



Mandarin Companion Graded Readers

Level 1: 300 characters



The Monkey's Paw

Based on

The Monkey's Paw

by W.W. Jacobs

Mind Spark Press LLC

SHANGHAI

Mandarin Companion Graded Readers



Now you can read books in Chinese that are fun and help accelerate language learning. Every book in the Mandarin Companion series is carefully written to use characters, words, and grammar that a learner is likely to know.

The Mandarin Companion Leveling System has been meticulously developed through an in-depth analysis of textbooks, education programs and natural Chinese language. Every story is written in a simple style that is fun and easy to understand so you improve with each book.

Mandarin Companion Level One

Level 1 is intended for Chinese learners at an upper-elementary level. Most learners will be able to approach this book after one to two years of formal study, depending on the learner and program. This series is designed to combine simplicity of characters with an easy-to-understand storyline that helps beginner grow their vocabulary and language comprehension abilities. The more they read, the better they will become at reading and grasping the Chinese language.

Level 1 is designed around the Mandarin Companion's core set of **300 basic characters**. These basic characters ensure that most of the vocabulary will be simple everyday words that the reader is most likely to know. This series contains approximately **400 unique words**; a number low enough to make reading Chinese less intimidating, while also introducing new key words relevant to the story.

Key words are added gradually over the course of the story. A numbered

footnote indicates the first time a new word or character is introduced and the corresponding hyperlink references the glossary with pinyin and an English definition. Each additional instance of a new word is indicated by a hyperlink. All proper nouns have been underlined to help the reader distinguish between names and words.

What level is right for me?

If you are able to read this book with a high level of comprehension, then this book is likely at your level. It is ideal to have at most only one unknown word or character for every 40-50 words or characters that are read.

Once you are able to read fluidly and quickly without interruption you are ready for the next level. Even if you are able to understand all of the words in the book, we recommend that readers build fluidity and reading speed before moving to higher levels.

How will this help my Chinese?

Reading extensively in a language you are learning is one of the most effective ways to build fluency. However, the key is to read at a high level of comprehension. Reading at the appropriate level in Chinese will increase the speed of character recognition, help acquire vocabulary faster, allow readers to naturally learn grammar, and train the brain to think in Chinese. It also makes learning Chinese more fun and enjoyable. Readers will experience the sense of accomplishment and confidence that only comes from reading entire books in Chinese.

For more information, please see **Extensive Reading and Graded Readers**

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Story Adaptation Notes

This story is an adaptation of English author W. W. Jacobs' 1902 classic horror story, *The Monkey's Paw*. This Mandarin Companion graded reader has been adapted into a fully localized Chinese version of the original story. The characters have been given authentic Chinese names as opposed to transliterations of English names, which sound foreign in Chinese. The locations have been adapted to well-known places in China.

The period of this adaptation is the 1980's not long after Deng Xiaoping famously instituted China's new policies of "Reforms and Openness". China was gearing up its industrialization to eventually become known as "the world's factory." In this time period, 10,000 RMB was a substantial amount of money, similar to the feeling of "a million dollars" in early 21st century America.

Character Adaptations

The following is a list of the characters from The Monkey's Paw in Chinese followed by their corresponding English names from the original story. The names below are not translations, they are new Chinese names used for the Chinese versions of the original characters. Think of them as all-new characters in a Chinese story.

张希平 (Zhāng Xīpíng) - Mr. White

张太太 (Zhāng Tàitai) - Mrs. White

张贵生 (Zhāng Guìshēng) - Herbert White

钱运来 (Qián Yùnlái) - Sergeant-Major Morris

Cast of Characters









Locations

云南 Yúnnán Yunnan Province in southwest China, which borders on Vietnam, Laos and Myanmar. It is home to many Chinese ethnic minorities, and even today has a bit of an exotic feel for many Chinese.

从云南来的朋友

那是1986年的一个晚上。<u>外面山一直</u>迎在<u>下雨</u>圆,风也很大,路上又黑又冷。但是中山路上的一个小房子里很<u>暖和</u>圆。

张希平和他的儿子<u>张贵生</u>在看书, <u>张太太</u>坐在不远的地方看着他们, 她<u>看起来</u>。很高兴。"贵生快二十岁了。很少有儿子会和爸爸做朋友, 但是贵生一直很喜欢和爸爸在一起。真好!"<u>张</u>太太想。

张希平和张太太以前都在工厂®里工作。<u>张太太生®张贵生</u>的时候,她和<u>张希平</u>都四十多岁了。他们只有<u>张贵生</u>一个孩子,所以,他们<u>一直</u>很爱<u>张贵生</u>。

张贵生很喜欢笑,他的爸爸妈妈也总是跟他一起笑。"我们不是很<u>有钱</u>, 但是我们在一起很开心。"<u>张太太</u>常常这样想。

两个男人<u>一直</u>在看书,没有说话。雨比以前更大了,雨声和风声在一起,好像回有人在哭。



"你们听, 外面的雨真的很大。"张希平说。

"是的, 所以今天晚上别<u>出门</u>。钱<u>叔叔</u>是不是要来我们家?"张贵生问他爸爸。

"对。他说他8点<u>左右12</u>到。可是这么大的雨,他<u>可能13</u> ……"<u>张希平</u>还没有说完,就听到<u>张贵生</u>说:"听!<u>外面好像</u>有 人。"

"是吗?我只听到雨声。"<u>张希平说。但是他还是归</u>起来去开门。"运来,真的是你!雨这么大,我以为你不来了。快进来。"



<u>张贵生以前常常听爸爸说到的钱运来。他知道钱叔叔以前和爸爸妈妈是同事的,但是后来的他不想再在工厂里工作,所以去了云南做生意的。</u>

看到钱运来, 张太太马上走过去, 说:"运来, 快进来。这里暖和。"张贵生也走过去说:"钱叔叔, 你好!"钱运来笑着说:"你是贵生吧?现在这么大了!"

"运来,天气这么冷,喝点酒,<u>暖和</u>一下。"<u>张希平</u>说完,给了<u>钱运来</u>一杯酒。他们一边说话,一边喝酒,<u>张希平</u>一家都很想听<u>钱运来</u>说一说<u>云南的那些神奇</u>响的<u>故事</u>。。

从云南来的猴爪

- "我在<u>云南</u>住了两年,做了两年<u>生意</u>,那是一个又<u>神奇</u>又<u>有</u> 意思[2]的地方。"钱运来说。
 - "是的。我听说过。"张贵生说,"我也很想去云南。"
- "不!"<u>张太太</u>大声说。她四十多岁才生了<u>张贵生</u>,所以<u>一直</u> 很害怕[23]张贵生会离开[24]她。
 - "对你<u>来说[25]</u>, 这**儿很好!"<u>钱运来</u>对<u>张贵生</u>说。**
- "运来,你在云南看到了那么多<u>神奇</u>的事,<u>一定</u>[26]很<u>有意思</u>。 我听说你从云南带回来了一个<u>猴子[27]</u>的<u>爪子[28]</u>,我们很想听你 说说这个猴爪的故事。"张希平说。
- "猴爪!"<u>钱运来一下子</u>四有点不开心了,"猴爪的事,我不想说。"
 - "猴爪?"<u>张太太</u>觉得有点<u>奇怪</u>図。
 - "钱<u>叔叔</u>, 你跟我们说说吧。我们真的很想听。"<u>张贵生</u>说。
- 钱运来拿起他的酒杯,想了一下,然后很快放下酒杯。<u>张希</u>平一家人调都看着他。过了一会儿,他拿出了一个东西。
- "啊!那是什么?"<u>张太太</u>大声说。因为她看到了一个又小又黑的东西,她有点害怕。
 - <u>钱运来</u>什么也没说。这时候, <u>张希平</u>从钱运来手里拿起那个



"<u>猴子的爪子</u>?"<u>张贵生</u>觉得很<u>有意思</u>, 他笑着说:"钱<u>叔叔</u>, 这就是你从<u>云南</u>带回来的猴爪?"

"你别<u>小看」。</u>"它,你要知道,这个猴爪很<u>神奇</u>,它有<u>魔力</u> 」。"钱运来说。

张贵生又笑了。但是<u>钱运来认真</u>遗地说:"这个<u>神奇</u>的猴爪是一个<u>云南</u>人给我一个朋友的。这个猴爪有<u>魔力</u>,是因为它能帮你实现。這一个愿望。!"

"真的吗?"张贵生很好奇[37]。

"真的。但是这三个<u>愿望实现</u>的时候,<u>可能</u>会带来一些不好的事。它会让你<u>得到</u>圖一些东西,也会让你<u>失去</u>画一些东西。"<u>钱</u>运来说。

"你那个朋友的三个愿望都实现了吗?"张希平问。

"是的。"<u>钱运来看起来</u>不怎么开心,"他的<u>生意</u>很好,但是他的最后一个愿望是去死!"

听到<u>钱运来</u>这样说, <u>张太太很害怕</u>, 马上问:"**那他死了**吗?"

"是的,他死了。他没有<u>家人</u>」。所以他家里所有的东西,他都给了我。猴爪就是他给我的。"钱运来说。

"那他前面的两个<u>愿望</u>是什么?"<u>张贵生好奇</u>地问。

"我不知道,他没有告诉我。"钱运来说。

听到这里,他们都不说话了。过了一会儿,<u>张贵生</u>又问<u>钱运来</u>:"钱<u>叔叔</u>,你有<u>愿望</u>吗?"

"是的。我以前有很多<u>愿望。"钱运来小声</u>组说,他<u>看起来很难过</u>强,"以前,我想要很多东西:大房子,好车子,还<u>有钱</u>……可是我有了这些东西以后,我<u>老婆</u>和儿子就死了。对我<u>来说</u>,没有家人,这些钱没用。这也是为什么我不做生意了,又回来了。但是已经晚了。"

听他这样说,<u>张希平</u>一家都不说话了。他们都在想:这个猴爪真的那么神奇吗?

你能送给我吗?

<u>张希平</u>也喝了一些酒。过了一会儿,他问<u>钱运来</u>:"为什么你 现在还要这个猴爪呢?如果你不想要了,可以<u>送给</u>妈别人。"

"我怎么可以<u>送给</u>别人呢?"<u>钱运来</u>说,"如果我<u>送给</u>别人, 别人就会有不好的事发生₄₆。"

"你可以送给我吗?"张希平说,"也许妈这次它……"

"不!"<u>张希平</u>还没说完, <u>钱运来</u>马上大声说, "你是我的朋友。我不能给你!"



"钱<u>叔叔</u>,我觉得不会<u>发生</u>什么事。这个猴爪这么<u>有意思</u>,你送给我们吧。我很喜欢。"<u>张贵生</u>笑着说。

"是啊, <u>也许</u>这次它的<u>魔力</u>会给我们带来好事。"<u>张希平</u>也 说。

<u>钱运来</u>觉得, <u>张希平</u>一家<u>好像不相信</u>₄₈猴爪的<u>魔力</u>。看到他们这么想要这个猴爪, <u>钱运来</u>觉得如果不给他们, 他们会很不高兴。他想了一下, 说:"如果你们真的想要, 我可以给你们。但是你们要知道, 它会让你们<u>得到</u>一些东西, 也会让你们<u>失去</u>一些东西, 所以<u>许愿</u>_[49]以前一定要<u>小心</u>_[50]……"

<u>钱运来</u>还没说完, <u>张贵生就拿起了猴爪, 看了一下, 说:"这个东西真有意思!"</u>

<u>张希平</u>一家都在看猴爪,没有发现这个时候<u>钱运来看起来</u> 很不开心。张希平问钱运来:"我们应该赋怎么许愿?"

"钱叔叔, 你快告诉爸爸怎么许愿吧。"张贵生笑了。

<u>钱运来</u>什么也没说。<u>张希平</u>又问他:"我们<u>应该</u>怎么<u>许愿</u>?"

"好吧。如果你想<u>许愿</u>,一定要<u>想好</u>题你的<u>愿望</u>。但是<u>记得</u>题 要小心。"钱运来认真说。

"好的,好的。"张希平说。

<u>钱运来</u>又说:"你用两只手拿着猴爪,说'猴爪猴爪',然后说你的<u>愿望</u>。但是要<u>小心</u>,它会让你……"

"知道, 它会让你<u>得到</u>, 也会让你<u>失去</u>!"<u>张贵生</u>说, "爸爸, 快许愿吧。"

"你帮帮我,我应该许什么愿呢?"张希平看着张太太。

<u>张太太</u>笑了,她说:"我们现在老了,做事很慢。我觉得两只手太少了,那么让猴爪再给我两只手吧。"

"好的。"<u>张希平</u>也笑了,他用两只手拿着猴爪,想要<u>许愿</u>。

"不!"就在这个时候,<u>钱运来</u>大声说,"不要这样!"

<u>张贵生和张太太</u>都笑了,但是<u>张希平</u>看到了<u>钱运来的样</u> 子[54],他有点<u>害怕</u>,马上放下了猴爪。

后来,他们又喝了一些酒。<u>钱运来</u>又告诉了他们很多<u>神奇</u>的事。那些事很<u>有意思</u>,所以他们都忘了猴爪的<u>故事</u>。

<u>钱运来要离开的时候</u>,已经很晚了。<u>张太太</u>对他说:"谢谢你告诉我们这么多<u>有意思</u>的事。我们没<u>有钱</u>去<u>云南</u>,所以请你以

后经常来我们家,告诉我们更多更有意思的事。"

<u>后来</u>, <u>钱运来就离开</u>了。他<u>离开</u>的时候, 还在<u>下雨</u>, <u>外面</u>又 黑又冷!

猴爪猴爪,我想要...

已经**很晚了**。<u>钱运来离开</u>以后, <u>张希平</u>一家还在说<u>云南</u>的那些<u>故事</u>。

"<u>云南</u>真是一个<u>有意思</u>的地方!我第一次听说那么多<u>神奇</u> 的事。"<u>张希平</u>说。

"是啊, 钱<u>叔叔</u>说了那么多<u>奇怪</u>的事, 但有些事<u>不一定</u>[55]是 真的。"<u>张贵生</u>说。

"是吗?你这么认为?"张太太问张贵生。

"是啊,妈妈。你想,一个<u>猴子的爪子</u>会有什么<u>魔力</u>?它真的会让你<u>得到</u>想要的东西?它还会让你<u>失去</u>一些东西?怎么可能?我觉得猴爪的事<u>一定</u>不是真的。不过,这是一个好故事。"张贵生又说。

"你说得对。"张太太笑着说。

"不要<u>小看</u>它。"<u>张希平小声</u>说,他<u>好像</u>在想什么,"<u>也许</u>这个 故事是真的,有时候怪事也会发生。"

<u>张太太好像</u>想到了什么,马上问<u>张希平:"你拿了钱运来的</u> 猴爪以后,给他钱了吗?我们没钱,不要买<u>没用</u>的东西。"

"没有。这是我们让他<u>送给</u>我们的。他走的时候还说<u>希望</u>质 我们会还给质他。"张希平说。

"爸,妈,你们别想那么多了。现在猴爪是我们的了。"<u>张贵</u>

生笑了, "爸, 如果你<u>相信</u>钱<u>叔叔的故事</u>是真的, 那就许个愿吧。"

"好吧。"<u>张希平</u>又拿起了猴爪,说:"可是我还没<u>想好</u>要许什么愿。我已经有了你和你妈妈,我还需要_[58]什么呢?"

"当然是钱!"<u>张贵生</u>马上说,"我们<u>需要</u>钱!爸,我们<u>一直</u>想要一个更大的房子,对吗?我还<u>记得</u>现在的这个老房子是三十年前工厂给你们的,太小了。我们不做<u>生意</u>,只在工厂里工作,每个月只有几十块钱。我们没<u>有钱</u>买新房子。爸,你不<u>希望</u>我们有一万块吗?快,<u>许愿</u>吧!<u>希望我们得到</u>一万块钱!"

<u>张希平</u>没说话,他想了一会儿。房子里只能听到<u>外面</u>的雨声。他有点<u>害怕</u>,看着<u>张太太。张太太点了点头</u>圆,笑着对他说:"说吧。"

然后, <u>张希平</u>两只手拿起猴爪, 很<u>认真</u>地说:"猴爪猴爪, 我想要一万块钱。"



"啊!"<u>张希平</u>大叫。

"怎么了?"<u>张太太</u>马上问。

"它动了!猴爪动了!"<u>张希平</u>觉得这个猴爪很<u>可怕</u>。现在 猴爪已经在<u>地上</u>了。



他们看着<u>地上</u>的猴爪,可是它没有再动。他们坐下来,等了一会儿,但是什么也没<u>发生。外面</u>的雨声<u>还是</u>那么大,房间里已经不太<u>暖和</u>了。

"已经很晚了!我们睡觉吧。"张太太说。

张希平坐在那里,一直没有说话。张贵生说:"爸,钱没有出现。看来;; ,钱叔叔说的不是真的。"张希平还是不说话。这时候,张太太说:"没错,我们需要钱。但是我们不会用这种方法;; ,张太太和张贵生回到了自己的房间。

<u>张希平一直</u>没有说话, <u>还是</u>坐在那里, 他觉得房间里又黑又冷。就在这个时候, 他看到<u>窗外。好像</u>有一个人。<u>张希平</u>又<u>认真</u>看了一下, 可是什么也没有了。他很<u>害怕</u>, 所以也<u>离开</u>了这个又

黑又冷的房间。

平常的一天

第二天早上, 天气很好, 房间里比昨天晚上暖和了很多。

<u>张希平好像</u>已经忘了猴爪的事,他<u>看起来</u>很开心。他和<u>张太</u>太、<u>张贵生</u>一边吃早饭,一边说要做的事。猴爪在窗边,但是没有人看它,也没有人想到它。

"我上午想去买点菜,晚上给你们做点好吃的。希平,你要跟我一起去吗?"张太太。

"不,我想自己一个人在家里看书。"<u>张希平</u>说。

"今天晚上我想早点睡觉。昨天晚上我们睡得太晚了。"<u>张贵</u>生对<u>张太太</u>说。

"这个猴爪一定没有魔力。"<u>张太太</u>听到<u>张贵生说到</u>猴爪,她有点生气。"你为什么要相信钱运来?"她问<u>张希平</u>,"一个猴爪不会给我们带来什么。如果这个猴爪会<u>实现</u>我们的<u>愿望</u>,那为什么我们还没有得到一万块钱?明天还给他吧。"但是,张希平没有说话。

张贵生看了看时间,然后对<u>张希平</u>说:"我要去工作了。爸,我很<u>好奇</u>今天会不会有一万块钱。<u>也许</u>有人会送信给你,钱就在信里面。"说完,他大声地笑了,<u>张太太</u>也笑了。

"别笑了, 贵生,"<u>张希平</u>说,"<u>钱运来</u>是我的老朋友,他说是真的, <u>也许</u>就是真的。我<u>相信</u>他。"

"好吧。<u>希望不会让我们失望</u>。"<u>张贵生</u>一边说,一边**笑着**出门。张太太也起来送他出门。

"妈,我走了。"张贵生说,"记得晚上多做点好吃的。"

"好的,我知道了。"张太太笑着点了点头。



跟<u>平常[6]</u>一样[6], <u>张贵生离开</u>家, 走路去<u>工厂。张太太</u>站在门外, 看着他。<u>外面</u>的天气很好, 可是不知道为什么, <u>张太太</u>一

<u>下子</u>觉得很冷。

一万块钱

<u>张太太</u>回到房间以后, <u>张希平</u>觉得她<u>看起来</u>有点<u>奇怪</u>, 就问她:"你怎么了?"

"没事。"<u>张太太</u>又坐下来吃早饭。过了一会儿,她又说:"昨天晚上<u>钱运来</u>喝酒以后,说了那么多<u>奇怪、可怕的故事</u>。你真的相信吗?"

<u>张希平</u>没有说话。这个时候,有人来送信,但是信里没<u>有</u> 钱。他们都有点失望。吃完早饭,他们已经忘了猴爪和钱的事, 张太太去买菜,张希平在家看书。

吃<u>午饭</u>屬的时候,<u>张太太</u>和<u>张希平</u>又<u>说到</u>了钱的事。因为他们没有钱,所以经常会说到钱。

"<u>贵生</u>长大了, 几年以后他要有自己的<u>老婆</u>, 有自己的家。 <u>看来</u>,我们真的需要钱。如果我们真的有一万块就好了!"<u>张太</u> 太说。

"我们到现在也没有拿到一万块,还是忘了它吧。"<u>张希平</u>说。"但是,那个猴爪在我手里的时候,它真的动了。我觉得<u>钱运</u>来说的是真的。"

"你昨天晚上喝多了,也许猴爪没有动。"<u>张太太</u>说。

"我记得它动了!"张希平有点生气了. 他大声说。

<u>张太太</u>没有再说话。因为就在这个时候,她看到<u>窗外</u>有一个

人, 那个人在向他们家<u>走过来</u>。

"你看, 窗外那个人, 你认识吗?"张太太问张希平。

那个人手里拿着一个东西。"<u>也许</u>他给我们送钱来了!"想到这些, <u>张太太</u>很开心。她马上<u>站起来</u>_[70]去开门。



"你好,我找张希平先生和张太太。"那个男人说。

"我们就是。你有什么事?"张太太问。

"我是<u>张贵生的同事</u>,从工厂里来的,我有事要跟你们说。 我能进去吗?"那个男人又说。

"快请进!"张太太说。

"你好, 张先生。"那个男人对张希平说。

<u>张太太</u>看着他,想:"他<u>看起来</u>很<u>有钱</u>。但是,他为什么从贵生的工厂里来?还有,他怎么<u>看起来</u>很不高兴?"

"我还没<u>想好应该</u>怎么告诉你们!我也很<u>难过</u>。"那个男人 说。

"出了什么事?"<u>张太太问</u>, "是不是<u>贵生……"张太太一下</u> <u>子</u>觉得很<u>害怕</u>, 没有说完后面的话。

那个男人<u>一直</u>看着<u>地上</u>,没有看他们。<u>张希平</u>也觉得很<u>害</u>怕,说:"快告诉我们吧。"

过了一会儿,那个男人才慢慢地说:"真对不起!今天上午工厂出事[71]了。张贵生,他……"

"他怎么了?"张太太又问。

"他……死了!"那个男人说完以后,<u>张希平和张太太一下</u>子不说话了,他们不<u>相信</u>这是真的。然后,<u>张太太</u>一边大哭,一边大叫:"不!这不是真的!"张希平也难过地哭了。

儿子和钱

<u>张太太</u>没有再说话, <u>一直</u>哭。<u>张希平</u>让她坐下来, 然后问那个男人:"我们的儿子, 他是怎么死的?"到这个时候, <u>张希平</u>都不相信这是真的。

那个男人看了看<u>张希平</u>,然后又看着<u>地上</u>,说:"上午<u>张贵生</u>一个人站在<u>机器</u>迎边工作,可是<u>机器</u>出了问题。他的<u>同事</u>听到他哭叫的时候,马上跑了过去,但是<u>还是</u>晚了。我们到的时候,看到他已经在<u>机器</u>里,死了。太<u>可怕</u>了!对不起,真的对不起!"说完,他也哭了。



"我四十多岁才生了他。可是,现在你告诉我,你们的工厂出事了,我们的儿子死了!他死了!我们再也看不到他了。没有他,我以后怎么办?"<u>张太太</u>一边哭,一边<u>难过</u>地说。

"我们想看看<u>贵生</u>, 你能带我们去看看他吗?"<u>张希平</u>对那个男人说。

"我知道你们现在一定很难过,一定很想再看看你们的儿子。但是你们最好别去看他。那个机器很大,我们用了很长时间才让他从机器里出来。他……他的样子已经……"还没说完,这个人就站起来,走到窗边,因为他不想再看到两个老人难过的样子。他站在那里,什么话也没再说,房间里只能听到哭声。

过了一会儿,他又走过来对两个老人说:"张贵生是一个好工人,他在工厂里工作了三年了。他是在工作的时候死的,我知道你们只有这一个儿子,所以工厂想为你们做点什么。"说完,他拿起一个东西。"这是工厂给你们的钱。我们知道,这些钱不能让张贵生回来。但是,我们希望它能在这个时候帮你们。"

听到这个人<u>说到</u>钱, <u>张希平一下子</u>很<u>害怕</u>。他慢慢地<u>站起来</u>, 看着那个男人, 问:"多少钱?"但是, 他真不想知道有多少钱。

- "一万块!"那个男人说。
- "一万块....."<u>张希平小声</u>说。<u>看来</u>,猴爪真的没有让他们<u>失</u>望。

但是<u>张太太</u>听到"一万块"的时候, 马上一边大哭一边说:"不要!不要!不要!一万块钱还给你们. 我要我的儿子!"



跟以前不一样了

几天以后, <u>张希平和张太太去了张贵生的墓地</u>。那个<u>墓地</u>就在离他们家不远的地方。在<u>墓地</u>, <u>张希平和张太太</u>哭了很长时间。他们从来没有想到, 那么可爱的儿子会在二十岁的时候<u>离开</u>他们, <u>再也不</u>[74]会回来了。他们也没有想到, 他们会这样<u>得</u>到那一万块钱。



"<u>看来</u>,我们真不<u>应该</u>要那个猴爪!更不<u>应该许愿</u>!"<u>张希</u> 平哭着说。

"如果我知道我们要<u>失去</u>儿子才能<u>得到</u>一万块钱,我<u>一定</u>不会让你<u>许愿</u>。现在有那1万块钱有什么用?可是,已经晚了。一万块钱还给他们,我的儿子也不会回来了。"说完,<u>张太太</u>哭得更难过了。

张贵生死了以后,这个家就跟以前很不<u>一样</u>了。以前,他们没<u>有钱</u>,但是他们在一起很开心。现在,张贵生不在了,<u>张希平和张太太</u>觉得他们什么都没有了。他们的家里再也听不到贵生的笑声了,他们觉得房子里又黑又冷。

他们什么也不想做。时间过得很慢,有时候他们都不说话,因为没有了<u>张贵生</u>,他们觉得没有什么话想说了。所以,他们总是觉得<u>白天</u>[25]很长,晚上也很长。

有一天晚上,<u>张太太睡不着</u>病,所以她起来,走到窗边。<u>外</u>面又下雨了,有点冷。她看着<u>外面</u>,<u>好像</u>在等她的儿子回来。想到张贵生不可能回来了,她又难过地哭了。

张希平听到了她的哭声, 对她说:"过来睡吧, 窗边冷。"

"我儿子那里更冷。"<u>张太太</u>说,"他现在一个人睡在那么冷的墓地里!"

<u>张太太</u>没有回去睡觉, <u>还是</u>站在窗边, 看着<u>窗外</u>。过了一会 儿, <u>张希平</u>听到了<u>张太太</u>的叫声。

"猴爪!"她大声地叫, "猴爪!"

"出了什么事?"张希平马上起来,走过去问张太太。

在那个又黑又冷的房间里, 张太太的样子看起来让人害

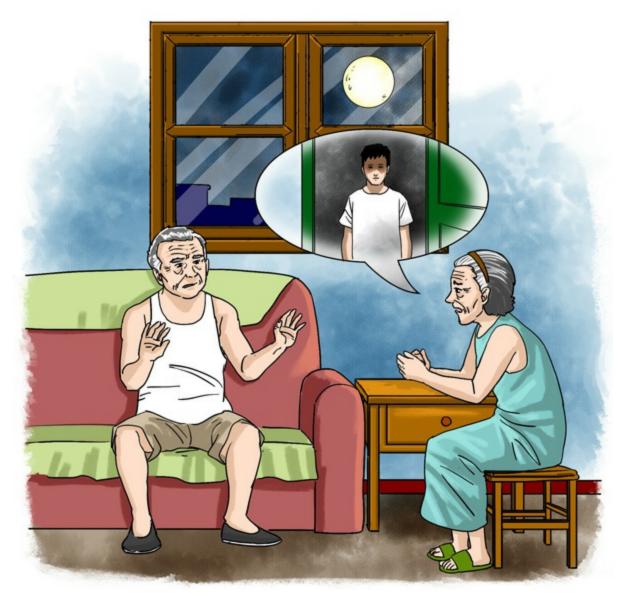
怕。"我要猴爪!猴爪在哪儿?你快给我!"

"什么?"张希平问。

"猴爪!"张太太又说,"猴爪在哪儿?"

"还在家里,明天就还给运来。"张希平说。

听他这样说,<u>张太太一下子</u>很开心。"不,不要<u>还给</u>他。我想到了一个好<u>方法</u>,可以让贵生回来。我们只许了一个愿,还可以再许两个愿。你忘了吗?我们还有两个!"



"不!这不是一个好<u>方法</u>!"<u>张希平</u>大声说。"我们<u>再也不</u>要 <u>许愿</u>了!我们要还给运来!"

但是<u>张太太一点也不听</u>,她说:"快点,快去拿猴爪。我要<u>许</u> 愿,让贵生快回到我们身边_[77]。"

"我们不能这样做。"<u>张希平</u>对她说,"你要知道,<u>贵生是在机器里死的。他的样子一定很可怕。他工厂里的同事都害怕</u>让我们看到,你为什么还要看?"

"他是我儿子。我不<u>害怕</u>!我已经<u>想好</u>了,不要再说了。你快去拿猴爪!"<u>张太太</u>说。看到<u>张希平</u>不想<u>许愿</u>,她又哭了。

"我真不明白你是怎么想的。"<u>张希平</u>有点生气,他觉得对他们来说,看到儿子死后的<u>样子</u>,不是什么好事。但是他还是去找猴爪了。

想见儿子

<u>张希平</u>找到了猴爪,<u>小心</u>地拿起来,又很快地放下了。

"不,我不能!我不想看到从<u>机器</u>里出来的<u>贵生</u>!"<u>张希平</u>想。

但是,他马上又想到了<u>张太太。张贵生</u>死了以后,<u>张太太再也没</u>有笑过。她很少说话,总是哭。如果她说话,那一定只是说:"我的儿子,我想见我的儿子!"<u>张希平</u>知道,<u>张太太</u>真的太想见到<u>张贵生</u>了。他能明白<u>张太太</u>的想法,他也不想看到<u>张太</u>太一直那么难过。

<u>张希平</u>想:"如果猴爪可以让我<u>老婆</u>开心一点,那么我<u>应该</u>为她做点什么。"他拿起猴爪,回到了睡觉的房间里。

<u>张太太一直</u>在房间里等<u>张希平</u>。她看到猴爪的时候, 开心地笑了, <u>好像</u>看到了自己的儿子。她马上<u>站起来</u>, 对<u>张希平</u>说:"快!快<u>许愿</u>!告诉猴爪, 让<u>贵生</u>回到我们<u>身边</u>。"

"你真的想这样做吗?"<u>张希平</u>想了一下,说:"如果<u>贵生</u>真的回来了,我们不知道还会<u>发生</u>什么不好的事。还有,你要知道,贵生是在机器里死的,你不会想看到他那个时候的<u>样子</u>。"

"不,我<u>想好</u>了。我知道他的<u>样子</u>很<u>可怕</u>,但是我不<u>害怕</u>。我 真的好想他,只想马上见到他。许愿吧!"张太太大声说。

<u>张希平难过</u>地看了一下<u>张太太</u>, 觉得自己已经没有办法了。"如果我不向猴爪许愿, 我老婆一定会更难过的。"张希平

想。所以,他两只手拿起猴爪,<u>小心</u>地对它说:"猴爪猴爪,我<u>希望我们的儿子能回到我们身边</u>。"说完以后,他很<u>害怕</u>,马上坐下了。这次,他都不知道猴爪动没动。他们没有再说话,房间里一点<u>声音[79]</u>也没有。



<u>张太太</u>走到窗边,站在那里看着<u>外面</u>。她在等,等猴爪让她看到她的儿子。但是过了很长时间,什么都没有发生。窗外还在下雨,还是那么黑,她什么都没看到。<u>好像</u>这次猴爪不会帮他们实现愿望了。

<u>张希平</u>想:"谢谢<u>老天</u>⅏!这个<u>方法没用</u>。"然后他就去睡觉了。

等了很长时间,<u>张太太</u>都没有看到<u>张贵生</u>。窗边很冷,<u>后</u>来,她也<u>离开</u>了窗边。

儿子回来了?

但是, <u>张希平和张太太</u>都没有睡着。他们在等, 在听。<u>外面</u>的房间里很黑, 一点声音也没有, 这让张希平很害怕。

后来, 张太太慢慢地睡着了。<u>张希平还是睡不着</u>。他想了很多, 想到了以前, 在这个房子里, 他们过得很开心。可是, <u>钱运</u>来带来了猴爪, 猴爪没有让他失望, 他得到了一万块钱。但是, 他失去了儿子。他的老婆天天都哭, 他自己也很难过。他从来没有想到, 在这几天里, 会发生这么多事。他和<u>张太太</u>已经老了, 他们也不知道以后会怎么样。

"我真想回到以前!如果再给我猴爪,我<u>一定</u>不会要了。我只<u>希望和家人</u>在一起。"<u>张希平</u>想。就在这个时候,他听到门外好像有<u>声音</u>。他<u>认真</u>地听,但是<u>声音</u>又没有了。他不想让<u>张太太</u>听到,就起来关了房间的门。但是过了一会儿,又有那个<u>声音</u>了。现在张太太也听到了。

"你听,什么声音?"张太太问张希平。

"没什么。太晚了,你快睡吧。"张希平告诉她。

<u>声音</u>比刚才更大了, <u>张太太</u>不想再睡觉了。"是<u>贵生</u>, <u>贵生</u> 回来了。我要去给他开门。"<u>张太太</u>马上<u>站起来</u>, 想去开门。

<u>张希平</u>马上走到她<u>面前</u>_{图1}, 对她说:"不要这样, 你好好想想. 贵生已经死了!"

"但是他现在回来了。我们向猴爪许愿,猴爪帮我们实现愿

望了。"张太太说。

"不!不要去……"张希平说。

但是<u>张太太</u>不听他的, 还是从房间里跑了出去。她一边跑, 一边说:"我来了, 贵生, 妈妈来了!"

<u>张希平</u>大声说:"别忘了他是在<u>机器</u>里死的!你<u>一定</u>不想看 到他现在的<u>样子</u>!"

<u>张太太一下子</u>不跑了,她回头看了看<u>张希平</u>,<u>好像</u>在想什么。这个时候,门外的<u>声音</u>又来了,<u>张太太</u>没有再想,又往门边跑去。

张希平不知道该怎么办,他没有办法不让<u>张太太</u>这样做。他站在那里,没有动。但是他<u>一下子</u>想到了猴爪。"猴爪,猴爪在哪儿?"他马上去找猴爪。"快!我需要猴爪。"

很快,他找到了猴爪。就在<u>张希平</u>拿起猴爪的时候,他又听到了<u>张太太</u>在说话:"等一等,<u>贵生</u>。我来了。"她一边大声说,一边打开前门。

就在这个时候,<u>张希平</u>用两只手拿着猴爪,许了第三个<u>愿</u>望。



然后,他听到<u>张太太发出</u>图长长的<u>失望的叫声,张希平</u>马上 <u>跑过去</u>图。他看到门开着,<u>张太太</u>站在门边,看着门外。她<u>看起</u> 来很害怕。

<u>张希平</u>也跑到门边, 往外看了看。<u>外面</u>不<u>下雨</u>了, 可是又黑 又冷, 一个人也没有……



Key Words

关键词 (Guānjiàncí)

- 1. 外面 wàimian n. outside
- 2. 一直 yīzhí *adv*. continuously, all along
- 3. 下雨 xiàyǔ *vo*. to rain
- 4. 暖和 nuǎnhuo adj. warm
- 5. 看起来 kànqǐlai vc. to appear, to look (a certain way)
- 6. If gongchang n. factory
- 7. **生** shēng v. to give birth to
- 8. 有钱 yǒuqián *adj*. rich
- 9. **好像** hǎoxiàng v. to seem that
- 10. 出门 chūmén vo. to go out; to leave home
- 11. 叔叔 shūshu n. uncle
- 12. **左右** zuŏyòu *suffix* approximately, around (lit. "left-right")
- 13. 可能 kěnéng *adv*. maybe, possibly
- 14. 还是 háishì adv. still
- 15. 说**到** shuōdào *vc*. to talk about, to mention
- 16. 同事 tóngshì n. co-worker

- 17. **后来** hòulái *tn*. afterward
- 18. 生意 shēngyi n. business
- 19. 神奇 shénqí *adj*. mystical, magical
- 20. 故事 gùshi n. story
- 21. 猴爪 hóuzhuǎ n. monkey paw
- 22. 有意思 yǒuyìsi *adj.* interesting
- 23. 害怕 hàipà v. to fear
- 24. 离开 líkāi v. to leave
- 25. 对...来说 duì... lái shuō phrase for..., as regards...
- 26. 一定 yīdìng *adv*. definitely, certainly
- 27. **猴子** hóuzi n. monkey
- 28. 爪子 zhuǎzi n. claw, paw
- 29. **一下子** yīxiàzi *adv*. all at once, all of a sudden
- 30. 奇怪 qíguài *adj*. strange, weird
- 31. 一家人 yījiārén *phrase* the whole family
- 32. 小看 xiǎokàn v. to look down on, to think little of
- 33. **魔力** mólì *n*. magical power, magic
- 34. 认真 rènzhēn *adj*. serious, earnest
- 35. 实现 shíxiàn v. to realize, to make real
- 36. 愿望 yuànwàng n. a wish
- 37. 好奇 hàoqí adj. curious
- 38. 得到 dédào vc. get, gain

- 39. 失去 shīqù *v*. to lose (something)
- 40. 家人 jiārén *n*. family, family member
- 41. 小声 xiǎoshēng n. (in a) low voice
- 42. 难过 nánguò *adj*. sad, upset
- 43. 老婆 lǎopo n. wife (informal)
- 44. 没用 méiyòng *adj*. useless
- 45. 送给 sònggěi vc. to give to (someone)
- 46. 发生 fāshēng v. to happen, to occur
- 47. 也许 yěxǔ adv. perhaps, maybe
- 48. 相信 xiāngxìn v. to believe
- 49. 许愿 xǔyuàn vo. to make a wish
- 50. **パル** xiǎoxīn *v*. to be careful
- 51. 应该 yīnggāi aux. should, ought to
- 52. 想好 xiǎnghǎo vc. to think over
- 53. **记得** jìde *v*. to remember
- 54. 样子 yàngzi n. appearance
- 55. 不一定 buyīdìng *adv.* not necessarily
- 56. 希望 xīwàng v. to hope
- 57. 还给 huángěi vc. to return (something) to (someone)
- 58. 需要 xūyào v. to need
- 59. 点头 diǎntóu vo. to nod one's head
- 60. 可怕 kěpà *adj*. frightening, scary

- 61. 地上 dìshang *phrase* on the ground
- 62. 看来 kànlái v. to appear (that)
- 63. **方法** fāngfǎ *n*. method, manner, way
- 64. 窗外 chuāngwài *phrase* outside the window
- 65. 失望 shīwàng v. to be disappointed
- 66. 平常 píngcháng *adj*. ordinary, common
- 67. **跟...一**样 gēn...yīyàng *phrase* the same as...
- 68. 午饭 wǔfàn n. lunch
- 69. 走过来 zǒu guòlai vc. to walk over
- 70. 站起来 zhànqǐlai vc. to stand up
- 71. 出事 chūshì *vo*. to have an accident
- 72. 机器 jīqì n. machine
- 73. 墓地 mùdì n. grave, cemetery
- 74. 再也不 zàiyě bù *phrase* never again
- 75. 白天 báitiān *tn*. daytime
- 76. **睡不着** shuìbuzháo *vc.* to be unable to sleep
- 77. 回到...身边 huídào... shēnbiān *phrase* to return to... (someone)
- 78. 再也没 zàiyě méi *phrase* never again have
- 79. 声音 shēngyīn n. noise
- 80. 老天 lǎotiān n. heaven
- 81. 面前 miànqián *phrase* in front of (one's face)
- 82. 发出 fāchū *vc*. to let out, to send out

83. 跑过去 pǎo guòqu vc. to run over (to)

Part of Speech Key

- adj. Adjective
- adv. Adverb
- aux. Auxiliary Verb
- conj. Conjunction
- mw. Measure word
- n. Noun
- on. Onomatopoeia
- part. Particle
- pn. Proper noun
- tn. Time Noun
- v. Verb
- vc. Verb plus complement
- vo. Verb plus object

Discussion Questions

讨论问题 (Tǎolùn Wèntí)

Chapter 1: 从云南来的朋友

- 1. 下雨的时候, 你喜欢做什么?
- 2. 你知道中国的云南吗?你觉得那里怎么样?
- 3. 现在很多中国父母都只能生一个孩子, 你怎么看这个问题?
- 4. 如果父母四十岁才生孩子, 你觉得会有什么问题?

Chapter 2: 从云南来的猴爪

- 1. 你可以讲一下钱运来的朋友和猴爪的故事吗?
- 2. 为什么张希平问钱运来猴爪的事, 钱运来不太想说?
- 3. **你听**说过一**些神奇的事**吗**?你去**过一**些神奇的地方**吗**?**请说 一说。
- 4. 如果有一个东西可以实现你的三个愿望, 你会许什么愿?
- 5. 如果你的父母很害怕你会离开他们,不想让你去很远的地方上学、工作,你会怎么办?

Chapter 3: 你能送给我吗?

- 1. 如果你是钱运来, 你的朋友很想要猴爪, 你会怎么做?
- 2. 你觉得钱运来离开张希平的家以后, 他会想些什么?

Chapter 4: 猴爪猴爪, 我想要...

- 1. 你相信有的东西真的可以实现人们的愿望吗?为什么?
- 2. 如果你是张希平, 你会向猴爪许愿吗?

Chapter 5: 平常的一天

- 1. 如果你老了以后, 不用工作了, 你想做什么?
- 2. 为什么张希平相信猴爪有魔力, 但是张贵生和张太太不相信?
- 3. 你觉得女人应该做家里所有的事吗?为什么?

Chapter 6: 一万块钱

- 1. 张太太觉得她和张希平应该帮儿子买房子, 你同意吗?为什么?
- 2. 有的人工作以后还是跟父母一起住, 你觉得怎么样?
- 3. 如果你很想买房子,可是没有那么多钱,怎么办?
- 4. 有的中国人觉得, 爸爸妈妈的钱是儿子的钱, 不是女儿的钱。 你觉得呢?
- 5. 你还记得你第一次工作、第一次有自己的钱吗?说一说。

Chapter 7: 儿子和钱

- 1. 在你的国家, 如果一个人因为工作死了, 公司应该怎么做?
- 2. 张贵生死了, 你觉得这是谁的错?为什么?

Chapter 8: 跟以前不一样了

- 1. 张贵生死了以后, 你想对张希平和张太太说什么?
- 2. 你什么时候第一次明白"死"?

Chapter 9: 想见儿子

- 1. 你觉得张希平应该帮张太太许第二个愿望吗?为什么?
- 2. 你希望张贵生回来吗?
- 3. 如果猴爪真的让张贵生回来了. 会怎么样?

Chapter 10: 儿子回来了?

- 1. 你觉得张希平最后一个愿望是什么?
- 2. 你觉得最后张太太看到了什么?
- 3. 你觉得这个故事在告诉我们什么?

Extensive Reading

After years of studying Chinese, many people ask, "why can't I become fluent in Chinese?" Fluency can only happen when the language enters our "comfort zone." This comfort comes after significant exposure to and experience with the language. The more times you meet a word, phrase, or grammar point the more readily it will enter your comfort zone.

In the world of language research, experts agree that learners can acquire new vocabulary through reading only if the overall text can be understood. Decades of research indicate that if we know approximately 98% of the words in a book, we can comfortably "pick up" the 2% that is unfamiliar. Reading at this 98% comprehension level is referred to as "extensive reading."

Research in extensive reading has shown that it accelerates vocabulary learning and helps the learner to naturally understand grammar. Perhaps most importantly, it trains the brain to automatically recognize familiar language, thereby freeing up mental energy to focus on meaning and ideas. As they build reading speed and fluency, learners will move from reading "word by word" to processing "chunks of language." A defining feature is that it's less *painful* than the "intensive reading" commonly used in textbooks. In fact, extensive reading can be downright fun.

Graded Readers

Graded readers are the best books for learners to "extensively" read. Research has taught us that learners need to "encounter" a word 10-30 times before truly learning it, and often many more times for particularly complicated or abstract words. Graded readers are appropriate for learners

because the language is controlled and simplified, as opposed to the language in native texts, which is inevitably difficult and often demotivating. Reading extensively with graded readers allows learners to bring together all of the language they have studied and absorb how the words naturally work together.

To become fluent, learners must not only understand the meaning of a word, but also understand its nuances, how to use it in conversation, how to pair it with other words, where it fits into natural word order, and how it is used in grammar structures. No textbook could ever be written to teach all of this explicitly. When used properly, a textbook introduces the language and provides the basic meanings, while graded readers *consolidate*, *strengthen*, and *deepen understanding*.

Without graded readers, learners would have to study dictionaries, textbooks, sample dialogs, and simple conversations until they have randomly encountered enough Chinese for it to enter their comfort zones. With proper use of graded readers, learners can tackle this issue and develop greater fluency *now*, at their *current* levels, instead of waiting until some period in the distant future. With a stronger foundation and greater confidence at their current levels, learners are encouraged and motivated to continue their Chinese studies to even greater heights. Plus, they'll quickly learn that reading Chinese is fun!

Credits

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About Mandarin Companion

Mandarin Companion was started by Jared Turner and John Pasden who met one <u>fateful day</u> on a bus in Shanghai when the only remaining seat left them sitting next to each other. A year later, Jared had greatly improved his Chinese using extensive reading but was frustrated at the lack of suitable reading materials. He approached John with the prospect of creating their own series. Having worked in Chinese education for nearly a decade, John was intrigued with the idea and thus began the Mandarin Companion series.

John majored in Japanese in college, but started learning Mandarin and later moved to China where his learning accelerated. After developing language proficiency, he was admitted into an all-Chinese masters program in applied linguistics at East China Normal University in Shanghai. Throughout his learning process, John developed an open mind to different learning styles and a tendency to challenge conventional wisdom in the field of teaching Chinese. He has since worked at ChinesePod as academic director and host, and opened his own consultancy, AllSet Learning, in Shanghai to help individuals acquire Chinese language proficiency. He lives in Shanghai with his wife and children.

After graduate school and with no Chinese language skills, Jared decided to move to China with his young family in search of career opportunities. Later while working on an investment project, Jared learned about extensive reading and decided that if it was as effective as it claimed to be, it could help him learn Chinese. In three months, he read 10 Chinese graded readers and his language ability quickly improved from speaking words and phrases to a conversational level. Jared has an MBA from Purdue University and a bachelor in Economics from the University of Utah. He lives in Shanghai with his wife and children.

Other Stories from Mandarin Companion

Level 1 Readers: 300 Characters

The Secret Garden《秘密花园》

by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Li Ye (Mary Lennox) grew up without the love and affection of her parents. After an epidemic leaves her an orphan, Li Ye is sent off to live with her reclusive uncle in his sprawling estate in Nanjing. She learns of a secret garden where no one has set foot in ten years. Li Ye finds the garden and slowly discovers the secrets of the manor. With the help of new friends, she brings the garden back to life and learns the healing power of friendship and love.

Sherlock Holmes and the Curly Haired Company《卷发公司的案子》

Based on "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Red-Headed League" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Mr. Xie was recently hired by the Curly Haired Company. For a significant weekly allowance, he was required to sit in an office and copy articles from a book, while in the meantime his assistant looked after his shop. He had answered an advertisement in the paper and although hundreds of people applied, he was the only one selected because of his very curly hair. When the company unexpectedly closes, Mr. Xie visits Gao Ming (Sherlock Holmes) with his strange story. Gao

Ming is certain something is not right, but will he solve the mystery in time?

The Sixty-Year Dream《六十年的梦》

Based on "Rip Van Winkle" by Washington Irving

Zhou Xuefa (Rip Van Winkle) is well loved by everyone in his town, everyone except his nagging wife. With his faithful dog Blackie, Zhou Xuefa spends his time playing with kids, helping neighbors, and discussing politics in the teahouse. One day after a bad scolding from his wife, he goes for a walk into the mountains and meets a mysterious old man who appears to be from an ancient time. The man invites him into his mountain home for a meal and after drinking some wine, Zhou Xuefa falls into a deep sleep. He awakes to a time very different than what he once knew.

The Country of the Blind《盲人国》

By H.G. Wells

"In the country of the blind, the one-eyed man is king" repeats in Chen Fangyuan's mind after he finds himself trapped in a valley holding a community of people for whom a disease eliminated their vision many generations before and no longer have a concept of sight. Chen Fangyuan quickly finds that these people have developed their other senses to compensate for their lack of sight. His insistence that he can see causes the entire community to believe he is crazy. With no way out, Chen Fangyuan begins to accept his fate until one day the village doctors believe they now understand what is the cause of his insanity... those useless round objects in his eye sockets.

Mandarin companion is producing a growing library of graded readers for Chinese language learners. For the newest releases, visit www.MandarinCompanion.com

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