



# PEBBLES FROM A BROKEN JAR

Fables and Hero Stories from Old China

by FRANCES ALEXANDER

illustrated with scissor-cuts

PEBBLES FROM A BROKEN JAR  
Fables and Hero Stories  
from Old China

Retold by Frances Alexander

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*Presented for the  
pleasure of old and young and  
dedicated to my sister,  
Mary C. Alexander,  
who spent thirty-six years  
in China as missionary, teacher  
and publisher.*

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## Wu Meng, the Thoughtful

FOURTH CENTURY A.D.

Wu Meng loved his parents and it worried him that the mosquitoes bit them until they could hardly sleep at night.

The loving son decided to do something to save his parents from this trouble. He moved the rain barrel over a little further and made room for his own bedboard out on the porch. He went to bed early so that the mosquitoes could feast on him rather than on his mother and father.