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Journey to the West (A Mission to Heaven)

Wu Cheng'en · *Richard's abridged English, 1913 · Timothy Richard (Shanghai: Christian Literature Society, 1913)*

Creation's wonders if you'd see — Read this journey to the sky. So this English opens its first chapter, after a Christian Literature Society title page. The hosted file is Timothy Richard's 1913 abridgment, A Mission to Heaven, not a complete translation of the hundred-chapter novel. Richard condenses, and adds his own notes and a Christian-allegorical reading. For grades 6–12. Name the limit. Some nearby OCR is broken; quote only clean sentences. Teach with respect.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

How should a school read this file as Richard's 1913 abridgment, A Mission to Heaven, opening with a journey to the sky and a monkey king who weeps for fear of a future shadow, rather than as a complete Journey to the West?

"Creation's wonders if you'd see — Read this journey to the sky. We have heard that the age"

Chapter I

Timothy Richard's English, Shanghai, 1913, via the Internet Archive. It is an abridged, interpretive version, not the complete Ming novel. It opens: Creation's wonders if you'd see — Read this journey to the sky. Later a monkey king, feasting, suddenly begins to weep, and says he is not without fear of future shadow. Quote this English. Name the abridgment. For grades 6–12. Teach with respect. Some OCR is broken; quote only clean sentences. One map cannot teach even this abridgment entire.

KEY CHARACTERS

The monkey king of the first chapters
Who, while feasting, suddenly begins to weep, and is not without fear of future shadow

Timothy Richard
The 1913 translator and abridger; name him, and name the limit of this file

HOW TO BEGIN THIS ABRIDGMENT

> *"Creation's wonders if you'd see — Read this journey to the sky. We have heard that the age"*
> Chapter I

> *"Although I am happy now, I am not without fear of future shadow." They"*
> The stone monkey's feast

Grades 6–8
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01
A Journey to the Sky
CHAPTER I

Creation's wonders if you'd see — Read this journey to the sky. The abridgment itself tells you to read a journey, not to mistake the file for another book.

- Keep "Creation's wonders" and "journey to the sky."
- Name Richard, 1913, and the abridgment.
- 6–12. Teach with respect.
- Quote only a clean sentence.

> *"Creation's wonders if you'd see — Read this journey to the sky. We have heard that the age"*
> Chapter I

02
The King Began to Weep
THE STONE MONKEY'S FEAST

One day, when feasting with his monkeys, suddenly the King began to weep. Happiness is already joined to a fear.

- Keep "feasting with his monkeys" and "began to weep."
- 6–12. Gravity, not a joke only.
- Early in the abridgment, not the whole pilgrimage.
- Quote this wording.

> *"One day, when feasting with his monkeys, suddenly the King began to weep. Then"*
> The stone monkey's feast

03
Fear of Future Shadow
THE SAME FEAST

Although I am happy now, I am not without fear of future shadow. The king names a fear while he is still happy.

- Keep "not without fear of future shadow."
- 6–12.
- A clean sentence; stop before broken OCR.
- Quote Richard.

> *"Although I am happy now, I am not without fear of future shadow." They"*
> The stone monkey's feast

04
The Robbers Were Human Beings
LATER COUNSEL

The robbers were human beings, and therefore you should not have killed them. A later voice, in this English, forbids killing even to save.

- Keep "human beings" and "should not have killed them."
- Gravity; no gore spectacle.
- 6–12.
- One counsel in an abridgment, not the complete novel.

> *"The robbers were human beings, and therefore you should not have killed them"*
> Later counsel

05
Richard, 1913, an Abridgment
THE EDITION

Timothy Richard, A Mission to Heaven, Shanghai, Christian Literature Society, 1913. The hosted file is this abridgment, with Richard's notes and a Christian-allegorical reading, not a complete Journey to the West. For grades 6–12. Name the limit. Some OCR is broken; quote only clean sentences. Teach with respect. Quote this English, not a later film.

- Name the 1913 abridgment; do not call it complete.
- Name Richard.
- 6–12. Respect.
- A journey named in the first chapter, then a king who weeps.

> *"Creation's wonders if you'd see — Read this journey to the sky. We have heard that the age"*
> Chapter I

A journey, named at the opening

A king who weeps at a feast

A fear of future shadow

An abridgment, honestly named

A later counsel against killing

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 6–8

1. The first chapter says: "Creation's wonders if you'd see — Read this journey to the sky."
2. This is Timothy Richard's 1913 abridgment, A Mission to Heaven, not a complete translation of the hundred-chapter novel. Name the limit.
3. One day, when feasting with his monkeys, suddenly the King began to weep: "Although I am happy now, I am not without fear of future shadow."
4. Some nearby OCR is broken; quote only clean sentences. For grades 6–12. Teach with respect. Gravity later; no gore spectacle. Quote this English, not a later film.

Quotations are verbatim from the Timothy Richard (Shanghai: Christian Literature Society, 1913), A Mission to Heaven: A Great Chinese Epic and Allegory, trans. Timothy Richard (Shanghai: Christian Literature Society, 1913), via the Internet Archive (cu31924074502034), the public-domain text hosted at classicslaunch.org/works/journey-to-the-west-a-mission-to-heaven/. Citations give book and chapter (or canto and line) so every line can be checked.