

The
ROBIN HOOD
of
TAIWAN

廖

Liao

添

Tian

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Ding

Talk Taiwanese Mandarin Graded Reader
Level 2

By Abby Tân

Talk Taiwanese Mandarin Graded Reader
Level 2: 500 Unique Characters

廖添丁

Liao Tian-Ding:
The Robin Hood of Taiwan

By Abby Tân

Published by Abby Tân

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Co-edited by Sahana

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Our books may be purchased in bulk for educational use. Please contact us by e-mail at talktaiwanesemandarin@gmail.com.

www.TalkTaiwaneseMandarin.com

Author's Note

You've come this far on your Chinese learning journey, now it's time to enjoy some fiction in Chinese! I've been working hard to create this series for students to level up their Chinese by immersing themselves in authentic stories. Hopefully this will be a useful resource for the Taiwanese Mandarin learning community.

Level Two: 500 unique characters

Level 2 is designed for Chinese learners who have reached an intermediate level. This series contains about 500 unique characters.

If you are able to read this book and follow the story while encountering a few words you don't know every 1 or 2 pages, this book is fine for your level.

How do I study with this book?

Read at your own pace. By reading this book, you're already improving your recognition and comprehension skills. Here are some features of the book:

- **Glossary:** Clicking key words will take you to the [glossary](#), where each word's definition and pronunciation are listed. If you're looking to push yourself, try making sentences with words from the vocabulary list.
- **Questions and Discussion:** This section is extra practice to test your comprehension and to express your opinions, perhaps with your teacher.
- **Grammar points:** This section lists the most challenging grammar points used in the story. It's a good chance for you to review the grammar you might have learnt before but are still not familiar with.
- **Audiobook:** Listening along while you read allows you to pick up on not only tones as well as unfamiliar words. It also aids in understanding what natural Chinese would sound like in context.

The audiobook can be purchased [here](#). *(Use the code 'audiobook' to get 10% off)*

About This Story

This book is based on a famous Taiwanese folktale -- Liao Tian-Ding. A legendary hero and the most wanted outlaw during Taiwan under Japanese rule, Liao Tian-Ding was known for employing his amazing Kung fu skills to steal from the rich and give to the poor.

Liao Tian-Ding was a real-life person. However, there are so many different stories about him, it's hard to tell which one is real. I wrote this book based on a mix of facts, myths and my imagination. I hope you enjoy it!

Abby

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人物 Characters

- 安安(Ān'ān)：六歲，喜歡聽故事。
A cute 6-year old. Loves bedtime stories.
- 爸爸(Bàba)：安安的爸爸，很會說故事。
An'an's dad. Good at telling stories.

故事的人物 Characters in the story

台中(Taichung)

- 廖添丁(Liào Tiān-Dīng)：出生在台中，[功夫^{\[1\]}](#)很好、喜歡幫助人。
From Taichung. He has great kung fu skills and loves to help others.



- 阿飛(Āfēi)：添丁的好朋友，兩人像[兄弟^{\[2\]}](#)一樣。
Tiān-Dīng's best friend. They are as close as brothers.
- 師父(Shīfu)：教添丁功夫的[師父^{\[3\]}](#)。
A kung fu master. Teaches Tiān-Dīng Kung Fu.
- 阿玉(Āyù)：[師父](#)的女兒，添丁小時候的朋友。
Shīfu's daughter. Tiān-Dīng's childhood friend.

- 林老闆(Lín lǎobǎn)：開茶店的老闆。

The rich owner of a local tea shop.

台北(Taipei)

- 王老闆(Wáng lǎobǎn)：台北有錢的大地主^[4]。

A rich landlord in Taipei.

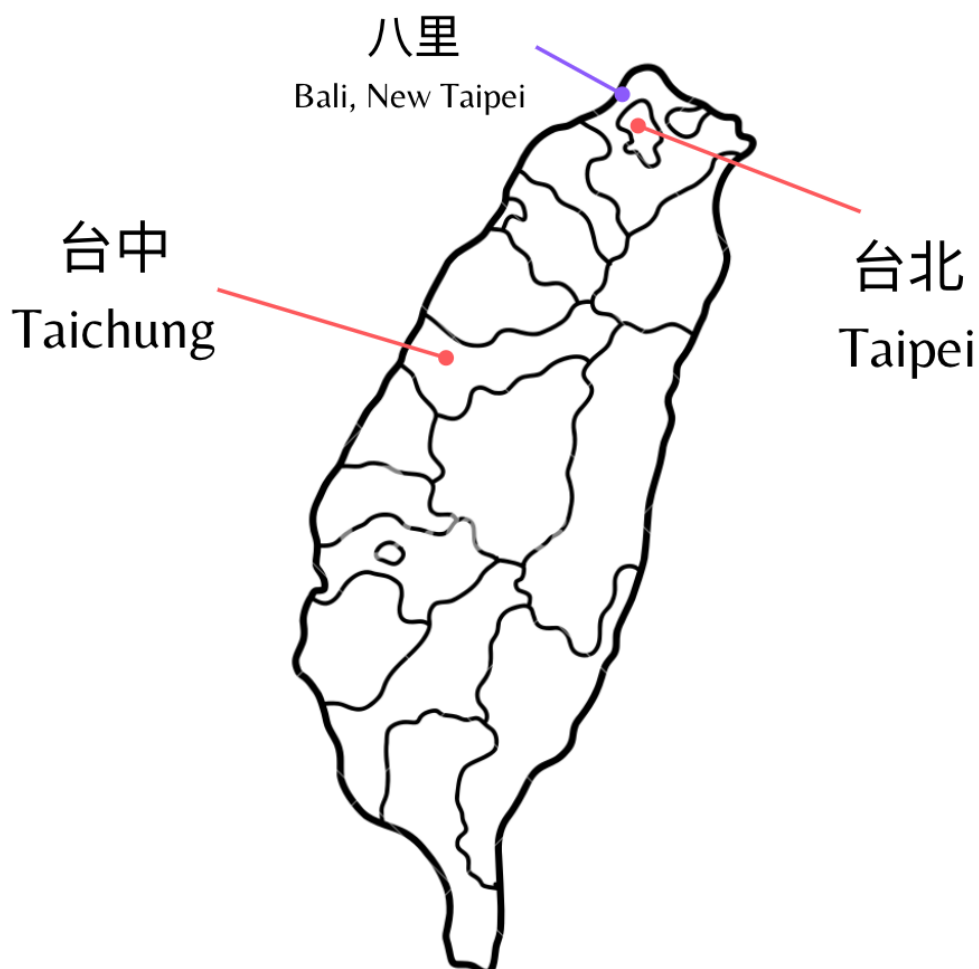
- 楊林(Yáng lín)：阿玉的叔叔^[5]。

Āyù's uncle.

時間 Time:

日治時期(Rìzhìshíqī) Taiwan under Japanese rule (1895~1945)

地點 Location:



前言 Preface

六歲的安安今年開始去學校上課了，他每天回家後，都會告訴爸爸在學校發生了什麼事。

「今天老師跟我們說一個英雄^[6]的故事，他叫 Robin Hood，他好帥喔！」安安一邊吃飯，一邊興奮^[7]地和爸爸說。

「你喜歡 Robin Hood 啊？那你知道台灣也有像 Robin Hood 的英雄嗎？」爸爸笑著說。

「真的嗎？是誰？」安安大聲地說。

「他叫做『廖添丁』，他也像 Robin Hood 一樣，偷^[8]有錢人的錢來幫助窮^[9]人。」爸爸說。安安聽了，很興奮地說：「我想要聽廖添丁的故事，可以說給我聽嗎？」

「好啊，你先把功課做完、洗完澡以後，我就跟你說。」爸爸說。

「好！」安安開心地說。平常不喜歡做功課的安安，為了聽這個英雄故事，吃完飯後，就立刻把功課從書包拿出來、請爸爸陪他一起做功課。把功課做完後，又立刻去洗澡。

「爸爸，我好了！」洗完澡的安安對著外面的爸爸大叫。

「好，來了、來了！」爸爸邊說邊走了進來，看到安安已經躺^[10]在床上等他，「今天這麼快呀？」

「我想聽廖添丁的故事！」安安說。

「好，故事是發生在日治時期……」爸爸說。

「日治時期是什麼？」安安問。

「日治時期，就是以前台灣被日本管^[11]的時候。」爸爸回答。

「啊？」安安問：「那廖添丁是日本人嗎？」

「不是啦，廖添丁是台灣人。」爸爸笑著說，「那個時候的日本警察^[12]都不喜歡他，還很害怕他喔！」

「為什麼？他不是英雄嗎？」安安問。

爸爸看著安安微笑^[13]，然後說：「你聽下去就知道了。」

一、台中

1883年，廖添丁在台中出生了。添丁很小的時候，他的爸爸就死^[14]了。因為家裡很窮，還有年紀很小的弟弟、妹妹，添丁從六歲就開始工作了，他幫忙媽媽做事，還做了很多很辛苦的工作。

添丁十三歲的時候，有一天，他和他的好朋友——阿飛，兩個人工作完、一起走回家的路上，看到兩位日本警察，他們在欺負^[15]一個老人，添丁認識那個老人，添丁都叫他阿公^[16]。

阿公和平常一樣在路邊賣菜，警察經過，找他麻煩^[17]。警察說阿公很髒^[18]，叫他去洗澡。阿公不會說日語、聽不懂他們在說什麼，只是很害怕的樣子。在日治時期，人民^[19]都很害怕日本警察，因為警察常常來找麻煩，也看不起^[20]台灣人，那時人民看到警察，都叫他們「大人」。

這時，有一位有錢的大老闆經過，他的茶店在當地^[21]很有名，大家都叫他林老闆。林老闆不但沒有幫忙，還大聲地叫阿公走開：「警察大人說你很髒，快走開！」

阿公不走，林老闆就開始用腳踩^[22]阿公的菜，菜都爛^[23]了。

I hope you enjoyed this sample! You can purchase the book on
<https://talktaiwanese.com/books/>

[sample]

問題 & 討論 Questions & Discussion

Comprehension

1. 添丁跟阿玉是怎麼變成好朋友的？

[sample]

Discussion

6. 你覺得添丁做的事是對的還是錯的？為什麼？請說說看你的想法。

[sample]

語法 Grammar Points

Here is a list of the most challenging grammar points used in the story. Bear in mind there is no 1-to-1 translation for some points, and nuances might not be immediately apparent. Please consult your teacher if you would like more context.

Chapter 0

- V 下去 : go on (doing sth.)
e.g., 聽下去、說下去、學下去

Chapter 1

- 不但... , 還... : not only ...but also...

[sample]

生詞表 Key words

Parts of Speech

- *n.* Noun
- *adj.* Adjective
- *adv.* Adverb
- *conj.* Conjunction
- *mw.* Measure word
- *Part.* Particle
- *Prep.* Preposition
- *Det.* Determiner
- *v.* Verb
- *vo.* Verb + object (examples: 吃飯、睡覺)
- *vc.* Verb + complement (examples: 睡著、看到)

-
1. 功夫 ㄍㄨㄥ ㄈㄨ ㄍㄨㄥ ㄈㄨ *n.* kung fu
 2. 兄弟 ㄒㄩㄥ ㄉㄧˋ ㄒㄩㄥ ㄉㄧˋ *n.* brothers
 3. 師父 ㄕㄨㄞˋ ㄈㄨˋ *n.* master
 4. 地主 ㄉㄩˋ ㄓㄨˇ *n.* landlord (owns land) – vs. 房東 (owns property)
 5. 叔叔 ㄕㄨˋ ㄕㄨˋ *n.* uncle
 6. 英雄 ㄩㄥ ㄒㄩㄥ *n.* hero
 7. 興奮 ㄒㄩㄥ ㄈㄣˋ *adj.* excited
 8. 偷 ㄊㄡ *v.* to steal
 9. 窮 ㄑㄩㄥ *adj.* poor
 10. 躺 ㄊㄤ *v.* to lie (down)

11. 管 ㄍㄨㄢˇ guǎn **v.** to control, to manage, to take care (of)
12. 警察 ㄐㄧㄥㄔㄚˊ jǐngchá **n.** police
13. 微笑 ㄨㄟˊ ㄒㄧㄠˋ wéixiào **v./n.** smile
14. 死 ㄒㄩˇ sǐ **v.** to die, be dead
15. 欺負 ㄑㄩㄝˋ ㄈㄨˋ qīfù **v.** to bully, to take advantage of sb.
16. 阿公 ㄚㄍㄨㄥ āgōng **n.** (Taiwanese) elderly man, granddad
17. 找麻煩 ㄓㄠˇ ㄇㄚˊ ㄈㄢˊ zhǎo máfán **vo.** to pick on sb., to cause sb. trouble
18. 髒 ㄓㄤ zāng **adj.** dirty
19. 人民 ㄖㄣˊ ㄇㄧㄣˊ rénmin **n.** the people, citizens (of a country) e.g. 台灣人民
20. 看不起 ㄎㄢˋ ㄅㄨˋ ㄑǐ kànbùqǐ **vc.** to look down on

[sample]

資源 Resources

[sample]

Acknowledgements

I owe my thanks to Sahana, who helped with editing and proofreading, and provided valuable insights and ideas. It was a long process and this book would not exist without their support. To my sisters and brother, for their belief and support throughout the project.

To you, my readers, for choosing to buy this book. As a self-published author, it means a lot to me. If you enjoy this book, please take a minute to [write a review](#) – it will help others discover it and also encourage me to write more.

About the Author

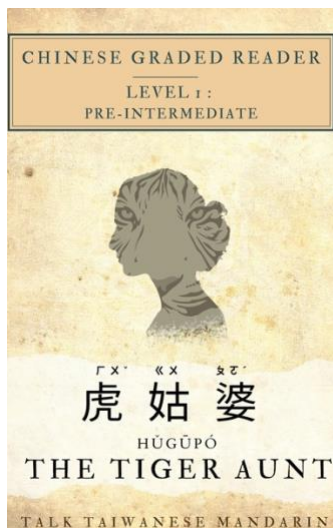
Abby is an educator and writer who also produces the podcast “Talk Taiwanese Mandarin with Abby”. She is passionate about bringing Taiwan to the world while making Chinese learning enjoyable. She likes exploring obscure Taiwanese literature and discovering good music.

About the Editor

Sahana is an American who has been living in Taiwan and learning Mandarin since 2019. They enjoy Taiwanese literature, English-Chinese translation, helping people learn Chinese, and finding English translation mistakes on every menu in Taiwan.

Talk Taiwanese Mandarin Graded Readers

Level 1: 300 Unique Characters



The Tiger Aunt 《虎姑婆》

Level 2: 500 Unique Characters



Lost in Translation 《咖啡店愛情故事》

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