

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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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) : 六岁 , 喜欢听故事 。
A cute 6-year old. Loves bedtime stories.
- 爸爸 (Bàba) : 安安的爸爸 , 很会说故事 。
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、喜欢帮助别人 。
From Taichung. He has great kung fu skills and loves to help others.



- 阿飞 (Āfēi) : 添丁的好朋友 , 两人像 [兄弟](#)^[2]一样 。
Tiān-Dīng's best friend. They are as close as brothers.
- 师父 (Shīfu) : 教添丁功夫的 [师父](#)^[3] 。
A kung fu master. Teaches Tiān-Dīng Kung Fu.
- 阿玉 (Āyù) : [师父](#)的女儿 , 添丁小时候的朋友 。
Shīfu's daughter. Tiān-Dīng's childhood friend.

- 林老板 (Lín lǎobǎn) : 开茶店的老板。

The rich owner of a local tea shop.

台北 (Taipei)

- 王老板 (Wáng lǎobǎn) : 台北有钱的大[地主](#)^[4]。

A rich landlord in Taipei.

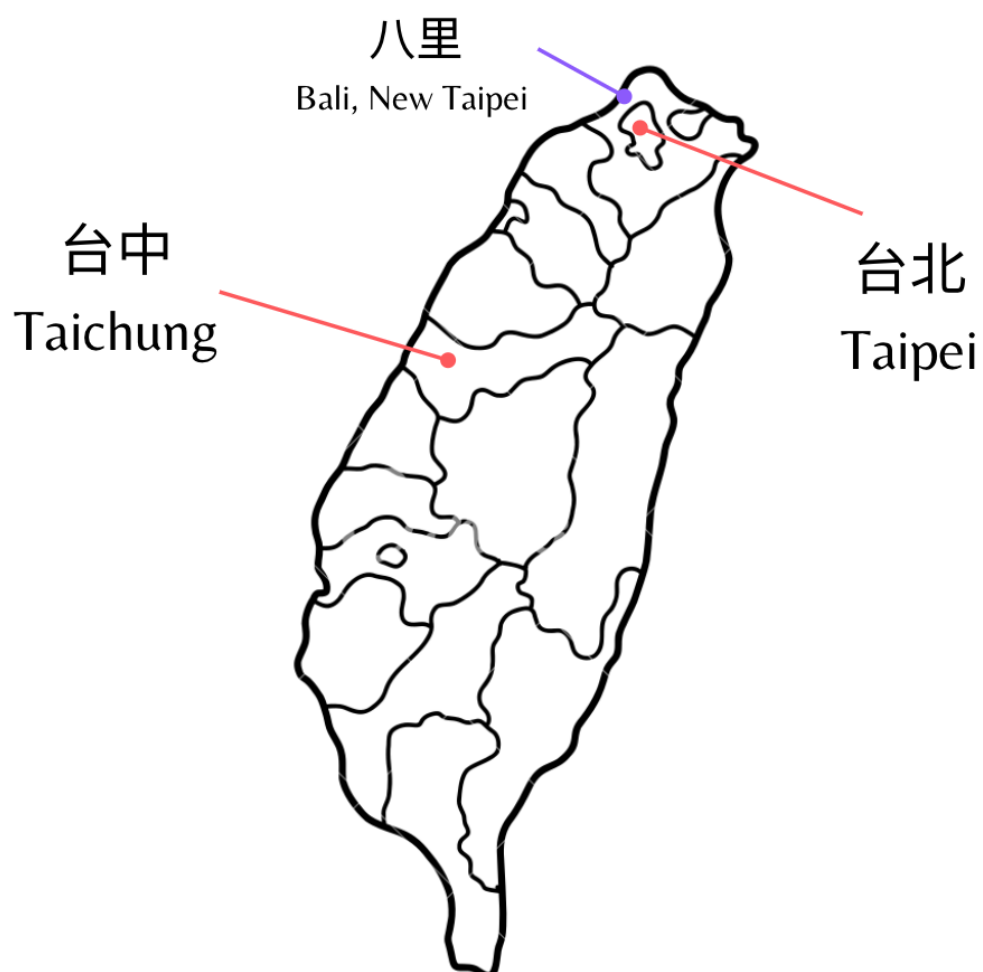
- 杨林 (Yáng lín) : 阿玉的[叔叔](#)^[5]。

Āyù's uncle.

时间 Time :

日治时期 (Rìzhìshíqí) Taiwan under Japanese rule (1895~1945)

地点 Location :



前言 Preface

六岁的安安今年开始去学校上课了，他每天回家后，都会告诉爸爸在学校发生了什么事。

「今天老师跟我们说一个英雄^[6]的故事，他叫 Robin Hood，他好帅喔！」安安一边吃饭，一边兴奋^[7]地和爸爸说。

「你喜欢 Robin Hood 啊？那你知道台湾也有像 Robin Hood 的英雄吗？」爸爸笑着说。

「真的吗？是谁？」安安大声地说。

「他叫做『廖添丁』，他也像 Robin Hood 一样，偷^[8]有钱人的钱来帮助穷^[9]人。」爸爸说。安安听了，很兴奋地说：「我想要听廖添丁的故事，可以说给我听吗？」

「好啊，你先把功课做完、洗完澡以后，我就跟你说。」爸爸说。

「好！」安安开心地说。平常不喜欢做功课的安安，为了听这个英雄故事，吃完饭后，就立刻把功课从书包拿出来、请爸爸陪他一起做功课。把功课做完后，又立刻去洗澡。

「爸爸，我好了！」洗完澡的安安对着外面的爸爸大叫。

「好，来了、来了！」爸爸边说边走了进来，看到安安已经躺^[10]在床上等他，「今天这么快呀？」

「我想听廖添丁的故事！」安安说。

「好，故事是发生在日治时期.....」爸爸说。

「日治时期是什么？」安安问。

「日治时期，就是以前台湾被日本管^[11]的时候。」爸爸回答。

「啊？」安安问：「那廖添丁是日本人吗？」

「不是啦，廖添丁是台湾人。」爸爸笑着说，「那个时候的日本警察^[12]都不喜欢他，还很害怕他喔！」

「为什麼？他不是英雄吗？」安安问。

爸爸看着安安微笑^[13]，然后说：「你听下去就知道了。」

一、台中

1883 年，廖添丁在台中出生了。添丁很小的时候，他的爸爸就死^[14]了。因为家里很穷，还有年纪很小的弟弟、妹妹，添丁从六岁就开始工作了，他帮忙妈妈做事，还做了很多很辛苦的工作。

添丁十三岁的时候，有一天，他和他的好朋友——阿飞，两个人工作完、一起走回家的路上，看到两位日本警察，他们在欺负^[15]一个老人，添丁认识那个老人，添丁都叫他阿公^[16]。

阿公和平常一样在路边卖菜，警察经过，找他麻烦^[17]。警察说阿公很脏^[18]，叫他去洗澡。阿公不会说日语、听不懂他们在说什么，只是很害怕的样子。在日治时期，人民^[19]都很害怕日本警察，因为警察常常来找麻烦，也看不起^[20]台湾人，那时人民看到警察，都叫他们「大人」。

这时，有一位有钱的大老板经过，他的茶店在当地^[21]很有名，大家都叫他林老板。林老板不但没有帮忙，还大声地叫阿公走开：「警察大人说你很脏，快走开！」

I hope you enjoyed this sample! You can purchase the book on

<https://talktaiwanese Mandarin.com/books/>

[sample]

问题 & 讨论 Questions & Discussion

Comprehension

1. 添丁跟阿玉是怎么变成好朋友的？

[sample]

Discussion

6. 你觉得添丁做的事是对的还是错的？为什么？请说说看你的想法。

[sample]

语法 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., 听下去、说下去、学下去

Chapter 1

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

[sample]

生词表 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: 吃饭、睡觉)
 - **vc.** Verb + complement (examples: 睡着、看到)
-

1. 功夫 gōngfu **n.** kung fu
2. 兄弟 xiōngdì **n.** brothers
3. 师父 shīfù **n.** master
4. 地主 dìzhǔ **n.** landlord (owns land) – vs. 房东 (owns property)
5. 叔叔 shúshu **n.** uncle
6. 英雄 yīngxióng **n.** hero
7. 兴奋 xīngfèn **adj.** excited
8. 偷 tōu **v.** to steal
9. 穷 qióng **adj.** poor
10. 躺 tāng **v.** to lie (down)

11. 管 guǎn **v.** to control, to manage, to take care (of)
12. 警察 jǐngchá **n.** police
13. 微笑 wéixiào **v./n.** smile
14. 死 sǐ **v.** to die, be dead
15. 欺负 qīfù **v.** to bully, to take advantage of sb.
16. 阿公 āgōng **n.** (Taiwanese) elderly man, granddad
17. 找麻烦 zhǎo máfan **vo.** to pick on sb., to cause sb. trouble
18. 脏 zāng **adj.** dirty
19. 人民 rénmín **n.** the people, citizens (of a country) e.g. 台湾人民
20. 看不起 kànbùqǐ **vc.** to look down on

[sample]

资源 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

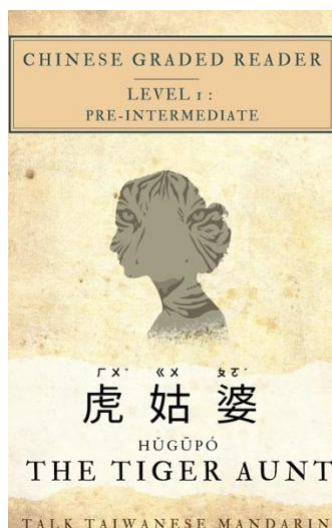
Abby is an educator and writer who also produces the podcast “Talk Taiwanese Mandarin with Abby”. She is passionate about bringing Taiwan to the world while making Chinese learning enjoyable. She likes exploring obscure Taiwanese literature and discovering good music.

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 《咖啡店爱情故事》

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