READING ACTIVITY

NARRATIVE TEXT

NAME: SECTION:

DATE: SCORE:

The Chinese Fairytale:

The Legend of the White Snake (白蛇传)





Once upon a time, a white snake and a green snake who had magical power in the Mountain Er-Mei and had transformed into two beautiful young ladies, one white, one green. They met a man named Xu Xian at the West Lake of Hang-Zhou city. The white snake fell in love with Xu Xian at first sight. They got married soon after that.



The Lady White helped her husband to open an medicine store by writing the prescriptions. Patients unable to pay were given free treatment and medicine. The store quickly became well known and popular. One day a monk called Fa Hai saw the couples and warned Xu Xian that his wife was a white snake.



It was during the Dragon Boat Festival, when Chinese families like to decorate with calamus and Chinese mugwort around the house and drink wine to drive away spirits. This was dangerous to Lady White and Lady Green, sincethey were spirits after all. Lady White was pregnant at that time and her magical power had weakened a lot. She tried to drink wine to please her husband.



Unfortunately, she could not control herself and turned into her snake body in her bedroom. Xu Xian saw the white snake and was literally scared to death. In order to save her husband's life, Lady White went to steal the resurrection grass on the Kunlun Mountain. She failed. But her true love won the resurrection grass and the life of Xu Xian was restored.



Xu Xian remembered Fa Hai and went to the Golden Mountain Temple to see him. Fa Hai suggested Xu Xian become a monk to forget his wife. Fa Hai could take care of the spirits. Lady White asked a great army of underwater creatures for help and brought forth a flood over the Golden Mountain Temple to fight with Fa Hai. Fa Hai had the magical power too and asked the heavenly soldiers to save his temple.

Since the Lady White was pregnant, she was too weak to fight harder. She gave up the battle and waited for the time after giving birth. Xu Xian went to see his son and carried a magical hat from Fa Hai for his son. The magical hat captured the White Snake. Fa Hai imprisoned the White Snake inside the Thunder Pagoda.

The Green Snake was unable to fight Fa Hai alone. She escaped and practiced her magical power even harder. When the son of Lady White ---Xu Shilin grew up, she told him about the story of his mother. Xu Shilin took revenge by destroying the Thunder Pagoda and rescued White Snake. White Snake reunited with her husband andher son.



Source: http://myths.e2bn.org/mythsandlegends/userstory1652-legend-of-white-snake.html

WORKSHEET

Please answer the questions below

1. What is the theme of the story?

2. What is the purpose of the story?

3. What does the story about?

4. Please, mention the characters and the characteristics of the story!

5. What is the conflict of the story?

6. What is the moral value of the story?

Submit your work to your teacher's e-mail:
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