病入膏肓

春秋時期，晉景公有一次得了重病，聽說秦國有一個醫術很高明的醫生，便專程派人去請來。

有一晚，晉景公恍惚中做了個夢。夢見了兩個小孩，正悄悄地在他身旁說話。

一個說：“那個高明的醫生馬上就要來了，我看我們這回難逃了，我們躲到什麽地方去呢？”

另一個小孩說道：“這沒什麽可怕的，我們躲到肓的上面，膏的下面，無論他怎樣用藥，都奈何我們不得。”

翌日，秦國的名醫到了，立刻被請進了晉景公的臥室替晉景公治病。診斷後，那醫生對晉景公說：“這病已沒辦法治了。疾病在肓之上，膏之下，用灸法攻治不行，紮針又達不到，吃湯藥，其效力也達不到。這病是實在沒法子治了。”

這個成語意喻事情到了無可挽回的地步。

病入膏肓

春秋时期，晋景公有一次得了重病，听说秦国有一个医术很高明的医生，便专程派人去请来。

有一晚，晋景公恍惚中做了个梦。梦见了两个小孩，正悄悄地在他身旁说话。

一个说：“那个高明的医生马上就要来了，我看我们这回难逃了，我们躲到什么地方去呢？”

另一个小孩说道：“这没什么可怕的，我们躲到肓的上面，膏的下面，无论他怎样用药，都奈何我们不得。”

翌日，秦国的名医到了，立刻被请进了晋景公的卧室替晋景公治病。诊断后，那医生对晋景公说：“这病已没办法治了。疾病在肓之上，膏之下，用灸法攻治不行，扎针又达不到，吃汤药，其效力也达不到。这病是实在没法子治了。”

这个成语意喻事情到了无可挽回的地步。

In the Spring and Autumn Period (春秋时期,770-476 BC), King Jing of the State of Jin (晋国) fell ill. And he heard that there was a doctor of [exceptional](http://dict.hjenglish.com/w/exceptional) skill, so he [dispatched](http://dict.hjenglish.com/w/dispatch) person to invite the doctor.

One night he dreamed that the disease turned into two little kids talking beside him.

One said, “I’m afraid the doctor will hurt us.”

The other said, “Do not worry. We can hide above ‘huang’ and below ‘gao’. Then the doctor will be able to do nothing to us.”

The next day, having examined the king, the doctor said, ‘Your disease is incurable, I am afraid, Your Majesty. It’ above huang and below gao, where no medicine can reach.’

The idiom indicates a hopeless condition.

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| 病入膏肓 | bìngrùgāohuāng | lit. the disease has attacked the vitals (idiom); fig. beyond cure / the situation is hopeless |
| 重病 | zhòngbìng | serious illness |
| 醫術 | yīshù | medical expertise / art of healing |
| 專程 | zhuānchéng | specifically / specially (for that purpose) |
| 恍惚 | huǎnghū | absent-minded / distracted / dazzled / vaguely / dimly |
| 夢見 | mèngjiàn | to dream about (sth or sb) / to see in a dream |
| 翌日 | yìrì | next day |
| 名醫 | míngyī | famous doctor |
| 治病 | zhìbìng | to treat an illness |
| 診斷 | zhěnduàn | diagnosis / to diagnose |
| 效力 | xiàolì | effectiveness / positive effect / to serve (in some capacity) |
| 無可挽回 | wúkěwǎnhuí | irrevocable / the die is cast |