



Poems about Fish and Worms

關於魚與蟲的詩

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今天來讀兩首詩，關於大魚吃小魚，大蟲吃小蟲的詩，你可能会為小魚和小蟲感到難過，但是，你也可能會愛上大魚與大蟲……

The Flattered Flying Fish

Said the Shark to the Flying Fish over the phone:
"Will you join me tonight? I am dining alone.
Let me order a nice little dinner for two.
And come as you are, in your shimmering blue."

Said the Flying Fish: "Fancy remembering me,
And the dress I wore at the Porpoises' tea!"
"How could I forget?" said the Shark in his guile:
"I expect you at eight!" and rang off with a smile.

She has powdered her nose; she has put on her things;
She is off with one flap on her luminous wings.
Oh little one, light-hearted and vain,
The moon will not shine on your beauty again.



創作背景

這首詩的作者是英國作家瑞優 (E. V. Rieu, 1887-1972)，瑞優是知名的古典文學學者，同時也是位出色的編輯，他一手為企鵝出版社策畫的古典文學系列已經成為出版界的金字招牌。我喜歡這首詩裡奸詐的鯊魚，他簡直是施展美男計誘捕飛魚。他的口才真好，連我都想赴約了，何況小飛魚！

受寵若驚的飛魚

鯊魚對電話另一頭的飛魚說：
「今夜願意與我共進晚餐嗎？我獨自無伴呵。
讓我點一份很棒的雙魚小套餐！
來吧，就穿上你那套藍閃閃的小套裝。」

飛魚說：「啊你竟然還記得我，
還有我在海豚茶會時穿的衣服！」
「我怎麼忘得了？」鯊魚好狡猾，
「那麼八點見！」他笑著掛上電話。

她在鼻子上撲粉；她梳妝又打扮；
她扭著亮晶晶的鰭出門去。
噢小東西，可愛又虛榮，無憂又無慮，
月光不會再照耀你的美麗！



讓我們繼續讀

A Bug Sat in a Silver Flower

A bug sat in a silver flower
Thinking silver thoughts.
A bigger bug out for a walk
Climbed up that silver flower stalk
And snapped the small bug down his jaws
Without a pause
Without a care
For all the bugs small silver thoughts.
It isn't right
It isn't fair
That big bug ate that little bug
Because that little bug was there.

He also ate his underwear.

銀色花兒裡的小蟲兒

一隻小蟲兒坐在銀色花兒裡
思考著銀色小念頭。
一隻大蟲兒在散步
順著花梗爬上了銀色花兒
咻一口吞下小蟲兒
毫不考慮
毫不在乎
也不管小蟲兒思考著銀色小念頭。
這不對吧
這不公平
只因為小蟲兒正好在那裡
大蟲兒就一口吞了小蟲兒。

他連他的內衣也吃了。

創作背景

美國詩人、插畫家卡拉·庫斯金 (Karla Kuskin, 1932-2009) 寫迷人的童詩也寫評論，她的詩用字簡潔，充滿活力與趣味，當你正為這隻愛思考的小蟲感到遺憾時，卻發現大蟲連人家的內衣也吃掉了！我猜你跟我一樣，忍不住笑了出來。你瞧，這就是詩的力量。



單字看這裡

- ① flattered (adj.) 受寵若驚的
- ② shimmering (adj.) 閃爍、閃光
- ③ guile (adj.) 狡猾
- ④ luminous (adj.) 發光的