A Clever Artist

There was a king. His name was Tiger Lion. He had a lot of money. His right leg was not straight. His left eye could not see.

One morning Tiger Lion went outside. He saw an artist painting a picture. It was a good picture. He asked the artist to paint a picture of him. The artist said yes.

The artist painted the king. He gave the king a straight leg and an eye that could see. When the artist finished the painting, he showed the king. Tiger Lion was very angry. He killed the artist. Then, he got another artist to paint his picture. Lots of people knew this artist. He was famous. He painted the king. This time, the king’s leg was not straight and his eye could not see. The king was angry. He killed the artist.

The next day he got another artist. His name was Dorji. He was not famous. He was very smart. He painted the king with his right leg on a rock. A gun was on his leg. His left eye was closed. It looked like the king was killing a tiger.

The king was happy. He gave Dorji lots of money.
a lot of [eɪt] _spot
right [rɛɪt]  resultList
leg [leɪ] ་ལུག
was not [wɛznt] རྒྱལ་
straight [streɪt] རྟོག་
left [left] རྟོག་
could not [kudnt] རྒྱལ་
artist ['ɑːrist] རྟོག་
paint [peɪnt] རྟོག་
picture ['pɪkt] རྟོག་
finish ['fɪnɪʃ] རྟོག་
angry ['æŋɡri] རྟོག་
kill [kil] རྟོག་
famous ['feɪməs] རྟོག་
smart [smɑːt] རྟོག་
tiger ['taɪɡər] རྟོག་
to make something རྟོག་
to make somebody རྟོག་
pictures རྟོག་
know about རྟོག་
look like རྟོག་
Match these words with their meanings.

a. artist ___ to make something die
b. famous ____ not happy
c. angry ____ a person who makes pictures
d. paint ____ lots of people know about this
e. kill ____ to make a picture

Write the answers to these questions.

a. Why did the king ask the artist to paint him?
b. Why did the king kill the first artist?
c. Why did the king kill the second artist?
d. What did the king look like in Dorji’s picture?
e. Did the king kill Dorji?

Simplified English text by Rose Hyson.

The Tibetan version of this text was prepared by G. yang skyabs rdo rje.