

Lao Focus Group, story 4

Moderator: And so they were able to take a nap.

R: They were too tired.

[Crosstalk]

...

Moderator: So what was outside?

R: A gold. I guess while they were sleeping . . .

[Crosstalk]

Moderator: The rice field.

R: Miracles.

Moderator: Miracle of the golden wheat or the rice crop.

...

Moderator: So the Buddha blessed them with a rich crop and so it's golden and . . .

...

Moderator: I've never seen this before, this must be a miracle.

...

R: But when they check out to see the gold, the whole field is full of gold and so they said, oh, it cannot be mined, it is too much gold. So went to announce to the government, saying, "Oh, this does not belong to me. You have to take it away, because it is not mine."

Moderator: So they came and took the gold and piled it up. So there's 12 stories of gold.

R: Twelve foot. Foot.

[Crosstalk]

Moderator: To 12 feet full of gold.

...

Moderator: Oh, twelve by eight.

...

Moderator: So when they came to collect it, the gold turned to rocks, because it wasn't meant for them and the people who came to collect it. It was meant for the farmer and his wife. And so if they touched it, it was gold, but if someone else touched it, it turned to rock.

...

So the person who came to touch it said, "I don't think it's ours, because when we touched it, it turned to stone. You touch it, see if it turns back to gold."

...

So they—when they touched it, the couple, it turned back to gold again.

R: Could they spend it?

[Crosstalk]

Moderator: So now what do we do? No one else can touch this. So that means that we're the only sole owner, because when we touch it, it's gold, when anyone else touches it, it's stone.

...

R: Farmer, farmer.

...

R: So she forgot the name of it. She said, I don't know if it was the city farmer or the rice farmer.

R: The farmer, farmer.

[Crosstalk]

Moderator: The gold farmer. You can call that story the gold farmer.

R: Yeah.

R: The gold farmer.

...

Moderator: Can somebody translate?

Translator: Sure. The moral—I guess she's saying the moral is that the truth from the heart and the truth of being fair as far as whatever aspect of life, whether it be sales, whether it be creating—just thinking about wealth, saving and all that, especially business partners, especially husband and wife, friends, you know, be truthful. Be fair. Be honest.

R: And they were truthful people.

Translator: Yes, yes.

Moderator: So that means you have to be faithful to your partners.

R: Yes.

Moderator: And true to your partners.

R: Yes.

Moderator: So it's just being true to yourself and to your relations?

Translator: So be truthful to what you do and what you say and everything will turn out the way—yeah.

R: Be truthful and honest in your relationships.

Translator: Yeah.

[Crosstalk]

Translator: Not just relationships, but what you do and what you say, you know.

Moderator: Just your essence.

R: Power of giving, it's called.

R: Yes.

R: In everything you do.

Moderator: Yeah. Don't focus on material things too much, basically.

R: Don't be materialistic.

Moderator: Or it'll just be stone.