

## **The Beauty of Chiayi County**

Greetings, dear friends! Today, let's embark on a journey to explore the magnificent beauty of Chiayi County. Nestled in the heart of our island, Chiayi County is a place of wonders waiting to be discovered.

Imagine rolling hills decorated with emerald-green tea trees, creating a breathtaking landscape that stretches as far as the eye can see. Chiayi County is renowned for its tea, and the tea fields paint a picturesque scene that catches the heart of every visitor.

As we venture deeper into Chiayi County, we encounter the majestic Alishan Mountain. Alishan is like a realm of magic, where ancient forests, towering cedar trees, and the famous Alishan railway coexist in harmony. Imagine the sun peeking through the leaves, creating a beautiful pattern of light and shadows – what a truly mesmerizing sight!

One of Chiayi County's hidden gems is Guan-Yin Waterfall. As the water cascades down the rocks, it creates a symphony that echoes through the surrounding nature. The air is filled with the refreshing mist,

offering a moment of tranquility and enjoyment.

But that's not all! Chiayi County is home to the captivating Fen-Chi-Hu Old Street. Walking along its charming cobblestone paths, you'll discover traditional wooden houses, local delicacies, and friendly smiles from the locals. It's like stepping back in time and experiencing the rich history and culture that shape Chiayi County.

As the day draws to a close, imagine witnessing the sunset at Chiayi's renowned Zeng-Wen Reservoir. The sun dips below the horizon, casting a warm glow over the waters. It's a moment of peace and joy, allowing you to reflect on the beauty that Chiayi County shares with its visitors.

Chiayi County is not just a destination; it's an invitation to explore, appreciate, and connect with the natural and cultural wonders that make it so unique. Whether you're a curious explorer, or a lover of history, Chiayi County welcomes you with open arms. Thank you for joining me on this wonderful adventure!

## **A Broken Promise**

Once upon a time, in a small seaside village, a group of playful children discovered a turtle while playing near the shore. Unfortunately, instead of showing kindness, they began to bully the poor creature. Witnessing this injustice, a compassionate young man stepped in, firmly telling the children, "Stop it!" The children were startled and ran away, leaving the turtle relieved.

Grateful for the young man's bravery, the turtle said, "Thank you for your kindness. Please allow me to show my gratitude by inviting you to a hidden palace beneath the waves." Without hesitation, the young man climbed onto the turtle's back, and with a swift movement, they disappeared into the ocean depths.

To his amazement, the young man found himself in an underwater palace adorned with shimmering pearls and vibrant marine life. Welcomed by many sea creatures, he felt a sense of wonder and joy. He expressed gratitude to the turtle and said, "I am

truly grateful to have met you."

As a gesture of appreciation, the turtle presented two beautiful boxes to the young man. However, with a serious tone, the turtle warned, "You may only open one box, not both. Remember this well." The young man replied, "I will only open one box. I promise."

After he came back home, he thought, "There must be something pretty valuable in these boxes!" He opened the larger box first, revealing a dazzling display of gold and treasures. He felt so amazed and thought, "The other box must contain something equally priceless!" Succumbing to temptation, he broke his promise and opened the second box, only to be transformed into an old man immediately, with silver hair and wrinkled skin.

Regret gripped his heart as he whispered, "I truly wish I had kept my promise....." Sadly, it was too late. The result served as a lesson about the importance of keeping one's word.

## **The Blind Men and the Elephant**

In a distant era, six blind men gathered daily by the roadside, a place where they had often heard tales of elephants but had never had the chance to witness one. One morning, rhythmic footsteps and gentle roars signaled the arrival of an elephant down the road.

Eager to experience this behemoth, the blind men asked the driver to stop, allowing them to explore with their hands. Each man, in turn, touched different parts of the elephant, attempting to grasp the true nature of this majestic being.

The first, laying his hands on the side, claimed with certainty, "I've discovered the shape of the elephant. It is akin to a rough and sturdy wall."

The second, feeling the tusk, disagreed loudly, "My dear friend, you are mistaken. This creature is not a wall but rather round, smooth, and sharp, much like a spear."

The third, holding the trunk, chimed in, "Both of you are incorrect.

It is obvious that this elephant is like a long and sinuous snake."

The fourth, grasping a leg, scoffed, "How blind you are!! It is evident to me that the elephant is round and towering, just like a tree."

The fifth, a very tall man touching an ear, argued, "All of you are wrong. An elephant is not like a wall, spear, snake, or tree. It is more like a huge and powerful fan."

The sixth, after a patient search, finally seized the elephant's tail. "You have all lost your senses! An elephant is thin and short, resembling a rope."

As the blind men kept arguing, emotions ran high. "This is not a real elephant!" declared one. "Trust me!" cried another. As the elephant departed, the six blind men sat by the road all day and quarreled about it. Each one of them believed that they knew just what the animal looked like, and they didn't accept each other's opinions because there was no agreement among them. Just like people who are not visually impaired sometimes act foolish.