用英文重温美丽的七夕传说

As couples coo(咕咕地叫) over each other during China's version of Valentine's Day today, several businesses will woo(求爱，求婚; 争取…的支持;) a population of singles that may be unlucky with love but have money to spend.

While Valentine's Day is on Feb 14 in other parts of the world, China celebrates its version during the Qixi Festival, which falls on the seventh day of the seventh month of the lunar calendar.

The story goes that Zhi Nu, a goddess renowned for her weaving skills, went to the mortal world and met a cow herder named Niu Lang. The two fell in love, got married, and had two children. But when Zhi Nu’s mother, the queen mother of heaven(天; 天堂;), found out about their union, she became upset and angry, taking Zhi Nu back to heaven.

Niu Lang was heartbroken. But an old cow that Niu Lang had once rescued revealed(显露; 揭露; 泄露;) that he was actually a god injured in the mortal world and offered him his skin(皮肤) once he died. He told Niu Lang his leather(皮革) could be used to make shoes that could fly him to heaven.

When the cow died, Niu Lang made an attempt(进攻; 尝试，冲击;) to find Zhi Nu with their children, but the queen mother of heaven used her hair pin(发簪) to create a river of stars that would become the Milky Way(银河) to separate the two lovers. Their cries touched the magpies(喜鹊) so much that thousands of them formed a bridge for the couple to walk over the river. Eventually(最终,终于), the queen mother relented(动怜悯心;) and agreed to let the couple meet one night out of every year on Qi Xi, which means the seventh night, which they do with the help of their magpie friends.