

## The Tiger's Teacher

As Adapted by Dr. Mike Lockett

Tiger was strong. Tiger was fast. But, Tiger was loud and clumsy. With all of his strength and speed, he still had trouble catching small animals to eat. Every day, Tiger left his home to hunt. Many nights, Tiger came home with no food to eat. He often went hungry.

One morning as Tiger went out to hunt, he saw Cat chase and catch a mouse. Cat was fast and graceful. Cat moved smoothly and quietly and easily caught its prey. "If only I could move like that," thought Tiger.

He went to the Cat. "Cousin," started Tiger. "Would you give me lessons so I might learn to move as smoothly as you?"

"How do I know that you will not use the skills I teach you to hunt me for your dinner?" asked Cat.

"My dear cousin," said the Tiger. "Do you think I would ever hurt a family member. How could I ever hurt someone I am related to? If you help me, I will become your protector. I will never allow anyone to harm you."

老虎的老師

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老虎是強壯的，老虎是迅速的；但是，老虎同時是聲音很大的、動作笨拙的。擁有這些力量和速度，他要捉小動物為食還是有困難。老虎每天離開家去打獵，而許多個夜晚，老虎回到家卻沒有食物可吃，他經常挨餓。

一天早上，當老虎出門去打獵，他看到了貓追逐和捕捉老鼠。貓既快速又優雅，貓平穩、安靜、輕鬆地移動抓住獵物。老虎心想：「但願我的行動能像那樣。」

他去找貓開始說道：「表妹，你能否指導我，讓我能夠學習行動和你一樣流暢？」

貓問道：「我怎麼知道你不会使用我教你的技巧抓我當晚餐呢？」

老虎說：「我親愛的表妹，你以為我會傷害家庭成員嗎？我怎麼可能傷害和我有關係的人呢？如果你幫我，我會成為你的保護者，我將永遠不讓任何人傷害你。」

"Become my teacher! If I ever harm a hair on your head, may I be cursed by all animals. May I go hungry forever if I ever allow you to come to harm," appealed Tiger. Tiger did his best to look truthful to Cat.

Finally Cat was convinced to help Tiger. Cat taught Tiger to do gymnastics and to move smoothly and quietly. Cat was a good teacher and coach. She taught Tiger move after move. She did her best to teach Tiger all she knew. She kept only one trick to herself. That was the art of climbing trees.

Tiger was a good student. He learned every trick that was taught. Before long he was strong, fast, quiet and smooth in his movements. He was ready to become a great hunter. He was ready to eat. Tiger looked at Cat. Cat looked delicious.

Cat saw Tiger staring at her. Tiger smiled and showed his teeth. Tiger's mouth began to water and drooled down the side of his mouth. Cat knew that Tiger could not be trusted any more. "Your lessons are over," said Cat. I have taught you all that I can."

"Are you sure, my wonderful teacher? Is there nothing else to teach me?" As he talked, Tiger's claws extended. Tiger opened his jaws wide. He leaped through the air. My, Tiger was fast.

老虎請求道：「成為我的老師！如果我一旦弄傷你頭上的一根頭髮，就讓我被所有的動物詛咒。如果我一旦讓你受到傷害，就讓我永遠捱餓。」老虎盡力做出最誠懇的表情給貓看。

貓終於被說服去幫助老虎，貓教老虎做體操，平穩安靜地移動，貓是一個很好的老師和教練，她教老虎一個動作接著一個動作，她使出渾身解數把所學教給老虎，她只有保留一招給自己，那就是爬樹的技巧。

老虎是個好學生，他學會了所有貓教的技巧。不久，他就很強壯、快速又安靜，而且動作平穩，他已經準備好成為一個偉大的獵人，他準備要進食了。老虎看著貓，而貓看起來很美味。

貓見到老虎盯著她，老虎微微一笑，露出他的牙齒，虎口開始流口水而且滴出了嘴角。貓知道不能再信任老虎了，貓說：「你的課程結束了，我已經把我所有的技巧都教給你了。」

老虎說話的同時，把他的爪子往前伸：「你確定，我的好老師？沒有其他東西可以教我了嗎？」老虎把他的下巴張大，跳到空中。我的天啊，老虎真是快速。

Cat barely got away. Instead of running, Cat jumped into a tree. He climbed as high as she could go. "It is a good thing I never taught you to climb trees," said Cat.

Tiger leaped and growled. He clawed at the bark. He tried every new skill Cat had taught him. But - he could not climb the tree.

Cat climbed from branch to branch and from tree to tree until she left the Tiger far behind her.

Tiger was ashamed. He had let his hunger and greed get in the way of learning the last and best lesson his teacher could have taught him.

Never let anything get in the way of learning all you can.

*Source: Story can be traced back to Storytelling Motif J1662.0.1 - Cat teaches all tricks except one and Motif A2581- Why tiger lacks some qualities of cats*

Story Translated by Dr. Tresha Chen

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Dr. Chen is a great friend of Dr. Lockett and an outstanding educator.

貓幾乎來不及逃走，她沒有跑掉，而是跳上了一棵樹，貓爬到她可以到的最高的地方。貓說：「還好我從來沒有教過你爬樹。」

老虎跳起來吼了一聲，他扒開樹皮，試圖用每一個貓教過他的新技能。但是 - 他無法爬上樹去。

貓在樹枝間爬來爬去，在樹與樹之間移動，直到把老虎遠遠拋在後面。

老虎感到很羞愧，他讓他的飢餓和貪婪阻止了學習他的老師可能教給他的最後而且是最好的一課。

絕不要讓任何事情阻礙了你的學習。

資料來源：故事可以追溯到原故事主題

J1662.0.1 - 貓教了所有的技巧，只有一項除外；主題 A2581 - 為什麼老虎缺乏貓的一些特質