

汉英对照世界童话精选

魔 镜

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魔

镜

从前有个国王，身体很健康，但有一天，突然眼睛失明。从全国各地的医生很快被请到宫中为他治疗。医生们查阅了医书，最后，一位医生说只有用一种鱼的油敷在国王的眼睛上，他才能恢复视力。

这事听起来很容易，但做起来却真是个大难题。因为这种鱼是非常罕见的。而且，整个世界这种医治国王眼睛的鱼只有一条。

于是，国王派他三个儿子从三个不同方向去寻找那条鱼。老大到了山里，在山涧中探查，老二、老三分别去大河、大海里寻觅。

大儿子和二儿子一无所获，不久便放弃了搜寻，而小儿子没有轻易失去信心。尽管他在七大洋里撒了渔网，可连一条鱼也没捉到，但他还继续努力。他把注意力转向湖泊，在那里捞到了一条又一条——可都不是所需要的那条。



几经失败，小儿子终于对找到鱼也失掉了勇气。有一天，他情绪低落，地坐在湖旁吃午饭，吃完之后，把残羹剩饭扔进水里。使他吃惊的是，许多鱼很快地一道过来吃食，当他听到它们在聊天，更感到惊奇。

“这位王子在找那条特别的鱼已有很长时间了。”一条鱼说。

“是的，他已找遍了所有的海洋和湖泊。”另一条鱼说。

“遗憾的是，他到现在还没找到！”第三条鱼说。接着，所有的鱼都笑了起来。

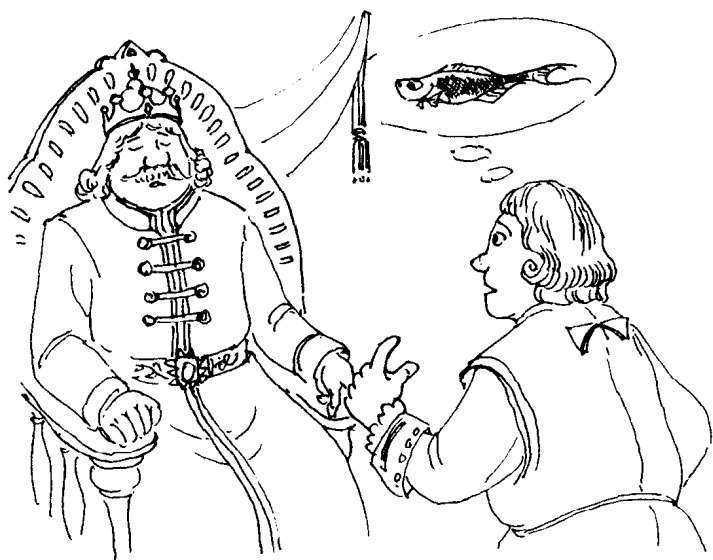
这一切引起了王子的极大注意，他靠近水面往里望去，真的，他所看到的许多种鱼里，有一条与众不同的小鱼，它像一条彩虹，它的头和尾巴像金子那样发光，真是漂亮。正好它游近湖岸时，王子伸手很快地抓住了它。小鱼扭动着身体，挣扎着，“哦，王子，请放了我！”它乞求他，“如果你放了我，有一天我会报答你的。”

王子心软下来，他感到真是对不起它。他想最后的结果要么鱼死，要么他父亲永远失明，他该怎么办呢？

王子思量许久，最后他决定放掉这条鱼，他实在不忍心杀害它。他想，父亲只是不能恢复视力，不会影响生命。

就这样，小王子两手空空地回到家，他说他未能找到那种鱼。与此同时，国王请来了外国的医生为他看眼病，他们相聚在王宫为国王做了检查和会诊。由于共同的努力，配制出一种药膏，把它涂到国王的眼睛上，不久，他又重见光明。

小王子有个很好的朋友，王子曾把那鱼的事儿告诉过



他。一天，他们争吵起来，那位朋友勃然大怒，便到国王那儿禀报此事。

“陛下！”他说，“我想您应该知道，您的小儿子在外出寻鱼时，其实见到了那种您需要的鱼，他捉住了它。他不但没带给您，反而故意把它放回湖里，现在事情很清楚，陛下，您的儿子不希望您恢复视力、重见光明。”

国王听了大发雷霆，立即派人叫他的小儿子，宣布他是个叛逆者，并下令处死他。

国王的兵士将王子带进黑森林，执行国王的命令。王子苦苦哀求饶命，出于怜悯，他们把他放了。

“我们放你走。”他们说，“但要记住！永远不要回宫，否则我们会有麻烦的。”

王子谢别兵士，上了路。多少天来，他在森林里徘徊，饿了吃些野果，晚上就在树下睡觉。

有一天，王子看见一只牡鹿向他跑来，当它跑近时，一下子在他跟前跌倒了，恳求他：

“噢！王子，救救我！凶恶的猎人在追我。”

王子答应救它，他让牡鹿坐在他身旁。当王子抚摩它的头时，猎人们赶到了，他们向他要牡鹿，说是他们的。

“你们要怎么样？”王子问道，“这只牡鹿是我的，是我父



亲给我的礼物，我不能让你们带走它。”

看见王子宠爱那只牡鹿，猎人们相信了他，便离开了。过了一会儿，牡鹿也离开了。

“噢，王子！”牡鹿向他辞别，“谢谢您救了我，我不会忘记您的，有一天我会报答您的。”

几个夜晚之后，当王子坐在河边呼吸新鲜空气时，突然一只狐狸气喘吁吁地跑到他跟前。

“噢，王子，救救我！”它乞求道，“有个猎人要杀我。”

王子解下披风，盖住狐狸，让它靠近他坐着。猎人赶到时，没有发现藏在披风里的狐狸，他以为它已逃走，就继续往前追赶。

猎人走远了，狐狸从披风里走出来，临走前对王子说：“噢，王子，谢谢您，我不会忘记您的，有一天我会报答您的。”

经过几天的步行，王子十分疲乏，终于来到了一座大城市，城中央矗立着一个光彩夺目的玻璃宫殿，王子看见那里有许多年轻人在等候入宫。

“朋友，发生了什么事？”王子问看门人。

“这些年轻人来此地想赢得公主的欢心并和她结婚。”看门人解释道，“公主曾许过愿她要嫁给一个能把自己藏起来，让她看不见的人。”

“这有什么难的，”王子说，“藏在一个公主找不到的地方，这是所有的人都能做到的。”

看门人摇头笑着说：“这没有那么简单，朋友！尽管那些能使自己隐匿起来的人，也似乎逃不过公主的眼睛。因

为公主有一面魔镜,不仅可以照出每个藏身的地方,而且还可以看见每个躲藏起来的人。”

王子喜欢与人竞争,所以,他决定参加比赛。此外,他想如果娶了公主,他又可以成为王室的一员了。想到这里,他立刻去报名参加竞赛,轮到他时,他来到湖边,那条彩虹般的鱼就住在那儿。

王子大声呼唤,对小金鱼解释道:为了赢得公主,我必须去参加。最后,鱼对他说:“藏在我的嘴里,公主是猜测不到你在这儿,这样,公主就可以做你的新娘了。”

然而,当王子藏在鱼嘴里时,那魔镜立即告诉公主他隐



藏的地方。虽然他失败了,但并没有因此放弃信念。于是,他又去问牡鹿。

牡鹿听到了要它怎样做时,说:“噢,王子!跳到我的背上,我会带你到光线极暗的洞里,你藏在那儿,公主不可能看见你。”

但是,王子躲在洞里,魔镜又显示出他所藏的地方,希望又落空了,他决定再试一次。

王子去请教狐狸,狐狸神秘地笑着对他说:“唯一的办法是,藏在公主的脚底下,这样,魔镜就没有办法了。”

狐狸帮王子挖一条地道——通向森林,通向王宫,通向王宫的房下,一直通到正好公主站的地方。

公主要在镜子里寻找王子,正如狐狸所说的那样,魔镜根本不能告诉她王子藏在地下、正在她的脚下。

当然,公主不得不承认失败,她同意马上嫁给王子。他们隆重地举行了婚礼,王子和公主幸福地度过了他们的后半生。

The Magic Mirror



ONCE UPON a time there lived a king, who was in the best of good health. ① Then one day quite suddenly he became blind. At once doctors from all over the kingdom were brought to the palace to attend to him. The doctors consulted their medical books, and finally one said that the king would regain his sight, only if the oil from a certain fish was applied to his eyes.

This sounded easy enough; though it was really a great problem. For the fish in question② was a rare sort. In fact, there was only one of its kind

① be in health: 身体健康。

② The fish in question: 正谈及这种鱼,
in question: 正被谈论的。

available in the whole wide world.

However, having three sons, the king sent them in three different directions in search of the fish. The first son went into the mountains, to search the mountain streams. The second went to search the rivers of the world. The third went to search the seas.

But whilst^① the first and second sons soon gave up, having met with no success, ^② the third son was not so easily discouraged. Though he cast his net in all seven seas, and was not able to catch even a single fish, still he continued to try. For he turned his attention to the lakes next, fishing in each one in turn—with no success.

However, meeting with so much failure, at last the third son began to lose heart. He began to despair of ever finding the fish. One day, feeling very low in spirits, he sat on the bank of a lake eating his midday meal. After he had finished, he threw what remained into the water. To his surprise, he noticed a large number of fish soon come along to eat the food. To his greater surprise, he



① whilst: (古) = while.

② having met with no success: 未获成功。

listened to the fish talking amongst themselves.

"The prince has been in search of that special fish for a long, long time," he heard one say.

"Yes, he's searched all the seas and the lakes," said another.

"Such a pity he hasn't searched this one!" said a third. Upon which all the fish began to laugh.

But the prince was quite alert now. Most excited, he looked closely into the water. True enough, amongst the many kinds of fish he saw, he noticed now one little fish which was quite different from the rest. The fish was of the colours of the rainbow. It's head and tail shone like gold. It was truly beautiful; and as it happened to swim close to the bank, the prince reached out and swiftly caught it.

The little fish wriggled to free itself. ① "Oh Prince, please release me!" it begged. "If you do, one day I promise to do you a good turn." ②

Now the prince had a soft heart. He felt truly sorry for the fish. The last thing he wanted was to

① The little fish wriggled to free itself; 小鱼挣脱束缚。

② One day I promise to do you a good turn: 有一天, 我会报答你的, do sb. a good turn: 做一件有利于某人的事。

see it die. But there was his father's lost sight to think of. What should he do?

The prince thought over the matter, and finally decided in favour of the fish. He just did not have the heart to kill it. No matter, if his father never regained sight. And with that, he let the fish go.

Thus, the third prince too returned home empty-handed. He said he had not been able to find the fish. Meanwhile the king had invited doctors



from other kingdoms to attend to him. The doctors all met. They examined the king and consulted amongst themselves. Finally, as a result of united effort, an ointment was prepared. It was applied to the king's eyes, and in a short while the king was able to see again.

As it happened, the third prince had a best friend, in whom he had confided the matter concerning the fish. One day the friend and the prince had a quarrel. In a fit of anger the friend went to the king and reported about this.

"Your Majesty!" he said. "I think you ought to know, that your third son, in the course of his travels, did really come across that special fish. In fact, he happened to catch it. But instead of bringing it to you, on purpose^① he returned the fish to the lake in which he had found it. It is clear, Your Majesty, that your son did not wish you to regain your sight."

Hearing this the king grew terribly angry. At once he sent for his son. He declared him a traitor, and ordered that he be taken and put to death.

The king's soldiers now took the prince into a

① on purpose:故意地。

dark forest, to carry out the king's orders. But the prince begged so hard for his life, that taking pity on him^①, the soldiers released him.

"We are letting you go, " they said. "But remember! Never return to the palace, or else we will be in trouble."

The prince thanked the soldiers and went his way. For days he wandered through the forest. He ate the wild fruit that grew there, and at night slept under the trees.

Then one day the prince saw a stag come racing towards him. When it came near, it fell on its face before him and begged:

"Oh Prince, please save me! For I am being chased by wicked hunters."

The prince agreed to save the stag. He ordered it to sit beside him. As he began to stroke the stag's head, the hunters came up. They demanded the stag, saying it was theirs.

"But how can that be?" asked the prince. "This stag is mine. It is a gift from my father. I couldn't possibly let you take it."

Seeing the prince fondling the animal, the



① taking(having)pity on him: 怜悯(同情)他。

hunters believed him and went away. After a little while the stag took leave of the prince, too.

"Oh Prince!" it said it parting. "Thank you for saving me. I will not forget your kindness. One day I hope to do you a good turn."

Some evenings later, as the prince sat on the bank of a river, enjoying the fresh air, all of a sudden a fox came panting up to him.

"Oh Prince, please save me!" it begged. "There's a hunt on for killing me."

