

# RIPE RED FRUIT

## 果子紅了

*A fruit fly spies a bright red pomegranate dangling from a branch. What a delicious meal! He thinks. But is someone watching him? Cookie Lin and Liao Chien-Hung depict an entire food chain through a series of shocking surprises.*

---

A wandering fly lays his big eyes on a bright red pomegranate dangling from a branch. He buzzes over, hoping for a delicious meal. But wait! His senses are tingling. Is somebody watching him? Somebody is, in fact – a spider eyes him greedily. But wait! The spider suddenly panics. Is somebody watching *him*? There's always somebody watching, and even the hunter with his rifle gets a sudden shock from the lonely pomegranate.

Cookie Lin adapts an ancient Chinese fable about pursuing short-term benefit without thinking of risk into a series of illustrated encounters, each imbued with the animal's simple inner monologue. The illustrations glow with collaged color, their style somewhat reminiscent of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. The author blends her exposition of the concept of the food chain with novelistic excitement, as the "apex predator" is suddenly foiled by a falling piece of fruit.

### Text by Cookie Lin 林秀穗

Cookie Lin has been a dreamer and a writer since her childhood. Her children's titles have won several prizes, including two First Prizes from the Hsin-Yi Children's Literature Awards, the Judge's Choice for the Feng Zikai Chinese Children's Picture Book Award, and the seventh Chen Kuo-Cheng Children's Literature Award. She has also been longlisted for a Golden Tripod Award.

### Illustrated by Liao Chien-Hung 廖健宏

Liao Chien-Hung is a prizewinning illustrator of multiple children's titles. His work has garnered him a Judge's Choice Award for the Feng Zikai Chinese Children's Picture Book Award, a Hsin-Yi Children's



**Category:** Picture Book

**Publisher:** Pace

**Date:** 12/2018

**Rights contact:**

booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

**Pages:** 48

**Size:** 28 x 21 cm


**Age:** 3+

**Rights sold:** Simplified Chinese

Literature Award and Illustrated Book Award, the Chen Kuo-Cheng Children's Literature Award, and *Mandarin Daily News* Children's Literature Award.

It was a fine, sunny afternoon  
and the tree was full of ripe red fruit.



A fruit fly with large red eyes and blue wings is flying towards a cluster of red fruit on a tree branch. The fruit is a mix of red and yellow, and the leaves are green and yellow. The fly is positioned in the lower right of the frame, looking towards the fruit on the left.

Along came a fruit fly,  
his tummy rumbling.  
"I'm hungry. This ripe red fruit  
looks delicious!"

**OH NO!**

I can feel eight eyes behind me?  
Who can it be?  
Who is **watching** me?



A spider appeared behind the fly.  
“Mmm, a tasty fruit fly!”



**OH NO!**

Is that some wings flapping?  
Who can it be?  
Who is **up** on the leaf?


A dragonfly landed on a leaf.  
“Mmm, a scrumptious spider!”



**OH NO!**

Is that two sickles dancing?  
Who can it be?  
Who is **under** the leaf?



A mantis with a green and blue patterned body and large yellow eyes is peering out from under a large, textured green leaf. The mantis is positioned on a brown, textured surface that looks like a tree trunk. The background is white with some yellow and pinkish light streaks.

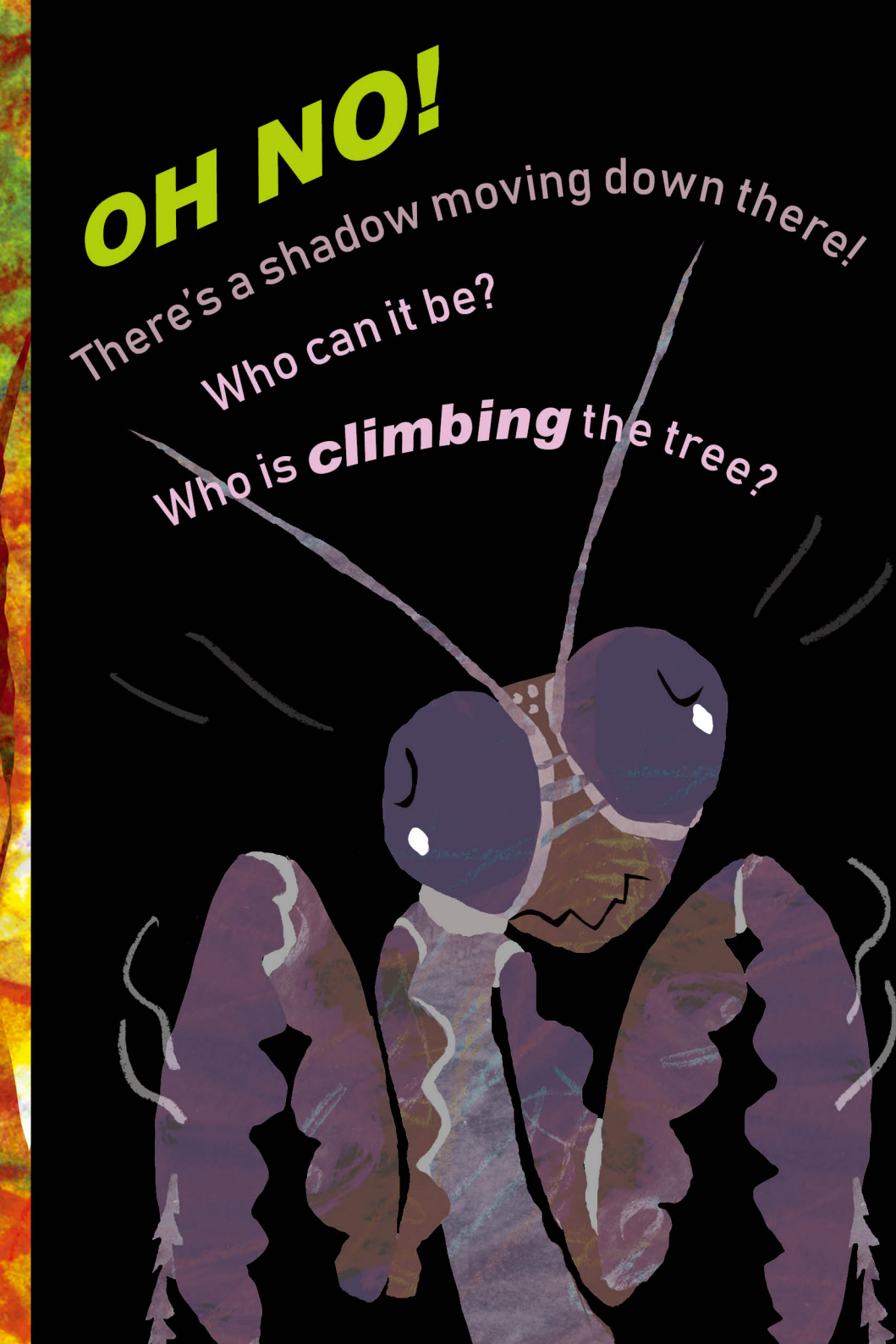
A mantis peered out below the leaf.  
"Ah, a sweet-smelling dragonfly!"

**OH NO!**

There's a shadow moving down there!

Who can it be?

Who is **climbing** the tree?

A dragonfly with a brown body and large, dark eyes is climbing a brown, textured tree trunk. The dragonfly is positioned on the right side of the image, with its legs gripping the bark. The background is black with some white and grey lines suggesting movement or shadow.

A lizard ran up the tree.  
"That little mantis would fill my belly nicely!"



**OH NO!**  
The grass is moving!  
Who can it be?  
**Jumping** up at me?

