



唐代传奇选 SELECTED TANG DYNASTY STORIES

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出版前言

本社专事外文图书的编辑出版,几十年 来用英文翻译出版了大量的中国文学作品和 文化典籍,上自先秦,下迄现当代,力求全面 而准确地反映中国文学及中国文化的基本面 貌和灿烂成就。这些英译图书均取自相关领 域著名的、权威的作品,英译则出自国内外译 界名家。每本图书的编选、翻译过程均极其 审慎严肃,精雕细琢,中文作品及相应的英译 版本均堪称经典。

我们意识到,这些英译精品,不单有对外译介的意义,而且对国内英文学习者、爱好者及英译工作者,也是极有价值的读本。为此,我们对这些英译精品做了认真的遴选,编排成汉英对照的形式,陆续推出,以飨读者。

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Publisher's Note

Foreign Languages Press is dedicated to the editing, translating and publishing of books in foreign languages. Over the past several decades it has published, in English, a great number of China's classics and records as well as literary works from the Qin down to modern times, in the aim to fully display the best part of the Chinese culture and its achievements. These books in the original are famous and authoritative in their respective fields, and their English translations are masterworks produced by notable translators both at home and abroad. Each book is carefully compiled and translated with minute precision. Consequently, the English versions as well as their Chinese originals may both be rated as classics.

It is generally considered that these English translations are not only significant for introducing China to the outside world but also useful reading materials for domestic English learners and translators. For this reason, we have carefully selected some of these books, and will publish them successively in Chinese-English bilingual form.

Foreign Languages Press

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SELECTED TANG DYNASTY STORIES

补江总白猿传

梁大同末,遭平南将军蔺钦南征,至桂林,破李师古陈彻。别将欧阳纥略地至长乐,悉平诸洞,采入深阻。纥妻纤白,甚美。其部人曰:"将军何为挈丽人经此?地有神,善窃少女,而美者尤所难免。宜谨护之。"纥甚疑惧,夜勒兵环其庐,匿妇密室中,谨闭甚固,而以女奴十余伺守之。尔夕,阴风晦黑,至五更,寂然无闻。守者怠而假寐,忽若有物惊悟者,即已失妻矣。关扃如故,莫知所出。出门山险,咫尺迷闷,不可寻逐。迫明,绝无其迹。纥大愤痛,誓不徒还。因辞疾,驻其军,日往四遐,即深陵险以索之。既逾月,

THE WHITE MONKEY

Anonymous

In 545 A.D., during the Liang Dynasty, the emperor sent general Lan Qin on an expedition to the south. He went as far as Guilin, and wiped out the rebel forces of Li Shigu and Chen Che. At the same time his lieutenant Ouyang He fought his way as far as Changle, conquering all the cave-dwellers there and leading his army deep into difficult terrain.

Now Ouyang's wife had a white skin and was very beautiful and delicate.

"You should not have brought such a beautiful wife here," his men told nim. "There is a god in these parts who carries off young women, especially good-looking ones. You had better guard her carefully."

Ouyang took fright. That night he set guards around the house, and hid his wife in a closely guarded inner chamber with a dozen maid-servants on watch. During the night a high wind sprang up and the sky turned dark, but nothing happened and shortly before dawn the exhausted guards dozed off. Suddenly, however, they were startled from their sleep, only to find that Ouyang's wife had disappeared. The door was still locked, and no one knew how she had got out. They started looking outside on the steep hillside, but a thick fog blotted out everything at one yard's distance, making it impossible to continue the search. Then dawn came, but still they could find no trace of her.

In great anger and grief Ouyang swore that he would not return alone. On pretext of sickness he stationed his troops there, and sent 忽于百里之外丛筱上,得其妻绣履一只,虽侵雨濡,犹可辨识、纥尤凄悼,求之益坚。选壮士三十人,持兵负粮,岩栖野食。又旬余,远所舍约二百里,南望一山,葱秀迥出。至其下,有深溪环之,乃编木以度。绝岩翠竹之间,时见红彩,闻笑语音。扪萝引垣,而陟其上,则嘉树列植,间以名花,其下绿芜,丰软如毯。清迥岑寂,杳然珠境。东向石门有妇人数十,帔服鲜泽,嬉游歌笑,出人其中。见人皆慢视迟立,至则问曰:"何因来此?"纥具以对。相视叹曰:"贤妻至此月余矣。今病在床,宜遣视之。"入其门,以木为扉。中宽辟若堂者三。四壁设床,悉施锦荐。其妻卧石榻上,重茜累席,珍食盈前。纥就视之。回眸一睇,即疾挥手令去。诸妇人曰:"我等与公之妻,比来久者十年。

them out daily in all directions to search the valleys and heights for his wife. A month later, on a bush some thirty miles away, they found one of her embroidered shoes which, though soaked by rain, was still recognizable. Overcome with grief, Ouyang intensified the search, taking thirty picked armed men with rations to scour the hills. After another ten days, they reached a place about seventy miles from their camp from where they could see a green, tree-clad mountain to the south which towered above the other hills. When they came to the foot of this mountain, they found it surrounded by a deep stream, which they had to build a little bridge to cross. Between the precipices and emerald bamboos they caught glimpses of coloured dresses and heard the sound of women talking and laughing. When they pulled themselves up the cliffs by vines and ropes, they found green trees planted in avenues with rare flowers between them, and a verdant meadow fresh and soft as a carpet. It was a quiet, secluded, unearthly retreat. There was a gate to the east, hewn in the rock, through which several dozen women in bright new dresses and shawls could be seen passing - singing and laughing as they went. When they saw the strangers, they stopped to stare. And when the men went up to them, the women asked what had brought them there.

After Ouyang had told them, the women looked at each other and sighed. "Your wife has been here over a month," they said. "Just now she is sick in bed. You may go and see her." Passing through a wooden door in the stone gate, Ouyang saw three spacious enclosures where couches strewn with silk cushions had been placed by the salls. His wife was lying on a bed spread with matting and rugs, with rich food placed before her. At Ouyang's approach she turned and saw him, but signed to him to leave.

"Some of us have been here for ten years already," the other women told him, "while your wife has only just arrived. This is

此神物所居,力能杀人,虽百夫操兵,不能制也。幸其未返,宜速避之。但求美酒两斛,食犬十头,麻数十斤,当相与谋杀之。其来必以正午。后慎勿太早。以十日为期。"因促之去。纥亦遽退。遂求醇醪与麻,归,但是之去。纥亦遽退。遂求醇醪必明,归,往往致醉。醉必明,即而往。妇人曰:"彼好酒,往往致醉。醉必唱,则力尽不解。今麻隐帛中束之,度不能御兵刃。"指军置人,唯脐下数寸,常护蔽之,此必不能御兵刃。"指军置气,我散中,待吾计成,招之即出。"如其言,屏人则,,得至,有美髯丈夫长六尺余,白衣曳杖,拥诸妇人中。少选,有美髯丈夫长六尺余,白衣曳杖,拥诸妇人而出。见犬惊视,腾身执之,披裂吮咀,食之致饱。妇人竟以玉杯进酒,谐笑甚欢。既饮数斗,则扶之而去。

where the monster lives. He is a mankiller, and even a hundred armed men are no match for him. You had better slip away before he comes back. If you will let us have forty gallons of potent wine, ten dogs for him to eat, and several dozen catties of hemp, we shall be able to kill him. You had better come at noon, not earlier, ten days from now." They urged him to leave quickly, and Ouyang did so.

He was back again on the appointed day bringing with him the strong liquor, hemp and dogs. "The monster is a great drinker," the women said, "and likes to drink himself silly. When he is drunk he always wants to test his strength, and tells us to fasten his arms and legs with silken ropes as he lies on the couch. Then he frees himself with one leap. But once we twisted three ropes together, and he couldn't break them. Now if we twist hemp inside the silk, we are sure he will never be able to snap it. His whole body is like iron, but he has always protected those few inches under his navel; it must mean that he is vulnerable there." Then, pointing to a nearby precipice, they said, "That is where he stores his food. You can conceal yourselves there. Keep quiet and wait. Put the wine by the flowers and the dogs in the forest. If our plan works we shall call you."

Ouyang and his men did as they were told, and waited with bated breath. Late in the afternoon, something like a streamer of white silk flew down from the top of a distant hill straight into the cave, and in a little while a six-foot man with a fine beard came out. He was dressed in white, with a stick in his hand, and was attended by the women. He gave a start at the sight of the dogs, then leapt at them, seized them and tore them limb from limb, eating greedily until he was sated. The women offered him drinks in jade cups, and together they joked and laughed gaily. After he had drunk several pints of wine, the women helped him in, and sounds of fun and merriment could be heard.

After a long time, the women came out to summon the men,

又闻嬉笑之音。良久,妇人出招之,乃持兵而入,见大白猿,缚四足于床头,顾人蹙缩,求脱不得,目光如电。竟兵之,如中铁石。刺其脐下,即饮刃,血射如注。乃大叹咤曰:"此天杀我,岂尔之能。然尔如归注。乃大叹咤曰:"此天杀我,岂尔之能。然尔西进言绝乃死。"言绝乃死。搜秦不免。名香数斛,宝剑一双。归人世所珍,整不免。名香数斛,宝剑一双。归人三十辈,皆绝。人者至十年。云,色衰必被提去,莫知所后常。遍身白毛,长数寸。所居常或者不知寒暑。遍身白毛,长数寸。所居常或者不知寒暑。遍身白毛,长数寸。所居常或来,对小野电飞,光圆若月。其饮食无常,喜啖果菜、尤嗜犬,咀而饮其血。日始逾午,即欻然而逝。半昼往返数千里,及晚必归,此其常也。所须无不立得。

who went in carrying their weapons. They saw a huge white monkey fastened by its four paws on the couch. At the sight of the men it recoiled and struggled to release itself, but in vain, and its furious eyes flickered like lightning. Ouyang and his men fell on it, but its body was like iron or stone. However, when they stabbed at its belly under the navel, their swords sank in and red blood spurted out. The white monkey gave a long sigh and said to Ouyang, "This must be the will of heaven – otherwise you would not have been able to kill me. Your wife is pregnant now. Don't kill the child when he is born, for he will grow up to serve a great monarch and your family will prosper." With these words he died.

They searched through his possessions, and found stores of precious things as well as an abundance of rare food on the tables. All the treasures known to men were there, including several gallons of rare scents and a pair of finely wrought swords. The thirty-odd women were all exquisite beauties, some of whom had been there for ten years. They said that when women grew old they would be taken away, to what fate no one knew. The white monkey was the only one to enjoy these women, for he had no followers.

Every morning the monkey would wash and put on a hat, a white collar and a white silk dress, wearing the same in winter and summer alike. He had white fur several inches long. When he stayed at home he would read wooden tablets inscribed with hieroglyphics which no one else could decipher; and after he had finished reading he would put the tablets under a stone step. On a clear day he might practise sword play, and then the two swords would encircle him like flashes of lightning, making a moon-like halo round him. He ate all manner of things, particularly nuts, and was also very partial to dogs, whose blood he loved to drink. At noon he would fly off to travel thousands of miles in half a day, coming back at night. Such was his custom.

夜就诸床嬲戏,一夕皆周,未尝寐。言语淹详,华旨会利。然其状,即猳玃类也。今岁木落之初,忽怆然曰:"吾为山神所诉,将得死罪。亦求护之于众灵,庶几可免。"前月哉生魄,石磴生火,焚其简书。怅然自失曰:"吾已千岁,而无子。今有子,死期至矣。"因顾诸女, 洪澜者久,且曰:"此山复绝,未尝有人至。上高而望,绝不见樵者。下多虎狼怪兽。今能至者,非天假之,何耶?"纥即取宝玉珍丽及诸妇人以归,犹有知其家者。纥妻周岁生一子,厥状肖焉。后纥为陈武帝所诛。素与江总善。爰其子聪悟绝人,常留养之,故免于难。及长,果文学善书,知名于时。