

## Vietnamese Focus Group, story 1

R: Me? So the story I'm going to tell is about the God of the Mountain and the God of the Sea. In during the time of King [Honban], the 18th, he had one of the princesses is the most beautiful lady. So when she came of age, the King wanted to marry her off, so he's been looking for a male with all kinds of . . . or like wealthy, handsome.

Moderator: All these characteristics. Tall, dark, and handsome, and wealthy, okay.

R: So they tried to get him the most suitable to marry her. So one day, there are two gentlemen appear and they both fit perfectly for the princess. So once he introduce himself as the God of the Mountain, which is something, it's spelled S-O-N and then the . . .

Moderator: S-O-N?

R: SON, N as in Nancy. Son mean mountain. Tinh mean God. So he say, "I'm the God of the Mountain." I own all those on the land, trees, animals, all kind of good things there, and he had a lot of powers too. So the king was like, "I really like you." And then the other man was like, "I'm the God of . . . I'm Thuy Tinh. I'm the God of the Sea, so I own all kind of things that's under the sea. I have power, he was handsome, and I own all the wealth down under the sea. So the king was like, "I only have one daughter. I would love to have you both as my son-in-law, but since I only have one, so who ever gather sort of like what you call . . . When you asking someone to marry you have to bring all kind of gift.

Moderator: Dowry.

R: The dowry is for the girl, the offering. All kind of gift offering. So whoever comes back with the offering first, I will give my daughter to that person. So the next day, Son Tinh, which is the God of the Mountain, came back first and so the king marry off his daughter. The God of the Sea came an hour later and heard that the God of Mountain already married the princess. He got very upset. He was so aggressive, so he use all his power. He raises the sea level up and he make wind, he make the rain came, the sea rise.

R: Tsunami.

Moderator: A sore loser.

R: Yeah, it rise and what he wanted to start the war with the Mountain God, so he could take back the princess. The God of Mountain doesn't want to move the princess that easily. So as the water raise, he also raised the mountain. So both had been fighting for days, lives were lost. But after a while they both get tired, so the Sea God settled down, calm down, everything came back to normal. So what they say is that once in a while when the God of the Sea get upset, and he still want to take back the princess so he keep fighting, so that's why people say there's tsunami, there's some other . . . So that is my story. Every time they fight, the Sea God lost.

Moderator: Would that mean that the Mountain King also, is that when you have avalanche and earthquake that that would explain him? Like when he is fighting?

R: In this one, I think just explain why we have the tsunami, the flooding.

R: The mountain was just raised up.

Moderator: I didn't know if he crumbled the mountain.

R: Thank you.

R: Yeah, I mean like almost every year they have either flooding or . . .

R: A rematch.

R: Yeah, a rematch. But every time they fight, the Sea God lost.