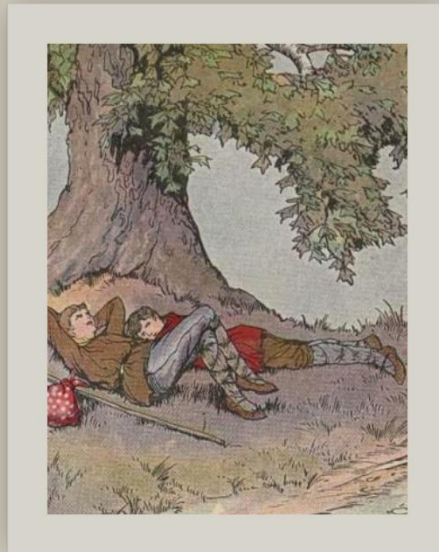


Aesop's Fables

44. THE APES AND THE TWO TRAVELLERS 猿猴 和 两个旅人



Two men were travelling together, one of whom never spoke the truth, whereas the other never told a lie: and they came in the course of their travels to the land of Apes.

有两个人一起去旅行，其中一个从不说实话，另一个却从不说谎话。他们碰巧走进了猿猴国。



The King of the Apes, hearing of their arrival, ordered them to be brought before him; and by way of impressing them with his magnificence, he received them sitting on a throne, while the Apes, his subjects, were ranged in long rows on either side of him.

听说有人闯进自己的领土，猿猴王就吩咐手下将这两人捉拿归案，为了让他们对猿猴国的富丽堂皇印象深刻，他令所有的猿猴在两边分别列队，自己则坐在中间的王位上接待他们。



When the Travellers came into his presence he asked them what they thought of him as a King.

一切准备妥当后，那两人被带到猴王面前，猴王询问他们如何看待面前的这个猴王。



The lying Traveller said, "Sire, every one must see that you are a most noble and mighty monarch." "And what do you think of my subjects?" continued the King.

爱说谎的人回答说：“任何人都能看出来，您就是一个最高贵、最有权力的国王。”“那么，你如何看待旁边的这些随从呢？”猴王接着问。



"They," said the Traveller, "are in every way worthy of their royal master." The Ape was so delighted with his answer that he gave him a very handsome present.

那人连忙说：“他们都是猴王您的得力干将。”猴王听到他的这番恭维十分高兴，给了他丰盛的礼物。



The other Traveller thought that if his companion was rewarded so splendidly for telling a lie, he himself would certainly receive a still greater reward for telling the truth;

另外一个说真话的人心里暗自琢磨，若是同伴的一番谎话都能得到如此丰厚的回报，那么，我这样一个说实话的老实人，肯定会得到比他更多的奖赏了。



so, when the Ape turned to him and said, "And what, sir, is your opinion?" he replied, "I think you are a very fine Ape, and all your subjects are fine Apes too."

于是，当猿猴国王转过身来问他：“先生，您是怎么看的呢？”他回答道：“我认为，您是一只最优秀的猿猴，而您的所有随从也还可以。”



The King of the Apes was so enraged at his reply that he ordered him to be taken away and clawed to death.

猿猴国王听到这些真话后恼羞成怒，下令将说真话的人带走，处以死刑。



Sweet dreams!
Good Night!

