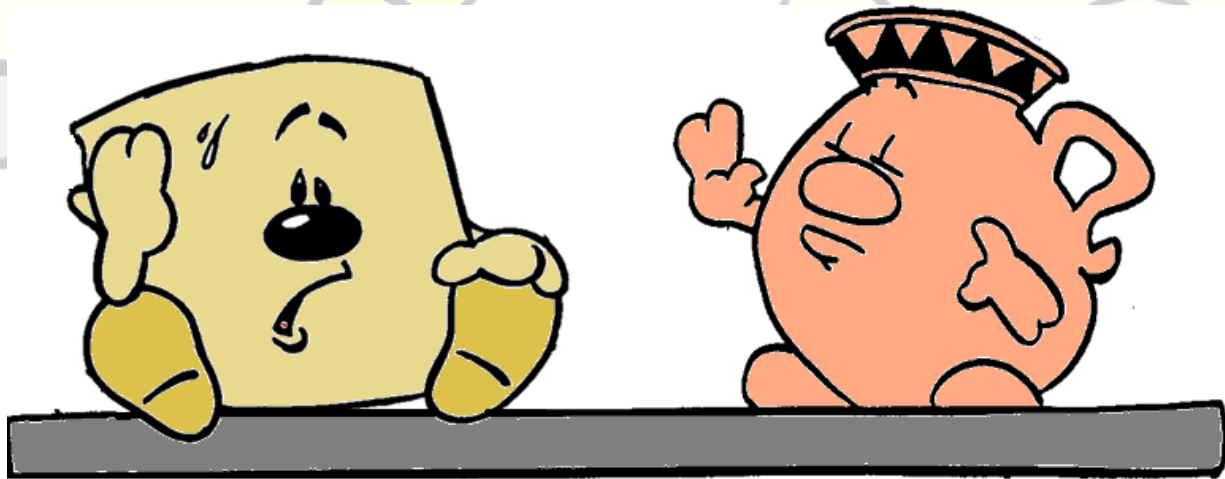


The Two Pots

兩隻水罐

A water bearer in India had two large pots, hung on each end of a pole, which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made.

在印度，有個挑水人有兩隻很大的水罐，他把兩隻罐分別掛一根竿的兩端。其中的一隻罐有一條裂縫，當另一隻罐完滿地把一罐水從遙遠的小河運送到主人家的時候，而有裂縫的罐到達時只有半罐。當然了，這只完好的罐非常得意於它的成就。



But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. “I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you.”

“Why?” asked the bearer. “What are you ashamed of?”

“I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master’s house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don’t get full value from your efforts,” the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, “As we return to the master’s house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path.”

可憐的有裂縫的罐卻羞於自己的不完美，難過於只能完成使命的一半。

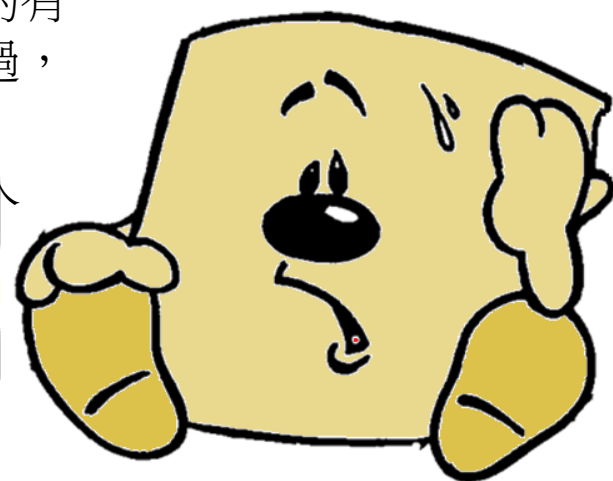
一天，這只有裂縫的罐對挑水人說：“我感到很慚愧，我想向你道歉。”

“為什麼？”挑水人問道，“你有什麼可道歉的？”

“我曾經是個很完美的水罐，但在過去的兩年裏，因為我的裂縫造成運水量只有一半，水都漏在了去主人家的路上。因為我的緣故，你不得不加倍工作，並且你沒有得到你努力的全部報酬。”這只罐說。

挑水人為這只舊的有裂縫的罐感到難過，他充滿同情地說：

“當我們返回主人家的時候，我想要你注意路邊美麗的花朵。”

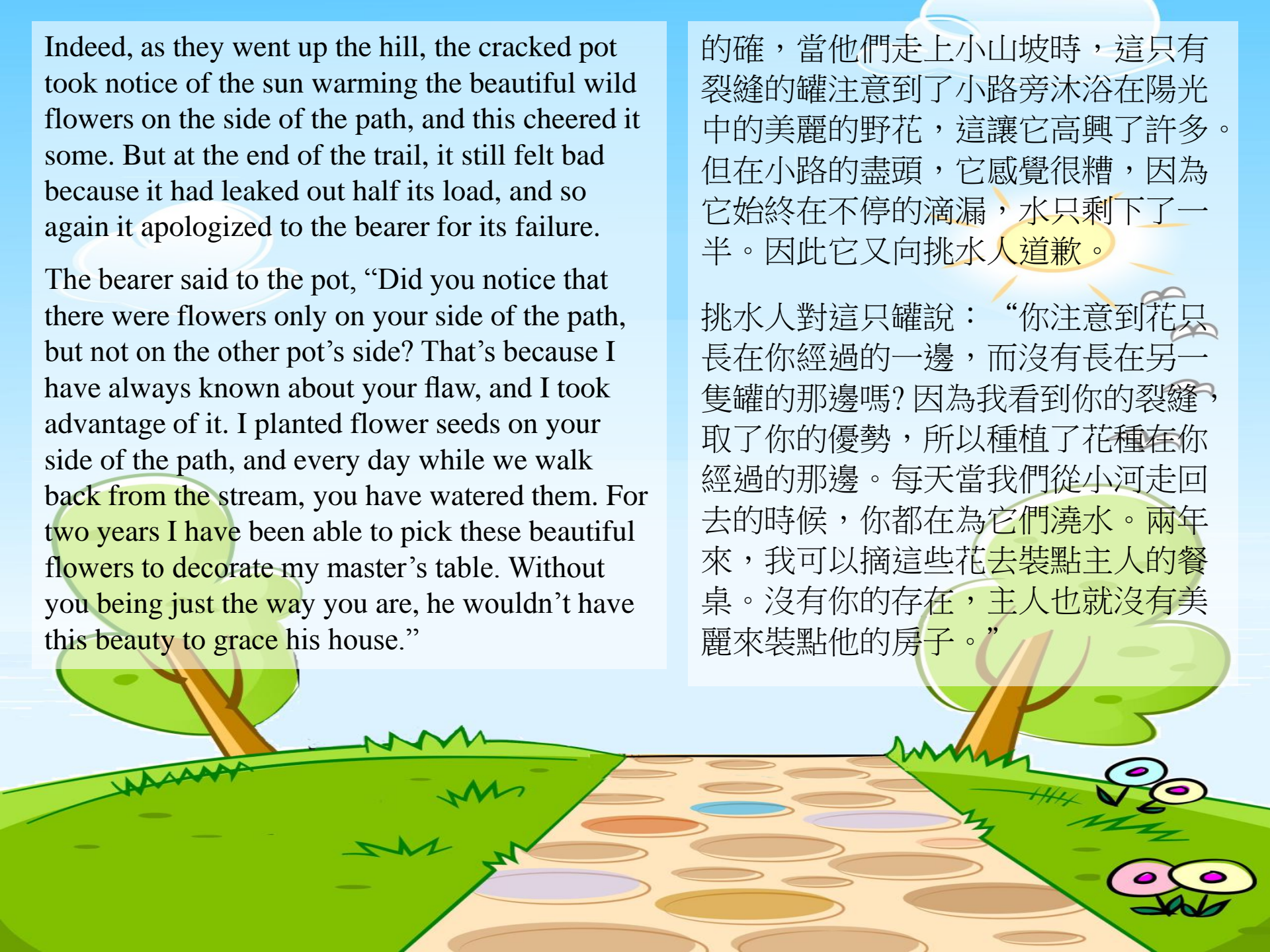


Indeed, as they went up the hill, the cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, “Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot’s side? That’s because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you have watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master’s table. Without you being just the way you are, he wouldn’t have this beauty to grace his house.”

的確，當他們走上小山坡時，這只有裂縫的罐注意到了小路旁沐浴在陽光中的美麗的野花，這讓它高興了許多。但在小路的盡頭，它感覺很糟，因為它始終在不停的滴漏，水只剩下了一半。因此它又向挑水人道歉。

挑水人對這只罐說：“你注意到花只長在你經過的一邊，而沒有長在另一隻罐的那邊嗎？因為我看到你的裂縫，取了你的優勢，所以種植了花種在你經過的那邊。每天當我們從小河走回去的時候，你都在為它們澆水。兩年來，我可以摘這些花去裝點主人的餐桌。沒有你的存在，主人也就沒有美麗來裝點他的房子。”



Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

- Martin Luther King Jr.

每個人都可以成為偉大的人……因為任何人都可以為人服務。你不須要有大學文憑，才能為人服務。你也不須要能咬文嚼字，才能為人服務。你只須要有一個充滿恩典的心和被愛激勵的靈魂就行了。

- 金恩 (Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Water bearer – 挑水人

Pots – 水罐

Crack – 裂縫

Perfect – 完美

Half – 半

Master – 主人

Stream – 小河

Ashamed – 羞於

Imperfection – 不完美

Flaw – 缺陷

Flowers – 花朵

Path/trail – 小路

Watered – 澆水



雙語圖書 -

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