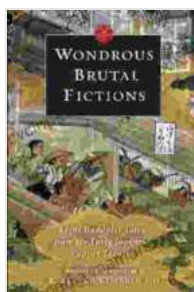


# Eight Buddhist Tales From The Early Japanese Puppet Theater

In the early days of Japanese puppet theater, Buddhist tales were a popular source of inspiration for playwrights. These stories often taught moral lessons about the importance of compassion, forgiveness, and perseverance. Here are eight of the most famous Buddhist tales that were adapted for the puppet theater.



## Wondrous Brutal Fictions: Eight Buddhist Tales from the Early Japanese Puppet Theater by Samuel Johnson

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 4211 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 289 pages



### 1. The Tale of the Stone Cutter

This tale tells the story of a poor stone cutter who is constantly complaining about his lot in life. One day, he meets a wealthy merchant who tells him that he should be grateful for what he has. The stone cutter doesn't believe the merchant, but he decides to test his theory by trading places with him for a day. The stone cutter soon learns that the merchant's life is not as easy as it seems. He has to work long hours and deal with many difficult

customers. By the end of the day, the stone cutter is grateful to be back to his own life.

## **2. The Tale of the Grateful Crane**

This tale tells the story of a crane who is saved from a hunter by a kind man. The crane is so grateful that he decides to stay with the man and help him with his work. One day, the man's house is destroyed by a fire. The crane uses his long beak to carry water to put out the fire. The man is so grateful to the crane that he builds him a new house.

## **3. The Tale of the Fox and the Badger**

This tale tells the story of a fox and a badger who are friends. One day, the fox tricks the badger into eating a poisonous mushroom. The badger is so sick that he can't move. The fox leaves the badger to die, but then he feels guilty about what he has done. He goes back to the badger and helps him to recover.

## **4. The Tale of the Monkey and the Crab**

This tale tells the story of a monkey and a crab who are friends. One day, the monkey finds a delicious peach. He wants to share it with the crab, but the crab is too shy to eat it. The monkey eats the peach all by himself. The crab is so hurt that he runs away. The monkey realizes that he has been selfish, and he goes to apologize to the crab.

## **5. The Tale of the Old Man and the Turtle**

This tale tells the story of an old man who finds a turtle on the beach. The old man takes the turtle home and cares for it. One day, the turtle turns into a beautiful woman. The woman tells the old man that she is a princess who

was cursed by a witch. The old man breaks the curse and the princess marries him.

## **6. The Tale of the Rabbit and the Moon**

This tale tells the story of a rabbit who lives on the moon. The rabbit is always lonely, so he decides to make a friend. He goes to the earth and meets a monkey. The monkey is so kind that the rabbit invites him to live on the moon with him. The monkey agrees, and the two animals become best friends.

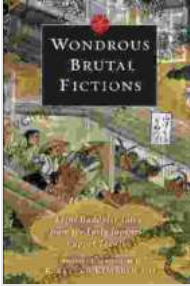
## **7. The Tale of the Sparrow and the Warbler**

This tale tells the story of a sparrow and a warbler who are friends. One day, the sparrow is caught in a trap. The warbler tries to help the sparrow, but he is too small. The warbler goes to the forest and finds a mouse. The mouse gnaws at the trap and frees the sparrow.

## **8. The Tale of the Fox and the Stork**

This tale tells the story of a fox and a stork who are friends. One day, the fox invites the stork to dinner. The fox serves the food on a flat plate, but the stork can't reach it with his long beak. The stork invites the fox to dinner the next day. The stork serves the food in a tall vase, but the fox can't reach it with his short tongue. The two animals learn that they need to be careful not to take advantage of each other.

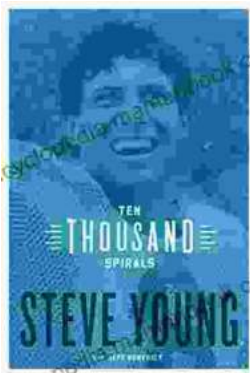
These are just a few of the many Buddhist tales that were adapted for the Japanese puppet theater. These stories taught important moral lessons about the importance of compassion, forgiveness, and perseverance. They continue to be popular today, and they are still a valuable source of inspiration for people of all ages.



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