

〔汉英对照〕

ANCIENT CHINESE JOKES

中国古代笑话



北京出版社

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吕锡章 译 陈耀光 校

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内 容 提 要

本书以汉英对照形式收录中国古代笑话 121 篇。这些笑话内容富于情趣，形式短小精悍，娓娓道来，使读者从幽默中增长智慧，在笑声中得到教益。本书可供懂英语的中外读者阅读，也可供学习英语的读者参考。书中选用的中文笑话文字略有删节。

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1. 巧 言

有个棋迷，他的棋法并不高明，却又不肯认输。有一天，他硬要和一个高手对着，连着了三盘。结果怎么，自然是可想而知的。别人故意问他：“老兄！胜负如何？大概又是输了吧！”他马上大言不惭地回答说“第一盘，他不曾输；第二盘，我不曾赢；第三盘是和局，他又不肯和。”

（选自《中国古代笑话》，少年儿童出版社1980年版）

Cunning Words

A man indulged in chess. Although he was not a good hand at this game, yet he would never admit of his weakness.

One day, he insisted on playing chess with a master player. They played three games in succession. The result could well be imagined.

Someone asked him purposely, "Well, old chap! What was the outcome of the games? May be you have lost the games again?"

The man spoke with no blush, "In the first game, he was not defeated. I didn't win in the second game. And the third game was a draw, but he didn't like the game to be ended in a draw!"

2. 丢 话

有个富家子弟，花钱买了个小官儿当。他怕别人看不起，特地乘船出去学官话。有一天，在外面学会了一句“岂有此理”。乘船返回时，他不住声地背诵着，背着背着，打了一个顿，忽然就忘记了。他急得没法，就在前舱后舱乱翻乱找起来。船公问他：“客人，你丢什么东西了？”他说：“我跑了不少路，花了不少钱，好不容易学会了一句官话，一不小心却丢在你们船上了。要是找不着，就是叫你捡去啦。”船公生气地说：“银钱或其他贵重物品可以丢在船上，一句话怎么会丢在船上呢？真是岂有此理！”那个富家子弟一听，喜出望外：“喔！原来还是被你拾到了，多谢多谢！”

(选自《笑话》，辽宁人民出版社1981年版)

Forgetting the Speech

The son of a rich man got a junior official title with money. Fearing that people might look down upon him, so he went out by boat to learn the language of officialdom.

One day, he learned a speech "What kind of reasoning is that?" As he was returning home by a boat, he recited the speech again and again. Suddenly, due to an interruption, he forgot the speech totally. He was extremely anxious and rummaged about in the front and rear cabins looking for the missing words.

"What have you lost, customer?" asked the boat-

man.

“I have travelled a long distance and have spent quite a lot of money. I had a hard time to learn a Mandarin, but, due to carelessness, I have lost it in your boat. If I couldn't find it, surely, you would have picked it up.”

The boatman was angry and said: “Money or other valuables might be lost on the boat, how could a speech be lost here? What kind of reasoning is that!”

Hearing this, the son of a rich man was overjoyed at the unexpected gain: “Oh! really, it is picked up by you. Many thanks!” he said.

3. 占 座 位

一屋子都是来讨债的人，主人家的椅子、凳子都给坐满了。还有一个人没有座位，索性坐在窗槛上。这时候，主人暗地里把坐在窗槛上的人的袖子拉了一下，轻轻地说：“你明天一早来。”

那个人以为是准备先还他名下的债款了，满心欢喜，就设法用话来打动其他的一些债权人，请他们各自回去。

第二天，这人很早就赶来，对主人说：“你昨天约我早些来，还我的钱都准备好了吧？”

主人很抱歉地说：“对不起，昨天让你坐在窗槛上，所以我约你今天早些来，可以占把椅子坐坐。”

(选自《中国古代笑话》，少年儿童出版社1980年版)

Occupying a Seat

A man's house was literally packed with a large number of creditors. Stools and chairs were all occupied. As there was one more man who had no seat, so he directly sat on the window-sill. At this time, the host secretly pulled the sleeve of the man and said to him in a soft voice, "You come here earlier the next morning."

The man was filled with joy for he considered that the host might pay him back the money first. So he tried to persuade other creditors to go back.

The next morning, the man came very early as told. He said to the host, "You made an appointment yesterday to bid me to come here earlier this morning. Haven't you got ready to pay me back the money?"

The host said regretfully, "I am sorry, you sat on the window-sill yesterday. The reason for asking you to come here earlier this morning is that you may occupy a seat."

4. 我冻你儿

艾子抱上了孙子，心里十分高兴。孙子很快长大了，却不爱读书，还经常逃学。艾子气急了，就狠狠揍他一顿。

艾子的儿子只生了这一个孩子，对他十分溺爱。每当艾