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The Small Yellow Dragon and the Big Black Dragon

Long, long ago a rich man lived in a village near Tali, in Yunnan. The rich man had a young maid-servant. One day when the maid was washing vegetables in the valley she saw a green peach carried along by a hillside stream. She picked it up and ate it. A few weeks later she was pregnant. Why? Because the peach was not a peach at all, it was a dragon pearl.

The rich man's wife was enraged. "How shocking!" she shouted, "an unmarried girl pregnant! Shame on you!" She drove the girl out.

The unfortunate girl, wandering on the roads from day to day, could not find a place to shelter and rest.

The rich family had an old servant who did the domestic work. She was very kind-hearted. Moved by the suffering of the girl, she asked a farm-worker to put up a temporary shed in an isolated place out-

小黄龍和大黑龍

很久很久以前,在雲南泰利附近的鄉村中,住着一位富豪,他有一個年青的女僕。有一天,當那個女僕在山谷間洗菜的時候,看見有一個綠色的桃子,沿着山邊溪水順流而下,她把它拾起來吃掉。幾個星期以後,她竟然懷孕了。爲什麽呢?因爲那個綠色的桃子並非眞是桃子,而是一個顆龍珠啊。

富豪的妻子大怒得高叫起來:「眞不得了啊!一個 未婚少女懷孕,實在是太不知羞耻了!」於是,她把少 女逐出家門。

不幸的少女,天天在路上閒蕩,無法找到一塊足以 藏身的地方。

富豪的家中,有一位料理家務的老女僕。她心地慈祥,對少女的遭遇深表同情。因此,他請了一位農人在村外空地上搭了一個臨時的棚,給少女暫時棲身,並

side the village. She kept it a secret from her master. Later the girl gave birth to a baby in the shed.

At the hour of childbirth a phoenix perched on the shed. It outstretched its coloured wings to shield the shed from wind and rain. When the young mother had carefully wrapped the baby the bird took wing and disappeared.

The young mother and her baby lived a hard life in the shed. Fortunately, a wealthy family nearby had a horse that ate only the grass reaped by this young woman. Thus she made a living for herself and her baby from this daily task.

While the young mother cut grass in the field she would leave the baby sleeping on a nearby ridge, covering him with a reed raincoat. As she was busy with her work she naturally had no time to attend to the baby. Whenever the baby cried a huge snake would creep to the ridge and nurse him. And that was how the baby was brought up.

So life went on for two years. In the third year the child was able to help his mother cut grass.

About this time the Big Black Dragon in Lake Erh near Tali realized that a precious robe of his was missing.

"Where's my robe?" he asked his wife, impatiently.

"I don't know," answered his wife.

The truth was that the Black Dragon's wife was in love with the Small White Dragon and she helped the

且對主人保持秘密。沒多久,少女便在棚裏生**了一個孩**子。

孩子出生的時候,有一隻鳳凰站在棚頂,張開了她 那美麗的翅膀來遮蓋着竹棚,使不至受風雨侵襲。當年 青的媽媽把孩子小心地整理好之後,她才振翅飛走。

年青的媽媽和孩子在棚中辛勞地過活。幸而附近的 一個富貴人家的一匹馬,只吃那年青婦人所割的草,因 此,她每天都靠這份工作來維持母子的生活。

當年青的媽媽在田中割草的時候,便把小孩子放在 田邊睡覺,上面蓋着一件簑衣。因為她忙於工作,所以 很小時間照顧孩子。但當孩子哭喊時,却有一條巨蟒爬 近田邊去照料他。孩子就是在這樣的環境下長成的。

兩年辛勞的生活就這樣渡過了,到了第三年,孩子 已經能夠幫媽媽割草了。

這時候,泰利附近的儀湖的大黑龍,却發覺失掉了 一件寶貴的袍子。

他不耐煩地向妻子問:「我的袍子呢?」「我那裏會知道啊。」他的妻子答道。

事實上,大黑龍的妻愛上了小白龍,她幫助小白龍

latter take away the robe. The Big Black Dragon worked himself into a great fury about his missing robe. He blocked the outlet of Lake Erh to search for it. As the water in the lake could not escape they rose sharply, inundating vast stretches of farmlands and causing the loss of countless lives. Despite all this, the Small White Dragon kept the robe and refused to divulge its hiding place. The water level rose so high that even Black Dragon Bridge at Hsiakwan was submerged.

One day when mother and child returned from the field the child remarked: "The Big Black Dragon is crazy. His actions are resulting in so much damage and disaster that the people are panic-stricken. A notice, posted up in the county seat, says that anyone who can tame the Big Black Dragon will be highly awarded. Well, I'm going to have a try."

The young mother was greatly troubled at the rashness of her child. She tried to block the door, but he eluded her and ran away along the road.

When the child arrived at the county town he tore the notice from the board. The officer in charge was angered by the child's action and was going to chastise him, when the bystanders interposed. One said: "Don't beat him. Bring him to the magistrate and let us see whether he can really bring the Big Black Dragon under control."

把袍子偷去的。大黑龍失去袍子以後,便大發雷霆,命他的屬下在儀湖外四處找尋,鼓起湖中的水,使它不斷的高漲,當時因爲湖水無處可去,所以立刻淹沒了廣大的原野,吞沒了無數的生物和農莊。雖然是這樣,但小白龍仍然不肯把那件袍子交出,因此,洪水的高漲,甚至連西關的黑龍橋都浸了。

一天,當母親和孩子從田間囘家時,孩子說:「大 黑龍一定是瘋了,他的所為造成了巨大的災害,使人民 受到悽慘嚴重的損失。現在,縣衙門前已經貼出一張告 示,聲明誰人能懲罰大黑龍,便賞以重酬。現在,我要 去嘗試一下了。」

年青的媽媽 , 對孩子這種輕率行動, 感到大為煩惱,她想把門戶鎖起來,但孩子却迅速地躲過了她,逃 跑路到大路去了。

孩子抵達了縣衙,便把告示撕下來。衙役對這個孩子的行動,感到十分氣惱,正欲懲戒他,却給旁人勸阻了,其中一個人說:「不要打他,帶他到縣官面前,看他能否真的把大黑龍制服吧。」

When the child was brought to the court the county magistrate was favourably impressed by his precocity.

"But you're so young, my child," he said. "How can you hope to tame the dragon?"

"I can do that, if you will prepare for me the things I need."

"What do you want?"

"I want a bronze dragon head-mask, two pairs of iron gloves with claws, six sharp swords, three hundred iron dumplings and three hundred steamed flour dumplings."

The child considered for a while and then added: "I need also three huge dragons made of straw. With all these things I'll surely capture the Big Black Dragon."

The magistrate ordered all these things to be got ready.

The child donned the bronze dragon head-mask, drew the gloves with iron claws on his hands and feet, held one sword in his teeth, fastened three on his back, and clenched a sword in each hand.

Then he addressed the crowd: "Throw the three straw dragons into the lake. Let the Big Black Dragon fight them until he is worn out."

He went on: "I will now plunge into the water. When yellow water comes up, throw me the flour 當孩子被帶到公堂上,縣官見他聰明伶俐,對他十 分好感。

縣官說:「孩子,你太年輕了,怎能制服大黑龍 呢?」

孩子說:「我能夠的,只要你為我預備一切所用的 東西吧了。」

縣官說:「你想要些什麽呢?」

孩子說:「我想要一具青銅製的龍頭面具,兩對有 爪的鐵手套,六把利劍,三百塊鐵製的燒餅,三百塊粉 製的燒餅。」

孩子想了一會兒,然後繼續說:「我還要三個草紮的巨龍。用這些東西,我保證可以擒獲大黑龍了。」

縣官下令把所有這些器具全都預備起來了。

孩子把青銅製的龍頭戴上手,脚都穿了有爪的鐵手 套,口中咬着一柄劍,三柄綁在背上,然後兩手各握一 柄。

最後,他對羣衆說: 「把三個草紮的巨龍抛下湖 裏,讓大黑龍和他們打個筋疲力竭吧。」

他繼續說:「我要下水了。當黃水湧上來的時候,

dumplings; and when the black water appears, throw in the iron dumplings. After the Big Black Dragon is tamed, throw a tuft of grass into the lake, and erect a temple for me at the place where the grass drifts ashore."

As soon as the child leaped into the lake, he was instantly transformed into a small, yellow dragon and the battle started.

Waves and spray were thrown high up in the air. The local inhabitants of Tali rowed many boats in the wake of the surging waves. They shouted encouragement to the Yellow Dragon.

As a result of this effort the Yellow Dragon was hungry. No sooner had yellow foam gathered on the surface than he appeared, raised his head and opened his mouth as a sign that he wanted food. The people on the boats dropped flour dumplings into his mouth. The food gave the Yellow Dragon renewed strength.

Meanwhile, black foam began to appear on the water. The Big Black Dragon was also hungry. As he came to the surface, he raised his head and opened his big mouth. The people on the boats hurled in the iron dumplings. Needless to say, his hunger was not in the least appeared. Instead, he suffered acute pains in the stomach.

The fighting continued for three consecutive days, and the same process was repeated again and again.

就請抛給我粉製的燒餅,但當黑水湧上時,就請抛下鐵 製的燒餅。大黑龍被懲誡以後,就抛一扎草落湖中,然 後在那札草飄流到的地方,爲我建一座廟字吧。!

孩子跳進湖裏不久,瞬即變成一條小黃龍,隨着, 激烈的戰鬥,便告開始。

波濤和浪花被擊得衝向高空,秦利的居民在波濤洶 湧的湖中排列了很多小艇,他們大聲吶喊,爲小黃龍助 威。

大戰了幾個囘合,小黃龍飢餓了,於是,水面浮出 黃色的泡沫,隨着小黃龍的頭升起來,張開嘴巴,表示 需要食物。在艇上的人們見了,便把粉製的燒餅掉進他 的口中,這些食物使小黃龍 重新恢復了力量, 繼續戰 鬥。

同時,黑色的泡沫在水中出現了,大黑龍也感到飢餓,他露出水面,昂起頭來,張開那血盤大口,艇上的人們見了,立刻把鐵製的燒餅猛擲進去;不消說,他的飢餓非但沒有稍減,反而使肚子遭受劇烈的苦楚呢。

戰鬥繼續了整整的三天 , 同樣的 事情重複了好幾

At last, the Black Dragon was exhausted. For a long time he kept his mouth open looking for food. It was at this moment that the Yellow Dragon, agile as a snake, slipped into the belly of the Big Black Dragon. Armed with his six sharp swords, he slashed about him. The Black Dragon could not stand the pain and turned and twisted convulsively in the lake. The people in their boats kept after him and cast iron dumplings into his open mouth from time to time. Eventually the Big Black Dragon gave in and pleaded for mercy:

"My dear Yellow Dragon, please come out! I can't bear the pain any longer. My belly is as if it was on fire: Come out, please! I'll run away and never come back. From now on you can rule the lake."

"All right! But from what place will you let me come out?" the small Yellow Dragon asked.

"From my bowels."

"No, that's an insult!"

"Well, will it be all right to come out from my nostril?"

"No, no! That's an insult, too."

"Will you come out from my ear?"

"Stop that nonsense! I'm not your ear-wax."

"Then creep out from my armpit!"

"You'd crush me should I come out that way!"

"Then from the sole of my foot."

"Your sole? You'd trample me to death."

次。最後,大黑龍已經筋疲力盡了,他張開嘴巴,找尋食物。很久還未合攏,就在這個時候,小黃龍像蛇一般狡捷地溜進他的腹中,用他早已配備的六柄利劍,刺他的五臟。 大黑龍痛苦難堪 , 在湖中輾轉反側地不斷打滾。艇上的人們監視着他,並繼續把鐵燒餅投進他的口裏。結果大黑龍屈服,懇求小黃龍饒恕,他說:「我最親愛的小黃龍,請你出來吧! 我不能再 忍受這種痛苦了。我的腹部像被火燒着一般,請你出來吧!我將會離開這裏,永不囘來,從現在起,你便是這個湖的主人了。!

小黃龍說: 「好的 , 但是你叫我從什麽地方出來 呢 ? 」

「從我的肛門吧。」

[呸!這簡直是一種侮辱。]

「那麼,可否從我的鼻孔鑽出來呢?」

「不能的!這也算是一種侮辱。」

「從我的耳朶出來好嗎?」

[不要亂講!我並非是你的耳糠呀。]

「這樣,就從我的腋下爬出來吧。」

[從腋下爬出來,你會把我挾碎的。]

「那麽,從我的脚底吧。|

[你的脚底?那你會踏死我的。]

In the meantime the Yellow Dragon made a few more slashes and the Black Dragon's pain was beyond enduring. "I can't stand the agony any longer, come out from my eye," he implored.

The Yellow Dragon removed one eye of the Big Black Dragon and emerged triumphant.

The one-eyed Black Dragon later made a tunnel through the rocks underneath the Kiang Feng Temple and escaped to the Nu River. The flood waters around Tali flowed down through the opening. Tradition has it that this opening is the present arch of the Tienshengchiao at Tali.

The Yellow Dragon did not come back to the land after he had driven away the Black Dragon. The young mother called her son's name loudly on the lakeside and the only answer she got from the water was: "You go home, mother, I must stay here."

"If you can't come on land again, dear son, let me have a last look at your face," sobbed the mother.

He raised his head above the water. When his mother saw a dragon's head instead of her son's, she received such a shock that she died.

The people at Tali were greatly distressed at the death of the mother. They buried her and then threw some grass on the lake. The Yellow Dragon was transformed into a little snake; it crept on to the tuft of grass and floated away with the current. The grass stopped drifting when it reached Fenglo Pavilion.

在講話的時候,小黃龍又在他的腹中刺了幾下,使 他難以忍受。他哀求說:「我不能再忍受這種痛苦了, 從我的眼睛出來吧。」

小黃龍移開大黑龍的一顆眼珠,勝利地跑了出來。 獨眼的大黑龍後來在祈法寺的地底造了一條隧道, 穿過石塊逃去怒江去了。淹沒泰利的洪水立刻從這個缺口流出,再不致於泛濫成災。相傳這個缺口就是泰利的 天然橋的橋拱,一直遭留到現在。

小黃龍驅逐了大黑龍以後, 並沒有返囘岸上。

年青的母親在湖邊高聲叫喊,找尋她的兒子,但水 中的囘答只是說:「媽媽,你囘家吧,我一定要留在這 裏的。」

母親飲泣說:「好孩子,如果你真的不能再返囘岸 上,那麽,就讓我再見你最後的一面吧。」

小黃龍把頭升出水面,他的母親看見兒子的面貌竟 然是一個龍頭,立刻驚駭過度而死。

泰利的人們對這個母親的死亡深致哀悼,他們把她 埋葬了,然後,擲一扎草落湖中。

小黃龍化成一條小蛇,爬在那扎草上,順流而下, 一直飄流到「法魯皮威安」才告停止,人們便依照他的 Accordingly, the people built a Dragon King's temple nearby.

They also erected a Dragon Mother's Ancestral Hall near the Three-Pagoda Temple. The Small Yellow Dragon was also worshipped as the local deity of Green Peach Village.