The Musician

by Xuefeng Liu

illustrated by Gunter Grossholz and Yuxi Wan



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REYCRAFT BOOKS

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In ancient China, a young musician named Yu Boya gained fame for his talents. As a boy, Boya learned to play guqin, a traditional Chinese string instrument. He was so skilled at playing, he was called the "Guqin Sage." Boya liked best of all to play in nature, among animals, rivers, and mountains. When he grew up, he worked as a diplomat. Boya often entertained important officials and nobles with his beautiful music.

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Once, Boya went out to the fields to play tunes for the king's horses. The music was so enchanting that the horses forgot to

graze on the delicious grasses.



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One year, Boya set off on a special mission. Just as his boat sailed along the Hanyang River, a violent storm broke. Lightning flashed and sheets of rain poured down. Boya was forced to take shelter on the riverbank, at the foot of a hill.

Boya often traveled to other Chinese states for his work. He always brought an elaborate guqin with him that, according to legend, was created by an ancient Chinese emperor.

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It just so happened that it was the Moon Festival that day. As evening fell, the wind ceased, and the waves calmed. The clouds dispersed, revealing a brilliant, full moon glowing brightly in the star-studded sky. Boya was so inspired, he pulled out his guqin and began to play.

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