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用耳朵听
最惊奇的故事



Crazy English

疯狂英语

故事会

祝梅 编

惊奇故事集萃

本书收录耳熟能详的传奇、灵异故事45篇，使读者能读到廉价而又实用的英文科幻小说。

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依据教育部公布的《英语教学大纲》编纂，精选高考常见的高频词，在中英文中重复出现，轻松记单词。

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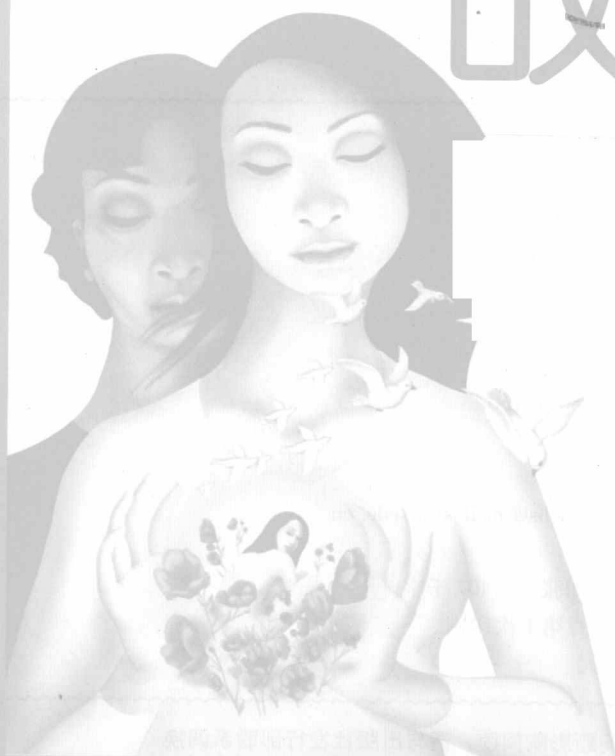
用耳朵听
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读故事
记单词

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疯狂英语 故事会

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前言

提起《故事会》这个书名，大家都会想到那本小小的带给我们无限欢乐的故事书吧。那一个个扣人心弦的故事，陪伴我们茶余饭后。《英语故事会》你看过吗？既可以读故事，又可以学英语，将学习寓于有趣的故事阅读中，轻轻松松学英语。

本书独创“用耳朵学英文”的学习方式，为自己创造一个全英语环境，无论是散步、坐车还是躺在床上，都能不断地听英语，练就英语耳。全书配备的MP3光盘，由美籍教师倾情演绎故事内容，并配以相应风格的背景音乐，使各个故事产生立体式的欣赏效果。配音吐字清晰，发音地道，感情充沛，是很好的听力资料。

为了便于大家记单词，我们专门编写了“读故事记单词”版块。正文中有很多单词字体加粗，还有一些以斜体标注，并附有脚注，其中粗体的单词是读者必须记住的。中文翻译中间专门留有单词没有翻译，是为了考验大家的记忆能力，这些词在每篇文章的结尾处都有专门的注释。

以精彩的故事调动学习者的兴趣和感情投入，使人的注意力集中在故事情节的同时集中在英语语言现象上，从而达到最好的英语学习效果。本系列图书正是本着这样的目的而为广大渴望早日掌握英语的读者准备的，共有三辑，分别是《用耳朵听最感人的故事》、《用耳朵听最惊奇的故事》和《用耳朵听传奇人物故事》。这一个个故事也许会勾起你对家人、故友、往事的回忆，锻造你的情商；也许会打破你的常规思维，挑战你的胆量，让你大开眼界；也许会让你以人生的经验和启迪，让你少走弯路，更上一层楼。

本书为该系列图书之一的《用耳朵听最惊奇的故事》，撷取了世界各国的奇人奇事以飨读者；选材上紧扣“惊奇”二字，情节跌宕起伏，惊喜连连；语言标准凝练，是学习英语不可多得的好帮手。

用耳朵听故事是最有效的学习方法，它能在最短的时间内，让这些人在这些方面受益：

★ 听力

没有英语基础的人
想要确实听懂地道生活英语的人
想要增强自我英语能力的人

★ 词汇

想要顺利轻松记住英语单词的人

★ 语法

想要具有英语思维（用英语去思考、表达）的人

★ 会话

想要学会日常会话的人
听得懂却开不了口、不会说的人
想要重新打好英语基础的人

★ 阅读

想要拥有优越阅读能力的人
喜欢阅读小故事的人

★ 写作

想要写出地道、优美英文的人

跟着“疯狂英语”的节奏动起来吧，收获不仅仅是英语，还有“疯狂”成功的人生！



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奇趣故事

天下大事，无奇不有。奇闻异事，闻所未闻。有些让人拍手称快；有些让人扼腕叹息；有些让人啼笑皆非；还有些发人深省；更有些催人泪下。无论如何，你都能从中领略到不同寻常的感受，也许正是因为有了这许多的“怪人怪事”，世界才会越发地精彩吧！



火车上的女孩

The Girl on the Train

我们都听过一个关于“瞎子摸象”的故事，说的是一群瞎子想知道大象是什么样，他们围着象摸。摸到鼻子的，说大象像一根管子；摸到耳朵的，说像一把扇子；摸到牙的，说像一根萝卜；摸到象身的，说像一堵墙；摸到腿的，说像一根柱子；摸到尾巴的，说像一条绳子。于是，“瞎子摸象”成为一则成语，用来讽刺那些观察事物片面，只见局部不见整体的人。本故事中的“我”正是一个瞎子，“我”甚至连“摸象”的机会也没有，便直接用眼睛去“看”、用心去猜自己周围的情况，而结果却又出乎自己的意料之外。

I had the compartment¹⁾ on the train to myself up to Rohana, and then a girl got on. The couple seeing her off were probably her parents, they seemed very anxious about her comfort, and the woman gave the girl detailed instructions as to where to keep her things, when not to lean out of windows, and how to avoid speaking to strangers.

As I had become blind by then, I could not tell what the girl looked like, but I knew she wore slippers from the way they slapped against her heels, and I liked the sound of her voice.

“Are you going all the way to Dehra Dun?” I asked her as the train pulled out of the station.

生词注释

1. compartment [kəm'pɑ:tment] n. 车厢





I must have been sitting in a dark corner, because my voice startled her. She gave a little exclamation, and said: "I didn't know anyone else was here."

Well, it often happens that people with good eyesight fail to see what is right in front of them. They have too much to observe, I suppose, whereas those who cannot see take in what registers most telling on their remaining senses.

"I didn't see you either at first," I said. "But I heard you come in." I wondered if I would be able to prevent her from discovering that I couldn't see. I thought, provided I keep to my seat, it shouldn't be too difficult.

"I'm getting down at Saharanpur," the girl said. "My aunt is meeting me there. Where are you going?"

"To Dehra Dun, and then to Mussoorie," I replied.

"Oh, lucky you! I wish I were going to Mussoorie. I love the mountains. Especially in October."

一直到罗哈那，车厢里只有我一人，后来上来一个少女。送行的那对couple大概是她的parents，他们好像很为她的舒适而anxious，那个妇人详细地instructions少女东西放在什么地方，什么时候不可将身子探出窗外，以及如何avoid同素不相识的人交谈。

那时候我已blind，所以不知道那少女的容貌如何，不过我知道她穿着拖鞋，因为两只拖鞋拍打着她的heels。我很喜欢她说话的sound。

火车驶出了车站，我问她：“您要一直到台拉登吗？”

我一定是坐在黑暗的角落里，因为我的声音startled她。她轻轻地exclamation，说：“我不知道这里还有一个人。”

咳，视力好的人常常看不到眼前的东西。我suppose这是目不暇接的缘故。而双目失明的人，倒是体会到其他感官所接触到的最明显的senses。

“我起初也没有看到您。”我说，“但是我听到您走进来。”我wonder自己能否不让她discovering我是瞎子，我想：如果我坐在原处不动，应该不难做到。

“我要在萨哈兰普尔下车”，少女说，“我的姨妈在那里接我。您到哪儿去？”

“先去台拉登，后到穆索里”，我replied说。

“啊，您好运气！我也想去穆索里，我爱那儿的群山，Especially是在10月。”

“Yes, this is the best time.” I said, **calling on** my memories when I could see. “The hills are covered with wild *dahlias*²⁾, the sun is delicious, and at night you can sit in front of a log fire and drink a little brandy. Most of the **tourists** have gone, and the roads are quiet and almost *deserted*³⁾.”

She was **silent**, and I wondered if my words had **touched** her, or whether she thought me a **romantic** fool. Then I made a mistake. “What is it like outside?” I asked.

She **seemed to** find nothing strange in the question. Had she noticed already that I could not see? But her next question **removed** my doubts.

“Why don’t you look out of the window?” she asked quite **naturally**.

I moved easily along the *berth*⁴⁾ and felt for the window ledge. The window was open and I faced it, making a *pretense*⁵⁾ of studying the **landscape**. In my mind’s eye, I could see the telegraph posts flashing by. “Have you noticed,” I **ventured**, “that the trees seem to be moving while we seem to be standing still?”

“That always happens,” she said.

I turned from the window and faced the girl, and for a while we sat in silence. “You have an interesting face,” I **commented**. I was becoming quite daring, but it was a safe remark, few girls can **resist** *flattery*⁶⁾.

She laughed pleasantly, a clear, ringing laugh. “It’s nice to be told that,” she said. “I’m so tired of people telling me that I have a **pretty** face.”

Oh, so you do have a pretty face, thought I, and aloud I said, “Well, an interesting face can also be pretty.”

“You are very *gallant*⁷⁾,” she said. “But why are you so **serious**?”

“We’ll soon be at your station,” I said rather suddenly. “Thank goodness it’s a short **journey**. I can’t bear to sit in a train for more than two or three hours.”

生词注释

2. *dahlia* [ˈdeɪljə] n. [植]大丽花

3. *deserted* [dɪˈzɜ:tɪd] adj. 荒芜的

4. *berth* [bɜ:θ] n. 卧铺

5. *pretense* [priˈtens] n. 伪称, 借口

6. *flattery* [ˈflætəri] n. 奉承, 恭维话

7. *gallant* [ˈgælənt] adj. 对妇女献殷勤的



“是的，这是最好的时节”，我一边说，一边calling on当初眼睛还能看得见时的情景，“满山遍野开着野大丽花，阳光灿烂。到了夜间，您可以坐在篝火前，喝点白兰地。大多数tourists都已离去，路上很静，几乎荒芜。”

她silent了，我不晓得是我的话touched了她，还是她以为我是个romantic傻子。后来我犯了个错误，问了一句：“外面是什么样子？”我问。

她seem to没发现我这一问有什么奇怪。她是否已经注意到我是盲人？但是她下一句问话removed我的疑惑。

“您干吗自己不往窗外看看？”她naturally地问。

我在卧铺上慢慢移动，用手摸窗沿，车窗开着，我面对着窗，假装观赏landscape。在我的心目中，我能看见一根根电线杆闪过，“您可注意到”，我ventured，“树好像在动，而我们好像是静止的？”

“总是这样”，她说。

我从窗口转过身，面对着她，我们默不做声地坐了一会儿，“您有一张挺有趣的脸”，我commented，我变得相当大胆，但这话不会得罪人，能resist恭维话的女孩子不多。

她愉快地笑了，发出银铃般的笑声。“听您这样说，我很高兴”，她说。“人们老说我有一张pretty的脸，我都听厌了！”

啊，原来您的脸确实很美，我心想，于是又大声说：“嗯，有趣的脸也可以很美呀！”

“您真会献殷勤”，她说，“不过您干吗这样serious呢？”

“您的站很快就要到了”，我出其不意地说。

“谢天谢地，journey不远，在火车上坐两三个小时，我可受不了。”



Yet I was prepared to sit there for almost any length of time, just to listen to her talking. Her voice had the sparkle of a mountain stream. As soon as she left the train, she would forget our short **encounter**, but it would stay with me for the rest of the journey, and for some time after.

The engine's whistle shrieked, the carriage wheels changed their sound and **rhythm**. The girl got up to **collect** her things. I wondered if she wore her hair in a bun, or if it hung down loosely over her shoulders, or if it was cut very short.

The train drew slowly into the station. Outside, there was the shouting of porters and **vendors**⁸⁾ and, near the carriage door, a female voice that must have belonged to the girl's aunt. "Goodbye," said the girl.

She was standing very close to me, so close that the perfume from her hair was rich. I wanted to **raise** my hand and touch her hair, but she moved away, and only the perfume still remained where she had stood.

There was some **confusion**⁹⁾ in the doorway. A man getting into the compartment, **stammered**¹⁰⁾ an **apology**. Then the door banged **shut**, and the world was closed out again. I **returned** to my berth. The guard blew his whistle and we moved off.

The train gathered speed, the wheels took up their song, the carriage **groaned**¹¹⁾ and shook. I found the window and sat in front of it, **staring** into daylight that was darkness for me. Once again I had a game to play and a new fellow traveler.

"She was an interesting girl," I said. "Can you tell me—did she keep her hair long or short?"

"I don't remember," he replied, sounding **puzzled**. "It was her eyes I noticed, not her hair. She had such beautiful eyes, but they were of no use to her—she was **completely** blind. Didn't you notice?"

生词注释

8. vendor ['vendo:] n. 卖主

9. confusion [kən'fju:ʒən] n. 混乱

10. stammer ['stæmə] v. 结结巴巴地说

11. groan [grəʊn] vi. 受压迫发出嘎吱声

我却坐多久都可以，只要能听到她说话。她莺语呢喃，好像高山流水。她一下火车，就会忘了我们短暂的encounter；但是我余下的旅程忘不了她，以后相当一段时间也忘不了。

火车汽笛尖啸，车轮的声响和rhythm起了变化。少女站起来collect东西。我想知道她的头发是结成一个髻还是长发披肩，或者是剪得很短。

火车徐徐进站。外面，脚夫和小贩在喊叫，近车门处一个女人在说话，那一定是她的姑妈了。

“再见！”少女说。

她站得离我很近，近得她头发上的香气袭人。我想raise我的手去摸摸她的秀发，但是她走开了，只是香气停在那里不散。

车门口一阵骚乱，一个男人走进车厢，结结巴巴地apology，砰的一声车门shut了，把世界又关到了外面。我returned自己的卧铺上，列车员吹了哨，火车又开动了。

火车加快了速度，车轮又发出有节奏的响声，车厢在呻吟，在颤抖，我摸到车窗，坐在窗前，staring着白昼，其实对我犹如黑夜，我有了一个新的旅伴，可以再次做游戏了。

“她是个挺有意思的少女。”我说，“您能不能告诉我——她留的是长发还是短发？”

“记不得了”，他回答说，声音叫人puzzled。“我注意的是她的眼睛，不是她的头发。她的眼睛真美，但是对她一无所用——她completely瞎了，难道您没注意到吗？”

读惊奇故事，记必考单词

couple ['kʌpl]n. (一)对, (一)双, 夫妇
parent ['peərənt]n. 双亲, 父亲(或母亲)
anxious ['æŋkʃəs]adj. 担忧的, 焦急的
avoid [ə'vɔɪd]vt. 避免, 消除
instructions [ɪn'strʌkʃən]n. 指示, 用法说明
blind [blaɪnd]adj. 瞎的, 盲目的
heel [hi:l]n. 脚后跟
sound [saʊnd]n. 声音
startle ['stɑ:tɪl]v. 震惊
exclamation [ˌeksklə'meɪʃən]n. 惊呼, 感叹惊叹
suppose [sə'paʊz]vt. 料想, 假定
sense [sens]n. 感觉, 判断力
wonder ['wʌndə]v. 感到疑惑, 想知道
discover [dɪs'kʌvə]vt. 发现, 发觉
reply [rɪ'plaɪ]v. 答复, 回答
call on 回忆
tourist ['tuərɪst]n. 旅行者, 游客
silent ['saɪlənt]adj. 寂静的, 沉默的
touch [tʌtʃ]vt. 感动

romantic [rau'mætɪk]adj. 浪漫的
seem to 似乎, 好像
remove [rɪ'mu:v]vt. 移动, 移交
naturally ['nætʃərəli]adv. 自然地
landscape ['lændskeɪp]n. 风景
venture ['ventʃə]v. 冒险, 冒昧, 斗胆
comment ['kɒment]vi. 注释, 评论
resist [rɪ'zɪst]vt. 抵抗, 反抗
pretty ['prɪti]adj. 漂亮的, 可爱的
serious ['sɪəriəs]adj. 严肃的, 认真的
journey ['dʒɜ:nɪ]n. 旅行, 旅程
encounter [ɪn'kaʊntə]n. 相遇
rhythm ['rɪðəm, 'rɪθəm]n. 节奏, 韵律
collect [kə'lekt]v. 收集
apology [ə'pɒlədʒɪ]n. 辩解, 道歉
return [rɪ'tɜ:n]vi. 回返, 归还
stare [steə(r)]v. 盯着看
puzzle ['pʌzl]v. (使)迷惑
completely [kəm'pli:tli]adv. 十分, 完全地

二十年后

After Twenty Years

他不远千里赶到这里，来赴一个二十年前的约会。时间过得真快，原来的餐馆都已经拆除了。他满怀期待地在寒风中等待，盼望好朋友能准时赴约。他还跟一位巡逻的警察讲述了这个二十年之约的故事。然而，当老朋友如约出现，他却高兴不起来了……

The policeman on the beat moved up the **avenue** in an **impressive** way. His **impressiveness** was habitual and not for show, for there were few around. The time was barely 10 o'clock at night, but chilly gusts of wind with a taste of rain in them had driven most people indoors.

The cop **tested** doors as he went to make sure they were locked. He **twirled**⁽¹⁾ his club like a master in **martial**⁽²⁾ arts. He turned now and then to cast his watchful eye down the broad street. The officer, with his large form and **confident** walk, made a fine picture of a **guardian** of peace.

这位警察以一种**impressive**的方式巡逻着**avenue**。他那种**impressiveness**是一种习惯，并不是做给人看的，因为周围根本没几个人。还不到晚上十点，可伴着细雨的刺骨寒风已经把大部分人都赶进家门了。

这个警察一边走一边**tested**各家的门户，看看是否锁好了。他像一个武术高手一样甩着警棍，不时转身警惕地扫视着宽阔的街道。这位警官身材魁梧，走起路来**confident**十足，俨然一副和平**guardian**的派头。

生词注释

1. twirl [twɜ:rl] vt. (使)快速转动，捻弄

2. martial ['mɑ:ʃəl] adj. 战争的，尚武的

His duty area was one where most shops closed early at night. **Now and then** you might see the lights of a cigar store or of an all-night small restaurant, but most of the doors belonged to business owners who had already gone home several hours ago.

When about midway down one block the policeman suddenly **slowed** his walk. In the doorway of a dark **entrance** to a hardware store, a man **leaned**, with an unlighted cigar in his mouth. As the policeman walked up to him the man spoke up quickly.

“It’s all right, officer,” he said, reassuringly. “I’m just **waiting for** a friend. It’s an **appointment** made twenty years ago. Sounds a little **funny** to you, doesn’t it? Well, I’ll explain if you’d like to make certain everything is OK. About that long ago there used to be a restaurant where this store stands—’ Big Joe’ Brady’s restaurant.”

“Until five years ago,” said the policeman. “It was **torn down** then.”

The man in the doorway **struck a match** and lit his cigar. The light showed a pale, *square-jawed*³⁾ face with keen eyes, and a little white **scar** near his right eyebrow. He had a large **diamond** in his *scarf*⁴⁾.

“Twenty years ago tonight,” said the man, “I ate here at ‘Big Joe’ Brady’s with Jimmy Wells, my best friend, and the finest guy in the world. He and I were raised here in New York, just like two brothers, together. I was eighteen and Jimmy was twenty. The next morning I was to start for the West to **make my fortune**. You couldn’t have dragged Jimmy out of New York; he thought it was the only place **on earth**. Well, we agreed that night that we would meet here again exactly twenty years from that date and time, **no matter** what our conditions might be or from what **distance** we might have to come. We figured that in twenty years each of us ought to have our **destiny** worked out and our fortunes made, whatever they were going to be.”

生词注释

3. square-jawed adj. 方形下巴的

4. scarf [ska:f] n. 围巾, 头巾