

The Deadly Fangs

Hong Ying Ngai

Genre	Plot
<i>Horror</i>	<i>Fifty years ago, something terrible and mysterious happened in a small mountain village in Guangdong. Villagers, one by one, were killed when they went into the forest. Kam Fook, who is now 70 years old, still shivers when he recalls those incidents. He was the only one who witnessed what had happened and he would never forget those terrifying fangs! (Write this story.)</i>

No animate vitality or any sound subsisted here. It was the graveyard of everything. Fear, depression and the vocation of *Yama, the Lord of Hell*, were the only existing things.

It was the night before the Lunar July 15. All villagers were preparing stuff for the following day – the day when the *Gate of the hell* will be opened, and the day when the *hungry ghosts* will be released from the hell.

Staring at the spirit money on her hand, *Niang* looked very sad. Obviously, she hadn't recovered from *Fu-qin's* death yet.

"It was an accident." It was what she told *Kin-wing* and me two days before the night. "He was attacked by bats while lumbering in The Forest!"

Kin-wing, my elder brother, collapsed when knowing father's death.

“How comes? Fu-qin was so strong! He was not afraid of anything, not even *Yama*!” he muttered while folding up the “spirit money”. “It’s the fault of The Forest! Why did he take away dear *Fu-qin* from us! And why does *he* keep the evil bats!”

“*Xiong-di*,” I said, “We all know that *Fu-qin* must be cold and hungry right now. The only way to show our respect is to burn him more spirit money, so that he could buy food from *Yama*.”

“*Kam-fook* is right. No one is happy about your *Fu-qin*’s death. But everyone have to die at last,” *Niang* tried to comfort my poor brother.

Suddenly, the *bell* rang.

“Opps! *Mr. Li* has something to announce! Let’s go to the Square and see what’s going on!” I cried.

Everyone was there at the Square in front of *Li*’s flat.

“Mr. Village Head, why do you call us here with your emergency ring? Are the *Kuomingtang soldiers* arriving Guangdong so soon?” asked an old man, with a worried face on him.

Threatened by the old man’s words, some timid villagers screamed loudly.

“Silent! There’re no KMT soldiers here. You’re here because my wife and I couldn’t find our daughter – *Mei-ling*. It’s not good for her to hang out during the *Hungry Ghost Festival*.”

“I saw her yesterday morning!” a chubby man called *Fung* shouted firmly.

“Is she alone?”

“Umm... I think so. She was alone when she greeted me.”

“Did she mention where she was going?” Mrs. Li asked eagerly.

“No, she didn’t. Oh, she had her painting album with her. Maybe she went to the Forest for painting!”

“What a naughty girl!” Mrs. Li bellowed furiously. “She shouldn’t left home these days!”

It is no doubt why Mrs. Li was so mad about Mei-ling's disappearance. There is an old fairy tale – *Yama, the Lord of Hell*, turns those who died unjustly into “hungry ghosts”. On every Lunar July-15, the *Lord of Hell* releases them. Mrs Li was worried perhaps because the ghosts were unpropitious.

“Mr. Li, why don't we all go to the Forest and look for your daughter now? Many hands make light work, isn't it?” questioned *Kin-wing*. “We've to find her before midnight!”

Fung answered, “Kin-wing's right! Mr. Li treats us so well. It's time for us to show our gratefulness. Chi-hong, don't you remember how Mr. Li saved your son from the river? And you, Fai, you must never forget Mr. Li shared his only food with you during the staving period!” He paused for a moment, and then continued, “I'm with you, Kin-wing! Who else?”

All villagers were touched by the man's speech. We finally decided to go together.

Knowing that all villagers were willing to help, the couple overjoyed.

Mr. Li announced with a shaking voice, “T-t-thanks! You are so kind! I can say nothing but thank you!”

He led the villagers into the Forest. All of us knew how dangerous the Forest was. There were hundreds of aggressive beasts watching us in the dark. Worse still, no one could tell if there were any hungry ghosts hiding somewhere inside the Forest. Nonetheless, at that very moment, we villagers were united. We knew that Mei-ling was waiting for our rescue.

All of a sudden, there was a loud noise of animals flapping their wings coming out from somewhere in front of us, but it was too dark to recognise it.

“Stay here. I'm going to see what's going on right there. I'll return

within 10 minutes,” Mr. Li announced.

“Dear, be careful!” his wife said with a concerning tone.

Holding his hunting gun on his hand tightly, Mr. Li walked away slowly.

Time passed slowly likes snails climbing. Everyone was threatened the horrifying tension.

“Help!”

It was Li! Why did his clothes broken into pieces? And where is his gun?

“E...escapes! He...he murdered Mei-ling,” Li couldn't continue his speech as he fell down on the ground weakly.

“Dear! What happened? Is our daughter fine?” Mrs. Li shook her husband's body as if she was mad. “Yuck! What is this black liquid? Blood?”

Mrs. Li's hands turned as black as ink gradually. At last, her body turned black completely. The blackened blood was poisonous! Just at the moment when the couple died, hundreds of nasty bats arrived, with their mouths wide-opened. Everyone was panic-stricken. We tried every ways to stop the bats from biting us. However, I still kept seeing someone fell down and lost their conscious.

Finally, it was my turn. A hungry bat targeted at me.

“Is it going to kill with its fangs?” I asked myself.

Suddenly, something extraordinarily cold dashed towards me. The bat seemed afraid of it and fled away.

It was a man, a man with a familiar face. He was holding Mei-ling's painting album on his hands!

“*Fu-qin!* It's you! How comes?” I couldn't believe with me eyes.

“Son, do you know why I am back?”

“Please tell me, my dear *Fu-qin.*”

“*Yama*, the Lord of Hell, gave me his power and turned me into a

vampire. I'm here to revenge! Son, what did your *Niang* tell you? Did she mention who killed me?"

"What? Do you mean that you were murdered by somebody, but not by the bats?"

"You fool! No bat was here originally. They were brought from the hell!" Clearing his throat, he continued, "Ask your dearest *Niang* what did she done on me!"

Kin-wing and I turned to Mum, "Niang, tell us. What was that about?"

Niang was reluctant to say. At last, she spoke some words which I can hardly forget. "Mr. Li and I murdered your *Fu-qin*. I didn't love this man from the very beginning. Mr. Li has always been the only man who can give me true-love!"

After hearing this heart-breaking speech, *Fu-qin* didn't show any expressions on his pale face. Instead, he was unexpectedly calm.

"You are all going to hell tonight," he sentenced as if he was the judge.

"Please forgive the two innocent kids. I... I should be the only one to bear," begged *Niang*.

"Ha-ha," *Fu-qin* laughed strangely. "All of you!" bawled *Fu-qin*.

"No! *Fu-qin*! Stop it!" I cried painfully when seeing black blood leaked out from dead bodies of *Niang* and *Kin-wing*. *Fu-qin* killed them with his deadly own fangs!

"At last, it is your turn!" *Fu-qin* pointed at me.

All of a sudden, a flash as shiny as diamond came out from the darkest part of the Forest! The flash passed through *Fu-qin*'s body, turned everything into ash. The bats and *Fu-qin* were gone!

What was that? I keep asking myself, even until now. Was the flash come from the Heaven? Perhaps.

(End)