

Bear Granny

A Hakka story popular in Huiyang. The story is based on Huiyang accent.

Once upon a time, two sisters, Azia and Laumoi went to visit their grandma. They met a bear that disguised as an old woman.

Bear: 'Hey girls, where are you going?'

Sisters: 'We are going to visit our granny.'

Bear: 'Children, I am your granny.'

Sisters: 'No, you are not. My granny has a mole.'

The bear picked up a snail cover on the field path and put it on her face.

Bear: 'Children, I am your granny.'

Sisters: 'No, you are not. My granny wears silk clothes.'

The bear put a banana leaf on her body.

Bear: 'Children, I am your granny now.'

Then, the girls followed the bear home.

At night, they slept with the bear together.

Laumoi slept in the upper bunk while Azia slept in the bottom.

Almost dawn, Azia heard some noise (the bear is eating the younger sister's bones).

Azia: 'Granny, what's that noise?'

The Bear: 'No, child. Granny is chewing peanuts.'

Azia: 'Granny, I want some.'

The Bear: 'No more, just eaten up.'

After a while, she heard a 'tart' sound (the bear carelessly dropped the younger sister's internal organs on the floor)

Azia: 'Granny, what's that noise?'

The Bear: 'No, child, the strap just dropped on the floor.'

Azia: 'Granny, I help you pick it up.'

The Bear: 'Child, no need. Granny has long limbs. I can reach out of the wall.'

Then, Azia knew that the bear has eaten Laumoi.

She felt very scared. She wanted to escape.

She said: 'Granny, I want to pee.'

Bear: 'Pee behind the door.'

Azia: 'There is a door god behind the door.'

Bear: 'Pee at the well.'

Azia: 'There is a well god. I want to pee at the treetop.'

Bear: 'Okay okay.'

Afterwards, Azia shouted at the treetop: 'Granny, come up here. I help you catch your lice.'

The bear wanted to eat Azia, so it climbed up the tree. Azia tied the bear's hair onto the tree branches. Then she jumped down from the treetop. Azia shouted: 'Bear granny, wicked bear, eaten my sister and lied.' The bear wanted to eat her. She jumped after Azia, but her hair was tied to the branches. She struggled and all her hair was torn off. It was very painful.

Azia escaped. She met a farmer carrying a hoe. She told him: 'there is a granny bear who has eaten my sister.'

Farmer: 'where is she now?'

Azia: 'Behind me.'

Farmer: 'Go hide in the bush.'

After saying this, the farmer waited for the bear to come. The bear asked the farmer: 'my friend, what can stop my head from bleeding?'

Farmer: 'Lime water is useful.'

After hearing this, the bear went immediately to find some lime water and rubbed on her head, and was in extreme pain. After that, she asked the farmer: 'weird, why is it still painful?' The farmer said: 'it works only when you dip your head completely into the pool.' The bear went to the lime pool, dipped her head into the pool and raised her buttocks in the air. The farmer hit her with his hoe. The bear was hit almost to death.

The bear said: 'I do harm to humans in my life and will do so after death. When I go to the sky, I will become mosquitoes, and when I go into the water, I will turn into leeches so I can suck human blood.' Then she died, and she turned into mosquitoes and leeches.