

The Jungle story

丛林故事

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The Jungle Story,中文译名为《丛林故事》,是19世纪末20世纪初世界上最伟大的童话著作之一,它由英国著名作家、诺贝尔文学奖获得者吉卜林编著而成。

本书是一部拟人化、神话化的动物故事集,讲述了 "狼孩" 莫格里和其他几种动物的惊险故事。故事中塑造了 机智勇敢的"狼孩" 莫格里、憨厚的老熊巴鲁、机敏的黑豹 巴希拉等众多个性鲜明、令人难忘的形象,故事情节惊险曲 折、引人入胜。

该书一经出版,很快就成为当时最受关注和最畅销的 儿童文学作品,一百年来被翻译成几十种文字,在世界上广 为流传。书中所展现的神奇故事伴随了一代又一代人的美丽 童年、少年直至成年。无论作为语言学习的课本,还是作为 通俗的文学读本,本书对当代中国的青少年都将产生积极的 影响。

而我们这本双语版的《丛林故事》, 更是为了使青少年读者朋友能够在了解故事概况的同时, 提高阅读速度和阅读水平。我们把每个章节的中文和英文对应起来, 可以使青少年读者获得中、英两种语言的阅读享受, 从而满足不同读者的阅读需求, 是一本为青少年读者朋友们量身打造的文学佳作。

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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 intheir 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."

It was the jackal——Tabaqui, the Dish-licker——and the wolves of India despise Tabaqui because he runs about making mischief, and



第一章 莫格里的兄弟们

蝙蝠蒙解开了夜的锁链, 鹞鹰朗又把它驮回了家。 惊悚的牛群躲进了栏圈, 因为我们将终夜游荡无涯。 这是展示力量与尊严的时刻, 它属于巨钳、利爪和尖牙。 听那召唤!诸位狩猎快乐! 永远别忘了丛林之法!

——《从林夜歌》

一个炎热的黄昏,七点钟。在西奥尼山间,睡了一天的狼爸爸醒来,搔了搔身子,打了个哈欠,把爪子一只只摊开,好赶跑爪尖残留的倦意。狼妈妈躺在旁边,大灰鼻子埋在四个滚来滚去、吱吱尖叫的狼宝宝中间。他们一家住在洞穴里,此时月光已照亮了洞口。"噢嘎呜!"狼爸爸说,"又该去打猎了!"他正准备跳下山坡,一个拖着毛茸茸尾巴的矮小身影突然遮住了洞口,哀哀地唱道:"祝您好运,啊,狼的首领;祝您高贵的孩子们好运,牙齿洁白锐利;愿他们永不忘记世上挨饿的流民。"

原来是乞讨残食的豺塔巴吉。印度的狼都瞧不起塔



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 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.



巴吉,因为他到处惹是生非,散布流言,还在村子的垃圾堆里找破布烂果皮吃。可是他们也很怵他,因为整个丛林里只有塔巴吉最有可能发疯,一旦他发起疯来,就根本不知道害怕是怎么一回事了。他会在森林里疯跑,见到谁就咬谁,甚至老虎见了他都要藏起来,因为对于一只野兽来说,发疯是最丢脸的事。咱们管这病叫狂犬病,他们却称之为"德瓦尼"——疯病——唯恐躲避不及。

"进来看一眼吧,"狼爸爸冷冷地说,"不过这里可找不到吃的。"

"对于狼来说是没有," 塔巴吉说, "但对于像我这样卑微的家伙来说,一根啃光的骨头就是一顿美餐了。我们豺哪有挑三拣四的资格?" 他钻到洞穴深处,找到了一根还带点肉的鹿骨,乐滋滋地拿起一头嚼起来。

"承蒙款待,"他舔着嘴唇说,"您这些高贵的孩子 多漂亮啊!眼睛多大啊!还这么年轻!哎呀,哎呀,我怎么 忘了呢,国王的孩子打小就与众不同嘛。"

其实, 塔巴吉比谁都清楚, 当面奉承孩子是很不吉利的。看到狼妈妈和狼爸爸不安的样子, 他很是惬意。

塔巴吉静静地坐着,享受着恶作剧带来的快感,然后 又阴险地说:

"谢尔汗大王换猎场了。下个月他要在这一带的山里 打猎,他是这么跟我说的。"

谢尔汗是一只老虎,住在附近的瓦因艮加河,离这儿有二十英里。

"他没这个权利!"狼爸爸愤怒地说,"根据丛林法律,他没有权利不打招呼就换猎场。他会把方圆十英里内的



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. You hast done harm enough for one night."
- "I go," said Tabaqui quietly. "You 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 to-night," said Mother Wolf. "It is Man."

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!"



所有猎物都吓跑的。我……我这些天得打双份的猎物呢。"

"他妈妈给他起名'瘸腿',不是没道理的。"狼妈妈平静地说,"他生下来左脚就是瘸的,所以他只能捕杀耕牛。他得罪了瓦因艮加的村民,现在又来招惹咱们这儿的村民了。等他一走远,他们就会到丛林里来搜捕他。草一点着,我们就得带着孩子逃命了。我们还真该感激谢尔汗!"

"需要我转达你们的感激吗?" 塔巴吉说。

"滚出去!"狼爸爸吼道, "滚出去,和你的主子打猎去吧!你今晚已经干够坏事了!"

"我这就走,"塔巴吉平静地说,"谢尔汗已经在下面的丛林里了,你们听得到吧?我本来可以不告诉你们的。"

狼爸爸竖起耳朵,从小河旁边的幽暗山谷里,传来一只老虎愤懑、单调的哀号声,显然他没捕到任何东西,也不在乎让整个从林知道。

"蠢货!"狼爸爸说,"还没开始晚上的捕猎,就弄出这样的动静!他以为我们这儿的鹿都跟瓦因艮加的肥牛似的?"

"嘘!他今晚要捕的不是牛,也不是鹿,"狼妈妈说,"是人。"哀号声已经变成了一种低沉的呜呜声,似乎从各处同时围过来。这种声音最能迷惑樵夫和露宿野外的吉卜赛人了,常常使他们因为辨别不清方向而把自己送入虎口。

"人!"狼爸爸露出白牙愤愤地说,"哇呜嘎!难道池塘里的甲壳虫和青蛙不够多,他非要吃人不可?——而且



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 maneaters 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."
- "Something is coming uphill, "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! "

是在咱们的地盘上!"

丛林法律从来不是毫无道理的。它不允许任何野兽吃人,除非他是在教自己的孩子如何杀死猎物,而且只能在部落或氏族的猎场之外进行。真正的原因在于,一旦野兽杀了人,迟早会有白人骑着大象扛着枪找过来,后面还跟着成百上千拿着铜锣、投枪和火把的棕色人。到了那时,所有的野兽都要遭殃。野兽们的理由是,人是所有动物里最柔弱的,自卫能力也最差,杀人有违公平决胜的原则。他们还说——这是真的——吃了人,身上会生疥癣,还会掉牙齿。

吼声越来越大,最后是一声贯注了全身力气的"嗷——"。老虎扑上去了。

接着,却听到一声不像老虎的叫声——还是谢尔汗发出的。"他没扑着,"狼妈妈说,"猎物是什么呢?"

狼爸爸跑出去几步远, 听见谢尔汗一边在灌木丛里踉 跄地走, 一边狠狠地诅咒着什么。

"这个蠢货竟然往樵夫的篝火上扑,结果把脚烧了,"狼爸爸轻蔑地说,"塔巴吉跟着他呢。"

"有什么东西上山来了,"狼妈妈转动着一只耳朵说, "提防点儿。"

灌木丛在窸窸窣窣地动,狼爸爸蹲坐着,准备跃出去。如果你当时在场,接下来你会看到世上最美妙的一幕——狼在腾跃过程中,凝住了。刚才他没看清目标就跳了起来,动作还未完成他又试图停下来,结果往空中跃起了四五英尺,几乎降落在原地。

"人!"他嚷道,"人娃。瞧!"

就在他正前方, 站着一个刚学会走路的婴儿, 棕色皮



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 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



肤,全身赤裸,扶着一根矮树枝。从来没有这么柔嫩、长着 这么漂亮酒窝儿的小东西在晚上来到狼的洞穴。他仰着头看 着狼爸爸,露出了笑容。

"那是人娃吗?"狼妈妈问,"我从来没见过。把他带到这边来。"

习惯用嘴搬运宝宝的狼,就算把鸡蛋衔在嘴里也不会碰碎。虽然狼爸爸的嘴紧紧地叼着这个婴儿的背部,但当他把孩子放在自己的宝宝中间时,皮肤上却没有一点齿痕。

"真小!光溜溜的,而且——他一点都不害怕!"狼妈妈温柔地说。婴儿想从其他宝宝中间挤过去,靠近狼妈妈温暖的身子。"啊哈!他和其他宝宝一起吃奶呢!这就是人娃了。哪只狼能夸耀说,自己的孩子中间有个人娃呢?"

"我偶尔听说过这样的事儿,不过在咱们氏族里,在我的有生之年,从来没发生过。"狼爸爸说,"他全身都光溜溜的。我用脚轻轻一碰,就能杀了他。可是你看,他望着我,一点都不害怕。"

月光消失了,原来是谢尔汗硕大的方脑袋和肩膀堵住了洞口。塔巴吉跟在他后面,尖声说:"主人,主人,他就是从这儿进去的!"

"谢尔汗到访,我们深感荣幸,"狼爸爸说,但他的眼神却很愤怒,"谢尔汗想要什么?"

"我的猎物。有一个人娃到你这边来了,"谢尔汗说。"它(谢尔汗仅仅把人娃看成自己的食物,所以用"它"来称呼)的父母都逃了。把它给我。"

狼爸爸说得没错,谢尔汗刚才的确扑到樵夫的篝火上,烧伤了脚,疼得厉害,所以脾气很大。可是狼爸爸知



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 to me! He shall not be killed. He shall live to run with the Pack and to hunt with the Pack; and in the end, look you, hunter of little naked cubs—frog-eater—fish-killer—he shall hunt you! Now get hence, or by the Sambhur that I killed (I eat no starved cattle), back you goest to your mother, burned beast of the jungle, lamer than ever you came into the world! Go!"

Father Wolf looked on amazed. He had almost forgotten the days when he won Mother Wolf in fair fight from five other wolves, when she ran in the Pack and was not called The Demon for compliment's sake. Shere Khan might have faced Father Wolf, but he could not stand up against Mother Wolf, for he knew that where he was she had all the advantage of the ground, and would fight to the death. So he backed out of the cave mouth growling, and when he was clear he shouted:

"Each dog barks in his own yard! We will see what the Pack will



道,洞口那么窄,老虎是进不来的。谢尔汗的肩膀和前爪已 经挤得够难受了,就像人在木桶里打架一样,根本施展不 开。

"狼民是自由的,"狼爸爸说,"他们只接受首领的命令,不服从长斑纹的杀牛者调遣。这个人娃归我们了—— 牛杀都由我们决定。"

"你们决定不决定又怎样!说这些废话干什么?凭着我杀的公牛起誓,难道要我屈尊钻进你的狗洞去抢属于我的战利品吗?这可是我——谢尔汗在讲话!"

老虎的吼声像雷霆一样撼动着整个洞穴。狼妈妈挣脱孩子们,冲上前去。黑暗中,她的眼睛犹如两轮绿幽幽的月亮,直盯着谢尔汗冒火的眼睛。

"是我,拉克莎在回答。这个人娃是我的,瘸鬼——我的就是我的!谁也不能杀他。他会和我们这个氏族一起奔跑,一起打猎。等着吧,到了最后,他的猎物就是你,你这个捕杀光溜溜的婴儿、青蛙和鱼的家伙!你赶紧给我滚开,否则,凭着我杀的黑鹿起誓(我可不吃饿死的耕牛),我要让你滚回你的母亲那里,让你比出生时还瘸得厉害,你这个挨烧的丛林畜生!滚!"

狼爸爸惊愕地看着她。他几乎忘了自己追求狼妈妈的 日子,他是在和五只公狼决斗后才赢得她的,那时她在整个 氏族里呼风唤雨,"魔鬼"的绰号绝不仅仅是恭维。谢尔汗 或许敢与狼爸爸决一高下,但他肯定不敢与狼妈妈硬碰硬, 因为他知道在目前的情况下,她不仅占尽了地利,而且会以 死相拼。于是,他咆哮着退出了洞口,一到外面他就大吼起 来:



say to this fostering of man-cubs. The cub is mine, and to my teeth he will come in the end, O bush-tailed thieves! "

Mother Wolf threw herself down panting among the cubs, and Father Wolf said to her gravely:

"Shere Khan speaks this much truth. The cub must be shown to the Pack. Wilt you still keep him, Mother?"

"Keep him!" she gasped. "He came naked, by night, alone and very hungry; yet he was not afraid! Look, he has pushed one of my babes to one side already. And that lame butcher would have killed him and would have run off to the Waingunga while the villagers here hunted through all our lairs in revenge! Keep him? Assuredly I will keep him. Lie still, little frog. O you Mowgli ——for Mowgli the Frog I will call you—the time will come when you wilt hunt Shere Khan as he has hunted you."

" But what will our Pack say?" said Father Wolf.

The Law of the Jungle lays down very clearly that any wolf may, when he marries, withdraw from the Pack he belongs to. But as soon as his cubs are old enough to stand on their feet he must bring them to the Pack Council, which is generally held once a month at full moon, in order that the other wolves may identify them. After that inspection the cubs are free to run where they please, and until they have killed their first buck no excuse is accepted if a grown wolf of the Pack kills one of them. The punishment is death where the murderer can be found; and if you think for a minute you will see that this must be so.

Father Wolf waited till his cubs could run a little, and then on the night of the Pack Meeting took them and Mowgli and Mother Wolf to the Council Rock——a hilltop covered with stones and boulders where a hundred wolves could hide. Akela, the great gray Lone Wolf, who led all the Pack by strength and cunning, lay out at full length on his rock, and