

# 每天读一点英文

Everyday English Snack

那些给我智慧和勇气的故事

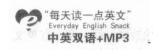
Grant me wisdom, grant me courage

与美国人同步阅读的英语丛书 美国英语教师协会推荐 。

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一个人富有不在于他拥有的多,而在于他计较的少。在不同人的眼中,幸福和富有的概念截然不同。 A person who is rich lies on he has a content heart, not on his money. Seeing from different aspects, happiness and welfare differ from each other.





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# 说起来容易, 做起来难啊

It is not hard to say things; it is harder to do them



# The Candle That Can't Be Lighted 点不亮的蜡烛

A man had a little daughter—an only and much—loved child. He lived for her—she was his life. So when she became ill, he became like a man possessed, moving heaven and earth to bring about her restoration to health.

His best efforts, however, proved unavailing and the child died. The father became a bitter **recluse**, shutting himself away from his many friends and refusing every activity *that might restore his poise and bring him back to his normal self*. But one night he had a dream.

He was in heaven, witnessing a grand pageant of all the little child angels. They were marching in a line passing by the Great White Throne. Every white—robed angelic child carried a candle. He noticed that one child's candle was not lighted. Then he saw that the child with the dark candle was his own little girl. Rushing to her, he seized her in his arms, caressed her tenderly, and then asked, "How is it, darling, that your candle alone is unlighted?" "Daddy, they often relight it, but your tears always put it out."

Just then he awoke from his dream. The lesson was crystal clear, and its effects were immediate. From that hour on he was not a recluse, but mingled freely and cheerfully with his former friends and associates. No longer would his darling's candle be extinguished by his useless tears.

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一个男人有一个可爱的女儿,那是他唯一的孩子,他深深地 爱着她,女儿就是他的全部。因此,当女儿生病时,他像疯了一 般竭尽全力想让她恢复健康。

然而,他所有的努力都无济于事,女儿还是死了。这位父亲 从此变得痛苦遁世,避开很多朋友,拒绝参加一切能使他恢复平 静、回到自我的活动。但在一天夜里,他做了一个梦。

梦里他到了天堂,目睹了小天使们的盛会。小天使们排成一队经过一个白色的大宝座。所有的小天使都身穿白色天使衣,手里拿着一支蜡烛。他注意到有一个小天使的蜡烛没有点亮。随后,他认出那个拿着没有点亮的蜡烛的小天使竟然是自己的女儿。他狂奔过去,一把将女儿抱在怀里,亲切地爱抚着她,然后问道:"宝贝儿,为什么只有你的蜡烛没有点亮呢?""爸爸,他们经常重新帮我点亮蜡烛,可总是让你的眼泪给熄灭。"

就在这时,他猛地惊醒了过来。这个梦给他上的一课,这一课像水晶般透明,而且有立竿见影的效果。从那时起,他不再消极遁世,而是自由自在,兴高采烈地回到以前的朋友和同事们中间。而宝贝女儿的蜡烛再也没有被他那无用的眼泪熄灭过。

# The Gold Chain 金链子

Once upon a time, there was a poor fisherman who always dreamed of becoming rich. He wished to become a millionaire, and so did his wife. He had heard from some old men before, that several ships loaded with diamonds and gold had once sunk in the nearby seashore. Because of this, for a long time he kept searching that whole area for this treasure.

One day, while he was sitting on the boat daydreaming, he suddenly felt that the fishing rod was being weighed down by a heavy object. He excitedly pulled hard at it, and what he saw made him exclaim, "Wow! A big, shiny gold chain!" He pulled hard at the gold chain to get it into the boat, but there seemed to be no end to it. His boat started to get over-loaded and the sea water filled his boat.

However, he had begun dreaming of a big house, a big piece of land and buying horses and cows...He kept pulling in the chain though the boat kept sinking. The boat was finally submerged and he struggled to stay afloat. Unfortunately his feet were entangled in the gold chain and he drowned.



很久以前,有个贫穷的渔夫,他总是梦想着能够发大财,希 望自己能够成为百万富翁,他妻子也是如此。他曾听一些年长者 说过,以前有几艘载满金银珠宝的船只沉没在附近的海域。因此, 长期以来,他一直在这一带的海域里搜寻着金银珠宝。

有一天,正当他坐在船上想入非非时,忽然感到钓线被非常 沉重的东西拖住了。他非常兴奋,使劲地往上拉,当鱼线拖出水 面时,他不禁大声尖叫起来:"哇!金光闪闪的长金链!"他拼命 地把金链子往船上拖,可是似乎没有尽头。他的小船超载了,海 水开始灌进船舱。

然而、他却依旧没完没了地做着黄粱美梦。可以买一幢大房 子, 置一大片稻田, 再买下几头牛、几匹马……尽管小船一直往 下沉,他却依然拖着金链。最后,小船终于沉下去了,落入水中 的他拼命挣扎想游出水面。不幸的是,他的双脚被金链死死缠住, 淹死了。



#### 单词注解

recluse [ri'klu:s] n. 隐居者,遁世者,隐士 angelic [æn'dʒelik] a. 天使的;天国的 exclaim [iks'kleim] v. (由于强烈的情感或痛苦而)呼喊;大声说掩 entangle [in'tæŋgl] v. 使缠绕;使陷入

#### 实用句型

... that might restore his poise and bring him back to his normal self. 拒绝参加一切能使他恢复平静、回到自我的活动。

No longer would his darling's candle be extinguished by his useless tears.

宝贝女儿的蜡烛再也没有被他那无用的眼泪熄灭过

His boat started to get over-loaded and the sea water filled his boat. 小船超载了,海水开始灌进船舱。

## 智慧点津

Don't cry because it is over, smile because it happened. 别为结束了而哭泣,要为曾经发生过而微笑。

Greed can overcome common sense. 贪婪使人失去理智。