

Scene 1

Narrator: Once upon a time, there was a village in China where people lived very happily and peacefully. The people were mostly farmers, and they grew crops like rice and vegetables for a living. However, every year in summer, they had to face a big threat: **Floods.**

Farmer A: Sigh..... (looks upset) The flood water has destroyed all my rice and vegetables.

Farmer B: Sigh... (looks even more upset) The flood water last month NOT ONLY destroyed my rice and vegetables, BUT ALSO killed my chickens and pigs.

Farmer C: You had better stop complaining, since I know there is someone who is even unluckier than you two.

Farmer A & B: Really? Who is the unlucky guy?

Farmer C: That's me! I've lost my rice, vegetables, chickens, pigs, and ALL MY FAMILY MEMBERS DIED in the disaster. (then starts crying)

Farmer A & B: Bad luck. What a poor guy!

Scene 2

Narrator: Some evil-minded villains heard about the floods, and they decided to cheat the villagers out of their money.

Bad Guy Leader: (laughs loudly)... I can think of a plot to take away these villagers' money.

Bad Guys 2,3: What is the plot like?

Bad Guy Leader: We can tell them that the "river god" was not happy with the villagers, so he used floods to punish the villagers by killing their crops and animals. The river god also told me that if villagers don't want to have floods again, they will have to choose a girl to be the river god's wife, and then throw this girl into the river...

Bad Guy 2: I know, I know. That way, the river god will be happy and won't punish the villagers with floods.

Bad Guy 3: But how are we going to make BIG money out of it?

Bad Guy Leader: Use your brain! Think!

Bad Guys 2 & 3: Hm..... (after a long time) Sorry, we don't have any brain.

Bad Guy Leader: You fools! If the girls don't want to be chosen as the wife of the river god, their parents have to give us lots of money!

Bad Guys 2 & 3: Oh, I see.

Scene 3

Rich Girl 1: Please don't let me die! Don't throw me into the river!

Rich girl's parents: Please don't choose our daughter as the river god's wife.

Bad Guy 2: Do you know what you should do...?

Rich girl's parents: Money! We'll give you some money.

Bad Guy Leader: Ha.. Ha..

Rich Girl 2: Please don't let me die! Don't throw me into the river!

Rich girl's parents: Please don't choose our daughter as the river god's wife.

Bad Guy 3: Do you know what you should do...?

Rich girl's parents: Money! We'll give you some money.

Bad Guy Leader: Ha.. Ha..

Scene 4

Narrator: On the day of choosing a girl to be the wife of the river god, a crowd of people gathered near the river, waiting anxiously to see which girl would be chosen as the river god's wife.

Bad Guy Leader: Today we're here to choose a girl to be the wife of the river god.
Let's begin now.

Bad guy 2 : (walks near rich girl 1) Hm.... No, she is too tall.

Bad guy 3: (walks near rich girl 2) Hm... No, she is too short.

Bad guys 2 &3 : (walk near a poor girl) Ah! This is the right girl. The river god will definitely like her to be his wife.

(bad guys 2 &3 carry the poor girl and try to throw her into the river)

Poor girl: Help! Help! I don't want to die!

Narrator: At this moment, a mysterious man suddenly appeared.

Mysterious man: Hold it!! Don't throw her into the river! (rushes onto the stage)

All bad guys : Who are you?

Narrator: This mysterious man was actually a responsible government official, and he cared very much about other people's lives. After he had heard about people throwing girls into the river, he decided to go to this village to save those poor girls.

Gov't official: Let go of this girl! (soldiers save the girl from bad guys)
When I was in secondary school, my geography teacher taught me the causes of floods. We do NOT have floods every summer because the river god wants a girl to be his wife.
Listen to how my teacher explains the reasons for flooding:

(Powerpoint explanation by Ms Cheng Wing Laam)

Flooding is caused by a number of factors. The first factor is heavy rainfall, especially in the summer. The second factor is deforestation. Human beings keep cutting down trees, so more rainwater will flow into the river. Another factor is overgrazing. If farmers graze too much livestock on grassland, there will be no roots to hold the soil. This easily leads to soil erosion and floods.

Gov't official: (to the crowd) Now you should understand why floods occur.

Crowd : Swindlers! Swindlers! Throw them into the river!

Gov't official : OK, let's throw them into the river. (soldiers grab the bad guys)

Bad Guys : Help! Help! (thrown into the river and die)

Crowd: (Clap hands)

Narrator: After this event, this kindhearted government official carried out some measures to prevent flooding, such as building dams and reservoirs, straightening the river channel , building terraces and planting more trees. Floods had never happened again in this village ever since, and the villagers lived happily ever after.

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