



阿南西和智慧

Anansi and Wisdom

-  Ghanaian folktale
-  Wiehan de Jager
-  dohliam
-  Chinese (Mandarin) / English
-  Level 3





很久很久以前，人们什么都不知道。他们不知道
怎么耕田织布，也不知道怎么制造铁器。
天上的尼亚美神把世界所有的智慧都藏在一个
砂锅里面。

...

Long long ago people didn't know anything. They didn't know how to plant crops, or how to weave cloth, or how to make iron tools. The god Nyame up in the sky had all the wisdom of the world. He kept it safe in a clay pot.



有一天，尼亚美决定把藏有智慧的砂锅交给蜘蛛神阿南西。每当阿南西揭开砂锅往里看，他就会学到新的东西。他感到很兴奋！

...

One day, Nyame decided that he would give the pot of wisdom to Anansi. Every time Anansi looked in the clay pot, he learned something new. It was so exciting!



贪心的阿南西跟自己说，“我把砂锅安放在树顶上，那样所有的智慧就都只属于我了！”所以，他织出了一条长长的丝线，把砂锅牢牢地拴住，然后把丝线的另一端系在自己的肚子上。他开始往那棵树上爬，可是砂锅总是撞到他的腿，爬起来很辛苦。

...

Greedy Anansi thought, "I'll keep the pot safe at the top of a tall tree. Then I can have it all to myself!" He spun a long thread, wound it round the clay pot, and tied it to his stomach. He began to climb the tree. But it was hard climbing the tree with the pot bumping him in the knees all the time.



阿南西的儿子在树底下看到了一切。他跟阿南西说，“把砂锅扛在背上不就容易了吗？”于是阿南西就试着把砂锅扛在背上，果然容易很多。

...

All the time Anansi's young son had been standing at the bottom of the tree watching. He said, "Wouldn't it be easier to climb if you tied the pot to your back instead?" Anansi tried tying the clay pot full of wisdom to his back, and it really was a lot easier.



阿南西很快就爬到树顶上。可是他突然想到一个问题：“拥有所有智慧的人应该是我，可是刚才我儿子居然比我还聪明！”阿南西气得差点跳起来了，一气之下竟把砂锅扔到树下。

...

In no time he reached the top of the tree. But then he stopped and thought, “I’m supposed to be the one with all the wisdom, and here my son was cleverer than me!” Anansi was so angry about this that he threw the clay pot down out of the tree.



砂锅一落地就碎成小片。砂锅碎了，所有的智慧也跑了出来，大家可以自由分享了。就是这样，世上的人们才学会如何耕田、如何织布，如何打铁做铁器，还有所有现在人会做的一切。

...

It smashed into pieces on the ground. The wisdom was free for everyone to share. And that is how people learned to farm, to weave cloth, to make iron tools, and all the other things that people know how to do.



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Written by: Ghanaian folktale

Illustrated by: Wiehan de Jager

Translated by: (zh) dohliam

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