

英 语 阅 读 起 步 丛 书



Snow White

白雪公主

白雪与红玫 巨人的花园 丑小鸭

上海辞书出版社



Snow White

Once upon a time, there was a nice queen. She did not have a baby. On a cold winter's day, snowflakes were falling softly, and the queen was sewing beside the window. She looked out of the window.

snowflake n. 雪花

sew v. 缝衣



It was very beautiful outside. "I want to have a daughter. Her skin will be as white as snow, her lips as red as blood, and her hair as black as ebony." the queen thought.

Some time later, a little girl was born to the queen. She was very beautiful with white skin, red lips and black hair.

The queen was happy. She called the little girl Snow White.

ebony n. 乌木





But only a few years later, the queen was very ill. When Snow White was still young, her mother died.

Snow White's father, the King, was heartbroken. For many years he was sad and lonely. But at last the lonely King married again. The new queen was very beautiful, but her heart was cold and cruel. She couldn't bear to think anyone else was more beautiful than her.

heartbroken adj. 伤心的

cruel adj. 残忍的

She would spend hours dressing herself in nice clothes, and brushing her black hair. She wanted to be the most beautiful woman in the kingdom.

The queen had a magic mirror. She often stood in front of it and looked at herself in the mirror. Every day she asked it:

“Mirror, mirror on the wall,

Who is the most beautiful lady of us all?”



The mirror always replied, "Oh Queen, you are the most beautiful lady."

The Queen was always very happy to hear this, because the mirror never told lies.

Meanwhile, Snow White was growing up. She was more and more beautiful. When she was seven years old, she was a lovely little girl. She was warm-hearted and kind to everyone. All the people liked her very much except the Queen.



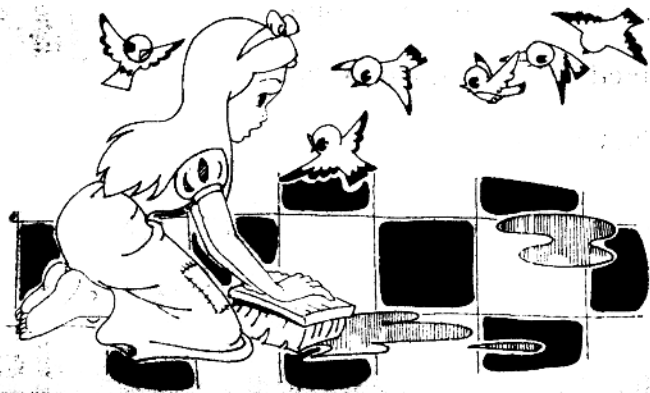
The Queen looked at Snow White jealously. She took away Snow White's fine clothes.

Snow White was dressed in rags like the servants. Everyday she had to work hard from early morning till late at night. She had to scrub and clean the palace floors, wash the dishes, sew and mend the Queen's clothes. When she worked, she would sing sweetly, many birds would come to listen to her voice.

jealously adv. 妒忌地

in rags 衣衫褴褛

scrub v. 擦





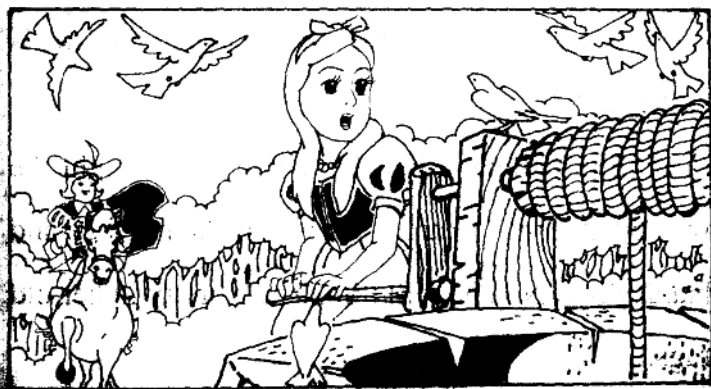
While she worked, Snow White dreamed beautiful daydreams about a handsome Prince. One day, she believed, he would come and carry her off to his castle in the clouds.

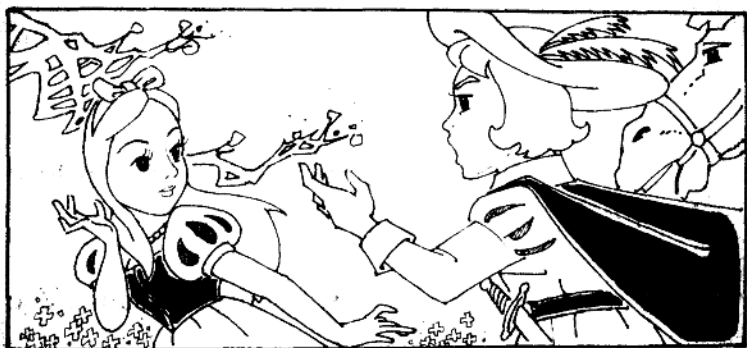
“She will soon lose her beauty,” thought the wicked Queen. “Hard work will make her face and hands dirty. No one will think she’s pretty in her old rags.”

One day, Snow White was getting water from the well. She was singing to the birds beside her. A prince was walking by. He heard the beautiful song and came to the well. He stood beside Snow White and listened to her.

“Hello!” The prince wanted to talk with Snow White. But she was so frightened and ran away quickly.

“Wait, please. Don’t run away.”



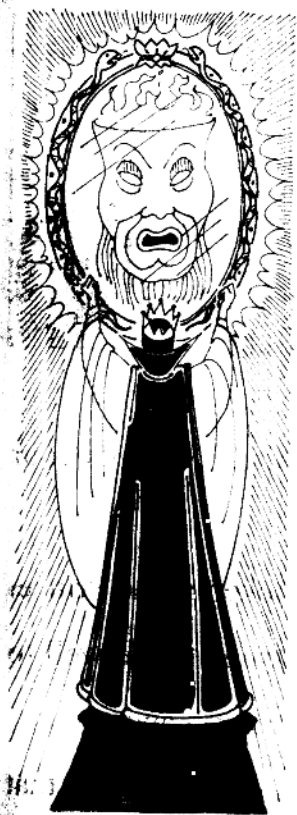


The Prince asked Snow White. “What’s your name and where do you live?”

Snow White stopped and looked at the Prince. Just at that time, other servants came to the well to get water. Snow White was shy and ran away.

But in the palace, the Queen was still afraid that one day Snow White would grow up to be more beautiful than she. She went to her mirror and asked the same question day after day.

shy adj. 害羞的



“Mirror, mirror on the wall,

Who is the most beautiful lady of us all?”

At last the day came. The mirror replied,

“The child is more lovely than you.

Her lips blood red, her hair like night,

Her skin like snow, her name — Snow White!”

When the Queen heard the words, she was both shocked and angry.

shocked adj. 吃惊的

Then she called her hunter to her, and said, "Take the princess Snow White away, deep into the forest and kill her. Bring me her heart in this box, or I will kill you."

The hunter bowed his head in grief. He had no choice but to obey. Next day, the hunter went into the forest with Snow White. She did not know what would happen to her. She walked beside the hunter, and sang happily all the way.

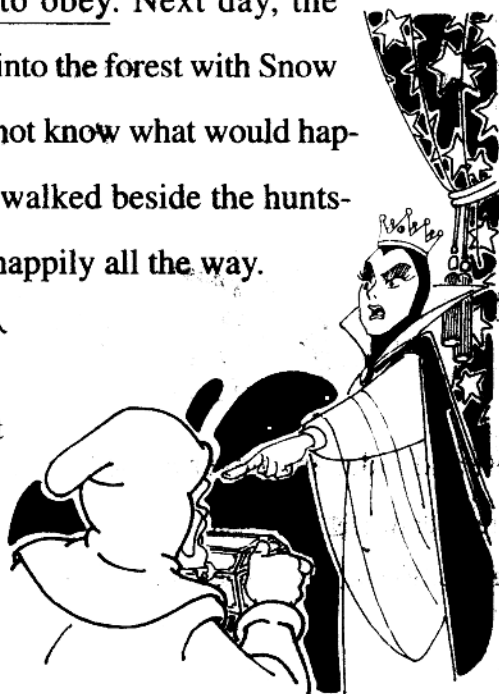
hunter n. 猎人

in grief 悲伤地

have no choice but

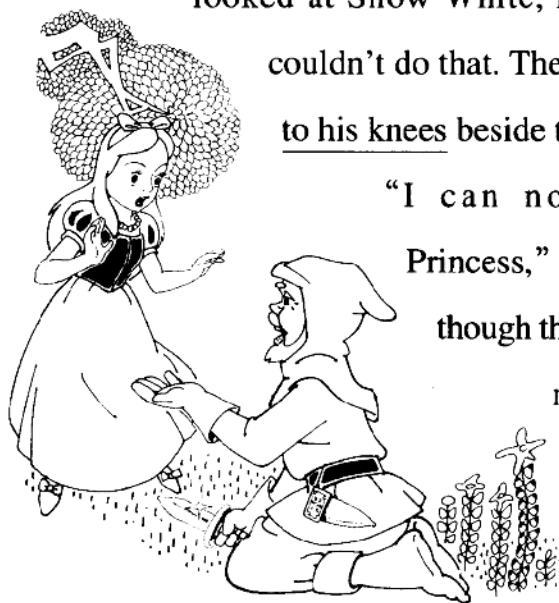
to obey 只能服从，

别无他法



At last they were far into the forest. The huntsman stopped and drew out his knife. But when he looked at Snow White, he thought he couldn't do that. The huntsman fell to his knees beside the Princess.

“I can not kill you, Princess,” he said, “although the Queen forces me to take your heart back. Please run into the for-



est and hide, and never come back to the palace.”

drew (draw 的过去式) out 拔出

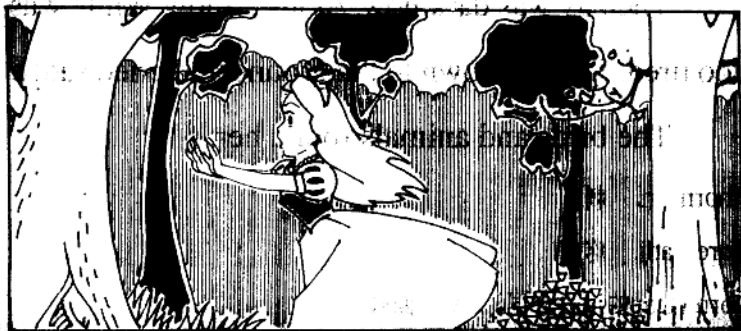
fell (fall 的过去式) to one's knees 下跪

“You let me go, but what will you say to the Queen? She will kill you without my heart.” Snow White cried.

“Never mind, my dear Princess.” the huntsman said, “I will tell her you are dead, and show her a heart of a pig.”

Snow White thanked the huntsman and ran off into the forest by herself. She was terrified. She didn't know which way to go. She didn't know what would happen to her.

terrified adj. 十分害怕





She was afraid that she would meet wild beasts.

She ran on and on. She ran over sharp stones and bushes with long thorns. Her feet were sore, her clothes were torn, and her arms and legs were hurt by the thorns.

The day was dark now. At last, Snow White was too tired. She fell down to the ground and cried sadly.

The birds and animals found her.

thorn n. 刺

sore adj. 疼痛

torn (tear的过去分词) v. 撕破

They gathered around her. Snow White looked up and saw lots of blinking spots. She didn't know what it was. She let out a scream.

The animals were frightened, and they ran away. The blinking spots were their eyes:

“Oh! Please, don't run away. I won't hurt you.” Snow White said to them. The animals looked at her from their hiding place.

blinking spots 亮点

scream n. 尖叫声

frightened adj. 害怕的



“I am sorry, I don't want to frighten you. That's just because I am too afraid.” The animals came back to her and gathered round her again. They sang and danced round her. They wanted to comfort her.

“I feel quite happy now. I think everything is going to be all right. Thank you. But I need a place to sleep at night. I can't sleep in the ground, or in the tree. And no nest could be big enough for me.”

