



April Fool's Day

愚人節



“Grandpa, look. It is snowing outside.” said Granny Beck.

“No,” groaned Grandpa Mike. “I wanted to take a walk. It was supposed to be sunny today.” Grandpa frowned and walked to the window. He looked outside. It was a beautiful day.

“April Fool!” said Granny. “I fooled you.” Grandpa Mike forgot it was the first day of April when people like to play harmless jokes on others. Then they say, “April Fool!” Some adults pass the salt instead of sugar to put in coffee. “Yuck!” Children say, “Your shoe is untied.” When people stop to tie their shoe, the child says, “April Fool!”

「爺爺，你看，外面在下雪！」貝克奶奶說。

「不會吧，」麥克爺爺哀嚎：「我本來想去散步的。今天不是應該出太陽嗎？」爺爺皺起眉頭走到窗邊，他看向外面，結果是天氣晴朗。

「愚人節快樂！」奶奶說：「我騙到你了。」麥克爺爺忘了那天是4月1號，大家喜歡在這天開別人的小玩笑。然後開玩笑的人會說：「愚人節快樂！」有些大人會遞鹽巴而非砂糖，給人加在咖啡裡。「好噁！」小孩子會說：「你的鞋帶沒綁。」等對方停下腳步綁鞋帶時，小孩子會說：「愚人節快樂！」



“You fooled me, Granny Beck,” admitted Grandpa Mike. “But you did not fool me like our friend in Korea does to visitors in Korea. Do you remember what he does?”

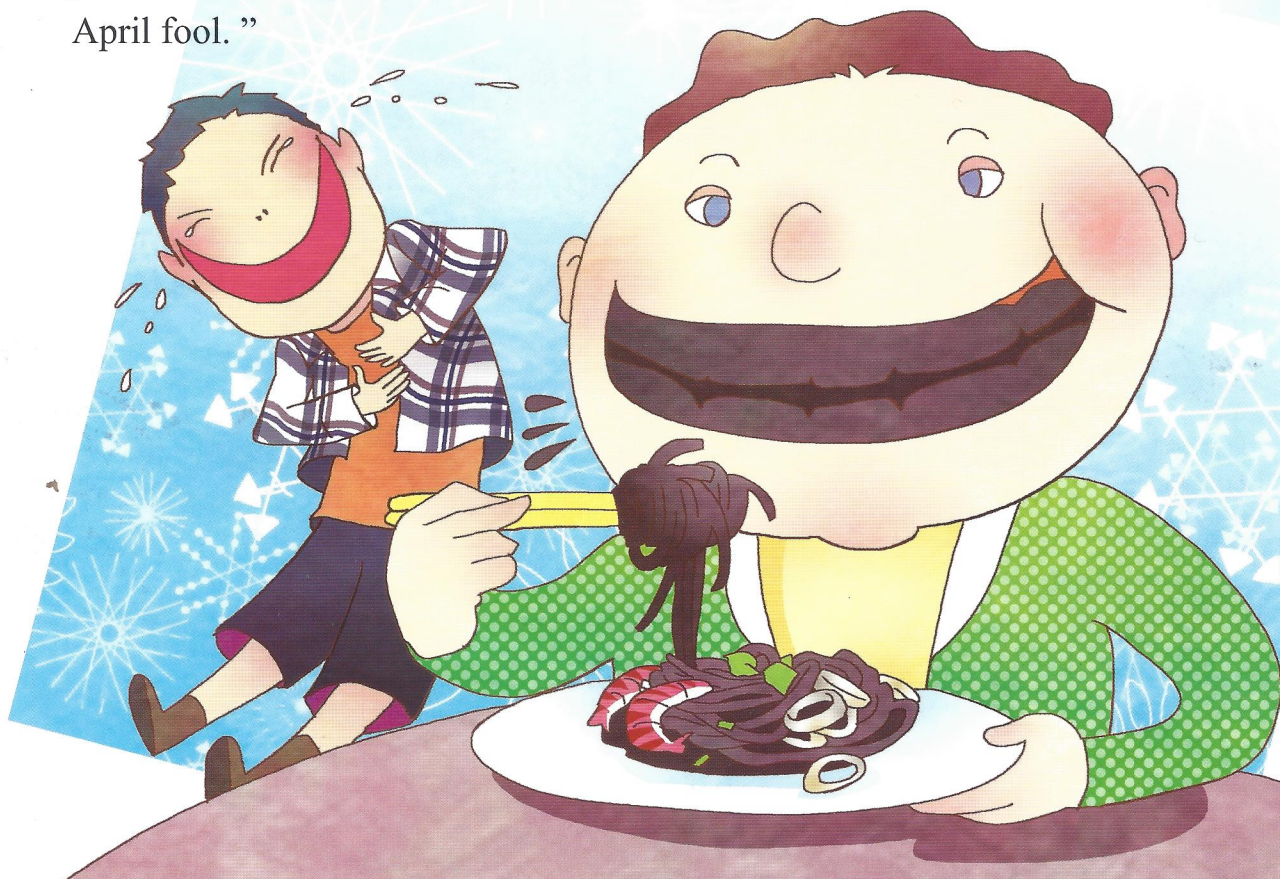
“Oh, yes,” laughed Granny. “He takes guests out to dinner at a restaurant. Then he orders pasta with squid ink in it. When they eat it, their teeth and tongues turn black. I had forgotten that people in other places have joke days like we do.”

“April Fool’s Day is not a holiday that people take off work. But, it is a day when adults and children play silly jokes on each other. In the USA, Germany, Japan, Russia and many nations the jokes last all day. In Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and elsewhere the jokes only last until noon. If someone plays a joke after 12:00, people call them an April fool.”

「貝克奶奶，妳是騙到我了。」麥克爺爺承認：「但是妳沒像我們在韓國的朋友那樣騙觀光客，妳記得他做了什麼嗎？」

「那當然，」奶奶大笑：「他帶客人去餐廳吃飯。然後他點了墨魚義大利麵。客人吃下去後，牙齒跟舌頭都變黑了。我都忘了其他地方的人也跟我們一樣有專門開玩笑的日子。」

「愚人節不是大家放假的節日。可是這天大人跟小孩都會互開白痴的玩笑。在美國、德國、日本、俄羅斯還有許多國家，一整天都可以開玩笑。在加拿大、紐西蘭、南非及其他地方，玩笑只開到中午。要是有人過了中午12點還開玩笑，大家就會說他們是4月愚人。」





“In Belgium, children like to lock their parents out of the house. They only let them back in if the parents promise to give them a treat later. In France and Italy a favorite joke is to tack paper fish on each other’s backs as a joke. Here, people like to put notes like ‘kick me’ on people’s backs.”

“How did April Fool’s Day get started?” asked Granny.

“Some people give credit to the Iranians. They used to play jokes on the Persian New Year, which was April 1st or 2nd. That was almost 2400 years ago. Others say the jokes started when the modern calendar was adopted about 400 years ago. New Year’s Day was moved from April 1 to January 1. People who celebrated on the wrong holiday were teased and called April Fools.”

「在比利時，小孩會把父母鎖在門外。除非父母答應晚點給他們吃糖果，不然不給他們進門。法國和義大利最喜歡開的玩笑是把紙做的魚貼在別人背上。在我們這裡，大家喜歡把寫了『踢我』的紙條貼在別人背上。」

「愚人節是怎麼開始的啊？」奶奶問。

「有人說是這是伊朗人的貢獻。他們會在波斯新年時互開玩笑，那天通常是4月1日或2日。將近2千4百年前的事了。還有人說是在4百年前採用新曆時開始的玩笑。新年從4月1日變成1月1日。慶祝錯時間的人會遭到嘲笑，被稱為4月愚人。」





"I know another April holiday that is pretty funny," said Granny. "It is called Songkran. It is a special joke day in Thailand. The people start their holiday by washing statues of Buddha. Then they start make jokes by splashing and throwing water over each other. They use water hoses, buckets of water, and squirt guns in their water play. They soak people, animals, cars and anything outside for to have fun and laughs."

"Hey, what are you doing? You just got me wet," said Granny Beck. Grandpa had flipped water on her from the sink.

"I was just playing like they do in Thailand. April Fool, Grandma!"

「我還知道另一個很好玩的4月節日，」奶奶說：「潑水節，那是泰國特有的開玩笑日。大家一最先開始清洗佛像。接著就會朝對方洒水或潑水。水管、水桶和水槍都會派上用場。他們會把在戶外的人、動物、車子等所有東西都淋得溼透，就爲了好玩大笑。」

「喂，你在做什麼啊？你把我噴溼了！」貝克奶奶說。爺爺從洗手臺朝奶奶潑水。

「我只是跟泰國人有樣學樣啊！奶奶，愚人節快樂！」

英文朗讀線上收聽：

<http://www.c-talk.com/flash.htm>