

纽约时报畅销书第一名

答案在你心中: 这辈子该思考的问题



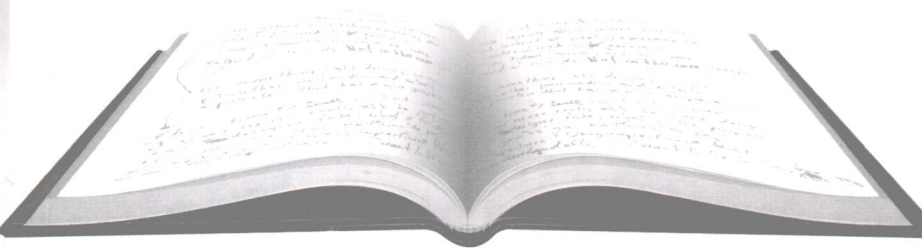
双语
版

The Book of Questions

[美] 乔治·斯托克◎著 GREGORY STOCK

黄钦◎译

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答案在你心中

The Book of Questions

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我们是两种人，被同一种问题隔开

1

“飞机上，你和一名相貌平平的陌生人相谈甚欢。出人意料的是，这个人给你一万美元，要和你一夜情。如果这没有任何危险，报酬也毫无问题，你会同意吗？”

问过不同的人。

一人说：“不会。”

追问为什么。答曰：“受不了心里有鬼的感觉。不想藏这样的秘密。”

一人说：“这要考虑很多因素。比如结婚怎么样，没结婚怎么样，都要考虑；再比如，你对对方有没有感觉，等等吧。”

没说“不会”。那就有可能“会”啊。

2

“如果你杀死一个无辜的人，就能够制止世界大饥荒，你愿不愿意这样做？”

问过不同的人。

一人沉吟：“愿意。”

追问为什么。答曰：“那可是拯救全世界啊……”

一人说：“我要反问上帝，我有这个责任吗？”

意思是，不愿意啊。

无论你回答了什么，无论你此刻迫切想说点什么。此中都没有是非，没有好坏，只有答案。

和一个朋友对坐，对问。你会发现，原来我们是两种人，被同一种问题隔开。但这不是重点，重点是，我们知道自己是哪种人啦。因为有些问题，你也许不肯对朋友讲实话，但对自己可以。答案在你心中。

没错，这是一本特别适合“扪心自问”的小书。两百多个问题，就是两百多次直面自己、晾晒灵魂死角的机会。利刃逼颈，却使人欲罢不能。

注：下文中有*号的问题，在123页之后有进一步的拓展。

答案在你心中



1

为了心爱的人，
你愿不愿意去一个遥远而陌生的地方，
从此再也见不到朋友和家人？

For a person you loved deeply, would you
be willing to move to a distant country
knowing there would be little chance of
seeing your friends or family again?

2

你相信世上有鬼怪与恶魔吗？
你敢不敢整晚一个人，
待在一个传说中的鬼屋？

Do you believe in ghosts or evil spirits?
Would you be willing to spend a night
alone in a remote house that is suppos-
edly haunted?

3

如果今晚你就要死了，
再也没有机会与别人交流，
你最后悔没告诉别人什么？
你为什么一直不愿吐露心声？

If you were to die this evening with no opportunity to communicate with anyone, what would you most regret not having told someone? Why haven't you told them yet?

4

如果整整一年都过得幸福美满，
此后就彻底失忆，
你愿意吗？
为什么不愿意？ *

If you could spend one year in perfect happiness but afterward would remember nothing of the experience would you do so? If not, why not?

5

如果有种新药能治关节炎，
但 1% 的服用者中会有严重的并发症，
你会向公众推广吗？

If a new medicine were developed that
would cure arthritis but cause a fatal reac-
tion in 1 percent of those who took it,
would you want it to be released to the
public?

6

你发现由于医院的失误，
你那一岁大的可爱宝宝不是你亲生的。
你会把孩子换回来吗？

You discover your wonderful one-year-old
child is, because of a mixup at the hospital,
not yours. Would you want to exchange the
child to try to correct the mistake?

7

你认为一百年后世界会比现在更好，还是更糟？

Do you think that the world will be a better or a worse place 100 years from now?

8

你愿意成为集体项目的世界冠军，
还是个人项目的世界冠军？
你会选择哪一种运动？

Would you rather be a member of a world championship sports team or be the champion of an individual sport? Which sport would you choose?

9

你愿不愿意接受一百万美元，
从此离开祖国，
再也不踏上故土一步？ *

Would you accept \$1,000,000 to leave the
country and never set foot in it again?

10

你认为咱们的文化中哪种性别更占优势？
想过要变成另一种性别吗？

Which sex do you think has it easier in our
culture? Have you ever wished you were of
the opposite sex?

11

假设你有一种能力：
只要想着让某个人死，
然后重复说两次“再见”，
那人就会自然死亡，
根本没有人怀疑到你。
你会使用这种能力吗？ *

You are given the power to kill people simply by thinking of their deaths and twice repeating the word “good-bye.” People would die a natural death and no one would suspect you. Are there any situations in which you would use this power?

12

如果让三十岁的你再活六十年，
你愿意在以后的日子里，
保持三十岁的身体呢，
还是三十岁的精神？

If you were able to live to the age of 90 and
retain either the body or the mind of a
30-year-old for the last 60 years of your
life, which would you want?

13

你构想的“完美”夜晚是什么样的？

What would constitute a “perfect”
evening for you?

14

你愿意事业上功成名就，
个人生活却平庸无奇呢，
还是愿意个人生活幸福美满，
事业却乏善可陈呢？ *

Would you rather be extremely successful professionally and have a tolerable yet un-exciting private life, or have an extremely happy private life and only a tolerable and uninspiring professional life?

15

你最崇拜的人是谁？
他在哪些方面激励了你？

Whom do you admire most? In what way does that person inspire you?

16

如果你的孩子一出生，你就可以替他选定终生职业，你会不会这样做？

If at birth you could select the profession your child would eventually pursue, would you do so?

17

如果让你变得极其丑陋，便可享寿千年，你愿不愿意？*

Would you be willing to become extremely ugly physically if it meant you would live for 1,000 years at any physical age you chose?

18

如果有一天清晨，你醒来后发现自己拥有了未曾有过的能力与资质，你希望会是什么？

If you could wake up tomorrow having gained any one ability or quality, what would it be?

19

如果你有缘遇到一个至爱之人，她让你充满爱的喜悦。令人伤心的是，六个月内她就会死去。想想日后的痛苦，你还愿意遇见她，爱上她吗？万一你爱的人不会死，却背叛了你，你会怎样？*

You have the chance to meet someone with whom you can have the most satisfying love imaginable—the stuff of dreams. Sadly, you know that in six months the person will die. Knowing the pain that would follow, would you still want to meet the person and fall in love? What if you knew your lover would not die, but instead would betray you?