



笑林广记选

(汉英对照插图本)

A Collection of Classic Chinese Jokes

[清] 游戏主人 编著

郑孝先 选译
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暴富

有暴富者，晓起看花，啾啾称疾，妻问何疾，答曰：“今早看花，被蔷薇露滴损了，可急召医用药。”其妻曰：“官人你忘却了当初和你乞食时，在竹林下被大雨淋了一夜，也只如此。”

An Upstart

An upstart was walking in his garden one morning. He suddenly felt unwell. His wife asked what the matter was. He replied, “When I looked at the flowers this morning, the dewdrops from the roses made me ill. Would you be so kind as to give the doctor an urgent call to ask for medicine?” The wife replied, “Darling, did you forget, in the early days when we begged for food together, we were once caught in a downpour in the bamboo forest and stayed there the whole night. We were accustomed to such a life then.”

避暑

官值暑月，欲觅避凉之地。同僚纷议，或曰某山幽雅，或曰某寺清闲。一老人进曰：“山寺虽好，总不如此座公厅，最是凉快。”官曰：“何以见得？”答曰：“别处多有日头，独此处有天无日。”

Preventing Heatstroke

During the intensely hot months of summer, government officials wished to look for a summer resort. They argued with one another about where to go. Someone said, “X mountain is tranquil and elegant.” Another one suggested, “X temple is cool and refreshing.” An old man came in and said, “The mountain and temple both may be good, but neither is as good as this law court. Surely it is the coolest location.” “Why?” asked the officials. The old man answered, “All the other places have sunshine, but only here can you see the sky, but never sunshine.”

Note: Here sunshine implies equitableness.

冰水

一呆婿至妻家留饭，偶食冻水美味，乃以纸裹数块，纳入腰间带归。谓妻曰：“汝父家有佳味，我特携来啖汝。”索之腰中，已消溶矣。惊曰：“如何撒出一脬尿，竟自逃走了。”

Ice Water

A foolish son-in-law was invited to dinner by his wife's family. After eating some delicious ice cubes, he wrapped up several pieces, put them in his waist pocket, and took them back to his wife, "I have come to bring you a special delicacy from your father's home." When looking for the ice in his waist pocket, to his surprise, he found it had already melted away. He said, "How inconsiderate it was of the ice to run away, leaving only a puddle of pee here."

不吃亏

某甲性迂拙，一日出外省亲，适门外有一车，与之讲价，嫌贵，宁愿步行，拟在中途雇车，自思价必稍廉；不料车少人稀，行至半路，方见一车，索价反昂，某甲喃喃自语道：“还是归去雇车，较为便宜。”言罢，反奔回家，雇车复往。

Not Suffering Losses

One day a foolish man wanted to visit his relative. Seeing a carriage just outside his door, he bargained with its driver, but thought it was too expensive. He decided to walk and hire a carriage at the half-way point in order to save some money. Unexpectedly, there were very few people and carriages on the way. When he was walking near the midpoint, he saw a carriage and inquired about the price for his journey. On the contrary, the price from there was even higher than from his home. He muttered to himself, "It's cheaper to hire one from home." Realizing that, he ran back home and hired a carriage from there.

不默

众行酒令要默饮。席中有放屁者，令官曰：“不默，罚一杯。”其人曰：“乃是屁响。”令官曰：“又不默，再罚一杯。”举座为之大笑。令官曰：“通座皆不默，各罚一杯。”

Not Being Quiet

In one particular drinking game, silence should be maintained. During the feast someone farted, and the host said, "The one who makes noise must be punished by drinking one glass of wine." The man said, "That noise was from a fart." The host said, "Once again for not being quiet. You will be punished with one more glass." All of the guests couldn't help laughing at such an occurrence. The host announced, "All attendants made a noise, so each of you should be punished with one glass of wine."

不吃素

一人遇饿虎，将遭啖，其人哀恳曰：“圈有肥猪，愿将代己。”虎许之，随至其家。唤妇取猪喂虎，妇不舍曰：“所有豆腐颇多，亦堪一饱。”夫曰：“你看这样一个狠主客，可是肯吃素的么？”

Not a Vegetarian

One day a farmer came across a hungry tiger who wanted to eat him. The farmer pleaded for his life saying, "I've got a big porker at home in the pigsty, how about eating it instead of me?" The tiger nodded and followed him. The farmer asked his wife to get the porker and feed the tiger. The wife was unwilling and said, "We have more bean curd; perhaps that could also fill the tiger." Her husband said, "For such a ferocious creature it is, how could it be a vegetarian?"