

两个周游天使

Traveling Angels

有两个周游天使在一个富人家里停下来过夜。那家人对他们很不礼貌，不让他们住在自己豪华的客房中，只是给他们在一个寒冷的地下室里腾出了一块地方。当他们准备在坚硬的地板上就寝时，那位年纪较大的天使看到墙上有一个洞，便把它修补好了。年轻的天使问他为什么要这样做，他回答说：“事情并不总是看上去的那样。”



Two traveling angels stopped to spend the night in the home of a wealthy family. The family was rude and refused to let the angels stay in the mansion's guest room. Instead the angels were given a space in the cold basement. As they made their bed on the hard floor, the older angel saw a hole in the wall and repaired it. When the younger angel asked why, the older angel replied, "Things aren't always what they seem." □

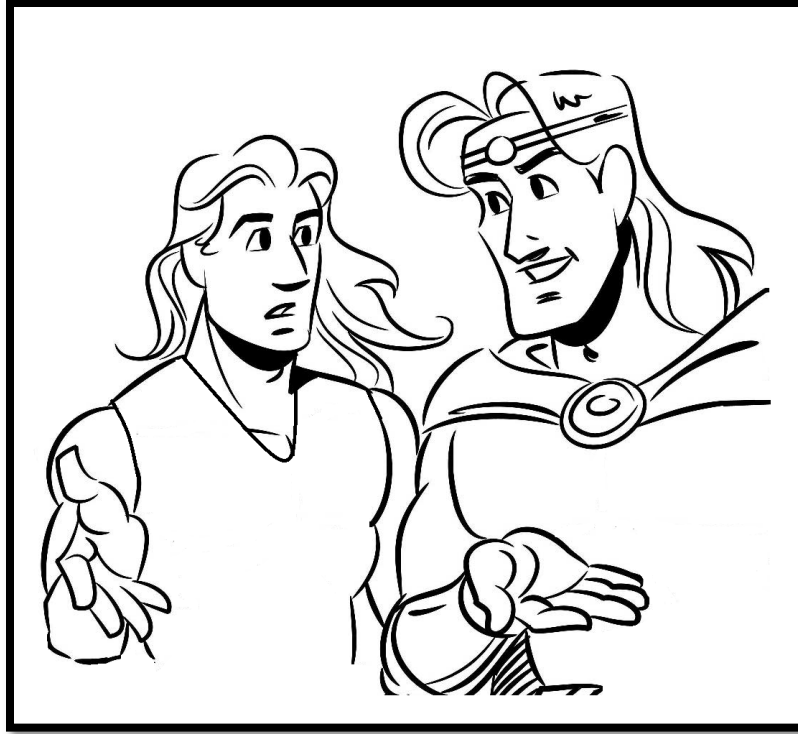


第二天夜里，这二位天使来到了一家极为贫穷、但却非常好客的农户家里落脚。在与天使们分享了自己所剩无几的食物之后，这对夫妇又让天使们睡在了自己的床上。天使们在那里睡了一夜好觉。第二天早上，太阳升起来了。这时，天使们发现：农户和他的妻子正在哭泣。原来，他们唯一的、能为他们带来收入的奶牛死在了田野里。

The next night the pair came to rest at the house of a very poor but very hospitable farmer and his wife. After sharing what little food they had, the couple let the angels sleep in their bed where they could have a good night's rest. When the sun came up the next morning, the angels found the farmer and his wife in tears. Their only cow, whose milk had been their sole income, lay dead in the field.

顿时，年轻的天使勃然大怒，他问老天使说：“你怎么能让这种事情发生呢？头一个人已经拥有了一切，可你却仍然帮助他；可是，这家人几乎已经是一无所有了，但他们仍愿与人分享自己的一切，而你却让他们的奶牛死掉了！”

“事情并不总是你看上去的那样，”老天使答道：“当我们在那个富豪的地下室里留宿时，我曾注意到：在那个墙洞里藏有一些金子。因为那家的主人财迷心窍，不愿意与人分享自己的丰盛财产，所以我就封死了那堵墙；这样，他就不会找到埋藏在那里的金子了。昨天晚上，当我们睡在这家穷农户的床上时，死亡天使曾前来领取他妻子的性命；于是，我便让他取走了那头奶牛，而没有让他去伤害农户的妻子。”



The younger angel was infuriated and asked the older angel, “How could you have let this happen? The first man had everything, yet you helped him. The second family had little but was willing to share everything, and you let their cow die.”

“Things aren’t always what they seem,” the older angel replied. “When we stayed in the basement of the mansion, I noticed there was gold stored in that hole in the wall. Since the owner was so obsessed with greed and unwilling to

share his good fortune, I sealed the wall so he wouldn’t find it. Then last night as we slept in the farmer’s bed, the angel of death came for his wife. I told him to take the cow instead.”

有时，我们恰恰就像这个寓言里的年轻天使那样，对事情会做出相似的反应来。但万事都互相效力，得益处。尽管许多事情，当时看起来好像对你没有什么好处，你若至今尚未发现其中益处的话，那么你迟早将发现，它在某方面是会让你受益的。

Sometimes we react just like the younger angel in this parable. But we should remember that all things do work together for good. Although a lot of things may have happened to you that didn't look very good at the time, you'll find out sooner or later, if you haven't already, that in some way they were good for you.

Travelling – 周游

Angels – 天使

Wealthy – 富

Rude – 不礼貌

Basement – 地下室

Younger – 年轻

Older – 年纪

Poor – 贫穷

Hospitable – 好客

Farmer – 农户

Cow – 牛

Dead – 死

Field – 田野

Infuriated – 勃然大怒

Gold – 金

Angel of death – 死亡天使