

外教社大学生拓展阅读系列

总主编 冯庆华 刘全福

# 文苑

## 风景线

主编 顿官刚  
编委 杨洪 陶怡 张颖

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英汉对照

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# 前 言

为帮助在校大学生和英语爱好者提高英语阅读水平及英汉翻译能力,我社隆重推出了这套具有一定规模的英汉对照“外教社大学生拓展阅读系列”。该丛书由上海外国语大学冯庆华教授担任总主编,各分册编者均为上海外国语大学在读博士及硕士研究生。本丛书共 10 册,分别为《健康新概念》、《社会多棱镜》、《文苑风景线》、《影视百花园》、《科技新视野》、《都市流行风》、《人生启示录》、《人物风云榜》、《音乐新时空》、《体坛万花筒》。与同类出版物相比,“外教社大学生拓展阅读系列”具有如下特点:一是题材广泛,几乎囊括了与人们生活息息相关的诸多方面的内容,这样既可拓宽读者的视野,又能使其熟悉并掌握各种体裁的英语表达形式;二是内容新颖,选材多出自新近出版或更新的英文报刊书籍或网页,如此定位确保了语言材料的鲜活性和地道性,从而使读者在吸收新知的同时也可领略到贴近时代与现实生活的崭新表现手法;三是可读性强,所选近 300 篇文章可谓篇篇独具风格,或短或长,均不乏妙趣,细细品味,蕴涵于字里行间的精言妙义常令人不禁释然或哑然,所谓“益智”、“怡情”,二者原来可以兼得。

本丛书既是一个有机的系列,也即各分册从整体上向读者展示出一面异彩纷呈的英语世界的多棱镜,同时每一分册又自成一体,各自以其丰富的内容为我们呈现出一个个色彩斑斓的万花筒。这样,读者既可分而购之,观其一隅,亦可尽收囊中,览尽精彩,若再有心细者,携一套“外教社大学生拓展阅读系列”以飨友人,那更是得体不过的事了。

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## The Lady or the Tiger

Frank R. Stockton<sup>①</sup>

Long, long ago there lived a king who was crude and very much like a savage. He had learned some manners from his Latin neighbors, but mostly he was *barbaric*<sup>②</sup>, loud, and gruff. He had none of the grace and polish of his neighbors. He was a man of great fancies and even greater enthusiasm. Because he had so much authority as a king, he was able to force some of these fancies into reality. Or at least he tried to.

His personality was normally calm when everything was in order. When there was a little hitch, however, he was exultant and happy. He loved it when things went wrong because that meant that he could then correct them. He loved to make the *crooked*<sup>③</sup> straight, to crush down the uneven places in life.

He decided that there should be a way to add culture to the lives of his subjects. His method was the public arena. There, humans and beasts performed before audiences. But his fancies asserted themselves here. The arena that he built was not for the honor and glory of gladiators. It was not for beasts to fight each other to the finish. It was not even for throwing religious heretics to the lions. It was, he believed, for the purpose of widening and developing the mental energies of his people. It was a vast *amphitheater*<sup>④</sup> with encircling galleries, mysterious vaults, and unseen passages. It was to be a means for poetic justice. It was to be a

① Frank R. Stockton, 弗兰克·R·斯托克顿(1834-1902), 美国幽默小说家, 以写儿童故事和冒险小说著称, 其故事集《拉德·格兰奇》(*Rudder Grange*)使他声名鹊起。他的作品常常以非同寻常的结尾而闻名。本文改编自其经典之作《美女乎? 猛虎乎?》(*The Lady or the Tiger*)。

② barbaric, / bə'beərɪk /, 野蛮的, 粗野的。

③ crooked / krukɪd /, 弯曲的。

④ amphitheater, / æmfɪθiə'teə /, 古罗马的圆形剧场, 竞技场。

## 美女乎？猛虎乎？

(美)弗兰克·R·斯托克顿 杨洪 译

很久很久以前，有一个国王，他举止粗鲁，野蛮无比。虽然他从邻国拉丁人那儿学到了一些礼仪，但就整个人而言，他依然凶蛮、俗气、庸俗。他一点也不像邻国人那样温文尔雅。他充满着奇思怪想，热情过于奔放。由于他贵为君王，握有生杀予夺的大权，因此能够强行把他的一些奇思怪想变成现实。至少，他拼命这么去做。

当一切都井然有序的时候，他通常还能忍住性子。然而，要是出了一丁点儿漏子，他就会欢天喜地、兴高采烈。此时，他总是欣喜若狂，因为这意味着他又可以一展身手了。他喜欢把弯曲的东西拧直，把世间高低不平的地方碾平。

他认为应该想办法给臣民们的生活增加一些文化氛围。而他的法子就是建一个公共竞技场，让人和野兽当着观众的面表演。他的那些离奇想法也因此找到了用武之地。他修建这个竞技场的目的不是为了颂扬角斗士的光辉和荣耀，也不是为了让野兽相互搏斗一决雌雄，更不是为了把异教徒拿来喂狮子。他坚信，其真正意义在于开拓和发展黎民百姓的精神力量。这是一个巨大的圆形露天竞技场，有着环绕的坐席、神秘的拱顶，以及隐秘的通道。这是一个诗一般的伸张正义的好办法，一个全凭运气严惩罪恶、褒奖美德的地方。

当国王对臣民及其罪恶产生了兴趣时，他就传旨下去：在公共竞技场决定他们的命运。他不知道其他王国有什么样的习俗，他只懂得按自己的意志和设想去做。正是因为他脑子里有

place where crime was punished or virtue rewarded — all by chance.

When the king was interested in people and their crimes, he would dictate that their fate should be decided in the arena. This king knew no traditions from other kingdoms. His only *allegiance*<sup>①</sup> was to himself and to his own fancies. This fancy, the chance-fate decision in the arena, came about because of his romantic, yet barbaric, idealism.

When all the people had gathered in the galleries and the king was seated on his throne high up on one side of the arena, he would give a signal. A door beneath him would open, and the accused person would step out into the amphitheater. Directly opposite the accused there were two doors, exactly alike and side by side. The person on trial had to walk over to these doors and open one of them. He could open whichever door he wanted; he was subject to no pressure from the king or his court. The only influence was that of fate or luck.

If the accused opened one door, a hungry tiger came out. It was the fiercest and most cruel that could be found, and it immediately jumped on him and tore him to pieces as a punishment for his guilt. When the fate of the criminal was thus decided, sad iron bells were rung, and great wails went up from the hired *mourners*<sup>②</sup> who were posted outside the arena. The audience went home with bowed heads and *doleful*<sup>③</sup> hearts, said that one so young and fair (or so old and respected) should have merited such a fate.

If he opened the other door, a lady came out. The king always chose the ladies himself. He made sure that each was of the same age and station as the accused and that she was beautiful. The rule was that the accused was to marry her immediately. It didn't matter if he were already married and had a family. The lady was a sign of his innocence, so if the accused already loved another, that other was to be forgotten. It was the king's way. He

① allegiance./ ə'li:dʒəns /, 忠贞, 效忠。

② mourner./ 'məʊnə /, 悲伤者; 哀悼者。

③ doleful./ 'dəʊlfʊl /, 悲哀的。

着一种如此浪漫而又野蛮的理想主义，才会产生这种在竞技场上让罪犯凭运气来决定命运的怪招。

当竞技场上座无虚席，而国王自己也已在此竞技场一侧高高的御席上落座后，他就发出一个信号。紧接着，国王座位下方的一扇门就会打开，被告将从门中走到圆形竞技场上。在他的正对面，紧挨着两扇几乎一模一样的门。这个受到审判的家伙得自己走到那两扇门面前，打开其中的一扇。他自己想打开哪一扇就打开哪一扇，而丝毫不会受到来自国王或者法庭的压力。唯一能发生影响的只有天命或运气。

当他打开一扇门，也许一只饿虎就会跳将出来。这可是一只世间最为凶猛和残忍的老虎，它会立刻扑到他的身上，把他撕成碎片，以惩罚他犯下的罪孽。当犯人的命运以这样的方式决定之后，铁铸的丧钟将会敲响，发出阵阵悲鸣，而那些受雇在竞技场外哀悼的人则会嚎啕大哭，声震全场。然后，观众们个个低着头，怀着一颗悲伤的心，离场回家，哀叹着这么英俊的小伙子（或者，如此德高望重的老者）会落得个如此下场。

如果他打开另外一扇门，也许一位美女会款款而出。这些个丽人可总是由国王亲自选定。他要确保这位佳丽和那个罪犯年龄相当，门当户对，且美若天仙。按规定罪犯必须立即与她成婚，也不管他是否已经结婚生子。这个从门后面走出的姑娘意味着他清白无辜。所以，就算他早就有了心上人，那也得把她忘掉。这就是国王的做事方式。他可不允许有什么事情来妨碍他的如意算盘。实际上，一旦从门中出来的是一位美人，国王座位下方还有一扇门就会打开，神父、乐师、歌手，还有一群舞者将鱼贯而出。他们列队行进，欢呼雀跃，并向竞技场中央的那对新人献歌。欢乐的钟声也随即响起，观众们的叫好声此起彼伏，一群孩子走在前面为这对新人抛洒鲜花，那个清白的人儿，领着新娘子朝家里走去。

allowed nothing to interfere with his design. Indeed, immediately after the lady appeared, another door beneath the king opened and out came a priest, musicians, singers, and a troupe of dancers. In a procession, they all cheerfully marched and sang for the couple standing in the middle of the arena. The bells rang, the audience shouted its approval, and the innocent man, preceded by children strewing flowers in the couple's path, led his new bride to his home.

This was the king's semibarbaric method of administering justice, and its fairness is obvious. The criminal could not know which door the lady was behind. He opened whichever door he wanted to without knowing whether in the next instant he was to be eaten or married. On some occasions the tiger came out of one door, and on other occasions it came out of the other. In this system, there was instant punishment for guilt and instant reward for innocence — whether the accused wanted the reward or not. There was no escape from the judgment of the king's arena.

The institution was a popular one. When the people gathered together on one of the trial days, they never knew whether they were to witness a bloody slaughter or a festive wedding. This element of uncertainty usually made the occasion more interesting than it would have been otherwise. The people were entertained, and no one doubted that justice was being served. All believed that the accused had his fate in his own hands.

The semibarbaric king had a daughter whom he loved deeply. She was as passionate, fanciful, and strong as her father and was devoted to him. As is the case in many fairy tales, this daughter, the apple of her father's eye, was in love with a young man who was below her in station. He was a commoner. He was also brave, handsome, and daring, and he loved the royal daughter with all his being. The princess had enough barbarism in her that their love affair was dramatic ... too dramatic. It was a secret for months, but then the king found out about it.

The king didn't hesitate for a minute. He sent the young man to prison and set a date for his trial in the arena. When the date arrived, everyone in the kingdom wanted to attend. They all knew

这便是国王主持正义的半野蛮的方法，它的公正性是显而易见的。罪犯不会知道哪扇门后面藏着美人儿。他愿打开哪扇门就打开哪扇门，一点也不知道一刹那之后，他会被活生生地吃掉，还是会赢得美人归。那只猛虎有时从这扇门里冲出来，有时则从另外那扇门中跳出来。按照这个法儿，罪恶即刻得到惩处，而清白也立时得到奖赏——无论那被告是否乐意接受这样的奖赏。谁也休想从国王竞技场上的裁决中逃脱。

国王的这个办法大受欢迎。当老百姓们在某个这样的审判日里涌到一起，他们绝对不知道他们将目睹一次血淋淋的屠杀还是一场节庆般的婚典。正是这种不确定性常常使得这场抉择比没有这种不确定性更为精彩。老百姓们从中得到了娱乐，而且个个确信无疑，正义得到了伸张。人人都坚信，在竞技场上，那个受指控的人自己掌握着自己的命运。

这个半野蛮的国王有一爱女。她与父亲一样激情洋溢，充满幻想，固执己见，当然她也很孝顺他。和许多童话故事中的一样，这位公主——她父亲的掌上明珠——爱上了一个比她门第低得多的年轻人。那小伙子只是一介平民而已，但却勇敢、英俊、有勇气，他深深地爱着国王的女儿。由于公主身上的那股野蛮血气实在太盛，才最终有了这段富有戏剧性——简直太有戏剧性的恋情。虽然他们的私情保密了几个月，但最终还是让国王给发现了。

国王敢情一刻也没有耽搁。他把那小子投入了监牢，并择日在竞技场审判他。当开庭审讯的日子来临时，王国中的每一个人都想去瞧瞧热闹。他们全都明白国王对这个案子极为关心，那天，连空气中都弥漫着一种兴奋之情。

国王手下的人在王国里找了只最凶猛的老虎。同时他们也找来了这片土地上最靓丽的少女，这样一旦他被裁定无罪，他便能有一个最班配的新娘子。当然，每个人都知道他犯下了爱上

of the king's interest in the case, and there was excitement in the air.

The king's men searched for the fiercest tiger in the *realm*<sup>①</sup>. They also searched for the fairest maiden in the land so that he could have a fitting bride in case he were found innocent. Of course, everyone knew that he had committed the "crime" of loving the princess, but the king did not allow the facts of the case to alter his decision. The trial would go on as planned. The youth would be gone no matter what happened; he would either be dead or married. The king could enjoy the proceedings for the sport of it.

The day arrived. The people were standing in every corner of the arena. All was ready when the moment came. A signal was given and the door opened, allowing the princess's lover to enter. The crowd gasped. He was handsome. Half the audience did not know that same one so attractive had lived among them; no wonder the princess loved him! How terrible for him to be there!

The princess had thought about this trial day and night for a long time. She knew she couldn't bear to miss the spectacle, but there was another reason for her being there. She had such power, influence, and force of character (as well as plenty of gold) that she did what no one had ever done before; she found out the secret of the doors for that day. She knew in which room stood the hungry tiger and in which waited the lady. She knew, too, that the doors were so thick that there was no way anyone could ever hear some hint from behind them. If she were going to warn her lover, she would have to do it by signal.

She also knew something which made the whole process more complicated. She knew that the lady was one of the most beautiful maidens in the whole country, and the thought of her young man living with this woman enraged her. She hated the lady and hated what might happen.

When the accused bowed to the royal box, as was the custom, he looked only at the princess, and immediately he knew. He had

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① *realm*, / *relm* /, 王国; 国度。

公主的“滔天大罪”，然而国王却不管什么爱不爱的。审判将如期举行。无论发生了什么事情，这个小伙子都得在竞技场上被打发掉，要么给老虎吃了，要么娶个美女。国王也因此将会享受到审判过程中的那份乐趣。

审判日终于到来。竞技场里人山人海。一切准备就绪，只等那一刻的到来。信号发出了，关押犯人的门也打开了，公主的情人进了场。人群屏住了呼吸。噢，他是那样的英俊。一半的观众觉得在他们的国度里再也找不出第二个这么有魅力的人了，怪不得公主爱上了他。让这么个帅小伙站在竞技场上，太可怕了。

公主已经为这个审判日日思夜想了好长一段时间。她明白，假使错过了这个盛典，她会受不了的，但她执意要出席这场审判却还另有隐情。她有权有势，有勇有谋（和使不完的金子），能够让她去干一桩前人从未做过的事情。她发现了审判日那天两扇门后的秘密。也就是说，她知道了，在哪扇门后面蹲着饿虎，哪扇门后面站着美人。她也知道了，那两扇门特别厚，没有人能有什么办法听出门后到底是美女还是老虎。假如她要暗示恋人如何抉择，只能靠发信号给他了。

她还知道有些事情会让她的营救行动变得错综复杂。她心里明白门后的那位女子是举国最美的姑娘之一，如果她救了他，他将此生与门后的美女长相厮守。一想到这些，公主不由得醋意大发。她恨死了那个美人，恨死了将要发生的一切。

当被告依礼向国王包厢鞠躬致敬时，他只是瞧着公主，并且马上知道了她心里的盘算。他原本就一直企盼着她能找出那两扇门后的秘密。而现在他明白，她已有了答案。只有公主才能告诉他们后的真情啊。

他瞥了她一眼，仿佛在问，“哪扇门？”那眼神中的意思明白无误，如同大声喊出来一般。时间紧迫啊，公主得立刻回答这个



expected her to find out the secret of the doors, and now he knew that she had the answer. It was only left for her to tell him.

His quick glance at her asked, "Which?" It was as plain as if he had shouted it. There was no time to lose; the quick question had to be answered just quickly so that the king would not suspect.

Her right hand was resting on a pillow in front of her. She raised it slightly and made a small, fast movement to the right. No one but her lover saw her. Every eye in the arena was fixed on him.

He turned, and with a firm and rapid step he walked across the empty space. Every heart stopped beating, every breath was held, every eye was upon him. Without hesitation, he went to the door on the right and opened it.

Did the tiger come out of that door, or did the lady?

The more we think about this question, the harder it is to answer. It involves a study of the human heart which leads to mazes of passion, love, hate, and excitement. Do not answer this for yourself, but put yourself in the place of the princess.

She was hot-blooded and semibarbaric, and her soul burned with the twin desires of longing and jealousy. She knew that she had already lost him. But to whom?

How often she had lain awake at night imagining the horror of her lover being killed by a tiger! Even in her dreams, she had covered her face with her hands to hide from the cruelty.

But how much more often had she seen him at the other door! In her mind she had screamed and torn her hair when she saw his happy face at opening the door to the lady. Her soul burned in *agony*<sup>①</sup> as she saw him rush to that woman and then be wedded in the next moment, when all about her were joyous. She lived through the misery of the procession, the happy couple, the singing and dancing, the shouts of the crowd, the laughter of the wandering children. Her tears, of course, were lost in all the joy.

Would it be better for him to die at once? Then he could go to the place after death and wait for her.

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① agony, /'æɡəni /, 痛苦。