

## (022) The Eagle and the Fox

(From an Aesop fable)

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In some <sup>伊索</sup>Aesop stories, different animal species make friends. In real life, they would be <sup>敵人</sup>enemies. For example, an eagle and a fox decided to live near each other. In reality, that never happens. Why would they want to? Let us <sup>繼續下去</sup>carry on though. Aesop's stories are not really about animals. The animals stand for <sup>象徵</sup>humans.

The Eagle built her nest in a tall tree. The fox <sup>悄悄地進去</sup>crept into the undergrowth. There she gave birth to <sup>幼獸</sup>cubs.

The eagle had problems though. She was short of food for her chicks. When the fox was away, she seized one of her cubs. She fed it to her chicks. The fox was <sup>狂怒的</sup>furious. It looked for a chance for <sup>報復</sup>revenge.

The eagle stole a piece of burned goat flesh. It came off a human's altar. By accident, she carried a hot cinder to her nest. The cinder grew into a flame. The nest caught fire. The baby eagles were <sup>烤</sup>roasted to death. They dropped down dead at the bottom of the tree.

The fox <sup>狼吞虎嚥</sup>gobbled up the cooked chicks. The eagle watched helplessly.

This is a <sup>可怕的</sup>gruesome story. The animals in it represent people. This is what happens when we treat people badly. They treat us back in the same way. You push somebody's bag aside and put down your own. They come back and kick yours on the floor.

Imagine you are the eagle. Would you like the fox to take something <sup>寶貴的</sup>precious from you? Of course, you would not. So, do not take from the fox in the first place. Treat other people as you like to be treated.