

牧羊少年阿亚兹

LOS THE SHEPHERD BOY



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牧羊少年阿亚兹

IOS THE SHEPHERD BOY

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阿亚兹拜见国王

波斯有个牧羊少年名叫阿亚兹，常年在山间放羊。他贫穷而纯朴，照看羊群就是他生活的全部。但他心中一直珍藏着一个强烈的愿望，那就是一睹国王的面庞。因为他曾听人讲起国王的事迹，知道国王十分伟大，而且善良。如果能亲眼看到国王的尊容，哪怕只看一眼，他相信自己也会终生满足，死而无憾。

一天，阿亚兹听说国王和随从们要从一条大路上经过，正好离自己放羊的地方不远。真是天赐良机！阿亚兹不胜欢喜，对国王的爱在心头激荡。他丢下一切，来到大路旁守候。

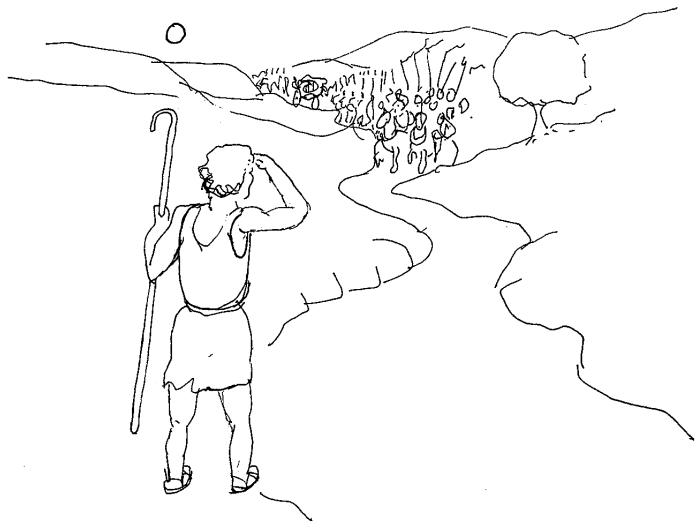
los Meets the King

los was a shepherd boy who looked after his flocks in the valleys and on the sloping hills of Persia. He was poor and simple and the only life he had ever known was looking after his sheep. There was only one thing he wanted in his life — he had a great longing to look on the face of his King. He had heard wonderful stories about his greatness and goodness, and los was sure that if he could only once behold the King's face he would live content and die happy.



One day los heard that the King and all his retinue would pass by on the highroad not far from where his sheep were grazing. Overcome by his good fortune and shaking with the intensity of his love for the King, los left everything and went to wait on the roadside.

皇家队伍出现了，旌旗缤纷招展，乐师端坐马背，士兵和号手盛装绚目，侍臣身穿丝绸华服，披金缀银，珠光闪烁。最后，国王的御驾映入眼帘，阿亚兹一心期盼的时刻到来了。



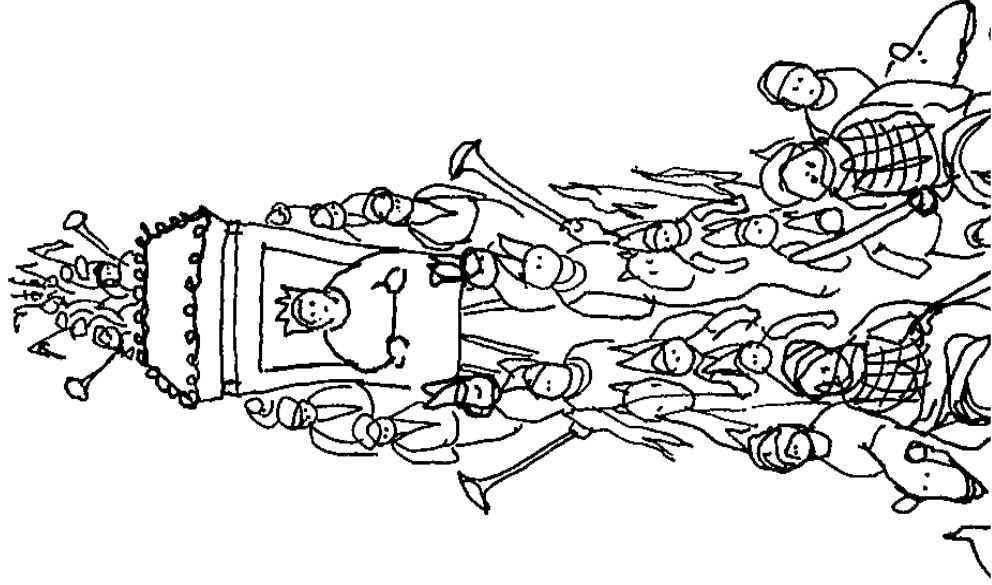
队伍越来越近，阿亚兹站在大路中间，瞪大眼睛，急切地搜寻着国王。他涨红了脸，心砰砰直跳，等待一见他神往已久的国王尊容。

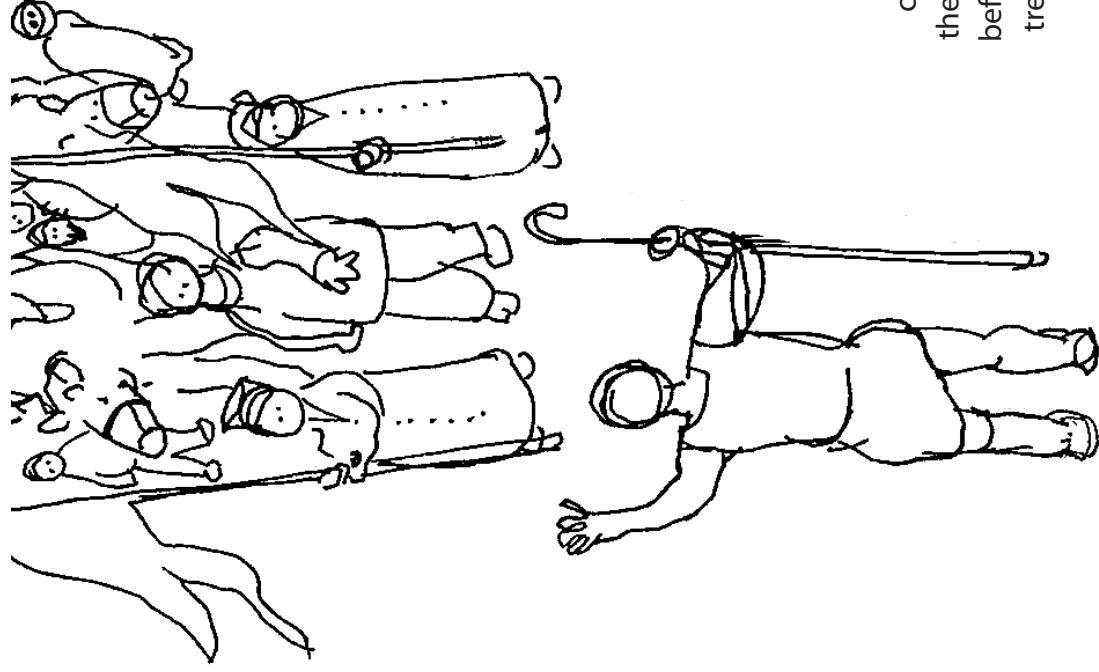
At last the Royal Procession appeared — musicians on horseback, soldiers and buglers glittering and splendid in their uniforms, banners flying bravely in the breeze, courtiers in magnificent clothes of silk, gold and silver, their jewels sparkling in the sunshine, and finally, bearing the object of all his longing, the Royal Carriage of the King.

los gazed on the approaching throng, his eyes searching for the King. With flushed face and throbbing heart he watched for the face he had waited and longed for all his life.

行进的队伍停了下来，国王不知缘由，就派侍从去查看，得知是一个贫穷的牧羊少年拦住去路，求见国王。

国王下令带少年来见他。阿亚兹欢天喜地来到御驾旁，长久地凝望着他所仰慕的那张脸庞。





Seeing
that the
procession
had
stopped, the
King sent an
aide to find
the reason
and was
informed
that a poor
shepherd
boy was
standing in
the road,
begging to
see him.

The King
commanded that
the boy be brought
before him, and lo,
trembling with joy,
came to the side
of the carriage and
gazed long and
steadfastly on the
face he adored.

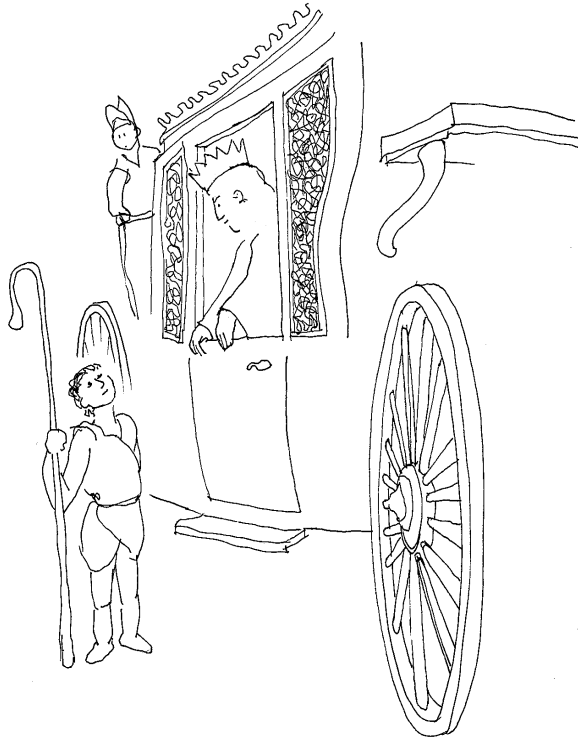
国王见他那么热切地看着自己，颇感意外，问道：“你是谁？”

阿亚兹答道：“陛下，我叫阿亚兹，是放羊的。”

国王又问：“你有何请求？”

阿亚兹答道：“陛下，我一直很想见您，我最大的心愿就是看看您的面容。现在，我的夙愿实现了，我非常满足。见您一面，我一辈子都会有福的。好了，我可以回去放羊了。”

国王感动不已，深情地看着阿亚兹，良久，才吩咐队伍继续前进。



The King was amazed at this ardent look.

"Who are you?" he asked.

"Ios, the shepherd boy, my King."

"What favour do you seek from me?" demanded the King.

Ios replied: "O my King, all my life I have wished to see you. My greatest longing has been to look on your face, and now I have achieved my heart's desire. Happy and content, I can return to minding my sheep, forever blessed by having seen you!"

The King was greatly moved and looked long and earnestly at the boy before ordering the procession to continue.

阿亚兹兴高采烈，心满意足，回去接着照看羊群。国王的面庞时常浮现在他眼前，记忆如新。



国王也总是想起和阿亚兹的会面。他还从未见过有谁那般爱戴自己。国王身边的人感念国王，因为他们一向仰赖国王的慷慨施恩，而阿亚兹一无所求，见上国王一面就欢天喜地了。

los returned to his sheep and tended his flocks in perfect contentment and happiness, the memory of the King's face always fresh in his mind's eye.



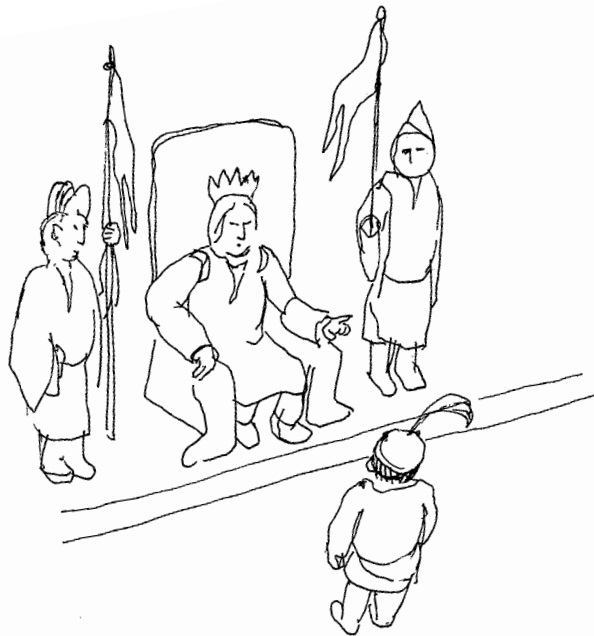
The memory of his meeting with los stayed with the King, too. He had never before seen such love and devotion. All those who surrounded him continually benefited from his favours and generosity, but this shepherd boy had wanted and asked for nothing and was happy to live and die with just the memory of having seen his face.

阿亚兹看管国王的金库

国王对阿亚兹念念不忘。日子越久，国王越发想见他。最后，国王派了一位使者去召阿亚兹进宫。

阿亚兹喜出望外，热切地赶至王宫，欢欣颤抖着来到国王面前。

阿亚兹只想待在国王的身边，别无他求。国王对阿亚兹非常满意，没过多久，便让阿亚兹看管国王的金库。这可是一个极高的职位，责任重大。



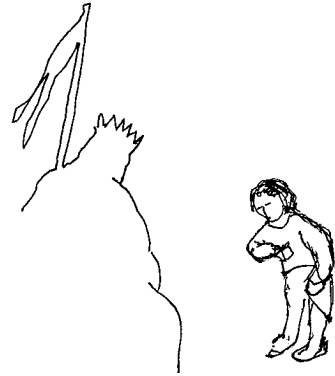
los and the King's Treasure



The memory of los haunted the King and his longing for the devoted shepherd grew so strong that at last he sent a messenger to summon the shepherd boy to the Royal Palace.

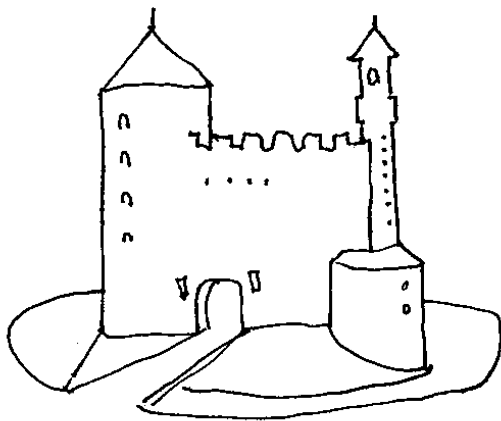
Unable to believe the good news, los came to the palace with eagerness and joy. Trembling with happiness he presented himself to the King.

The King was very pleased with los, because los wanted nothing but to be near him. The King soon made him the guardian of his treasury, a position of great honour and responsibility.



看到国王如此青睐阿亚兹，朝廷里的一些人心生妒意。他们一起密谋，想要找出阿亚兹的过失，从而破坏国王对阿亚兹的信任。侍臣们日夜监视阿亚兹，很快找到了把柄。

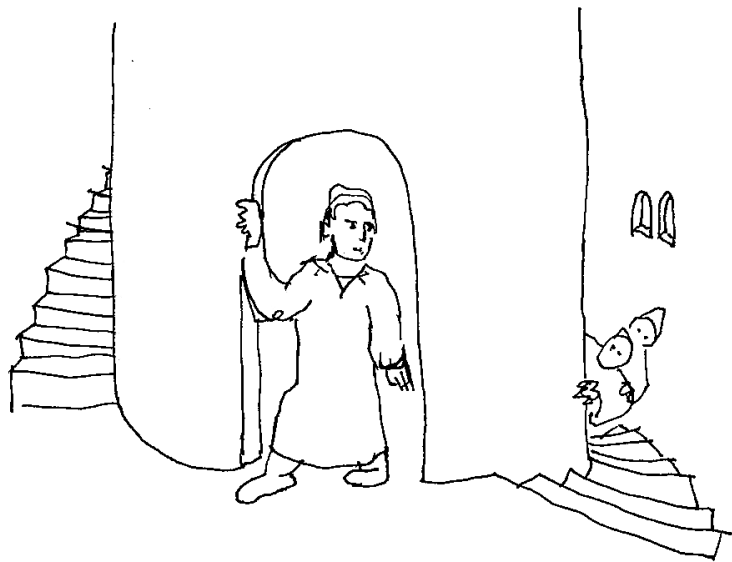




But others who lived at the court of the King were jealous of the favour shown to los. They plotted together to try and find some fault with los so that they could destroy the King's trust in him. Day and night the courtiers kept watch on los and soon they found what they were seeking.

他们发现，每天夜里，人们入睡以后，阿亚兹就会悄悄走出房门，穿过王宫的走廊，进入一座塔楼，登上楼梯来到塔顶的小屋。

“啊哈！”他们暗自高兴，“阿亚兹在窃取国王的财宝，然后又藏在塔楼上。”他们迫不及待地把这一发现报告给国王。



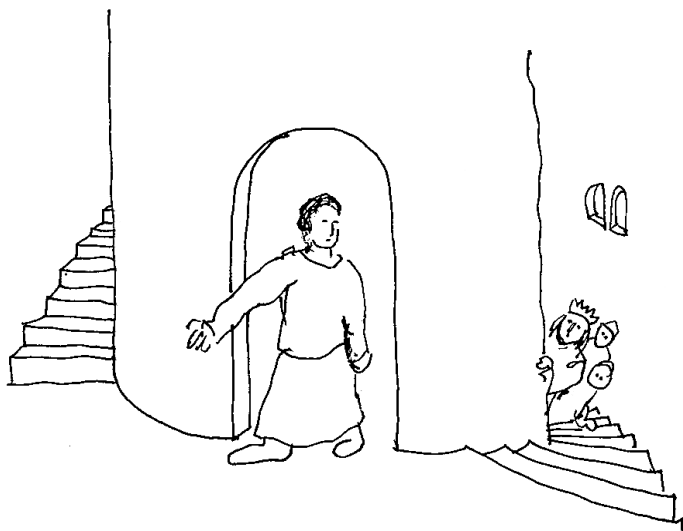
Each night, when everyone else was asleep, they would see los creep out of his room, stealthily wind his way through the corridors of the palace and climb the stairs to a small room at the top of one of the palace's many towers.



"Aha!" they whispered to themselves, "he is robbing the King's treasure and storing it away secretly for himself." And with glee, they hastened to take the news of their discovery to the King.

国王听了又伤心又气恼，吼道：“我不信阿亚兹会干出这种事，除非让我亲眼看见！”

当晚，国王就和那群嫉妒的侍臣一起监视阿亚兹。果然，就像侍臣们说的那样，阿亚兹出了房门，一路蹑脚走进塔楼。国王见了无比难过，他跟着上了塔顶，“砰”的一声撞开了小屋的门。



The King was angered and saddened at the news.

"I cannot believe this terrible thing you say of los," he cried. "Before I believe you I must see for myself if what you say is true."

That night the King watched with the jealous courtiers. Sure enough, just as they had reported to him, los crept from his room and found his way to the small chamber in the tower. With sorrow the King followed and threw open the door of the little room with a mighty crash!

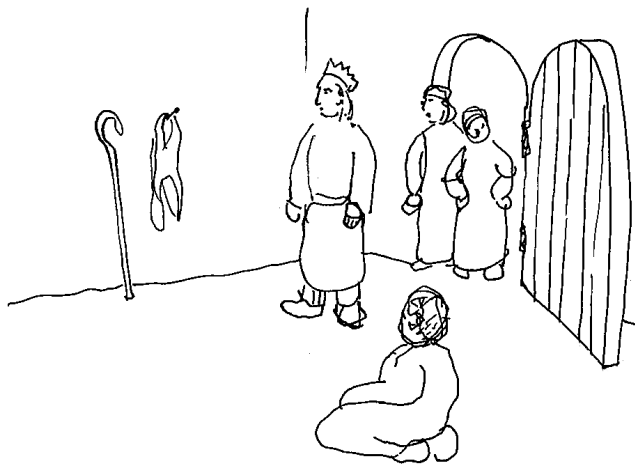


屋里空空荡荡，只有墙上挂着阿亚兹第一次见到国王时穿的那件粗朴的牧羊装，还有他放羊用的牧杖。阿亚兹坐在地上望着他们。

“这是怎么回事，阿亚兹？”国王厉声问道，“你半夜在王宫里行踪诡异，不怕辜负我对你的提拔和信赖吗？”

阿亚兹答道：“陛下，我第一次见您的时候不过是一个贫穷无知的牧羊少年。我能升任这么高的职位，全凭您的宽宏仁惠。我要永远记得我的出身和过去，这样才能在您面前始终谦卑，心怀感激。因此，我每晚都到这里来回想过去，告诉自己承蒙陛下厚待，我才有今天的地位。”

国王听了大感惊喜，庆幸自己拥有阿亚兹这样忠心耿耿的臣属。



The room was completely bare and empty, except that on the wall hung the simple shepherd's coat which los had worn when he first met the King and the shepherd's crook he had used to tend his flock. Los was sitting on the floor gazing at them.

"What is the meaning of this, los," exclaimed the King, "why do you creep so quietly about my palace in the middle of the night, arousing my suspicions when I have raised you up and put my trust in you?"

"O my King," replied los, "when I first set my eyes on you I was a poor and ignorant shepherd boy. I have risen to this high position only through your bounty, favour and generosity. I wish never to forget what I was and from where I came so I may always remain humble and grateful to you. So, each night, I come here to think of what I was and what you, in your goodness and kindness, have made me."

And the King marveled at his fortune in having a servant as loyal and devoted as los.

阿亚兹吃瓜

一天，国王循例大宴宾客，席间不断供上各种精美的食物和悦目的瓜果。

到最后，所有的食物都吃完了，只剩下一个瓜。这瓜已经熟透，色泽十分诱人。这时，外出为国王执行要务的阿亚兹回来了。

许多宾客开始窃窃私语：“你瞧，国王一直没动那个美味的瓜，肯定是留给了他宠爱的阿亚兹。”

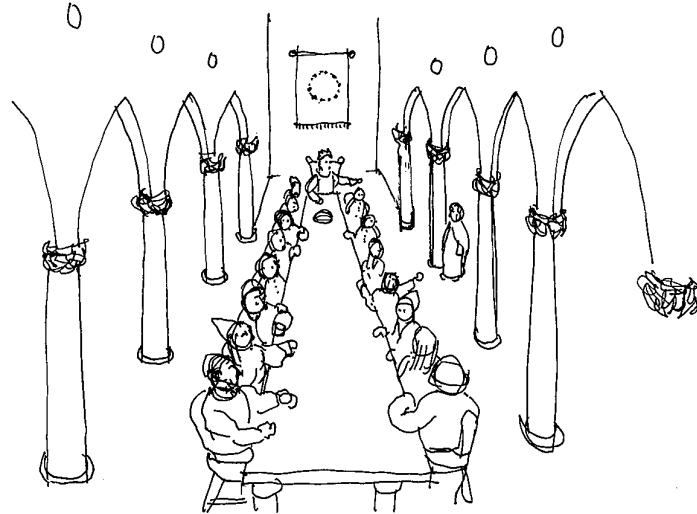
One day the King held a great feast and, as was the custom, invited many guests and plied them with all kinds of beautiful food and luscious fruit.

At last everything had gone except one specially ripe and delicious-looking melon. Just then los, who had been away on important business for the King, returned.

Many of the guests started to murmur among themselves:

"Just you see, the King has been saving that delicious-looking melon and will give it to his favourite, los."

los and the Melon





果然，国王让阿亚兹坐在自己身旁，又命人切瓜。国王拿起一片递给阿亚兹，说：“我忠实的阿亚兹，你也要和我们同享盛宴哪。这瓜我专门为你而留。”

阿亚兹接过瓜，津津有味地吃起来。吃完一片国王又递给他一片。看着阿亚兹吃得那么惬意，国王拿起最后一块，说：“这么可口的瓜，我也要尝一尝。”

Sure enough, the King, seating los by his side, ordered the melon to be cut in pieces and gave one to los, saying:

"You too, my faithful los, must share my feast. I have saved this melon just for you."

los ate the slice of melon with obvious relish, and the King gave him another and another, until, seeing the pleasure with which los ate, took the last piece himself, saying: "I must taste for myself a little of this splendid fruit!"



可是，国王刚咬一口就把瓜丢下，嚷道：“这瓜苦若胆汁！阿亚兹，你居然还吃得下！你不觉得苦吗？”

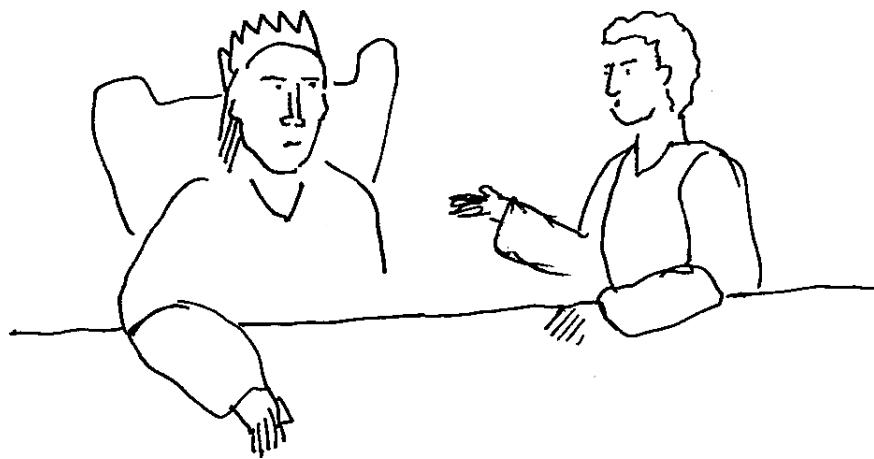




However, no sooner had the King tasted the melon than he threw it down, exclaiming:

"This fruit is bitter as gall! How could you eat it, los? Did you not find it bitter to your taste?"

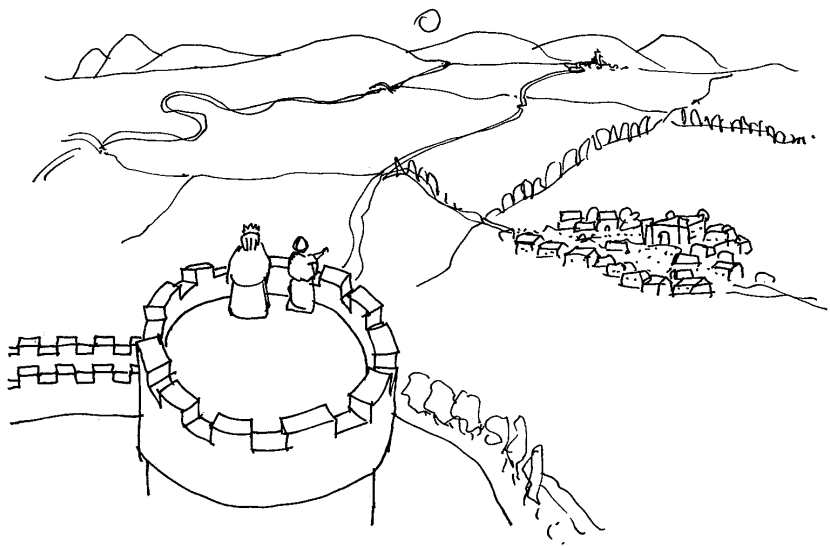
阿亚兹答道：“陛下，的确，这瓜又苦又难吃。不过，我从您手中得到了那么多甘甜怡人的东西，这一点苦又算得了什么呢？真的，这瓜由您亲手递给我，苦的我也觉得是甜的了。”



"Yes, indeed, O my King," los replied, "it was bitter and unpleasant. But as I have received from your hand so much that was sweet and pleasant, how could I refuse a little bitterness? Indeed, seeing that it was your hand that gave it to me, the melon's bitterness became sweetness itself in my mouth!"

阿亚兹和国王的珠宝

几年过去了。一次，国王决定御驾出行，巡游全国。筹备数日后，一支壮观的队伍启程了。陪同国王的重臣显贵、政务要员、特使公差、士兵乐手，个个盛装出行。当然，还有忠实的阿亚兹，他骑着马走在队伍的前头，伴随在他敬爱的主人左右。

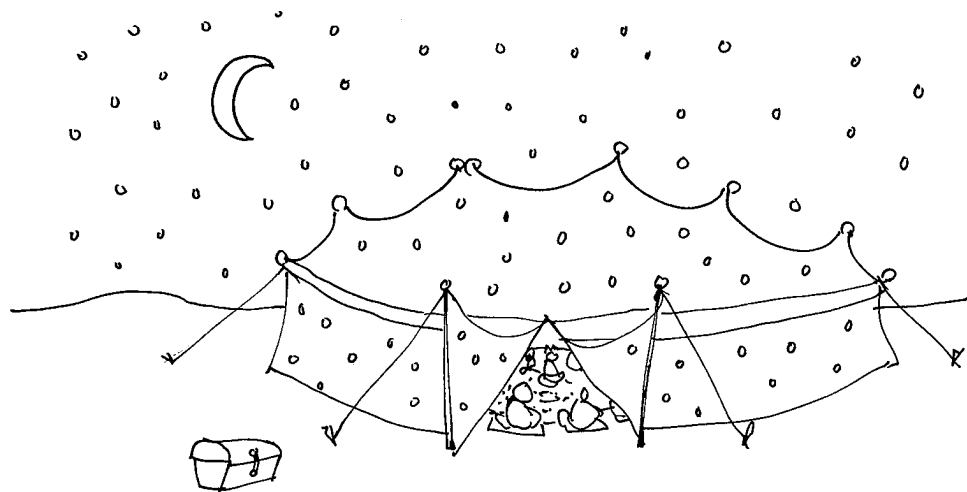


Ios and the Box of Jewels

Several years passed, and the King decided to go on a Royal Tour of his kingdom. Preparations started immediately and within a few days the magnificent procession was ready to leave. The ministers of the King's government, ambassadors and diplomats, courtiers and men of importance, soldiers and bandsmen, all splendid in their finery, set out to accompany the King. And, of course, the faithful Ios rode alongside his beloved Master at the front of the throng.



一到日暮，这支队伍便安下营来，为国王搭起御帐。这帐篷精美华贵，举世罕有：它用最上乘的丝绸缝制，缀以千百珠宝玉石，在夜晚的灯火中熠然闪烁，使得月光也黯然失色。每天晚上，国王和随同臣属设宴欢歌。每日清晨，营帐撤去，便收起珠宝，放在国王御驾的一个箱子里。



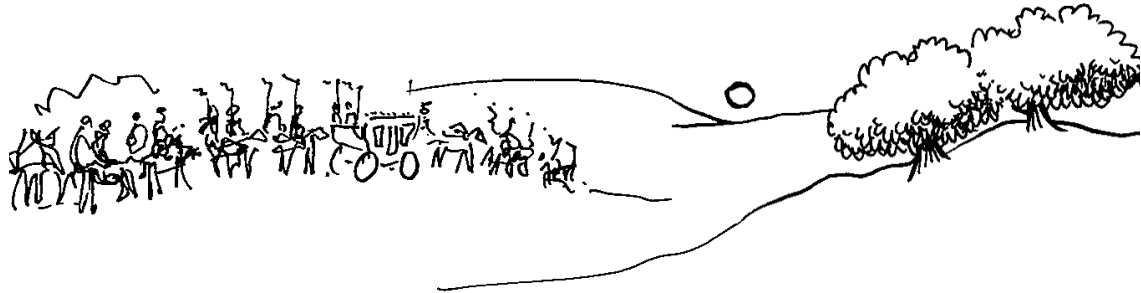
Each evening the splendid party made camp and the wonderful imperial tent was erected for the King. This tent was the most beautiful and precious tent you have ever seen — woven from the finest silk, it was decorated with hundreds of jewels and precious stones, which so shone and sparkled in the lamp-light at night that the light of the moon and stars seemed to pale in comparison. Each night the King and his companions feasted and sang. Each morning, when the tent was struck, the jewels were collected and put in a box in the King's carriage.

就这样，队伍一路前行。国王巡视着他安宁而繁荣的国度，悠然自得。随同臣属日间骑马叙谈，夜里纵情放歌。

这一日，众人穿过一片格外优美的乡村时，国王突然记起他曾经路过此地。是的，数年前就是在这条路上，他第一次看到忠实的阿亚兹那张充满仰慕的脸。

Thus it was that the Royal Procession went on its way, the King looking contentedly at his peaceful and prosperous country, his followers happily riding and conversing during the day, and feasting and singing at night.

Then, one day, as the King and his retinue were making their way through some especially beautiful countryside, the King remembered that he had passed this way before. It had been on this very stretch of road, years ago, that he had first glanced upon the adoring face of his faithful los.



想到那次会面，国王感慨万分。他一时兴起，从箱中取出珠宝，沿路抛撒。国王在队伍前端回头观望，只见除了阿亚兹，其他臣属都忘了职责，乱作一团，趴在地上捡拾珠宝。

“你瞧，”随从们相互嘀咕着，“阿亚兹多骄傲，连国王的珠宝都不屑去捡。”



In gratitude for that meeting, the King - seized of a sudden impulse - took the box of jewels and cast them on the road. As the procession went on its way the King looked back to see all his followers, all except los, forgetful of their duty, scrambling on the ground in great confusion trying to gather up the precious stones.

"Look at los," they muttered to each other, "see how proud he is, he even despises the King's jewels and makes no effort to pick them up."



国王问道：“怎么啦，阿亚兹？你不和他们一起捡我的珠宝吗？难道这些珠宝一文不值？还是你看不起我的东西？”

阿亚兹答道：“陛下，只要是您的东西，不论多么轻微，我从未轻视过。只要能在您身边看到您的面庞，对我来说就足够了，我又何必离开您去争夺您丢弃的东西呢？”

坚贞忠诚的阿亚兹一直陪在国王身边，目光一刻不离他热爱的国王的尊容，令国王倍感欣慰。



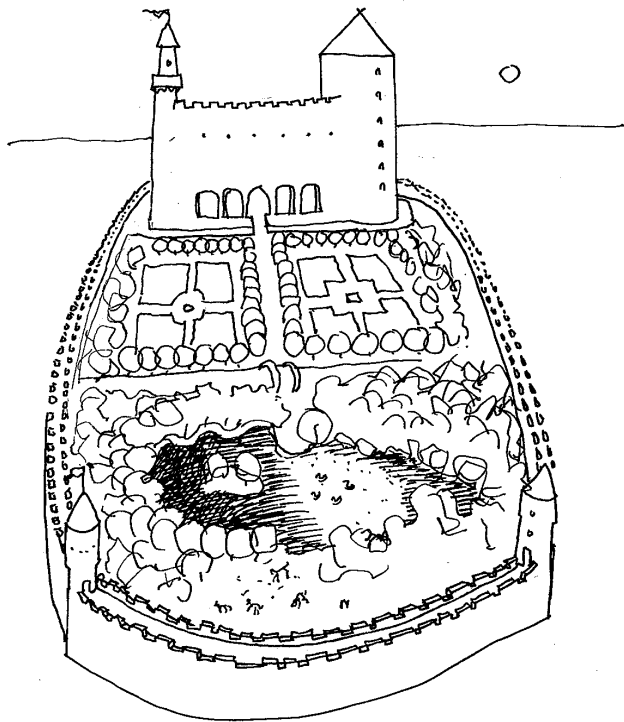
"How is it los," the King asked him, "that you do not join the others to gather up my jewels? Are they not precious? Do you despise the very things that were mine?"

"O my King," replied los, "never in my life have I despised the least thing that is yours. But to be near you and gaze on your face has always been more than sufficient for me. Why should I leave your side to scramble for what you have thrown away?"

And the loyal and steadfast los rode on by the side of his grateful Master, his gaze never for a moment leaving the face of his beloved King.

阿亚兹辞世

国王的所有领地中，他最珍爱的是御苑。这座御苑很大，里面花草树木姿彩缤纷，湖泊幽静，泉水晶莹，溪流淙淙，美不胜收。各种珍禽异兽在此安享生息，因为御园内严禁杀生。

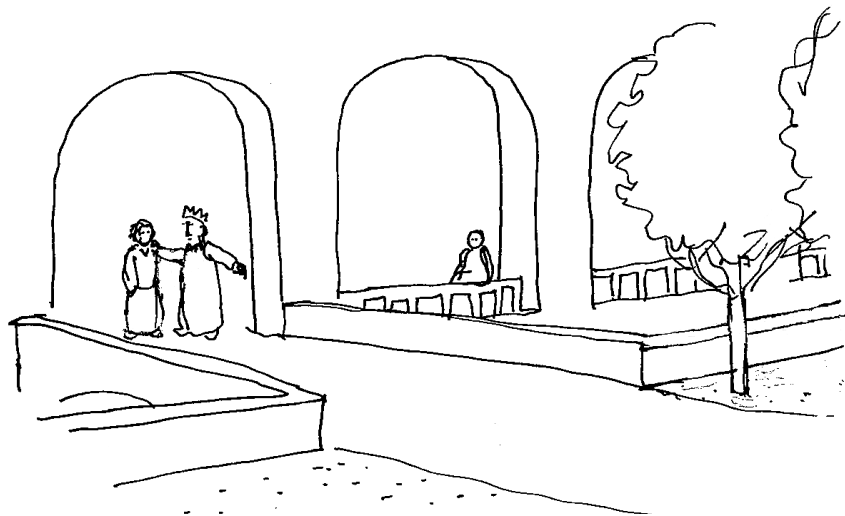


The Passing of Ios

The thing which the King prized above all his other many splendid possessions throughout the length and breadth of his kingdom was the Royal Garden. This garden was vast and very beautiful with trees and flowers, still lakes, clear-flowing streams and fountains. Within the bounds of the garden every living creature was safe and protected, for it was forbidden for anyone to kill anything in the garden.

国王对阿亚兹深为钟爱，信任有加，他把这座充满生机、遍布美景的御园交给阿亚兹看管。这是国王所能赐予的最高荣誉了。阿亚兹不负重托，精心守护御苑。

全国上下比阿亚兹更得国王喜爱的人只有一个，那就是国王的儿子。年轻的王子是国王的掌上明珠；在父王眼里，这位王子简直完美无缺。虽然如此，父王对阿亚兹的宠爱和信任还是令王子暗自嫉妒。

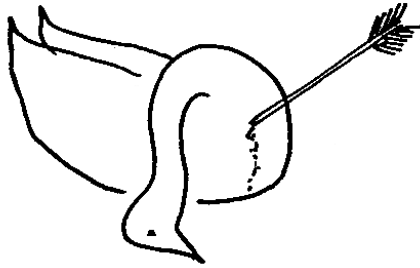


Now the King so loved and trusted los that he made him the guardian and custodian of this Garden of Life and Beauty, the highest honour the King could bestow. los guarded his trust faithfully.

The King's son was the only one throughout the realm whom the King loved more than los. The young prince was the apple of his father's eye and in his father's sight he could do no wrong. Despite this, the prince was jealous of the trust and love which the King showed to los.

一天，阿亚兹在御园巡视，一边欣赏美景，一边查看园中一切是否合乎国王心意。这时，年轻的王子带着弓箭溜了进来，悄悄跟在阿亚兹身后。当阿亚兹走到湖边时，王子拉开弓，飞快地射出一箭，然后丢下弓，转身逃走了。王子射中了一只皇家天鹅。天鹅洁白的胸口流出血来，清澈的湖水染红了一片。天鹅挣扎了几下，头栽进水里，一动不动了。





One day, as los was walking in the garden enjoying its beauty and ensuring that everything was as his royal master would wish, the young prince crept up stealthily behind los, and taking his bow, swiftly shot an arrow and as swiftly fled. The prince's arrow, true to his aim, struck down one of the royal swans. The blood flowed down the milky white breast into the clear water of the lake, and the swan swayed and drooped and died.

阿亚兹大为震惊，望着死去的天鹅，又看看丢在他脚边的弓，伤心不已。正当他弯腰捡弓的时候，一位皇家园丁碰巧经过。看到阿亚兹手里拿着弓，天鹅的死尸漂在水面，血染红了湖水，园丁马上跑去报告国王。



los stood horrified and grief-stricken, gazing first at the swan and then at the bow which had been thrown at his feet. As he stooped to pick up the bow one of the royal gardeners chanced by. Seeing los with the bow in his hand and the dead swan with its blood pinkly colouring the lake's pure water, he hastened straight away to tell the King what los had done.

国王召来阿亚兹，问道：“你都干了什么？”

阿亚兹低头不语。“说话！”国王命令道，“是谁杀了天鹅？”

但阿亚兹不愿回答，他知道国王深爱着王子。

国王伤心欲绝，厉声喝道：“你的沉默就是对你的宣判，你辜负了我的信托。如果你不说清楚你为何如此妄为，我就把你永远逐出我的御前。”

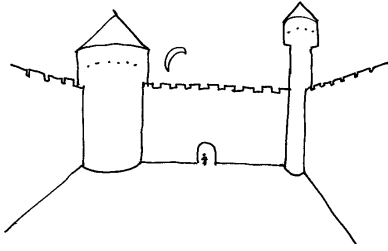
阿亚兹依然沉默。他抬起头，最后一次长久地望着他敬爱的国王的面庞。然后，他温顺地俯身离开了国王的尊前，独自一人流落他乡。





The King summoned los to him.
"What have you done?" he demanded.

los bowed his head and remained silent.
"Speak!" the King commanded. "Who killed the swan?"



But los, knowing the King's love for his son, would not answer. Then, with a breaking heart, the King sternly exclaimed:

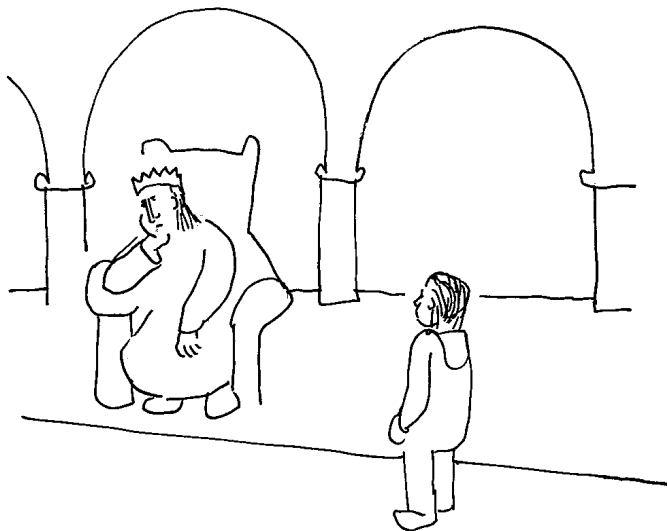
"Your silence condemns you. You have failed my trust. If you do not explain why you have done this terrible thing, I shall banish you forever from my presence."



Silently, los lifted his eyes and took a long, last look at the face of his beloved King. Then, he meekly bowed his head, went out from the presence of the King and went alone into exile.

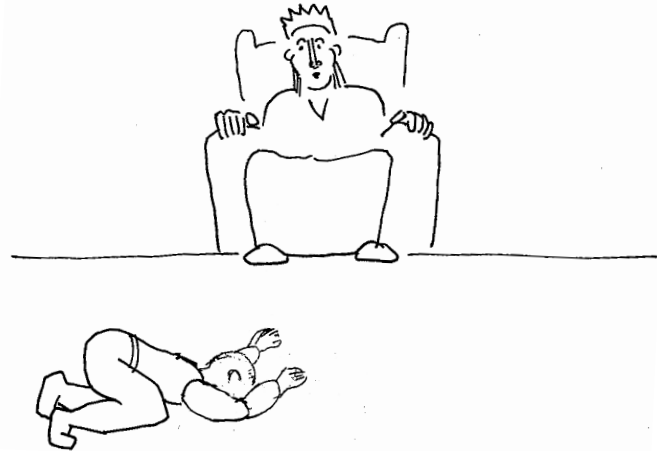
时光流逝，王子的良心始终不得安宁。他看到父王因阿亚兹而哀伤，发觉父王并没有因为阿亚兹的离去而更爱自己。后来，他听到消息说，阿亚兹住在偏远乡间的一幢小草屋里，心力憔悴，生命垂危。

王子悔恨交加，来到国王面前，扑倒在国王脚边，哭喊道：“父王，宽恕我吧！我做了错事，亏负了您和阿亚兹。”王子承认了他所做的一切。



Time passed and the prince's conscience gave him no rest. He saw how his father, the King, grieved for los, and he observed that his father's love for him was in no way increased with the departure of the former shepherd boy. Then the news reached him that los was dying of a broken heart in his lonely hut far away. Full of remorse he went to the King and threw himself at his father's feet.

"Forgive me, father, for the wrong I have done you and los," he cried. And he confessed all that he had done.



国王万分悲恸，猛然起身，喊道：“立刻带我去见阿亚兹！”



国王火速赶到乡间那幢草屋，找到了奄奄一息的阿亚兹。国王冲到阿亚兹身旁，把他搂在怀里，泪水夺眶而出。

The King in great grief sprang to his feet and cried out: "Take me at once to los!"



In all haste the King sped to the lonely, far away hut, and found los dying. Rushing to him, the King clasped him in his arms while the tears flowed freely from the royal eyes.

“阿亚兹啊，我钟爱的仆人，我的朋友，千万不要离我而去。你是我最喜爱、最信赖的仆人，你为了我和我的儿子，牺牲了你自己的幸福和生命！”

阿亚兹躺在他热爱的主人怀里，再一次望着他敬爱的国王的面庞，用尽全力说：“陛下，我的主人啊！除了您的喜悦，我别无他求。现在，我又能看着您的尊容了，我可以无比满足地去天堂了！”说完，阿亚兹安祥地离开了人世。



"O Ios, my beloved servant and friend, you must not leave me: you are my most loved and trusted servant, you have sacrificed your happiness and life for the sake of me and my son!"

Ios, resting in the arms of his dearly-loved Master and gazing once again on the face of the one he loved so much, exclaimed:

"O my King, my master! Never have I sought anything but your pleasure. Now, having gazed once more upon your noble face, I die happy and content in Paradise!" Saying which, he passed peacefully away.

牧羊少年阿亚兹

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IOS THE SHEPHERD BOY

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