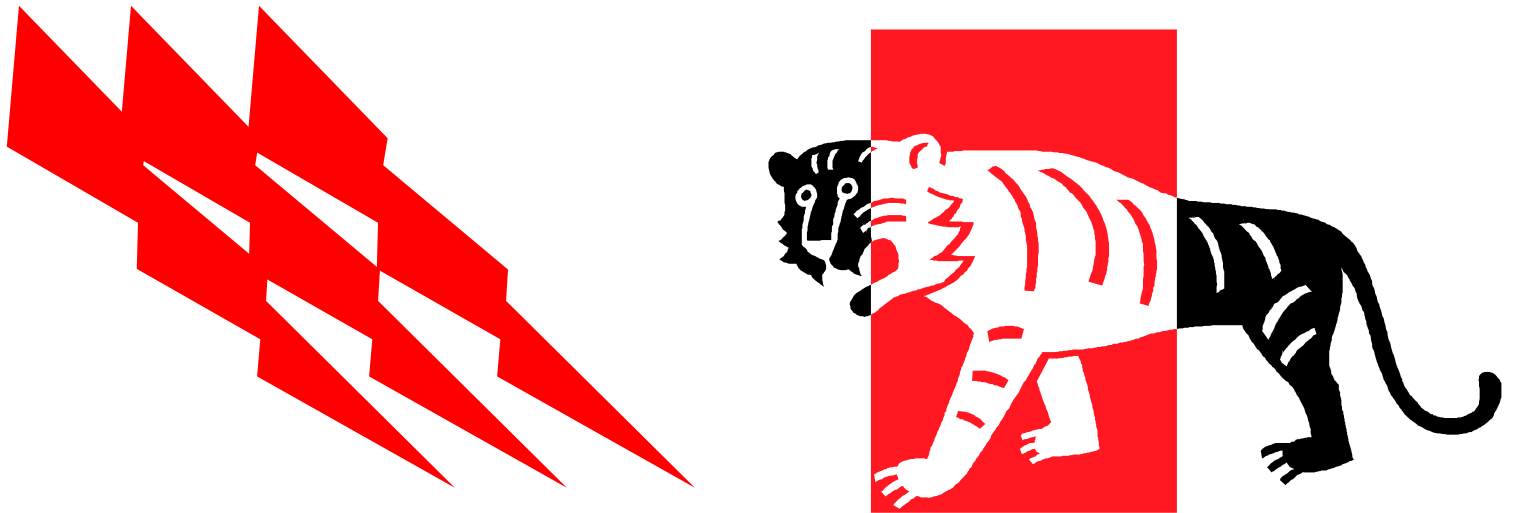


Once upon a time, in the village of Corea, lived an evil tiger that ruled all the animals. This evil tiger was unjust and feared by all as he took advantage of all around him. Every time the evil tiger went to the village, all the animals would shudder as he walked by. It was not uncommon for him to take milk from a crying baby, spill the water bucket of a thirsty farm worker or take the freshly washed laundry from a mother's backyard and have his gang of evil tigers run it through the mud. All the animals were miserable under the evil tiger's rule but were helpless against him and his gang.



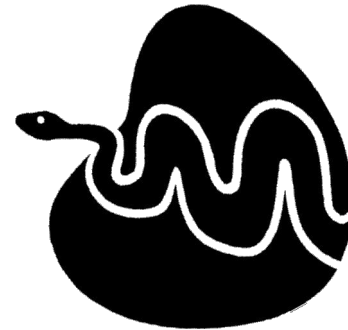
In this village, lived a family of tigers, a mother, her daughter and son. The father, a valiant warrior from the days before the rule of the evil tiger, was lost in battle. Now the son, Jung Jik, was liked by all in the village, as he was a hard worker and did the work of two tigers as he was larger than most tigers. Not once did he ever complain and would always help the tired and sick, even after working a full day himself.

One day, as Jung Jik was walking home from a long day's work, he encountered the evil tiger and his gang bullying an old badger. Jung Jik approached the evil tiger and tried to reason with him to leave the old badger alone. The evil tiger laughed and threw the old badger to his gang. Jung Jik, worried as to what would happen to the old badger, protested. As he looked away for a second, the evil tiger raised his evil paw and slashed Jung Jik's face. The evil tiger and his gang laughed and left him all alone in the forest. Jung Jik, unable to see, blindly found his way home. As he entered the house, his mother cried in surprise for what she saw was three large slashes across his left eye. Immediately she went into the forest to find healing herbs that would bring back her son's sight. The next day, although her son could see, he was left scarred for life with 3 great slashes across his eye.



Now the evil tiger was a vengeful tiger and was angry at Jung Jik for interfering with his fun with the old badger. The evil tiger knew that every day the mother and daughter tiger were left alone as Jung Jik had to work in the forest. So one day, as Jung Jik left for work, the evil tiger and his gang went to his house and attacked the mother and daughter tiger, leaving them to die. When Jung Jik came home, tired and hungry, he saw that his house was burnt to the ground and ran to find his mother and sister. His mother with her last breath told him that the evil tiger was the one to blame.

Heartbroken, Jung Jik left the village and wandered in the forest without food and drink for several days. Finally, unable to stand the heat of the sun, he searched for a lake to quench his parched throat. As he bent down to take a drink, he noticed his reflection in the water. As he looked at himself, what he saw looking back at him was the face of the saddest and loneliest and sorriest looking tiger. He shook his head and looked down once again into the lake. This time as he bent to take a drink, he noticed movement in the tree behind him. He turned around and saw a giant snake slithering up the trunk toward a bird's nest. Jung Jik heard the cries of the baby birds as the large snake continued to get closer. Just as the huge snake was about to reach the nest, the mother and father bird coming back from their search for food, swooped down and with all their might, pecked and fought against the gigantic snake. Jung Jik stared in amazement as he saw these tiny birds fight against all odds to keep their family safe. Jung Jik, being the helpful tiger that he was, ran to the tree and helped the birds defeat the snake.



Jung Jik was amazed by what he had witnessed and asked the father bird how he had the strength and will to fight off the snake. The father bird, having had many experiences, told the tiger that size and might did not matter, that if one had the will and belief in himself, anything would be possible. Jung Jik then told his story to the bird and the bird recommended that Jung Jik search for the help of a group of tigers that called themselves "the Four". The bird showed him how to find the cave that "the Four" lived, and Jung Jik went off to search for their help.

Jung Jik spent days looking for the cave. He had to travel through the forest and rain and cold but was determined to find "the Four". Finally weak and hungry, Jung Jik found the special cave. Here he was greeted by a kind tiger who introduced himself as Vae Ee. He brought Jung Jik into the cave and gave him food and drink and offered him a soft bed to sleep in. The next morning, Vae Ee brought Jung Jik special herbs to make his body and mind strong while allowing Jung Jik to tell his story without interruptions and listening with a kind heart. Vae Ee told Jung Jik that if he wanted to, "the Four" would be happy to teach him "the way" of Taekwondo. Jung Jik was grateful for Vae Ee's understanding and courtesy.

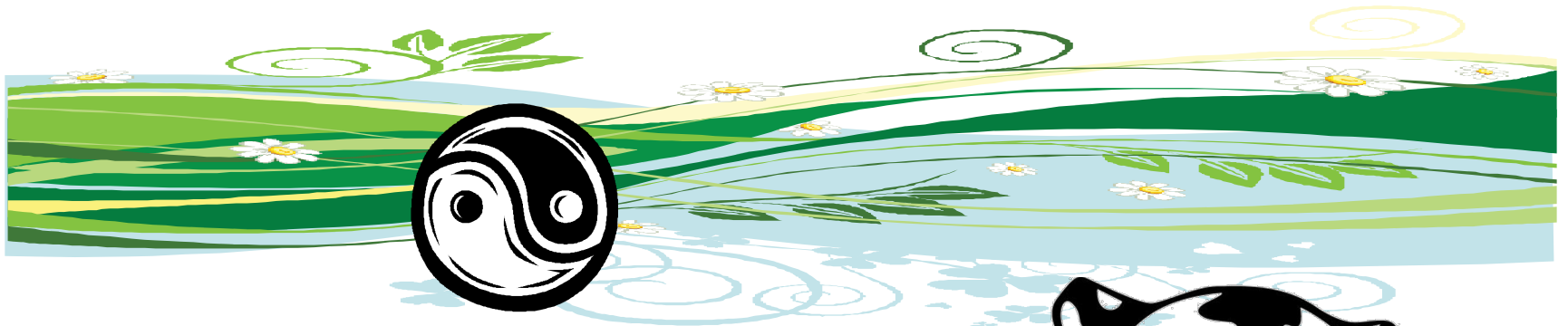


Soon, Jung Jik felt well enough to explore the cave. As he wandered he encountered a strong looking tiger whose hands were wrapped in tape. Not wanting to interrupt, Jung Jik watched the tiger as he started punching a nearby tree. The tiger then noticed Jung Jik watching and invited him over. He introduced himself as Baek Jul Bul Gul. Jung Jik asked why Baek was punching a tree. Baek told him that when he was younger, he was a very cocky and proud young tiger. His master, being very wise, told Baek that if he were so strong, that he should easily be able to punch a small tree down. Baek, being very proud, went up to the tree and punched the tree as hard as he could. However, the tree had defeated Baek and he turned around to face his master with tears in his eyes from the pain and shame of being so proud. After that lesson, Baek made sure that he was never too proud again, but still kept on trying no matter how hard his lessons.

One day, after a hard work out of punching and kicking with Baek, Jung Jik walked into a meadow and saw a young tigress practicing her forms. Her movements were graceful yet strong and Jung Jik wanted his forms to as good as hers. He approached her and she introduced herself as In Nae Shim. He asked her if she would help him with his forms.



They met in the meadow the next day and In Nae Shim started with the simplest form. Jung Jik had already learned the form and thought it was too easy for him and performed it without much effort. In Nae Shim showed Jung Jik that even the simplest form should be performed with as much effort and thought as the hardest. Each foot placement, kick and punch should be strong yet fluid. Jung Jik tried but could not seem to be as good as In Nae Shim. Jung Jik was getting very frustrated. He wanted to give up and run away, but In Nae Shim showed Jung Jik that he had the ability to succeed if he believed in himself. She explained to him that it is easy to give up and complain, but true heroes and heroines keep trying and face their problems with a positive attitude.



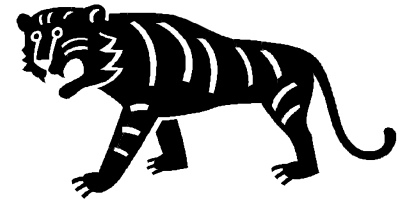
Jung Jik practiced hard and long for many days. He became strong and agile. Every physical task the tigers gave him, he performed well. Jung Jik was becoming a true warrior. But every night, Jung Jik would wake up, shaking and sweaty from a nightmare.

He would feel angry and scared and found himself screaming and punching anything near him. One night, after waking from another nightmare, Kuk Ki, the oldest of "the Four" came into his room and sat Jung Jik down. Kuk Ki explains to Jung Jik that to become a great martial artist, not only does one have to be physically fit but a true martial artist must be able to control one's emotions and fears.

Kuk Ki teaches Jung Jik ways to calm himself down and to think before acting out in anger or fear. Over time, Jung Jik learns to control his emotions and impulses and conquers his urge to give up every time he is unable to perform.



Finally, the Jung Jik decided that he was ready to return to the village. As he walked into the village, all the animals were surprised to see him. Jung Jik approached the animals and told them his story. He described what he had seen in the forest, how the weak little birds fought against the snake to keep their family safe. He explained that the villagers could stand up for their rights and did not have to live in fear from the evil tiger, if only they believed in themselves. The animals were finally convinced that they should, and could stand up against the evil tiger and made plans to confront him the next day. However, the evil tiger had a spy at the meeting and found out the entire plan. The evil tiger quickly ran to the meeting site and said that anyone that listened to the tiger would die. The animals were intimidated and scared.



No one would listen to Jung Jik and would walk away if he tried to talk to them. Jung Jik realized that he alone would have to face the evil tiger. As he approached the den, the evil gang of tigers blocked his way and attacked him at once. Jung Jik defended himself and fought fearlessly as the evil gang attacked from all sides. All the animals gathered around as they heard the fighting. As the Jung Jik fought, the animals saw that what he had said in the meeting was true. If one believed in themselves, anything could be possible. So the animals ran to help Jung Jik fight against the gang.



Jung Jik continued on to face the evil tiger in the heart of the lair. The two tigers circled each other and fought ferociously. Everyone outside the lair stopped to hear the fight. Soon everything became quiet. Slowly, one tiger emerged from the lair. As he walked out, the silence turned into cheers as the villagers realized the evil tiger's reign was over.

But Jung Jik kept walking past all the villagers until he reached the top of the highest mountain. As he reached the top of the mountain, he looked up into the sky and he roared a mighty roar that shook the earth. The roar was so mighty that all the animals and even the people looked up to the mountain. And as they looked up, against the red glowing sun they saw the
"Red Tiger".