

[中英对照]



中国成语故事

(一)

蓝田 编

袁磊 黄玉翠 译



百花文艺出版社

BAIHUA LITERATURE AND
ART PUBLISHING HOUSE

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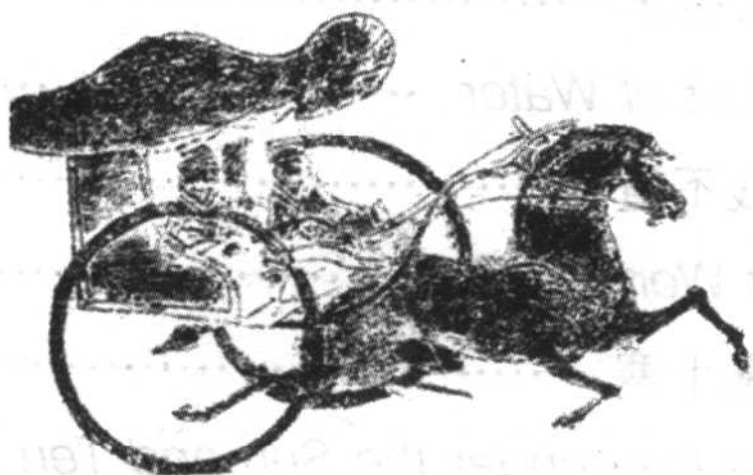
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ONE THREE



一 鸣 惊 人

战国时代，齐国有一个名叫淳于髡的人。他的口才很好，也很会说话。他常常用一些有趣的谜语来规劝当时齐国的君主——威王。

齐威王本来是一个很有才智的君主，但是，在他即位以后，每日只沉迷于酒色，对国家大事不闻不问。文武群臣，也学着他的样儿，荒功废业，违法乱纪，导致各诸侯国都来侵犯，齐国危在旦夕。

齐国的一些爱国之士都很担心，但是，都因为畏惧齐王，所以没有人敢出来劝谏。淳于髡知道威王喜欢听笑话，猜谜语，便想了一个计策，准备找个机会劝劝齐威王。

一天，淳于髡来到宫廷求见齐威王。他说：“大王，我最近听到一则谜语，特意来讲给您听。”齐威王一听，高兴地说：“好啊，快讲，快讲。”

淳于髡说：“咱们齐国有只大鸟落在了大

王的庭院里，三年的时间，它不飞也不叫。大王，您知道这是只什么鸟吗？”

齐威王本是一个聪明人，他一听就知道淳于髡是在讽刺自己。说自己像那只大鸟一样，整天无所作为，只知享乐。他决心要改过自新，振作起来。因此他对淳于髡说：“此鸟不飞则已，一飞冲天；不鸣则已，一鸣惊人。”

从此，齐威王不再沉迷于酒色，开始整治国家。他对那些尽忠尽职的官吏加以奖赏；对那些腐败无能的官吏，施以惩罚。全国上下，很快就振作起来。各诸侯国听到这个消息后，也不敢再来侵犯了，甚至还把原先侵占的土地，都归还给齐国。

“一鸣惊人”——一声鸣叫使人震惊。比喻平时不露声色、默默无闻，突然做出惊人的举动来。

Making A First Surprising Cry

In the period of the Warring States, there was a man named Chunyu Kun. He had very good

eloquence and was fairly sociable. He often gave advice to the monarch of Qi——King Wei by some interesting puzzles.

King Wei used to be a very wise monarch. However, after he succeeded to the throne, he became to be indulged in wine and beauties and didn't pay attention to the national affairs. All the civil and military ministers behaved like him, stopping instructions, breaking laws, which made all the kingdoms came to invade Qi which was in danger.

Some of the patriotic people were worried about it. But all of them were afraid of the King, so no one dared to give advise. Chunyu Kun knew that the King liked humor and puzzles. Therefore, he made a plan to find a chance to give suggestions to King Wei.

One day, Chunyu Kun came to palace to visit King Wei. He said, "Dear king, I heard a new puzzle recently, and come specifically to tell you." After hearing it, the King was very happy and said, "Good, say please, say please."



Chunyu Kun said, "There is a big bird stopping in the court of yours. It hadn't flown away or even cried for three years. Do you know what the bird is?"

King Wei was actually a wise man. On hearing it, he knew Chunyu Kun was satirized and said he himself was like the big bird and did nothing but indulged in material comfort. He decided to correct his errors and make a fresh start. So he said to Chunyu Kun, "If the bird flies, it will fly highly into the sky; if the bird cries, it will give you a surprise."

From then on, King Wei was no longer indulged in wines and beauties, and began to manage the country. He praised the officials who fulfilled his duties, and punished those who were corrupt and incompetent. The whole country was stirred up soon. The kingdoms no longer dared to invade after hearing the news, some even gave back the land that they had occupied.

"Making a first surprising cry"—it will be a surprise if a bird cries for the first time. It de-