



**The Two Sister Crones**  
An Arab folktale by Verena Tay

How does an old ugly crone trick a handsome young prince into marrying her? Does all end well? Listen and be amazed...

Source: Bushnaq, Inea. (Translator & Ed.) (1986). 'One-Tooth, Two-Teeth'. *Arab Folktales*. ISBN: 0-394-50104. New York: Pantheon Books, pp. 169-171.

About Tay Siew Hui Verena: A writer, voice teacher and veteran theatre practitioner, Verena Tay brings stories vocally and physically alive in her unique fashion. Together with Kamini Ramachandran with whom she founded MoonShadow Stories in November 2004, Verena has been telling stories at The Substation and other community venues, much to the delight and enjoyment of adults and children. For more information, please visit <http://verenatay.com>.

**About MoonShadow Stories**

**MoonShadow Stories** celebrate the art of oral storytelling, especially for adults. We invite you to sit back, listen to the beauty of the spoken word, and collectively experience a few moments of quiet contemplation...

**MoonShadow Stories** are also available for storytelling for adults in the workplace, storytelling for children, private events, and more. For enquiries, please contact Kamini Ramachandran (Tel: 92732383. Email: [kamini@moonshadowstories.org](mailto:kamini@moonshadowstories.org)).

For more information, please visit <http://www.moonshadowstories.org>.

**About Storytelling Association (Singapore)**

**Our Mission**

To promote the practice and appreciation of oral storytelling in Singapore

**Our Objectives**

- To foster an appreciation of storytelling at home, in schools, in the community and at work
- To encourage and enable more people to tell stories by providing training and storytelling opportunities
- To support professional storytellers by establishing guidelines of standard practice and providing a contact point for those seeking to hire a teller for their event
- To disseminate information on storytelling activities in Singapore
- To encourage storytelling in English, Mandarin, Malay, Tamil and sign language
- To work with existing organisations to promote oral storytelling activities
- To foster links with international tellers and associations.

To find out more and/or join us, please visit <http://www.storytellingsingapore.com>

**Fascinated with the dance of life?  
Curious about how relationships work?  
Intrigued by the balance of forces that  
turns friend into foe and vice versa?**

**If yes, enter our realm of story and let us  
entertain and enlighten you with different  
tales of loyalty and treachery guaranteed to  
tantalise and set you thinking...**

# Double Deals

## Tales of Friendship & Betrayal

~ Storytelling for Adults ~

**Featured Tellers:** Kamini Ramachandran & Verena Tay  
**Special Guests:** Karen Lee, Nancy Leppard,  
Ng Seng Chuan, Dee Palanisamy,  
Helen Tan & Thong Geok Lee

Fri 2 & Sat 3 Jul 2010  
8 pm

Classroom 2 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), The Substation,  
45 Armenian Street

**Ticket: \$12**

**Presented by**



**Advisory:** Some mature content (16 years and above)

# 1

## **Never Betray the One Who Trusts You**

An Arab folktale retold by Kamini Ramachandran

Armed with three phrases given to him by a sage, a young man sets off to seek his future. So what does he encounter in the household of a soap merchant and his wife?

Source: Nuweihed, Jamal Sleem. (2002). 'Never Betray the One Who Trusts You'. *Abu Jmeel's Daughter and Other Stories: Arab Folk Tales from Palestine and Lebanon*. ISBN: 1-56656-418-2. New York: Interlink Books, pp. 272-279.

About Kamini Ramachandran: Storytelling has always been vital for Kamini, from her earliest memories of her grandparents telling her stories to her efforts in continuing this storytelling tradition with her two young sons. Kamini joined forces with Verena Tay to found MoonShadow Stories to promote the lost art of the oral narrative. They strongly believe that children will benefit if the beauty and wonder of storytelling is first re-introduced to adults. Hence, they were the first contemporary storytellers in Singapore to focus on storytelling for adults. Kamini is the current President of the Storytelling Association (Singapore) as well as a founder member.

# 2

## **Damnatio Memoriae: The Untold Story of Judas Iscariot**

A Biblical tale retold by Ng Seng Chuan

*Damnatio Memoriae* is an ancient custom of expunging a citizen from city records due to a presumed misdeed. Why has Judas Iscariot always been damned for betraying Jesus? Listen to Judas' perspective and judge for yourself whether this treatment has been just or not...

Sources: a) The Gospels of the Holy Bible.  
b) Rice, Tim & Lloyd Webber, Andrew. (1971). The song, 'Heaven on Their Minds', from the musical, *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

About Ng Seng Chuan: Ng Seng Chuan works as a professional trainer cum storyteller. He holds degrees in religious studies, and sees as his mission the unravelling of unexplored mysteries behind religious stories. He has pondered on the mystery of Judas for decades, since reading about the Sawi people of PNG who glorified treachery.

# 3

## **Himsuka**

Retold by Helen Tan

A wise king asks his three sons what they would do if a best friend betrays his trust. Unlike his two older brothers, the third son thinks that one should be absolutely certain about the man's guilt before putting him to death. To illustrate his point, he tells a story...

Source: Spagnoli, Cathy. (1998). 'Himsuka', *Asian Tales and Tellers*. ISBN: 0-87483-527-5. Little Rock, Arkansas: August House Inc., pp. 51-54.

About Tan Helen nee Hu Toh Keng: Helen, a retiree, spent 42 years in the Education Service. She is now a school counsellor. She has a love for music, drama and dance. She is Secretary of the Storytelling Association (Singapore). Helen has a repertoire suitable for both adults and children. She has performed at schools, The Substation, The Arts House, Peranakan Museum and even on the MRT train. She also conducts storytelling workshops in schools.

*We would like to thank **The Substation** for its support of this event*

# 4

## **The Eagle's Eggs**

An African tale retold by Nancy Leppard

An eagle heals the sore on Sarah's leg and in return Sarah promises to take care of the eagle's eggs. Will she keep her promise or not?

Source: Outcalt, Todd. (2002). 'The Eagles' Eggs', *Candles in the Dark: A Treasury of the World's Most Inspiring Parables*. ISBN: 0-471-43594-5. Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., pp. 86-88.

About Nancy Leppard: Nancy tutors primary school children at her tuition centre in Bedok Reservoir. She uses stories to enhance her lessons. She enjoys travelling and often collects stories from the places she visits.

----- **B R E A K** -----

# 5

## **The Twin Princes**

Retold by Karen Lee

To choose his successor, King Chanticleer sets his two sons on a race. Who will win? By what means?

Sources: a) Shannon, George. (1994). 'Two Horses', *Still More Stories to Solve: Fourteen Folktales From Around the World*. ISBN: 0-688-04619-3. New York: Beech Tree Books, pp. 13-16.  
b) Arnold, Tedd. (2007). *The Twin Princes*. ISBN: 978-0-8037-2696-3. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers.

About Lee Lai Mei, Karei: Karen has been an educator for many years. Stories have always been a vital part of her work. She enjoys listening to stories and telling them, especially to children.

# 6

## **Knowing**

An original story told by Dee Palanisamy, based on a true incident

We think we know our friends and can trust them with our hearts and lives. But true knowledge can be torturous when you find out that all is deceit and lies just stab you in the back...

About Durgah Devi d/o Palanisamy: After completing her degree in the University of Queensland, Australia, Dee began her professional journey at the Julia Gabriel Centre for Learning. Currently, she is the senior teacher for Speech and Drama in Chiltern House. In January 2010, she continued her learning journey with the National Institute of Education, Singapore, and is pursuing a Masters of Education in Drama.

# 7

## **Golden Lotus**

A Chinese tale retold by Thong Geok Lee

The beautiful Pan Jinlian (or Golden Lotus) is accused by Wu Song, her unrequited love, of plotting and murdering her uncomely husband. Is justice ultimately served?

Source: Shi Nai'an & Luo Guanzhong. (1999). *Shui Hu Zhuan (Outlaws of the Marsh)*. Translated by Sidney Shapiro. ISBN: 7119024094. Beijing: Wai Wen Chu Ban She/Changsha: Hu Nan Ren Min Chu Ban She.

About Thong Geok Lee: Geok Lee discovered the ancient art of oral storytelling in June 2008. She has since been on an interesting storytelling adventure and enjoys giving new twists to old tales.