

The Butterfly Lovers



Liang and Zhu were good friends at school. They studied together every day. Zhu was actually a girl, but no one knew.



After school, Zhu had to go home. She missed Liang very much.



Liang missed Zhu too. He went to find her. But Zhu's father said she must marry another man. Liang was so sad that he became very sick and died.



Liang missed Zhu were good friends. Liang. They sick to go.



On Zhu's wedding day, she passed by Liang's grave. Suddenly, the grave opened. Zhu jumped into it.



Then, two beautiful butterflies flew out. They flew together happily in the sky.

The Twelve Animals



Long ago, the Jade Emperor wanted to pick twelve animals to represent the years. He invited all the animals to a race.



The rat was small and smart. It asked the kind ox for a ride. The ox agreed.



Just before the finish line, the rat jumped off and won first place! The ox was second.



The tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig came after them.



That's how we got the twelve zodiac animals.



The cat was late because the rat told it the wrong day, so it's not on the list!

Lady Meng Jiang



Lady Meng Jiang's husband was taken away to build the Great Wall. She waited for him.



He never came back. She decided to go find him.



She walked a very long way. When she got to the wall...



She learned her husband had died. She was so sad that she cried and cried.



Her tears were so powerful that a part of the Great Wall fell down!



She found her husband's bones and buried him properly.

The Cowherd and the Weaver Girl



Zhi Nu was a fairy who wove clouds in the sky. She came to Earth and met a cowherd named Niu Lang.



They fell in love and got married.



But the Queen of Heaven was angry. She took Zhi Nu back to the sky.



Niu Lang was heartbroken.



Their love was so strong that magpies formed a bridge across the Milky Way...



...for them to meet once a year on the seventh day of the seventh month.

Lu Ban the Carpenter



Lu Ban wanted to be a great carpenter. He traveled far to find a teacher.



The old teacher gave him hard tasks. "Grind these tools until they are sharp," he said.



Lu Ban worked for seven days and nights.



Then the teacher said, "Cut down that big tree." Lu Ban worked for twelve days and did it.



He learned that to be good at something, you must work hard and never give up.



He became the best carpenter in the land.

Princess Wencheng



Princess Wencheng was very beautiful and smart. A king from a faraway land wanted to marry her.



Her father, the Emperor, set tests for the king to pass.



The king was wise and passed all the tests. The princess saw that he was a good man.



She agreed to marry him and went to his kingdom.



She brought seeds and books, and helped the people there live better lives.



Everyone loved her.

The Jumping Carp



A bad dragon brought floods and trouble to a village. A brave girl named Yu Gu decided to stop it.



She got magic powers and turned into a big red carp.



She swam up the river and fought the evil dragon.



She defeated the dragon, but she also died.



The villagers were safe.



To remember her, they named a place "Carp Leaps Over the Dragon Gate."

The Loyal Dog



A man named Li loved his black dog. One day, Li fell asleep in a field.



A fire started! The dog saw the fire.



It ran to a stream, got wet, and then ran back to shake water on the grass around Li.



It did this many, many times.



Li was safe, but the dog was too tired and died. Li was very sad.



He buried his loyal friend and always remembered its bravery.

Why We Eat Dumplings



A great doctor named Zhang saw that poor people's ears got frozen in winter. He wanted to help them.



He cooked mutton with herbs and wrapped them in dough shaped like ears.



He gave this "ear soup" to people. It kept them warm.



People got better. Now, we eat dumplings in winter...



...to remember his kindness and keep our ears warm!



Dongpo Pork



Su Dongpo was a good official. He helped people dig a lake.



The people were thankful. They gave him lots of pork.



Su Dongpo cooked the pork with soy sauce and wine. It smelled wonderful!



He shared it with everyone.



The dish was so delicious that people named it after him: "Dongpo Pork."



It is still a very famous dish today.

The Magic Wind Leg



Tang Village made “Dan Xun” (light-smoked meat). One day, Tang Qi sent many legs to town.



But the bamboo raft hit a rock! The legs got wet and soft.



Tang Qi had an idea: wash them and dry in the sun.



Wow! The sun and wind made them golden and shiny.



A shopkeeper loved them and called them “Feng Tui” (wind leg).



Now Feng Tui is more famous!

The Treasure Straw Hat



Chai Ge was poor. He found a gold earring and gave it back.



A girl gave him a old straw hat.
It was magic!



Chai Ge's head sore got better at once.



A bad rich man took it, but it was too heavy—



he turned into a turtle!



Chai Ge laughed happily.

The Night Pearl



Dragon King's daughter wanted an honest, brave husband. A Er was such a boy.



She asked them to get a night pearl.



A Da lied and took a fake one.



A Er helped flood village, got a real black pearl.



At night, the black pearl shone bright!



A Er married the princess.

Zhang Xiaoquan Scissors



Zhang Xiaoquan moved to Hangzhou.
A deep well's water got dirty.



—two iron snakes! He jumped in,
killed them with a hammer.



He made scissors like the snakes.



People loved them!



Now Zhang Xiaoquan scissors are
famous.



Zhang Xiaoquan Scissors.

Wang Lang Beach



Nie Lang found a magic pearl. It made rice and money grow.



A bad man took it, Nie Lang swallowed it.



He turned into a dragon to fight the bad man.



His mom shouted 24 times,



so there are 24 beaches named Wang Lang Beach.



Wang Lang Beach

Ashima



Ashima was kind and brave.



A Zhi's dad took her by force.
Ashima said no.



A Hei sang and beat A Zhi in games,
saved her.



But A Zhi made a flood. Ashima
turned into a stone echo.



Ashima turned into a stone echo.



When you call, she answers!

Flying Peak



A crazy monk knew a flying mountain would crush the village. He ran to save people—



he carried a bride away! Everyone chased him. Just then, the mountain fell.



The monk said: carve 500 stone arhats to empty village square, raising dust. The monk and villagers look on.



The monk said: carve 500 stone arhats to stop it flying.



The monk said: carve 500 stone arhats to stop it flying.



Now Flying Peak stays in Hangzhou.

The Start of Mount Tai



Bi Xia Yuan Jun wanted more land.
Jiang Ziya said: throw a shoe, land
where it falls.



She threw a embroidered shoe.



It landed at Dai Zong Fang.



So Dai Zong Fang became the start of
Mount Tai.



They went to Dai Zong Fang. Bi Xia
Yuan Jun was happy.



Dai Zong Fang is now the start of the
great Mount Tai.

Five-Finger Mountain



Five brothers had a magic hoe and sword.



A bad man killed them.



Their tears made 5 streams.



Their tears made 5 streams.



Animals buried them with rocks—Five-Finger Mountain!



It looks like 5 fingers.

Hunter Hailibu



Hailibu saved a snake, got a stone to understand animals.



One day, birds said: mountain will fall!



He told villagers, but they didn't believe.



He told the truth—turned into stone.



Villagers ran away. Mountain fell, but they were safe.



Villagers were safe, they remembered Hailibu.

Zhang Liang Picks Up Shoes



Zhang Liang met an old man. The old man dropped his shoe, asked Zhang Liang to pick up and put on.



Zhang Liang did it patiently.



The old man gave him a book.



Zhang Liang studied hard,



Zhang Liang, now a wise advisor in became a great helper of Liu Bang.



Zhang Liang and Liu Bang look over a prosperous kingdom.

Three Monks



One monk fetched water.



Two monks carried water.



Three monks? No one went!



The temple caught fire—no water.



They had to fetch water, but the temple burned.



Lazy monks became homeless.

Gu Kuang Nails Shoes



Gu Kuang was proud.



A shoe mender gave a couplet:
"Iron nails fix shoes, on and off."



Gu Kuang couldn't answer.



A painter said: "Tree paint paints
trays, on and off."



Gu Kuang learned: don't be proud!



He studied hard, became a poet.

Afanti Fools the King



Afanti was clever.



The king asked: when will you die?



Afanti said: today.



Then: you die tomorrow. The king was scared—



let Afanti go!



Afanti fooled the silly king again.

Three Greedy Brothers



Three brothers found treasure.



The first wanted more, ran away. The second killed him.



The third poisoned food, killed the second.



All died. Greed hurts!

Happy Bird



Wang Jia wanted happy life for his village.



He walked through sharp stones,



Wang Jia struggles, became blind.



But he kept going.



Happy Bird healed him, brought sun,
rivers, trees.



Village was happy!

Zongzi's Story



People missed Qu Yuan.



They threw rice into river.



Qu Yuan said: wrap rice in leaves like horns,



boats look like dragons.



So zongzi and dragon boat races started.



We eat zongzi on Dragon Boat Festival.

Water-Splashing Festival



A monster had 7 wives. The 7th wife asked his weakness: hair.



She pulled his hair, killed him.



His blood burned earth.



Wives took turns holding his head.



People splashed water to clean her.



Now we splash water on New Year—happy!

The Nian Beast



Nian ate people.



People found: red, fire, loud noise
scare it!



So we paste red paper,



set off firecrackers.



Nian never came back. Now we
celebrate Spring Festival!

Long Hair Girl



Long Hair Girl found spring water.
A mountain god said: don't tell.



But she told villagers.



Mountain god took her.



A green old man made a stone girl
with her hair.



Long Hair Girl's hair grew back.



Village had water!

Silkworm Goddess



A girl's father left.



She said: if horse finds father,
I marry it.



Horse took father home.



Father killed horse.



Girl touched horse skin, turned
into silkworm.



She makes silk, misses home. We
call her Silkworm Goddess.

Snail Girl



A boy found a snail, put it in jar.



Food was ready when he came home.



He saw Snail Girl cooking.



She was a goddess sent by heaven.



She left, but left a magic snail.



Boy lived happily.

Horsehead Fiddle



Su He had a white horse.



A prince took it, shot it. Horse died.



Su He made a fiddle with its body.



When he played, it sounded like the horse. Now Horsehead Fiddle is Mongolian's favorite.

Dongguo and the Wolf



Dongguo hid a wolf from hunters.



Wolf wanted to eat him!



An old man said: act again.



Wolf jumped into bag.



Old man killed it.



Don't help bad people!

Zhou Chu Removes Harm



Zhou Chu was naughty. People said:
3 harms—tiger, snake, Zhou Chu!



He killed the tiger.



Then, he killed the snake.



He changed, studied hard.



Became a good man.



Everyone was happy.

The Magic Red Pomegranate



Greedy Brother & Flies
Brother was greedy, got flies, rooster, dog.



Brother & Bad Pomegranates
Brother took pomegranates, got bad things.



Kind Brother's Good Deed
Brother was kind, pomegranate made a house.



Pomegranate House
Share with others, good things come!



Sharing & Happiness
Share with others, good things come!



A Good Life
Share with others, good things come!

A Beautiful Brocade



An old mom wove a beautiful brocade.



Wind blew the brocade away.



Third son found it in Sun Mountain.



Brocade became real—house, garden, lake! Mom could see again.



Third son married a beautiful fairy.



They all lived happily ever after.