolf. "He is altogether without hair, and I could kill him



灌木丛里发出沙沙的声响，狼爸爸蹲下身子，随即纵身一跃。接着，如果你注意看的话，你会看到世界上最令人惊叹的一幕——狼爸爸跳到半空中突然停止了。他还没弄清楚那是什么东西就跃了出去，于是就得设法制止自己。结果是他向空中跳到四至五英寸高，然后几乎就落在了他刚才跃起的地方。

“人！”他急促地说“是个小孩！看！”

一个刚刚学会走路，全身赤裸的棕色皮肤的小娃娃，手里握着一根短小的树枝，就站在他的面前——还从来没有这样一个柔弱的、脸上带着小酒窝的小生命在黑夜里来到一头狼的洞穴里。他抬头看着狼爸爸，笑着。



“那是小娃娃人吗？”狼妈妈说，“我还从没见过呢！带过来让我瞧瞧。”

狼总是习惯用嘴巴衔着他们的狼崽，如果必要的话，就是衔着一枚鸡蛋也不会弄碎的。虽然狼爸爸紧紧地咬住娃娃的背部，但当他把娃娃在狼崽中放下时，一点也没有伤到娃娃的皮肤。

“多么娇小啊！身上滑溜溜的！而且——胆子还真大！”狼妈妈温柔地说。小娃娃拼命地挤到狼崽子中间，希望得到些温暖。“啊哈，他和他们一起吃起来了。原来这就是娃娃人呀。谁听说过一头狼的狼崽中会有个娃娃人呢？”

“我倒是听说过这样的事情，但在我们狼群里或是在我这一辈子，还从来没发生过，”狼爸爸说，“他全身都没有毛，我只要

haunch *n.* 腿臀部

leap *n.* 跳跃

check *v.* 突然停止

hide *n.* 兽皮





## The Jungle Story

with a touch of my foot. But see, he looks up and is not afraid.”

The moonlight was blocked out of the mouth of the cave, for Shere Khan's great **square** head and shoulders were **thrust** into the entrance. Tabaqui, behind him, was squeaking: “My lord, my lord, it went in here! ”

“Shere Khan does us great honor,” said Father Wolf, but his eyes were very angry. “What does Shere Khan need?”

“My **quarry**. A man's cub went this way,” said Shere Khan. “Its parents have run off. Give it to me.”

Shere Khan had jumped at a woodcutter's campfire, as Father Wolf had said, and was **furious** from the pain of his burned feet. But Father Wolf knew that the mouth of the cave was too narrow for a tiger to come in by. Even where he was, Shere Khan's shoulders and forepaws were cramped for want of room, as a man's would be if he tried to fight in a barrel.

“The wolves are a free people,” said Father Wolf. “They take orders from the head of the pack, and not from any **striped** cattle-killer. The man's cub is ours—to kill if we choose.”

“You choose and you do not choose! What talk is this of choosing? By the bull that I killed, am I to stand nosing into your dog's den for my fair dues? It is I, Shere Khan, who speak! ”

The tiger's roar filled the cave with thunder. Mother Wolf shook herself clear of the cubs and sprang forward, her eyes, like two green moons in the darkness, facing the blazing eyes of Shere Khan.

“And it is I, Raksha, who answers. The man's cub is mine, Lungri—mine