

Waiting by a Tree Stump for Rabbits 守株待兔 Shǒu Zhū Dài Tù
by Tak Cheung

There once was a young man, who loved to dance. He loved dancing so much, he wanted to make dancing his career and decided to study dancing at a university, and eventually become a dancing teacher. One day he posted a video on social media of him dancing. His dancing video received thousands of views within a few days, giving him an impression that he was already a great dancer, and caused him to quit studying dancing at the university. He came to believe that he could just post more videos of him dancing, and simply wait to be discovered as a professional dancer. The young man went to see his grandfather, a man of wisdom, to seek his advice about his decision to stop studying dancing; because he felt he was already a great dancer, without needing further dancing instruction. His grandfather nodded his head and then told him this ancient story of a Chinese idiom 守株待兔, that means Wait for the Rabbit. "A young farmer was working his field under the hot sun, sweating and breathing hard, struggling to till the soil. He saw a rabbit run into a tree and was killed instantly, giving him an idea of cooking the rabbit for dinner that night. He thought to himself that it is easier to make a living to wait for more rabbits to run into the same tree than tilling the soil and farming the land. The young farmer gave up farming and waited behind the tree for more rabbits, crashing into the tree, suffering the same fate, and providing another dinner. After watching the tree for months and hungry for food, the young farmer gave up waiting, never saw another rabbit, and returned to farming before starving to death. His grandfather said to the young man that the hapless rabbit might be a representation of the viral video, which could be a rare occurrence. The young man understood the story and returned to his study of dancing.

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/c446b36b/031-story-time-waiting-by-a-tree-stump-for-rabbits->

Oportuno Podcast - Video of this Story:

<https://youtu.be/A189msq3-BQ>