



13. 青蛙求王记, The Frogs Desiring a King (qīng wā qiú wáng jì)

yī qún qīng wā zài cháo shī de zhǎo zé dì lǐ kuài lè bìng zì yóu de shēng huó zhe,

一群青蛙在潮湿的沼泽地里快乐并自由的生活着，

The Frogs were living as happy as could be in a marshy swamp that just suited them;

tā men rèn yì de xī shuǐ 、 yóu xì , jì bù yòng guǎn bié rén , yě méi yǒu rén lái gān shè tā men 。

它们任意地嬉水、游戏，既不用管别人，也没有人来干涉它们。

they went splashing about caring for nobody and nobody troubling with them.

kě shì , yǒu xiē qīng wā rèn wéi zhè zhǒng shēng huó fāng shì bù duì ,

可是，有些青蛙认为这种生活方式不对，

But some of them thought that this was not right,

tā men yìng gāi yǒu yī gè wáng hé yī tào kě xíng de xiàn fǎ 。

它们应该有一个王和一套可行的宪法。

that they should have a king and a proper constitution,

yú shì , wā qún jué dìng xiàng tā men de zhū bì tè shén tí chū yāo qiú 。

于是，蛙群决定向它们的朱庇特神提出要求。

so they determined to send up a petition to Jove to give them what they wanted.

tā men shuō: “zhì gāo de zhū bì tè shén ya ,qiú nǐ gěi wǒ men yī gè jūn wáng lái tǒng zhì hé zhì lǐ wǒ men bā !” 。

它们说，“至高的朱庇特神呀，求你给我们一个君王来统治和治理我们吧！”。

"Mighty Jove," they cried, "send unto us a king that will rule over us and keep us in order."

zhū bì tè shén xiào huà tā men de yào qiú ,

朱庇特神笑话它们的要求，

Jove laughed at their croaking,

jiāng yī kuài ér dà mù tóu rēng jìn zhǎo zé lǐ ,

将一块儿大木头扔进沼泽里，

and threw down into the swamp a huge Log,





shuǐ miàn jiàn qǐ le jù dà de làng huā 。
水面溅起了巨大的浪花。

which came down splashing into the swamp.



wā qún bèi tū rú qí lái de hùn luàn xià huài le ,
蛙群被突如其来的混乱吓坏了，

The Frogs were frightened out of their lives by the
commotion made in their midst,

fēn fēn tiào dào àn shàng guān kàn zhè jù dà yòu kǐ pà de guài wù 。
纷纷跳到岸上观看这巨大又可怕的怪物。

and all rushed to the bank to look at the horrible monster;

dàn shì , guò liǎo yī huì ér , kàn jiàn guài wù méi yǒu dòng jìng ,
但是，过了一会儿，看见怪物没有动静，

but after a time, seeing that it did not move,

yǒu yī 、 liǎng zhī dǎn zǐ dà de qīng wā jiù guò qù kào jìn mù tóu chá kàn jiū jìng ,
有一、两只胆子大的青蛙就过去靠近木头察看究竟，

one or two of the boldest of them ventured out towards the Log,

tā men shèn zhì hái gǎn qù chù pèng tā , jiàn tā hái shì sī háo bù dòng 。
它们甚至还敢去触碰它，见它还是丝毫不动。

and even dared to touch it; still it did not move.

rán hòu , dǎn zǐ zuì dà de qīng wā yīng xióng biàn suǒ xìng tiào shàng mù tóu ,
然后，胆子最大的青蛙英雄便索性跳上木头，

Then the greatest hero of the Frogs jumped upon the Log and commenced dancing
up and down upon it,

zài shàng miàn kāi shǐ tiào wǔ , yú shì suǒ yǒu de qīng wā dōu xiào fǎng tā 。
在上面开始跳舞，于是所有的青蛙都效仿它。

thereupon all the Frogs came and did the same;



guò le yī duàn ér shí jiān , qīng wā men měi tiān dōu zuò zhe tóng yàng de shì qíng ,

过了一段儿时间，青蛙们每天都做着同样的事情，

and for some time the Frogs went about their business every day

zhú jiàn duì tǎng zài tā men dāng zhōng de “ xīn mù tóu wáng ” bù yǐ wéi rán le ,

逐渐对躺在它们当中的“新木头王”不以为然了，

without taking the slightest notice of their new King Log lying in their midst.

jué dé “ mù tóu wáng ” duì tā men yī wú shì chù 。

觉得“木头王”对它们一无是处。

But this did not suit them,

yú shì , yòu qiú gào zhū bì tè shén ,

于是，又求告朱庇特神，

so they sent another petition to Jove,

duì tā shuō : “ wǒ men yào yī gè zhēn zhèng de jūn wáng , yī gè néng gòu tǒng zhì wǒ men de jūn wáng 。 ”

对它说：“我们要一个真正的君王，一个能够统治我们的君王。”

and said to him, "We want a real king; one that will really rule over us."

zhèràng zhū bì tè shén hěn shēng qì , yú shì gěi tā men yī zhī dà gǎn ,

这让朱庇特神很生气，于是给它们一只大鸛，

Now this made Jove angry, so he sent among them a big Stork

zhè zhī gǎn lì kè jiāng zhǎo zé dì lǐ suǒ yǒu de qīng wā chī dé gān gān jìng jìng ,

这只鸛立刻将沼泽地里所有的青蛙吃得干干净净，

that soon set to work gobbling them all up.

zhè shí qīng wā hòu huǐ yǐ jīng lái bù jí le 。

这时青蛙后悔已经来不及了。

Then the Frogs repented when too late.



gù shì shì shuō : zì yóu shèng yú cán bào de tǒng zhì 。

故事是说：自由胜于残暴的统治。

Better no rule than cruel rule.

