

The Fox and the Tiger by Tak Cheung

John decided to take a part time job in an ice cream shop during the summer after he turned 14, saving up money to buy a new skateboard, gaining some work experiences, and spending time with his best friends who were also planning to work there. However, the work situation did not turn out well, because the assistant manager, who was three years older than him, a senior in the same high school, was mean and rude, yelling at him even when he was doing his job properly. John was very upset and told his grandmother that he was planning to quit. His grandmother asked him to stay on the job and told him this old Chinese chengyu story, the fox and the tiger (狐假虎威, Hu jia hu wei).

Once there was a mighty tiger, living high in the mountain jungle, rarely appearing in the jungle below, but all the animals know his existence, fearful of his presence, even though they hardly see him. One day, a fox was hunting rabbits along the edge of the jungle, bumping directly into the tiger and having no place to run. He was easily caught by the tiger, looking for a way to escape, and started to talk to the tiger before he put him in his mouth. He told the tiger to put him down, because he, the fox, is the most powerful animal in the jungle, not the tiger, and every animal in the jungle is afraid of him, including the tiger, who was doubtful and curious, because he always thought that he is the most powerful animal in the jungle. The fox told the tiger that he can prove it to him by having the tiger follow him as they walk through the jungle in the mountain below. The tiger was curious and wanted to see it for himself, and if the fox was wrong, he could always eat him then. As the fox walked through the jungle with the tiger following right behind him, all animals fled in terror, hiding behind trees and rocks, and leaving the jungle empty and silence other than the trees and flowers. It is not the fox whom they fear but the mighty tiger that walked behind him.

After listening to the story, John was no longer afraid of the assistant manager, standing up to him, holding his ground when he knew he was right, and not being bullied any more.

The End

Tak Cheung's Wok With Tak YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP5IL4yyiwYxKZUyZEeyRlg>

Oportuno Podcast - Audio of this Story:

<https://pnc.st/s/oportuno/7716d632/035-story-time-the-fox-and-the-tiger->

Oportuno Podcast - Video of this Story:

<https://youtu.be/aLfIJVcMKro>