



# Strange Tales from a Chinese Studio (Penguin Classics)

*Pu Songling*

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*Pu Songling*

**Strange Tales from a Chinese Studio (Penguin Classics) Pu Songling**

**Exquisite and amusing miniatures regarded as the pinnacle of classical Chinese fiction**

With their elegant prose, witty wordplay and subtle charm, the 104 stories in this selection from *The Strange Tales of Pu Songling* (1640-1715) reveal a world in which nothing is as it seems. Here a Taoist monk conjures up a magical pear tree, a scholar recounts his previous incarnations, a woman out-foxes the fox-spirit that possesses her, a child bride gives birth to a thimble-sized baby, a ghostly city appears out of nowhere and a heartless daughter-in-law is turned into a pig. In his tales of humans coupling with shape-shifting spirits, bizarre phenomena, haunted buildings and enchanted objects, Pu Songling pushes back the boundaries of human experience and enlightens as he entertains.

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