CLASSIC KOREAN TALES With Commentaries

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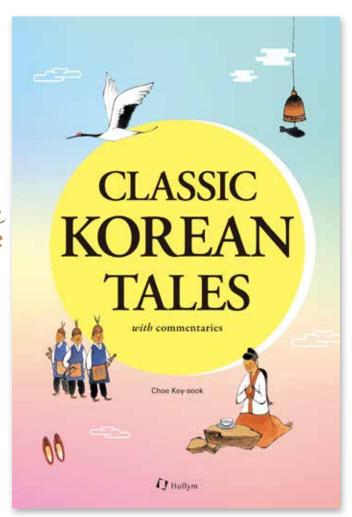
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A Way of Communicating with Time: The World of Classical Imagination

A book can provide you with a sense of direction. It can contain your dreams and hopes, and provide you with a sense of yourself. However, someone else has written the books that you have selected. How is it possible that reading a book becomes an opportunity to meet yourself and becomes a way to gain insight into how to live your life? The book you are reading is not one you have written, but you are the one who reads and understands the story, becomes moved, gains wisdom, or falls into deep contemplation. If you become curious about the behaviour of main characters and share their sorrows and pleasures while reading a book, you walk on the same path as the writer and swim in the same sea of feelings. The sense of empathy you develop while reading is similar to the feeling you get while listening to music you like; you nod or shake your shoulders and move your feet to the rhythm and feel that you have become one with the player.

The story world that you newly encounter through reading sometimes plays an important role in your life. When you feel that the main character is similar to you or is someone you are afraid of or dislike, it means that you are finding yourself in the book; furthermore, you are coming to understand humans as they are. In this respect, reading is not only a pleasant journey in which you discover yourself, but it can also be a chapter in which you learn about things in life that are difficult, but that you need to know. While trying to assimilate a story world or understand it, you decide your attitude toward life and what kind of person you want to be. In that sense, reading is not only a discovery of self, but also a precious experience that forms your future.

The olden days captured in the classics have disappeared in the flow of time, but in these stories, the dreams and hopes, worries and sadness, pleasure and joy of people from that time remain. A lonely boy becomes a hero who establishes a nation; a daughter who is abandoned becomes a goddess who manages death; a wife and husband, both ordinary people, become a queen and king in a foreign country or the gods of a country. These stories show you that if people take advantage of their merits and use their strength in support of others, they can accomplish wonderful things and gain happiness: even if they possessed nothing special. The reason that the classics survive

things and gain happiness: even if they possessed nothing special. The reason that the classics survive for so long and still move the people who read them is that the thoughts and feelings in these stories are universal and precious.

What brings classics alive is the readers' empathy. The world of classics —both interesting and mysterious— also contains the dreams and hopes of contemporary people. Even though the past has disappeared, you are encountering the dreams and aspirations of

people from ancient times as you read and fall into the world of these stories. Reading the classics is similar to the experience of

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communicating across time. If the world that came from people's imagination in the old days is not different from your world of imagination, you will discover that some aspects of people and life are constant over time. If you find that people these days behave differently than people in the old days, you will come to realize that some aspects of humanity change over the flow of time and you will experience that change. You will discover the elements that should not change over time and also what should not be missed in the flow of historical change. If this book can show you how to time travel and the way the world flows becomes clearer and appears more virtuous to you, I believe this will bring great intellectual reward.

(paraphrased from the author's Preface)



The Myth of Princess Bari

see the stree when we could talk to the use, the assess, and the stars

t the sky, and when we could also go to the land of the dead.

At that time, there itself to the land a King Ogia. He was not eried, and for waitful to become a botter rules by facility a queen who would be the methot of the sension King Oga called one of the sourt minds and arked her to one a sharent worshipping a god. to make to obtain his firture and achribate an

oder and victed Chronia Palace to meet the shamon who reconspying the god. The shamon trend grains of white tops on a table and remained silver with a curt serious

the there said, "The king in

not yours and fire your and the prospect query is soldered. If you hold the welching the year, you will have a process. But if you musty next year, you will have three process. Please left the king what I have and exactly as I have paid it."

The services argument to the king what she had besid from the spend his wouth to speak, "Even if her fortune telling is built ing, how could she product everything correctly? One slay a rush. Please call all the officials and court ladies and propure to

Clobed Chilorek, the 7% day of July in the laser calcode; the day and you when Common and Simon meet and then share that less Than, the officials decided spine Chilenel Chilenel, the day for nating couples in love, or the weakling due, and they started to propule the the welding. Court minds and billies sport extremely bury days decreating the queric palace and finishing all the propositions for

Finds, Chled Chlicel, He enbling day arrivel, King Opp. Yearle on his board and a graceful arrows, greeful his bride, who was watching the wolding common from the lower gooks, went that

KEY FEATURES

- To describe this book as a collection of classic folk tales would be to grossly misrepresent and undervalue it. It is a literary work by an academic which sets out to define the genres, exemplify each, contextualise, characterise, explain.. and demonstrate the shared values and relevance to contemporary
- The genres within 'Classic Tales' are defined by the author as Narratives About Origin and the World of Myths, Stories of Love and Marriage, Beautiful Person: Beautiful Mind, The World of Fantasy.
- Each genre is exemplified by 2 or 3 complete tales, illustrated by beautiful watercolours by Lee, Hyun-a. Each story is followed by illustrated Commentaries, in which the author interprets the substance and motifs of the story and its parallels today.



An Associate Professor in the Institute of Korean Studies at Yonsei University, Dr. Key-sook Choe's main research fields include Korean classical nar-

rative, Korean printed media during the early modern period, gender studies, and affective studies. She received her Ph.D. from Yonsei University, where she specialised in Korean classical literature. Her books include Cheonyeo-gwisin (Female Ghosts), 2013; Joseon sidae Eorini Inmunhak (Humanities for Children in the Joseon Period), 2013; and Hwansang (The Fantastic in Literature), 2003. Collaborations include Jipdan Gamseong-ui Gyeobo (A History of Collective Affects), 2017; Bonjour Pansori! (in French), 2017; Gamseong Sahoe (Affective Society), 2014; and Gamjeong-eui Inmunhak (Humanities of Emotions), 2013.

The Myth of King Dongmyeong

Bases Three Bases: One sky, Ayarded had a stronge disease, be bit dresse, Cod approximate him and said, "One of any determinant will contarte the lated of Reyro, and had a country. Therefore, you more

ment of its from the result and greater of Antonia Sensit and Antonia Sensit and the Sensit and the Sensit and the Sensit and Sensit

peaking with firstle wid his factoring copy and a physical alternative studie for from Attential went to Harburg the king of Talk Bairon. and manual Coursewor area the East Cours, It will be worthwhile to

men miscority bould the gods of the meantains and pictre for one One day while traveling by horseback, Haidhata enached a pond collect Company. As this home graved upon a keeps rock time the proof, the home started to shad main. Hasham, thought that this was starge and asked his servent to not the rock over. There a small child merching a golden long appeared. The king soid, "This shift is the

The king took the shill and needed how to rearing "griden firsg" Historia made for cross prime. West for king sted. Grazies socieded to the arren and became the king, After Harbara neural the paperal of Ball-Repris and changed the name of the positive to Dong Report Cost asked by come pince, Harrence, to go and stay in

sease. Colorful circula fluench arroad thete and

this is a book which offers A RARE INSIGHT into the **KOREAN PSYCHE**



Love of a Lady Tiger that is more Humanistic than that of Humans

Contemplation on the Boundary between Humans and Non-Humans

As science and technology develop, the boundary between humans and machines is obscured. Consider a Go match between the South Korean professional Go player Lee Se did, and artificial intelligence machine, AlphaGo, held in Korea in 2016. Go (bulsé in Konist) is representative of a game that requires the most creative human strategies. AlphaGo won all but one in a five-game match, demonstrating how machines are gradually replacing humans, excelling, and even overwhelming them. In medicine, machines are already becoming parts of the human body, the development of technology and engineering allows machinery, such as prosthetic ns, artificial brarts, artificial kidneys, etc., inside human bodies. In the duity lives of humans, all things are becoming connected with the





humans and machines are not forming a symbiotic relationship.

The relationship between a human and a machine comprise various networks of opposition, assistance, and collaboration. As the machines intervene in human life and permorte the human body and time, humans encounter situations in which they must redefine their identity. As machines become humanized, the boundary between human vs. son-human is blurred. The science fiction classic Blade Runner (1982) directed by Ridley Scott has already proposed exploring this sort of question. Filmographic imagination introspecting the question of "What is a human!" through cyborgs more humanistic than humans has continued in movies such as Ghost to the Shell," Gattaca," and The Matrix" all the while generating follow-up questions.

As the boundary between humans and machines becomes

- 2 Directed by Andrew Science 2007





