

詹翠琴 / 编译

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WORKS



# 世界上最感人的书信



*The Most Affecting Letters in the World*

那个年代的书信  
更加弥足珍贵。

每一次阅读  
都热泪盈眶！

江苏人民出版社

# 世界上最感人的书信

詹翠琴 / 编译



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*The Most Affecting Letters In the World*

# 世界上最感人的书信



世界上，有这样一种最幸福的约定，它浸润心灵的天，唤醒生命的禅音。它带给我们温暖和力量，给予我们指引和希望，让我们在多年后的某一天，收获一个完美而成功的人生。

*A Mother's Letter to the World*  
一位母亲写给世界的信

Dear World,

My son starts school today. It's going to be strange and new to him for a while. And I wish you would sort of treat him gently.

You see, up to now, he's been king of the roost. He's been boss of the back yard. I have always been around to repair his wounds, and to soothe his feelings.

But now—things are going to be different.

This morning, he's going to walk down the front steps, wave his hand and start on his great adventure that will probably include wars and tragedy and sorrow. To live his life in the world he has to live in will require faith and love and courage.

So, World, I wish you would sort of take him by his young hand and teach him the things he will have to know. Teach him—but gently, if you can. Teach him that for every scoundrel, there is a hero; that for every crooked politician there is a dedicated leader; that for every enemy there is a friend. Teach him the wonders of books. Give him quiet time to ponder the eternal mystery of birds in the sky, bees in the sun, and flowers on the green hill. Teach him it is



亲爱的世界：

我的儿子今天开始上学。在一段时间内，他都会感到既陌生又新鲜。我希望你能对他温和一些。

你知道，直到现在，他一直都是家里的小皇帝，一直是后院的主人。我一直在他身边，为他料理伤口，给他感情上的慰藉。

可是现在——一切都将发生变化。

今天早晨，他将走下屋前的台阶，挥挥手，踏上他伟大的冒险征途，途中也许会有战斗、悲剧和伤痛。要在他必须生存的世界中生活需要信念、爱心和勇气。

所以，世界，我希望你握住他稚嫩的手，教他必须知道的一些事情。教他——但如果可能的话，温柔一些。教他知道，世界上有一个恶棍，就有一个英雄；有一个奸诈狡猾的政客，就有一个富有奉献精神的领袖；有一个敌人，就有一个朋友。教他感受书本的魅力。给他时间，去安静地思索自然界中永恒的神秘：空中的小鸟，阳光下的蜜蜂，青山上的花朵。教他知道，失败比欺骗要光荣得多。教他要坚信自己的思想，哪怕

far more honorable to fail than to cheat. Teach him to have faith in his own ideas, even if everyone else tells him they are wrong. Teach him to sell his brawn and brains to the highest bidder, but never to put a price on his heart and soul. Teach him to close his ears to a howling mob... and to stand and fight if he thinks he's right. Teach him gently, World, but don't coddle him, because only the test of fire makes fine steel.

This is a big order, World, but see what you can do. He's such a nice little fellow.

别人都予以否定。教他可把自己的体力和脑力以最高价出售，但绝对不要出卖自己的心灵和灵魂。教他对暴徒的嚎叫置若罔闻……并且在认为自己是正确的时候站出来战斗。以温柔的方式教导他，世界，但不要溺爱他，因为只有烈火才能炼出真钢。

这是个很高的要求，世界，但请你尽力而为。他是一个多么可爱的孩子。



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Chapter 1

# 有一种甜蜜无处不在



*It is graceful grief and sweet sadness to think of you, but in my heart, there is a kind of soft warmth that can't be expressed with any choice of words.*

想你，是一种美丽的忧伤的甜蜜和惆怅，  
心里面，在我却是一种用任何语言也无法表达的温馨。美丽语录

*George Washington to His Wife*

乔治·华盛顿致妻子

You may believe me, when I assure you in the most solemn manner that, so far from seeking this employment, I have used every effort in my power to avoid it, not only from my unwillingness to part with you and the family, but from a consciousness of its being a trust too great for my capacity; and I should enjoy more real happiness in one month with you at home than I have the most distant prospect of finding abroad; if my stay were to be seven times seven years. But as it has been a kind of destiny that has thrown me upon this service, I shall hope that has my undertaking it is designed to answer some good purpose...

I shall rely confidently on that Providence which has heretofore preserved and been bountiful to me, not doubting but that I shall return safe to you in the fall. I shall feel no pain from the toil or danger of the campaign; my unhappiness will flow from the uneasiness I know you will feel from being left alone. I therefore beg that you will summon your whole fortitude, and pass your times agreeably as possible. Nothing will give me so much sincere satisfaction as to hear this, and to hear it from your own pen.

George Washington





## 名人小课堂

乔治·华盛顿 (George Washington, 1732 ~ 1799 年)

美国首任总统，美国独立战争大陆军总司令。1789 年当选，1793 年连任，后隐居。华盛顿被尊称为美国国父，学者们将他和亚伯拉罕·林肯并列为美国历史上最伟大的总统。

你可以相信我，我以最庄严的方式向你保证，我非但没有主动去谋求这个职位，反而是竭尽所能地推辞它。这不只是因为我不愿意离开你、离开家人，还因为我自知我的能力还不足以担此重任。此外，如果要我为了一个遥远的前程长年奔波在外，我倒宁愿在家与你一起享受哪怕一个月的真正的快乐。但是，既然命运之神选中了我来担当此职，我谨希望接受此任以实现崇高的目标……

我将充满信心地依赖上帝，迄今为止他一直在保佑我并赐福于我。毋庸置疑，这个秋天我一定会安然无恙地回到你的身边。我不会因为作战的艰苦和危险而感到痛苦。我的不快乐来自于我知道将你独自一人留在家，你会感到不安。因此，我乞求你鼓足勇气，尽可能愉快地度过你的时光。再也没有比听到你过得快乐更令我欣慰的了，再也没有比收到你的亲笔回信更令我感到满足的了。

乔治·华盛顿