

# ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THIRTY-SIX STRATAGEMS

1. 瞒天过海 Cross the sea under camouflage.
2. 围魏救赵 Relieve the state of Zhao by besieging the state of Wei.
3. 借刀杀人 Kill someone with a borrowed knife.
4. 以逸待劳 Wait for the exhausted enemy at one's ease.
5. 趁火打劫 Loot a burning house.
6. 声东击西 Clamour in the east, attack in the west.
7. 无中生有 Create something out of nothing.
8. 暗度陈仓 Pretend to take one path while sneaking down the other.
9. 隔岸观火 Watch a fire burning from the other side of the river.
10. 笑里藏刀 Knife hidden under the smiling face.
11. 舍车保帅 Sacrifice the plum for the peach.
12. 顺手牵羊 Take the opportunity to pilfer a goat.
13. 草蛇入线 Disturb the snake by hitting the grass.
14. 借尸还魂 Borrow another's body to return the soul.
15. 调虎离山 Entice the tiger to leave the mountain.

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16. 欲擒故纵 To catch something, first let it go.
17. 欲将计就计 Bait a piece of jade with a brick.
18. 欲擒故纵 To catch the bandit, first capture their leader.
19. 釜底抽薪 Take away the fire wood under the cooking pot.
20. 临渊羡鱼 Fish in troubled water.
21. 蝉蜕 Get away like the cicada sloughing its skin.
22. 关门捉贼 Shut the door to catch the thief.
23. 远交近攻 Be friend a distant state while attacking a neighbor.
24. 借道伐虢 Obtain safe passage to conquer the enemy.
25. 以腐木为梁 Replace the beams with rotten timbers.
26. 指桑骂槐 Revile the locust tree while pointing at the mulberry.
27. 大智若愚 Play dumb, remain smart.
28. 高悬明镜 Pull down the ladder after ascent.
29. 树上开花 Deck the tree with bogus blossom.
30. 调虎离山 Make the guest and host change places.
31. 美人计 The beauty trap; Use seductive women to corrupt the enemy.
32. 虚张声势 Present a bold front to conceal unpreparedness.
33. 反间计 Sow discord among the enemy; Use double agent.

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34. 自傷 inflict injury upon oneself to gain trust.

35. 鎖船 Chain together the enemy's ships.

36. 走避 Runaway to fight another day; Escape is the best policy

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