

刘晓媛/译注



Long Legs

- 一部献给所有正在成长中、恋爱中、奋斗中读者的珍贵礼物
- 一部历久弥新、脍炙人口的巨著,一个充满阳光与奇迹的爱情喜剧,
- 一本被媒体评价为"百年难得一见的好书"

被欧美15所著名大学评选为"影响我成长的10本书"之一



中国字板出版社



分別を表す

刘晓媛 / 译注

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・北京・

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

长腿叔叔 = Daddy Long Legs:英汉对照 / (美) 韦 伯斯特(Webster, J.) 著,刘晓媛译注.-北京:中国宇航 出版社,2010.7

(青春励志系列)

ISBN 978-7-80218-774-0

I.①长… II.①韦…②刘… III.①英语 - 汉语 - 对 照读物②书信体小说 - 美国 - 现代 IV.① H319.4:I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2010)第 123156 号

策划编辑 战 颖 楚晓琦 装帧设计 03 工舍

责任编辑 战额 刘杰 责任校对程 凤

出版 中国字形出版社

发 行

社 址 北京市阜成路8号 邮 编 100830

(010)68768548

网 址 www.caphbook.com/www.caphbook.com.cn

经销销 新华书店

发行部 (010)68371900

(010)88530478(传真)

(010)68768541

(010)68767294(传真)

零售店 读者服务部

北京宇航文苑 (010)62529336

(010)68371105 承 印 北京嘉恒彩色印刷有限公司

版 次 2010年7月第1版 2010年7月第1次印刷

规格 880 × 1230

开本 1/32

印张 10.5

字 数 282 千字

书号 ISBN 978-7-80218-774-0

定价 24.00元

就是长腿叔叔吗?"

在电光石火的瞬间,这想法一下子掠过了我的脑海。噢,我是多么愚蠢啊!如果我稍有一点儿头脑,我早就应该从上百件小事中猜出是您了。我不能成为一个好侦探,是不是,叔叔?杰维?我该怎么称呼您呢?简单地叫"杰维"听起来有些失礼,我不能对您失礼!

在您的医生走进来送我离开之前,我们度过了甜蜜的半小时。当我向火车站走去时,我头晕目眩,差点儿搭上开往圣路易斯的火车。您想必也被喜悦冲昏了头脑,您忘记了请我喝茶。但是我们都非常、非常地幸福,不是吗?我赶着马车返回到洛克威勒时天已经黑了,但是,噢,天上的群星是多么耀眼啊!还有,今天早晨,我带着科林走遍了我们曾一起去过的每一个地方,我想起了您说的话,还有您当时的表情。今天的森林闪烁着青铜色的光泽,空气寒冷而清冽。这是一个登山的好天气,我希望您在这里,同我一起踏遍群山。我非常想念您,亲爱的杰维,这是一种幸福的思念,我们很快就会在一起了。现在,我们已经彼此相属,这是真的,不是假想。对我来说,最终还是属于了某个人,看起来不是很奇怪吗?不过,它看起来非常、非常地甜蜜。

我永远也不会让您有一丝一毫的难过。

您永远永远的 朱迪 星期四上午

又及: 这是我的第一封情书,我从未写过情书。不过,我知道情书 应该怎么写,是不是很有趣? 青春如初春,如朝日,如百卉之萌动,是人生最宝贵的时期。对青春而言,成长是一个永恒的话题,是一个开始学习与社会相适应、学习如何与他人相处的过程。这个过程需要智者的引导,需要从阅读中寻求价值参照。本套"青春励志丛书"为广大青少年读者精心编选了五部有关爱与成长的名著:《长腿叔叔》、《绿山墙的安妮》、《彼得·潘》、《秘密花园》和《安妮日记》,这些最有影响力的作品自出版以来畅销不衰,在世界各地常被选作英文教材或课外读物,为青少年的成长提供了情感的熏陶、心灵的滋养和智慧的启迪。

这五部名著记录了各个主人公动人的成长故事,表达了浪漫的青春情怀,洋溢着温馨阳光的气息。读者可以置身其中,体味别样的成长经历——孤女乔瑞莎给神秘的资助者"长腿叔叔"写了一封又一封没有回复的信,自强不息地走上了作家之路;喋喋不休的红发女孩安妮从孤儿院来到绿山墙后,用自己的爱心赢得了友谊,用丰富的想象力充实了自己的生活;彼得·潘是一个不愿长大也永远不会长大的小男孩,他在"永无乡"的海岛上与小伙伴们经历了许多童话般奇妙的事情;英国小姑娘玛丽因父母病逝被送到姑父克莱文先生的庄园,在那里她遇到了最神奇的事情,唤醒了世界上最美丽的花园;德籍犹太小姑娘安妮与家人朋友为躲避纳粹迫害被迫藏匿在"密室"中,用自己的坚毅与勇敢记下了自己成长的青春日记……

这也是一套可以让成年人从中获得感悟的双语读物。古罗马哲学家辛尼加说过:"青春并不是生命中一段时光,它是心灵上的一种状况。它跟丰润的面颊,殷红的嘴唇,柔滑的膝盖无关。它是一种沉静的意志,想象的能力,感情的活力,它更是生命之泉的新血液。"每个人都不能拒绝成长,阅读本套丛书,成年人可以重新体验青春时代成

长的历程,而且还可以与孩子一起阅读,一起成长,永远保持着最年轻的心态。

语言的学习离不开阅读,这在实践中早已被证实。著名英语教育家、语言学家许国璋说过:"光学几句干巴巴的英文不行,……不要总是把阅读的目的放在提高英文上,阅读首先是吸收知识,吸收知识的过程中自然而然就吸收了语言。"阅读名著,不仅可以培养青少年读者的文学素养,更能在不知不觉中培养他们对英语语言的理解与学习能力。本套"青春励志丛书"编选的作品均是名家名作,语言流畅,风格清新,通俗易懂,采用英汉对照的形式并对难词加以注释,便于读者顺利地阅读。如果你是一位英语学习者,阅读本套丛书既可欣赏这些名著的原文风采,又可将原文与译文对比推敲,提高翻译水平。如果你是一名文学爱好者,阅读本套丛书则可以欣赏文字,提高文学素养,体味思想真谛。此外,为了让读者更好地学习本套丛书,编辑特地聘请外籍专家为本书的精彩篇章录音,听读青春励志经典定会让读者受益匪浅。

亲爱的读者,相信这套契合心灵的丛书,能够带给你成长的智慧,让你的青春具有独特的意义;能够默默浸润你的心房,给予你高贵而坚韧的人格力量。希望你们能快乐、健康地成长,开启别样的人生旅程!

编者

简·韦伯斯特(1876—1916),出生于美国纽约,母亲是著名作家马克·吐温的侄女,父亲是一家出版公司的合伙人。大学毕业后,简成为一个自由撰稿人和小说家。1903年,她出版了自己的第一本小说《当帕蒂去学院的时候》。简一生共写了八部小说,文风以朴实、清新、机智而著名。

《长腿叔叔》是简最著名的作品之一,作品自问世以来,畅销不衰,被媒体誉为"一本百年难得一见的好书",列法国《读书》周刊评选有史以来人类最佳读物第八名,亦是欧美十五所著名大学的学生投票选出的"影响我成长的十本书"之一,曾在世界各国被改编成电影与动画片,是少女成长之途的必读佳作。

这是一部匠心独运的书信体小说,记录了孤儿院长大的少女乔瑞 莎在长腿叔叔的帮助下,自强不息走上作家之路的故事。

在乔瑞莎十七岁的时候,孤儿院的女管家告诉她,一位化名为约翰·史密斯的匿名理事要资助她去上大学。由于乔瑞莎只看到了这位理事长手长脚的背影,于是她便戏称这位好心的理事为"长腿叔叔"。长腿叔叔不求别的回报,只希望乔瑞莎每月给他写一封信,让他了解她的成长过程,而他却不会给她写回信。

于是,在将近五年的时间里,乔瑞莎陆陆续续地给长腿叔叔写了八十多封信,向他介绍自己的生活情况,向他描述自己的校园生活。这些书信不是千篇一律的感谢信,也不是例行公事般的汇报书,而是形形色色,五花八门:有福从天降的惊喜与感激,有推心置腹的密语与倾

诉,有真挚而坦率的心灵剖析,有对虚荣心的自我省视,有幽默诙谐的调侃与自嘲,有小女孩面对长辈的撒娇与调皮,当然还有很多对长腿叔叔的想象……青春时代千姿百态的情感,都在这些无人回应的书信当中一览无余。这些书信记录了乔瑞莎青春时期的成长轨迹与心路历程,由于对象是神秘的、从不回信的长腿叔叔,她的这些书信在某种程度上来说,更像是她的一本日记。

翻译本书最大的收获就是感悟了温情与爱。乐观开朗的乔瑞莎·艾伯特用自己的真心创造了生活的奇迹。爱,总是在不经意间悄悄拥有。 这就是长期以来畅销不衰的《长腿叔叔》,一本看似平常的少女书信集,俏皮温馨又充满了感恩与勇气,成为每一个成长中、恋爱中人们的枕边必备书。

(2010年5月)

大量,在这种工作,是不是,也不知道在一种相关。

Blue Wednesday

The first Wednesday in every month was a Perfectly Awful Day—a day to be awaited with dread, endured with courage and forgotten with haste. Every floor must be spotless, every chair dustless, and every bed without a wrinkle. Ninety-seven squirming little orphans must be scrubbed. and combed and buttoned into freshly starched ginghams. and all ninety-seven reminded of their manners, and told to say, "Yes, sir," No, sir," whenever a Truster.

It was a distressing take, and poor Jerusha Abbott, being the oldest orphan, had to bear the brust of it. It this particular first Wednesday, like its predecessors, finally theged fractor a close. Jerusha escaped from the pantry where she had been making the lawitches for the asylum's guests, and turned upstairs to accordibish her had been work. Her special care was room F, where eleven little tets, from the cover, occupied eleven little cots set in a row, Jerusha as embled here there in an orderly and willing line frocks, wiped their notes, and wated them in an orderly and willing line towards the dining-room to engage themselves for a blessed half hour with bread and milk and prune pudding.

Then she dropped down on the window seat and leaned throbbing temples against the cool glass. She had been on her feet since five that morning, doing everybody's bidding, scolded and hurned by a nervous matron. Mrs. Lippett, behind the scenes, did not always maintain that calm and pompous[®] dignity with which she faced an audience of Trustees and lady visitors. Jerusha gazed out across a broad stretch of frozen lawn.

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It was a distressing time; and poor Jerusha Abbott, being the oldest orphan, had to bear the brunt of it. But this particular first Wednesday, like its predecessors, finally dragged itself to a close. Jerusha escaped from the pantry where she had been making sandwiches for the asylum's guests, and turned upstairs to accomplish her regular work. Her special care was room F, where eleven little tots, from four to seven, occupied eleven little cots set in a row. Jerusha assembled her charges, straightened their rumpled frocks, wiped their noses, and started them in an orderly and willing line towards the dining—room to engage themselves for a blessed half hour with bread and milk and prune pudding.

Then she dropped down on the window seat and leaned throbbing[®] temples against the cool glass. She had been on her feet since five that morning, doing everybody's bidding, scolded and hurried by a nervous matron. Mrs. Lippett, behind the scenes, did not always maintain that calm and pompous[®] dignity with which she faced an audience of Trustees and lady visitors. Jerusha gazed out across a broad stretch of frozen lawn,

沮丧的星期三

每个月的第一个星期三都是难熬的一天——这一天要满怀着恐惧去等待,要鼓足勇气去忍耐,并且要在匆忙中去忘记。每一处地板都必须没有污渍,每一把椅子都要纤尘不染,每一张床都不能有丝毫的褶皱。还必须给九十七个爬来爬去的小孤儿梳洗干净,再给他们穿上刚刚桨洗过的棉布格子衬衫,同时还要提醒这九十七个孩子注意礼貌,告诉他们当一位理事同他们谈话时,他们要回答:"是的,先生。""不,先生。"

这是一个令人沮丧的时刻,可怜的乔瑞莎·艾伯特,作为年纪最大的孤儿不得不首当其冲。终于,这个特别的星期三就像以往的那些个星期三一样,平安地过去了。乔瑞莎从那个一直为孤儿院的访客们做三明治的厨房逃离开,上楼去完成她的每日例行工作。她负责照料F室,这里有十一个从四岁到七岁不等的小孩子,还有十一张排成一排的小床。乔瑞莎把这些孩子招集在一起,为他们抻直弄皱的上衣,给他们擦干净鼻子,让他们排好队欣然地向餐厅进发,在那里,他们可以幸福地度过半个小时,享受面包、牛奶与梅子布丁。

她疲惫地坐进窗前的椅子里,将悸动的太阳穴抵在冰冷的玻璃上,从清晨五点钟开始她就不停地忙碌,听从每个人的命令,还被一个神经质的女管家吆三喝四,催促个不停。在背后,里培特太太的举止可不像面对着来访的理事与女士们那样平静而端庄。乔瑞莎的目光越过

① wrinkle n. 皱纹

② scrub v. 擦洗.擦净

③ gingham n. 有条纹或方格纹的棉布

④ trustee n. 理事

③ distressing adj. 悲伤的,忧郁的

⑥ bear the brunt of 首当其冲

⑦ rumple v. 弄皱,弄得乱七八糟

③ throb v. 悸动,跳动着作痛

⑨ pompous adi. 华而不实的

Daddy Long Legs 长腿权权

beyond the tall iron paling[®] that marked the confines of the asylum, down undulating[®] ridges sprinkled with country estates, to the spires[®] of the village rising from the midst of bare trees.

The day was ended—quite successfully, so far as she knew. The Trustees and the visiting committee had made their rounds[®], and read their reports, and drunk their tea, and now were hurrying home to their own cheerful firesides, to forget their bothersome little charges for another month. Jerusha leaned forward watching with curiosity—and a touch of wistfulness[®]—the stream of carriages and automobiles that rolled out of the asylum gates. In imagination she followed first one equipage, then another, to the big houses dotted along the hillside. She pictured herself in a fur coat and a velvet hat trimmed with feathers leaning back in the seat and nonchalantly[®] murmuring "Home" to the driver. But on the door—sill of her home the picture grew blurred.

Jerusha had an imagination—an imagination, Mrs. Lippett told her, that would get her into trouble if she didn't take care—but keen as it was, it could not carry her beyond the front porch of the houses she would enter. Poor, eager, adventurous little Jerusha, in all her seventeen years, had never stepped inside an ordinary house; she could not picture the daily routine of those other human beings who carried on their lives undiscommoded by orphans.

Je-ru-sha Ab-bott You are wan-ted In the of-fice, And I think you'd Better hurry up! 孤儿院那高高的铁栅栏外面的一片广阔的冰封草地, 眺望着远处像波浪一样起伏的山冈, 山冈上有一个疏疏落落的村舍, 从光秃秃的树丛中间, 可以看到村舍中一些房屋的尖顶。

这一天就这样结束了——据她所知,还算圆满。理事们与访问委员会的成员们巡视了一圈,看了报告,喝了茶,此刻正匆忙地准备着赶回他们自己家中舒适温暖的火炉边,忘掉这些他们照管的麻烦的小家伙们,直到下个月来临。乔瑞莎探身向前,好奇之中带着一丝渴望,注视着川流不息的马车与汽车驶出孤儿院的大门。在想象中,她跟随着一辆又一辆马车来到山坡上错落有致的大房子前。她想象着自己穿着一件毛皮大衣,戴着一顶装饰着羽毛的天鹅绒帽子,向后倚靠在车座上,漫不经心地轻声对车夫说"回家"。但是,在大房子的门槛前,她的白日梦却开始变得模糊不清了。

乔瑞莎有一个空想——这个空想,里培特太太对她说,如果她不小心点儿,就会给她带来麻烦——但是,无论这个空想多么逼真,它却不能带她穿过那些大房子的前门廊,她从来没有踏进去过半步。可怜的、满怀期待的、充满冒险精神的小乔瑞莎,在她十七年的生命中,从未进入过任何一个普通家庭的房子里,她无法想象没有孤儿们打扰的其他人,是如何度过他们生活中的每一天的。

"乔一瑞一莎一艾一伯一特

你去办公室

January Agenta Agenta Agenta Agenta

我认为你最好

快一点儿!"

① paling n. 木棚、围篱

② undulate v. 波动,起伏、成波浪形

② spire n. 尖頂

④ make one's rounds 巡视

⑤ wistfulness n. 渴望。愿望

⑥ nonchalantly adv. 漢不关心地、冷淡地

② get into trouble 招致不幸、陷入困境

[®] discommode adj. 不自由的

Daddy Long Legs 长腿叔叔

Tommy Dillon, who had joined the choir[©], came singing up the stairs and down the corridor, his chant[®] growing louder as he approached room F. Jerusha wrenched herself from the window and refaced the troubles of life.

"Who wants me?" she cut into Tommy's chant with a note of sharp anxiety.

Mrs. Lippett in the office, And I think she's mad. Ah-a-men!

Tommy piously intoned[®], but his accent was not entirely malicious. Even the most hardened little orphan felt sympathy for an erring sister who was summoned to the office to face an annoyed matron; and Tommy liked Jerusha even if she did sometimes jerk him by the arm and nearly scrub his nose off.

Jerusha went without comment, but with two parallel lines on her brow. What could have gone wrong, she wondered. Were the sandwiches not thin enough? Were there shells in the nut cakes? Had a lady visitor seen the hole in Susie Hawthorn's stocking? Had—O horrors!—one of the cherubic[®] little babes in her own room F "sauced" a Trustee?

The long lower hall had not been lighted, and as she came downstairs, a last Trustee stood, on the point of departure[®], in the open door that led to the porte—cochere[®]. Jerusha caught only a fleeting[®] impression of the man—and the impression consisted entirely of tallness. He was waving his arm towards an automobile waiting in the curved drive. As it sprang into motion and approached, head on for an instant, the glaring headlights threw his shadow sharply against the wall inside. The shadow pictured grotesquely[®] elongated[®] legs and arms that ran along the floor and up the wall of the corridor. It looked, for all the world, like a huge, wavering

刚刚加入唱诗班的汤米·狄龙,一边唱着歌一边走上楼,他沿着走廊走过来,离F室越近,吟唱的声音变得越响亮。乔瑞莎将自己的思绪从窗外拉回来,重新面对生活中的烦恼。

"谁找我?"她打断了汤米的吟唱,语调中透露出强烈的焦灼。

"里培特太太在办公室, 我想她气疯了。 阿—门!"

汤米虔诚地吟诵着,但声调中并非全是恶意,即使最冥顽不化的小孤儿,对一个因为做错事而被叫到办公室去面对一个讨厌的女管家的姐姐,也会感到同情。何况,汤米喜欢乔瑞莎,即使她有时会猛拉他的胳膊,她给他洗脸的时候差点把他的鼻子给擦掉。

乔瑞莎什么都没有说就离开了,但是两道皱纹却出现在她的额头上。是什么地方出错了吧,她思忖着,是三明治不够薄吗?是胡核蛋糕中出现了果壳吗?还是一位来访的女士看到了苏茜·霍索恩袜子上的破洞?还是——噢,天啊!——难道她负责的F室中的一个天真无邪的小家伙把调料酱洒在了理事的身上?

又长又矮的走廊里,灯已经熄灭了,当她走下楼梯时,最后一位理事正站在车辆出入的门廊口,准备离开。乔瑞莎对这个男人仅有一个短暂的印象——这个印象完全由高度组成。他正向一辆等候在弯曲车道上的汽车挥着手,当汽车发动后向他驶来时,刹那间迎面而来的耀眼的车前灯将他的身影迅速地投射到他背对的墙壁上。影子奇特地被拉长了的双腿和手臂,越过地板,爬上了走廊的墙壁,无论怎么看,都像是一只

① choir n. 唱诗班

② chant n. 圣歌

③ intone v. 吟咏

④ cherubic adj. 天真无邪的可爱的

⑤ point of departure 出发点

⑥ porte-cochere 可让车辆出入庭院的通道

① fleeting adj. 短暂的

[®] grotesquely adv. 奇特地,荒诞地

⑨ elongate v. 拉长

Daddy Long Legs 长腿权权

daddy-long-legs.

Jerusha's anxious frown gave place to quick laughter. She was by nature a sunny soul, and had always snatched the timest excuse to be amused. If one could derive any sort of entertainment out of the oppressive fact of a Trustee, it was something unexpected to the good. She advanced to the office quite cheered by the tiny episode and presented a smiling face to Mrs. Lippett. To her surprise the matron was also, if not exactly smiling, at least appreciably affable; she wore an expression almost as pleasant as the one she donned for visitors.

"Sit down, Jerusha, I have something to say to you." Jerusha dropped into the nearest chair and waited with a touch of breathlessness. An automobile flashed past the window; Mrs. Lippett glanced after it.

"Did you notice the gentleman who has just gone?"

"I saw his back."

"He is one of our most affluential." Trustees, and has given large sums of money towards the asylum's support. I am not at liberty to mention his name; he expressly stipulated. that he was to remain unknown."

Jerusha's eyes widened slightly; she was not accustomed to being summoned to the office to discuss the eccentricities[®] of Trustees with the matron.

"This gentleman has taken an interest in several of our boys. You remember Charles Benton and Henry Freize? They were both sent through college by Mr.—er—this Trustee, and both have repaid with hard work and success the money that was so generously expended. Other payment the gentleman does not wish. Heretofore his philanthropies[®] have been directed solely towards the boys; I have never been able to interest him in the slightest degree in any of the girls in the institution, no matter how deserving. He does not, I may tell you, care for girls."

巨大的、摇摇晃晃的长腿叔叔(大蜘蛛)。

乔瑞莎因焦虑而紧皱的眉头舒展了,取而代之的是一阵轻快的笑声。她天生是一个快乐的孩子,总是能找到微不足道的理由让自己高兴起来。从一个令人感到压抑的理事身上发现笑料,这无疑是一件叫人喜出望外的趣事。她向办公室走去,因这个小插曲而心情十分愉快。她向着里培特太太露出了笑脸,让她感到惊讶的是,那位女管家也给了她一个笑脸,即使确切地说这算不上是微笑,但至少有一点儿和蔼可亲,她那令人感到愉悦的表情,几乎与她奉献给来访的客人们的没什么两样。

"坐吧, 乔瑞莎, 我有些话要对你说。"

乔瑞莎坐进离她最近的椅子里,等待着,感到有些透不过气来。— 辆汽车从窗外一闪而过,里培特太太的目光追随着它。

- "你注意到刚刚离开的那位先生了吗?"
- "我看到了他的背影。"

"他是我们最有钱的理事之一,他给这座孤儿院捐赠了大笔钱。我不能说出他的名字,他特别叮嘱过不要透露他的姓名。"

乔瑞莎的眼睛略微睁大了,她还不习惯被召到办公室里,与女管家 谈论一个性情古怪的理事。

"这位先生曾对我们这里的几个男孩儿感兴趣,你记得查尔斯·本顿和亨利·弗雷兹吧?他们两个都被这位——嗯——这位理事送进了大学,两人都用努力工作与成功来报答这位先生对他们的慷慨大方的资助,这位先生不求别的回报。迄今为止,他只把慈善事业放在男孩儿们的身上,我从未能够让他对任何一个女孩儿稍加青睐,不管那个女孩儿多么值得嘉奖。我可以告诉你,他从不关心女孩儿。"

① oppressive adj. 沉重的,难以忍受的

② episode n. 插曲,有趣的事件

③ appreciably adv. 略微,有一点

④ affluent adj. 富有的

⑤ stipulate v. 叮嘱,规定

[®] eccentricity n. 古怪。

⑦ philanthropy n. 慈善事业