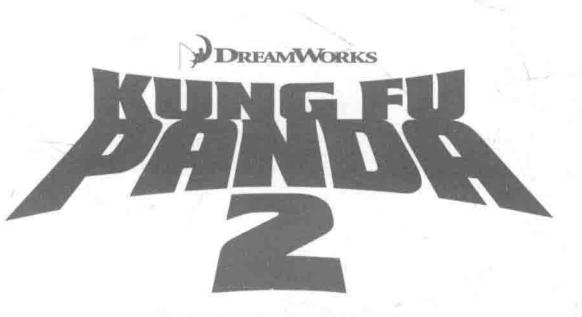
功夫熊猫 2

DREAMWORKS

美国梦工场动画公司 著

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PROLOGUE

Long ago, the peacocks of Gongmen City created a thing of great beauty: fireworks. For generations the fireworks brought joy to the city. But one young peacock wondered if the flames held even greater power.

Shen was a peacock with feathers as white as the winter snow. He spent hours in the darkness of his room experimenting with the black powder that created the dazzling[®] light shows in the sky. But Shen wasn't making fireworks. Instead he imagined great weapons capable of deadly force.

① dazzling adj. 耀眼的

Lord and Lady Peacock turned to wise Soothsayer. An old goat, Soothsayer mixed herbs and oils until a cloud of smoke shot up, forming the black and white symbol of yin and yang. Soothsayer warned that if Shen continued down the path he was on, he would be stopped by a warrior of black and white.

Young Shen tried to change his fate, but what he did next only sealed^① it. He gathered a small army of wolf guards and attacked a village of peaceful panda farmers.

His parents were horrified by what their son had done. They banished² him from the city. As he stormed away from the palace, Shen swore he would return and bring his fiery vengeance³ upon all of China.

Years later, Shen was ready to keep his promise. Clouds of hot steam puffed, hissed, and billowed[®] inside an old fireworks factory. Sparks flew as workers shaped the red-hot metal

③ vengeance n. 报复 ④ billow v. (烟雾)涌出,冒出



① seal v. 封锁; 确定, 使……成为定局 ② banish v. 驱逐

with their hammers.

One of the wolf leaders kneeled before his master, a cloaked^① figure with metal claws.

"It's almost done, Lord Shen," the wolf leader reported. "But we need more metal."

Shen nodded. "Go to the farthest village and get the metal," he replied. "Then we get the black powder. Then . . . we get the world."

① cloaked adj. 穿着斗篷的



Forty Bean Buns

The sun dawned gently that morning in the Valley of Peace. The bright rays shone through the windows of the Furious Five's training barracks^①. Viper, Crane, Mantis, Tigress, and Monkey were gathered around the Dragon Warrior.

"Thirty-four!" yelled the Five. "Stop him! It's too dangerous! Thirty-five! Thirty-six! Thirty-seven!"

"How is he doing that with his face?" asked Mantis.

① barrack n. 营房

The Five stopped and studied Po, the Dragon Warrior, a large panda with a round belly. He was stuffing^① dumplings into his mouth with a pair of chopsticks. His furry cheeks looked like they couldn't fit another bite.

But Po shoved² one last dumpling into his mouth, and then pounded his fist on the table in front of him.

"Thirty-eight bean buns!" he cried triumphantly through a mouth full of food.

"Ahh! It's too horrible," Viper cried.

But Mantis cheered. "Yeah! New record! You monster!" The little green insect waved his front legs.

"More! Hit forty!" Monkey urged.

Po's face turned red. He started to mumble[®] something, but he couldn't form the words.

"Are you choking?" Crane asked.

Po tried to answer but he couldn't. His mouth was too full.

① stuff v. 把·····塞进 ② shove v. 胡乱丢 ③ mumble v. 咕哝



"Do you need me to hit you on the back?"

Crane asked.

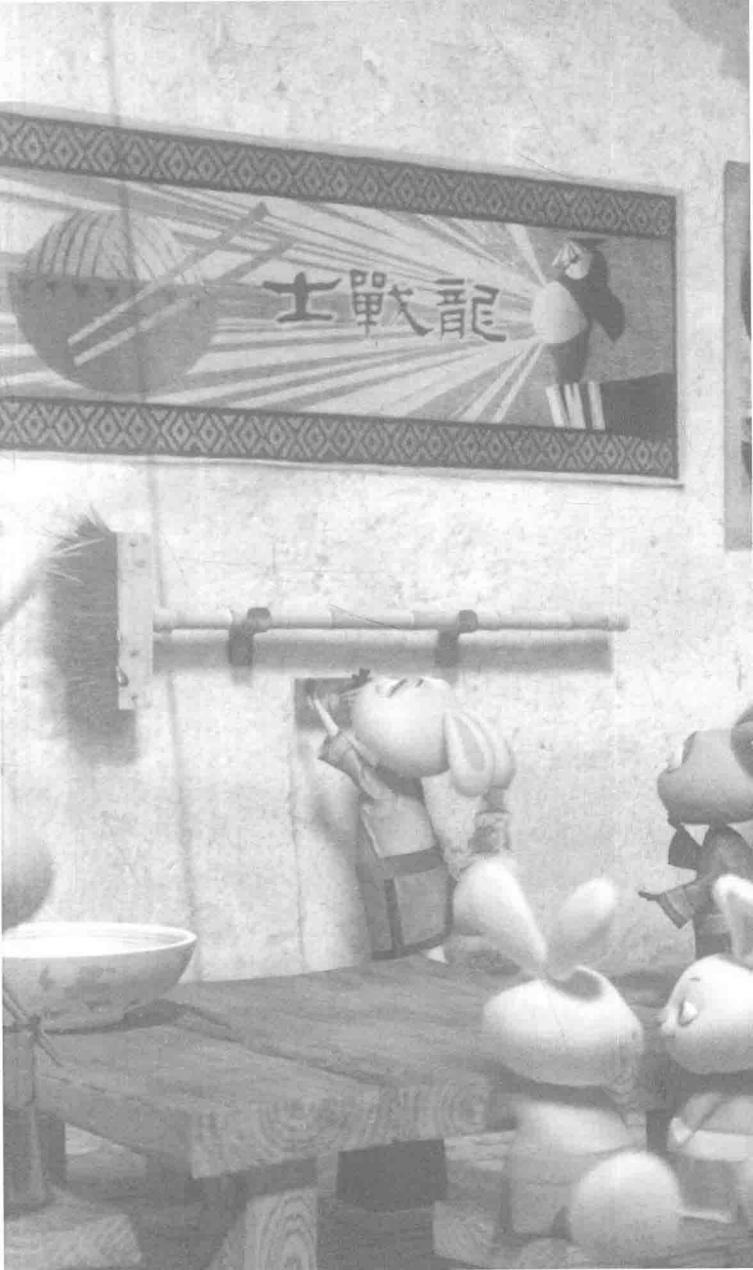
Po mumbled something else.

"Is that a yes?" Crane asked.

Po quickly stuffed two more dumplings in his mouth.

"Thirty-nine, forty!" he cried triumphantly. Then he dashed^① out—he was late for training with Master Shifu.

① dash v. 飞奔





"Inner Peace! Inner Peace!"

Today Master Shifu was teaching Po in the Dragon Grotto, a mountain cave set above a waterfall. Inside the cave, a dragon statue stood over a lake of deep blue water. Water dripped down from the ceiling. *Plunk*, *plunk*, *plunk*.

Master Shifu was balancing on one leg on top of his staff, which stood straight up in the middle of the lake. One twitch and he would plunge[®] into the cold water below.

"Inner Peace. Inner Peace," he repeated calmly.

① plunge v. 突然往下落

Then he heard Po huffing and puffing his way up the mountain. His inner calm began to waver.

"Inner Peace," he said, trying not to wobble^①.

Po came rushing into the cave, splashing through the water.

"Master Shifu! Master Shifu!" he cried. Then he stopped, surprised to see his teacher balanced on top of the tall staff. "Uh, what—"

"Shh!"

"Are-" Po didn't get it.

"Shh!"

"You-" Po still didn't get it.

"Shh!"

Po finally caught on^②, but he still couldn't help himself. "Doing?" he asked in a whisper.

A drop of water fell from the cave ceiling. Shifu closed his eyes in concentration. He gracefully slid his right arm in front of his

① wobble v. 摇晃; 动摇 ② catch on 明白, 认识到



body, catching the water droplet^① gently in his hand. Then he turned over his palm, and the unbroken drop fell onto a small plant sprouting^② through the stone floor.

"Awesome!" Po cried. "How. Did. You. DO THAT?"

"Inner Peace," Shifu replied.

"That's cool," Po said. He paused. "I have no idea what that means."

"It is the next phase of your training," Shifu replied. "Every master must find his path to Inner Peace. Some choose to meditate³ for fifty years. In a cave, just like this. Without the slightest taste of food or water."

Po's stomach growled just thinking about it. There had to be another way.

"Or . . . ?" Po asked.

"Some find it through pain and suffering," Shifu answered. "As I did. Po, the day you were chosen as the Dragon Warrior . . . was the worst

① droplet n. 小水珠 ② sprout v. 发芽 ③ meditate v. 冥想, 沉思

