



77. 猫女士, The Cat-Maiden (māo nǚ shì)

yǒu yī cì zhòng shén zài zhēng lùn dào dǐ néng fǒu gǎi biàn dòng wù de běn xìng 。
ng 。

有一次众神在争论到底能否改变动物的本性。

The gods were once disputing whether it was possible for a living being to change its nature.

qiū bǐ tè shuō : “ kě yǐ ” 。 dàn wéi nà sī shuō : “ bù kě yǐ ” 。

丘比特说：“可以”。但维纳斯说：“不可以”。

Jupiter said "Yes," but Venus said "No."

wéi le zhèng míng zhè gè wèn tí 。

为了证明这个问题。

so, to try the question,

qiū bǐ tè jiù bǎ yī zhī māo biàn chéng yī gè nǚ rén bìng bǎ tā jià gěi le yī gè nián qīng rén zuò qī zī 。

丘比特就把一只猫变成一个女人并把她嫁给了一个年青人做妻子。

Jupiter turned a Cat into a Maiden, and gave her to a young man for a wife.

hūn lǐ fēi cháng chén mèn de jǔ xíng zhe 。 zhè duì xīn rén zuò zài jiǔ xí shàng 。
ng 。

婚礼非常沉闷的举行着。这对新人坐在酒席上。

The wedding was duly performed and the young couple sat down to the wedding-feast.

qiū bǐ tè duì wéi nà sī shuō : “ kàn , zhè gè xīn niáng shì duō me de dé tǐ ya ,

丘比特对维纳斯说：“看，这个新娘是多么的得体呀，

"See," said Jupiter, to Venus, "how becomingly she behaves.

shuí néng kàn chū , tā zuó tiān céng jīng shì yī zhī māo ne ? tā de běn xìng ìng kěn dìng yǐ jīng gǎi biàn le ” 。

谁能看出，她昨天曾经是一只猫呢？她的本性肯定已经改变了”。

Who could tell that yesterday she was but a Cat? Surely her nature is changed?"



wéi nà sī shuō: “ děng yī xià , wǒ men xiān fàng yī zhī lǎo shǔ jìn fáng jiān ” 。

维纳斯说：“等一下，我们先放一只老鼠进房间”。

"Wait a minute," replied Venus, and let loose a mouse into the room.

xīn niáng kàn dào lǎo shǔ lì jí cóng yǐ zǐ shàng tiào qǐ lái pū xiàng lǎo shǔ 。

新娘看到老鼠立即从椅子上跳起来扑向老鼠。

No sooner did the bride see this than she jumped up from her seat and tried to pounce upon the mouse.

wéi nà sī shuō : “ xiàn zài , nǐ kàn dào le ba ” 。

维纳斯说：“现在，你看到了吧”。

"Ah, you see," said Venus,

gù shì shì shuō : běn xìng zhōng jiū huì bào lù chū lái —— běn xìng nán yí 。

故事是说：本性终究会暴露出来——本性难移。

"Nature will out."

