

Aesop's Fables

38. THE SLAVE AND THE LION 奴隶和狮子



A Slave ran away from his master, by whom he had been most cruelly treated, and, in order to avoid capture, betook himself into the desert.

一个奴隶因不堪忍受主人的残暴虐待而逃跑了，为了避免被抓住，他逃进了沙漠中。



As he wandered about in search of food and shelter, he came to a cave, which he entered and found to be unoccupied. Really, however, it was a Lion' s den, and almost immediately, to the horror of the wretched fugitive, the Lion himself appeared.

正当他思忖着该如何寻找食物和栖身之地时，来到了一个洞穴前，他走进去看了看，空无一人。然而，这是一个狮子的巢穴，就在这时，狮子出现了，可怜的逃亡者吓呆了。



The man gave himself up for lost: but, to his utter astonishment, the Lion, instead of springing upon him and devouring him, came and fawned upon him, at the same time whining and lifting up his paw.

他认定自己无处可逃，然而，完全出乎他的意料，狮子不但没有扑过来吃掉他，反而过来巴巴地讨好他，一边哭诉着，一边抬起自己的爪子。



Observing it to be much swollen and inflamed, he examined it and found a large thorn embedded in the ball of the foot. He accordingly removed it and dressed the wound as well as he could: and in course of time it healed up completely.

看到那个爪子又肿又胀，还在发炎，逃亡者认真地检查了一下，发现有一根刺深嵌入狮子的脚掌里。他慢慢地拔出了那根刺，尽可能地处理好伤口，过了一阵，伤口自然就痊愈了。



The Lion' s gratitude was unbounded; he looked upon the man as his friend, and they shared the cave for some time together. A day came, however, when the Slave began to long for the society of his fellow- men, and he bade farewell to the Lion and returned to the town.

狮子对他感激不尽，将他当成了自己的朋友，从此他们一起分享这个洞穴。过了一段时间，有一天，奴隶开始渴望回到人类的社会生活中，他向狮子告别，然后回到镇子上。



Here he was presently recognized and carried off in chains to his former master, who resolved to make an example of him, and ordered that he should be thrown to the beasts at the next public spectacle in the theatre.

他一出现，立刻就被认出来，接着就被带上镣铐，送到了前主人那里。主人惩罚了他以示警戒，并且还命令道，在下次马戏表演时应该把他扔给野兽。





On the fatal day the beasts were loosed into the arena, and among the rest a Lion of huge bulk and ferocious aspect; and then the wretched Slave was cast in among them. What was the amazement of the spectators, when the Lion after one glance bounded up to him and lay down at his feet with every expression of affection and delight! It was his old friend of the cave!

就在性命攸关的那一天，野兽都被释放进竞技场后，其中有一头体态肥硕的狮子，跑到他跟前，带着喜爱和高兴的表情趴在他脚边。这正是他在洞里生活时的老朋友！



The audience clamored that the Slave' s life should be spared: and the governor of the town, marveling at such gratitude and fidelity in a beast, decreed that both should receive their liberty.

观众都嚷嚷着应该饶了这个奴隶的命，镇子上的官员也惊讶于一头野兽的感恩与忠诚，下令让奴隶和狮子都获得自由。



Sweet dreams!
Good Night!

