



正法印
PROPER DHARMA SEAL

妙法蓮華經淺釋

The Dharma Flower Sutra with Commentary

【觀世音菩薩普門品第二十五】

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE:
THE UNIVERSAL DOOR OF GUANYIN BODHISATVA

修訂版 Revised version



宣化上人講解

國際譯經學院記錄翻譯

Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua

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海裏的龍，是住居在海裏的龍宮，龍王就做魚、鱉、蝦、蟹的首領。又有降雨的龍，又有守藏的龍。守什麼藏呢？就是所藏的寶貝。或者有人把很多寶貝值錢的東西，埋到地裏邊，因為它太值錢了，把龍的貪心也就給引出來，龍就跑到那地方去看守這珠寶，這是藏龍。

龍，在古來有很多很多的。不過現在一般人說沒有看見，就認為沒有龍，其實龍是很多的。

在六祖大師那時候，有一條毒龍；這條毒龍專門能噴毒吐霧，人一旦中了這種毒，就會生病，甚至於就死了。當時在南華寺禪堂內那個地基，原來是一個毒龍潭；毒龍潭方圓大約有一畝地這麼大一個面積，誰也不知道這個潭有多深。這裏邊就住著一條龍，這龍是條毒龍，專門害人。牠把南華寺所住的出家人，弄得常常生病。

有一次，六祖大師來到毒龍潭的地方，這條毒龍就現了一個大身，把這一畝地的潭都遮滿了。六祖大師一看，就笑起來了，說：「嘿，你只有現大身的能耐啊？你單單能現大身，不能現小身，那你還是沒有多大的本領！」這龍一聽六祖大師這樣說，於是把這個大身隱了，又現出一個小身，大約有一尺那麼長，在水裏游來游去。六祖大師說：「你是有點本領，能大又能小，但是你可不敢跳到我這個鉢裏邊來！」這條龍在水裏這麼游來游去，聽六祖大

Ocean dragons live in the dragon palace and are the leaders of all the fish and marine life. There are also dragons in charge of making rain and dragons in charge of guarding treasuries of precious things buried in the earth. In the ancient days, there were many, many dragons. Nowadays people cannot see them, so they think they don't exist. Actually, there are many of them.

When the Sixth Patriarch was at Nanhua Monastery, there was a poisonous dragon there. The poisonous vapor that he spurted from his mouth made people sick, and some even died because of it. The present-day Chan Hall at Nanhua Monastery was built over what used to be the lake of this poisonous dragon. The surface area of the lake was about an acre. But nobody knew exactly how deep it was. This dragon wasn't a good dragon; it was poisonous and would hurt people. The left-home people at Nanhua Monastery often got sick because of it.

One time the dragon displayed its spiritual powers to the Sixth Patriarch, appearing in a body so big that it filled up the entire lake. When the Sixth Patriarch saw this, he laughed. "Hah!" he said. "You may be able to manifest in a big body, but I bet you can't manifest in a small one! You're not that talented." Hearing this challenge, the dragon suddenly made its big body disappear and manifested in a small

師這麼說牠，牠從水裏「撲通」一聲，跳進六祖大師的鉢中。

六祖大師就說：「你這回可以進來，可出不去了！」這龍就使起全身的解數、全身的法術，想往外跳，可是怎麼樣也跳不出去這個鉢了。這回上了一個大當！

六祖大師對牠說：「你不要掙扎了。為什麼你變成龍身？為什麼你要做毒龍？本來在前生你是有修行的，是有善根的，也曾經聞過佛法的，不過你的瞋恨心太重，這種脾氣太大了，這叫『乘急戒緩』。你研究佛法是研究得很迅速，願意研究佛法，可是你不守戒律，所以你現在墮落到龍身。你不要以為自己的本領很大，又能大、又能小，又能有、又能無，你現在到我這個鉢裏，可出不去了吧？」龍聽了這一番話，也就被馴伏，就不再往外跳了。

於是六祖大師又給牠說法，一說法，牠明白了，當時把這個龍身就脫了。這條龍的屍首曾經在南華寺被保留很久很久，以後因為戰爭兵火的關係，把這個龍的屍首也失去了。這是六祖大師在南華寺降伏毒龍，有這麼一段的因緣。

在中國唐朝的時候，有個大臣魏徵，他雖然在人間做丞相，還可以到天上去做天官。當時有條小白龍，因為下錯雨，玉帝叫牠下一寸三的雨，牠下了一尺三的雨，把所有的農田都淹沒了很多，人也淹死很多。這樣子，牠就犯了天上的法律，天上就派魏徵去斬這條小白龍。

小白龍知道這個消息，於是就先給唐太宗托夢，說：「明天你應該救我！你是龍，我也是龍，你這個龍應該救我這一條龍！」唐太宗說：「你我既然都是龍，那麼我們是兄弟啦！你有事情，我一定要幫忙的。我應該怎麼樣才可以救得你呢？」

卍 待續

body instead, a body about a foot long and skipping along the surface of the water. The Sixth Patriarch said, "Oh, so you've got some talent after all. So, you can be big or small at will, but I bet you don't dare to jump into my bowl here!" When the dragon heard this, it jumped straight into the Sixth Patriarch's bowl.

"Now that you've come in, you won't be able to get out!" said the Sixth Patriarch.

The dragon tried every trick it knew, but it couldn't get out of the bowl. The dragon had been tricked! The Sixth Patriarch said, "Don't be so feisty! How did you turn into a poisonous dragon? You cultivated in past lives. You planted good roots. You heard the Buddhadharma in the past, but your hatred was too strong and your temper was too big. You vigorously investigated the Buddhadharma but didn't observe the precepts, so now you've fallen into the body of a dragon. You shouldn't think you're so talented just because you can make yourself big or small or visible or invisible. Here you are, in my bowl, and you can't get out." Hearing this, the dragon was tamed and it quit trying to jump out.

The Sixth Patriarch then taught the dragon the Dharma. Having understood the Dharma, it cast off its dragon body. Its skeleton was preserved at Nanhua Monastery for a long time, but later it was lost in the course of a war in that area. So that's the story of the Sixth Patriarch taming the poisonous dragon.

During the Tang dynasty, there was a minister by the name of Wei Zheng. Although he was an official in the human realm, he was able to ascend to the heavens to serve as a heavenly official. At that time there was a dragon whom everyone called the little white dragon. This dragon was asked [by the Jade Emperor] to make only an inch and a third of rain, but it sent down a foot and a third instead, so all the crops were completely flooded. This was a violation of the laws of the heavens, so Wei Zheng was ordered to slay the little white dragon.

The little white dragon knew that Wei Zheng was coming after it, so it appeared in a dream to Emperor Taizong of Tang and pleaded, "You are a 'dragon' and so am I. You should save me." The emperor said, "Since we're both dragons, brother, I'll certainly help you out. How can I save you?"

卍 To be continued