

世界寓言精选
(英汉读本)



鳄鱼和狒狒

「马来西亚」金龙鱼出版社 编



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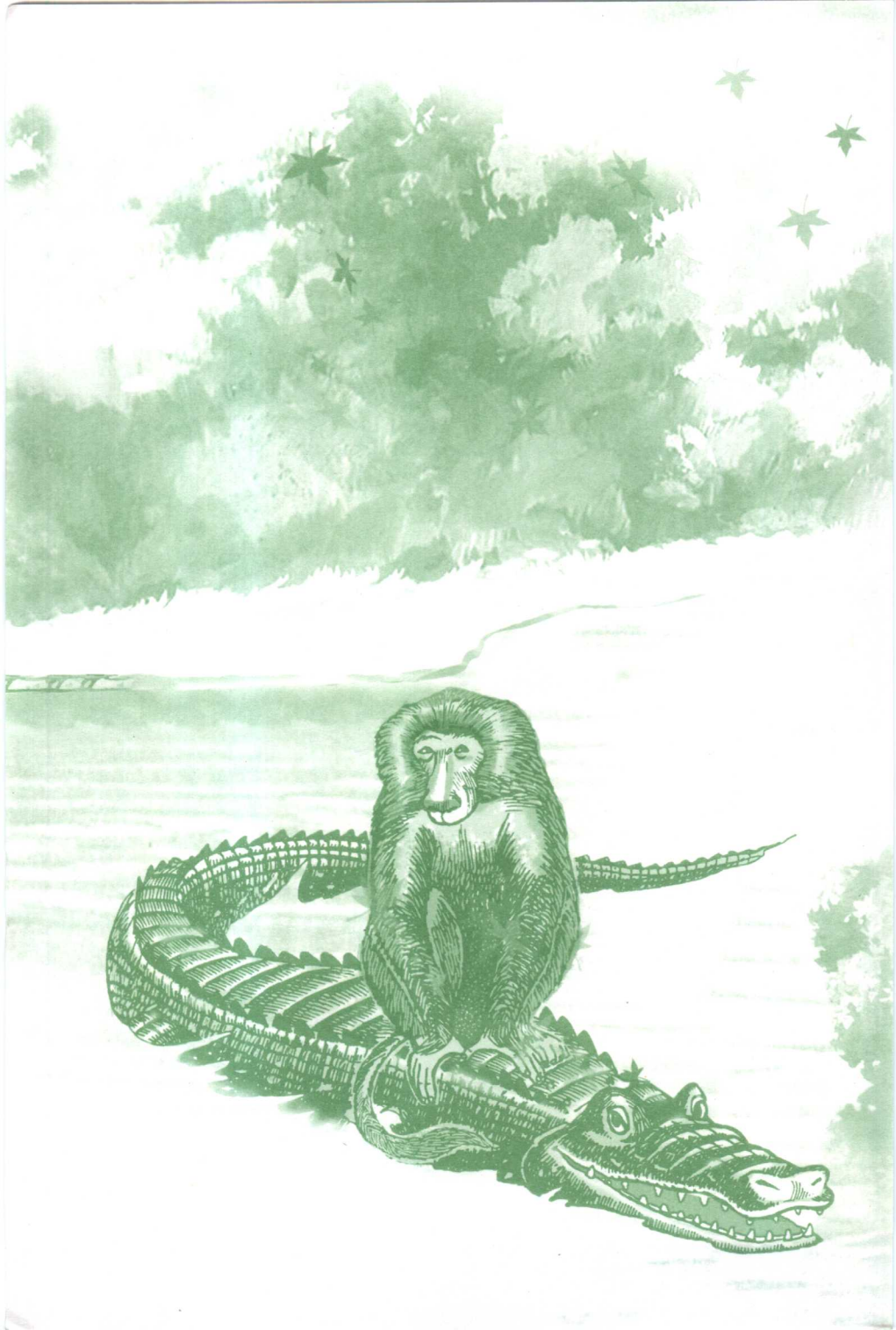
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FOREWORD

前言

A fable is the most amazing form of literature that is usually intended to teach a moral lesson through an interesting story. It provides food for thought and a multi-dimensional channel for the reader to gain a better understanding of our society and human life at large.

Around the sixth century B.C., the Indian fables, Aesop's fables and the Chinese fables emerged as the most influential literature in the world. Besides the above-mentioned three mainstream fables of the world, this series of fables also includes a wide selection of interesting stories from the later chronological periods such as ancient Persian, Arabian and African collections.

These selected fables delve deeply into ethnic sentiment and wisdom as well as cultural

excellence, regardless of the origin of such stories. Every reader will surely be enthralled by the fascinating plots and exotic touch of the stories. Each tale is accompanied by a true-to-life illustration which helps to enhance the reader's literary appreciation.

寓言是当今文学作品中最不可思议的一种体裁。它往往是利用一个饶有趣味的故事，来说明深刻的道理；它在激情中闪烁着理性的智慧光芒，在讽喻中又不乏幽默和情趣。通过这些寓意深长的故事，它能让你多侧面、多视角地去认识世界、认识社会、认识人生……

大约在公元前六世纪前后，印度寓言、伊索寓言及中国寓言可说是当时最具影响力的文学品种之一，构成了世界寓言故事的三大支柱。后来又出现了波斯寓言、阿拉伯寓言和非洲的民间寓言等等。为了让广大的读者群有机会欣赏来自各国的寓言，我们特编了这一套寓言故事系列。

不管来自什么国家的寓言，它都犹如漫山开放的山花和流遍大地的清泉，真切入微地表露了民族的情感、性格、精神、智慧及文化心态。打开这本书，异彩缤纷的故事，就会像流云一样，把你带到那精彩而又生动的故事世界里去。书中的每一个故事都附有插图，逼真生动，可谓图文并茂。这一套集世界寓言于一炉的系列，对青少年而言具有启迪思维，体会人生哲理与丰富学识的积极作用。

PREFACE

序

A fable is an interesting short story intended to impart a philosophy of life or to tell a moral lesson. Since time immemorial, most fables from around the world have animals as their main characters sharing humanly mind and sentiment. They speak the human language and are as emotional as you and I.

Around the sixth century B.C. in India, a Sanskrit version of Panchatantra was believed to be the earliest fables in our entire planet. Later, fables from Aesop, La Fontaine, Lessing and Kriloff were made known to the public in Greece, France, Germany and Russia respectively. In the meantime, a myriad of fabulous stories were rife in ancient China during the Spring and Autumn period, and the period of the Warring States. These fables

were mostly published in the works of various scholars. The more famous ones include Zhuang Zhou, Meng Ke, Han Fei and so on. Many post-Han dynasty fabulists had also come out with fantastic stories which serve as a link between the past and the future.

Despite their imaginative features, these ancient and modern fables from around the world boast of being "the language of human wisdom" as the storylines are practically true-to-life. The fabulists often gain various experiences and lessons from our everyday life, pick up the most typical ones, polish them up and turn them into fabulous stories through personification, exaggeration, symbolization, simile, metaphor and other literary skills, providing the general audience with well-intentioned guidance and practical advice. They serve to help us gain a better understanding and management of everyday life, including our words and deeds.

As an effort to share various brilliant fabulous masterpieces from around the world with our general audience, Penerbit Arowana Sdn Bhd has compiled and published a series of books entitled

"World's Great Fables". Some of the most interesting fables were painstakingly selected, rewritten in a simple style, and enhanced with lively and attractive illustrations.

"World's Great Fables" is a set of readers which can be enjoyed by both the young and the old.

Heng Kay Song

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寓言，是通过一个生动、有趣的小故事，来阐发人生的哲理和寄托道德的教训。古今中外，绝大多数的寓言都是以飞禽走兽作为故事的“主人公”，但是它们的思想感情却是人的思想感情，它们也说人所说的话，拥有人的七情六欲，因此这些飞禽走兽实际上就是“人的化身”。

大约在公元前六世纪左右，印度出现了梵文本的《五卷书》，它可能是世上最早的寓言故事。后来，在希腊出现了《伊索寓言》，在法国出现了《拉封丹寓言》，在德国出现了《莱辛寓言》，在俄国出现了《克雷洛夫寓言诗》等等。至于中国，早在几乎同个时候的春秋战国时代，也涌现了大量的寓言故事。这些寓言故事大多散布在诸子的著作里。其中尤以《庄

子》、《孟子》、《韩非子》等子书上的寓言，最为脍炙人口。汉代以后的寓言家也扮演承先启后的角色，撰写了许多非常精彩的寓言故事。

这些古今中外的寓言故事，虽具有虚构、幻想的特点，可是它们的虚构与幻想却是扎根于人类生活的现实基础上，可说是“人类智慧的语言”。寓言的作者们，从人类生活的实践中积累了各种各样的经验与教训，从中选择最有代表性的某一些，加以提炼，并通过“拟人”、“夸张”、“象征”、“譬喻”等表现手法，写成了寓言故事，为广大的读者提供善意的指导与警诫性的规劝。它们既能帮助我们认识生活，也能帮助我们驾驭生活，指导日常的言与行。

金龙鱼出版社为了让广大的读者分享来自世界各国寓言家的智慧结晶品，特编撰了一套《世界寓言精选》，精心选择最有代表性、最精彩的寓言故事，以浅白流畅的文字配以生动优美的插图，图文并茂地呈现给读者。更难能可贵的是在每一则寓言的末尾，编者还提纲挈领地指出寓言所蕴含的人生哲理。

我认为这一套《世界寓言精选》是一套益智的健康读物，不仅适合儿童阅读，同时也适合青少年，甚至成年人阅读，可谓“老少咸宜”。

马来西亚大学中文系
王介英讲师

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1

The Crocodile and the Baboon

鳄鱼和狒狒

In a jungle in Indonesia, there was a lake in which lived a crocodile. Near the lake grew a fruit tree. When the ripe fruit from the tree dropped into the lake, the crocodile ate them.

In another part of the jungle, a troop of baboons had a quarrel. One of the baboons felt so upset that he decided to leave his friends. He wandered off alone into the jungle and he soon reached the lake where he saw the fruit tree.

Tired and hungry, he exclaimed happily, "Look at those fruit! Most of them are ripe too!" He quickly

climbed the tree and started eating the fruit. Of course he ate only the ripe ones, and he threw the unripe ones into the lake.

The crocodile happened to wake up from his sleep. He felt so hungry that he started eating the fruit floating on the lake. To his surprise, they tasted sour.

"How strange," thought the crocodile. "Why are all these fruit so sour today?" He looked up at the fruit tree and saw the baboon perching on a branch, eating the ripe fruit and throwing the unripe ones into the lake.

"Oh, that's how I got all those sour fruit," thought the crocodile, feeling rather annoyed. "I must teach that baboon a lesson."

He spoke politely to the baboon. "Mr Baboon, can we be friends?"

"Of course," replied the baboon, happy to have a new friend here. "Surely there's nothing wrong in that."

A few days later, the crocodile found a way to punish the baboon.

"Mr Baboon," he said, "I'm going across the lake to visit my sick mother. Would you like to come along?"

"I'd love to," replied the baboon, "but I can't swim."

"Oh, that shouldn't be a problem," said the