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WISDOM
ON THE TONGUE

舌尖上的
OBAMA'S 智慧
10 BEST SPEECHES
OF ALL TIME

——奥巴马演讲精选

《新东方英语》编辑部 编著

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MP4
现场视频

本书精选奥巴马各个时期的十篇精彩演讲，并辅以语篇背景、中文译文和生词注释，随书附赠现场原声和高清视频，是了解奥巴马个人成长经历及其不凡政见，学习英文演讲的最佳材料。



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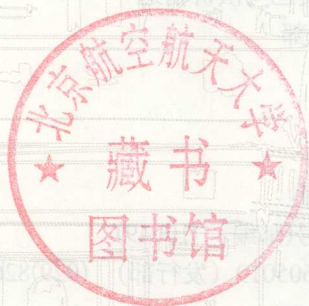
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——2012 年胜选演说



The Audacity

无畏的
希望 of Hope

—2004 Democratic National Convention Keynote Address

——2004 年在民主党全国代表大会上作基调演讲

Fleet Center, Boston | July 27, 2004

2004 年 7 月 27 日，波士顿舰队中心

Background 背景

1996年，奥巴马成功当选伊利诺伊州参议员，随后连任三届。2004年11月，他以压倒性优势击败对手，成功当选联邦参议员，成为经过改选后的国会中唯一的非裔参议员，也是美国历史上第五位非裔参议员。

2004年7月，民主党召开全国代表大会，奥巴马被指定在会上作“基调演讲”。所谓“基调演讲”，是民主党在总统选举前阐述本党纲领和政策的宣言。该演讲十分重要，通常由本党极有前途的政治新星来发表，1988年的“基调演讲”者就是时任阿肯色州州长的克林顿。再追溯稍早些的历史，当年肯尼迪也是在做了“基调演讲”后才受到了更广泛的关注。

奥巴马不负众望，他亲自撰写演讲稿，并发表了慷慨激昂的演说。在演说中，他不仅对当时的民主党总统候选人约翰·克里（John Kerry）赞誉有加，还提出消除党派和种族分歧，实现“一个美国”的梦想。同时，他呼吁民主党重建传统文化价值观，从共和党手中夺回失地。

演讲取得了巨大成功，不仅普通选民深受鼓舞，甚至一些老牌政客也感动得热泪盈眶。许多媒体评价说，奥巴马的演讲使人们联想到马丁·路德·金的著名演说“I Have a Dream”。通过有线电视观看了这场演讲的美国人在感动之余，还纷纷以电话、电子邮件或短信的方式交流。奥巴马也一“讲”成名，被克里的竞选班子相中，跟随克里到十几个州进行拉票。一位资深政治评论家事后评价说：“在民主党令人沮丧的败选之年，奥巴马在全国代表大会上的演讲和竞选参议员时的压倒性胜利是该党为数不多的亮点。”

演说使奥巴马的人气急升，他成为了最受欢迎的政客之一。当选国会参议员后的第一个周末，他和妻子去看电影，碰巧被朋友发现。朋友喊了一声“奥巴马”，结果全场观众都转向他们，热烈地鼓起掌来。参议员在竞选活动之外是很少受到这种待遇的，相反，他们在看球赛时经常听到的是嘘声。此后，民主党内部开始将奥巴马与罗伯特·肯尼迪及希拉里·克林顿相提并论。

Speech

演讲



音频



视频

On behalf of the great state of Illinois, crossroads of a nation, Land of Lincoln¹⁾, let me express my deepest gratitude for the privilege of addressing this convention.

Tonight is a particular honor for me because, let's face it, my presence on this stage is pretty unlikely. My father was a foreign student, born and raised in a small village in Kenya. He grew up herding goats, went to school in a tin-roof shack. His father—my grandfather—was a cook, a domestic servant to the British.

伟大的伊利诺伊州是美国的交通枢纽、林肯的故乡，今天，很荣幸能有此机会，代表这个州在大会上致辞，感激之情，无以言表。

今晚，我感到格外荣幸，因为，坦率地说，我本来是最不可能站在这里的。我父亲是一个外国留学生，在肯尼亚的一个小村庄里土生土长。他小时候放过羊，上学的教室是铁皮房顶的简陋小屋。而他的父亲——我的祖父——是个厨子，是英国人的家佣。

1. Lincoln: 亚伯拉罕·林肯(Abraham Lincoln, 1809~1865), 美国政治家, 第16任总统(1861~1865), 也是首位共和党总统。在其总统任内, 美国爆发了内战, 史称南北战争。林肯击败了南方分离势力, 废除了奴隶制度, 维护了国家的统一。但就在内战结束后不久, 林肯不幸遇刺身亡。他是第一位遭到刺杀的美国总统, 更是一位出身贫寒的伟大总统。2006年, 亚伯拉罕·林肯被美国的权威期刊《大西洋月刊》评为影响美国的百名人物的第一名。

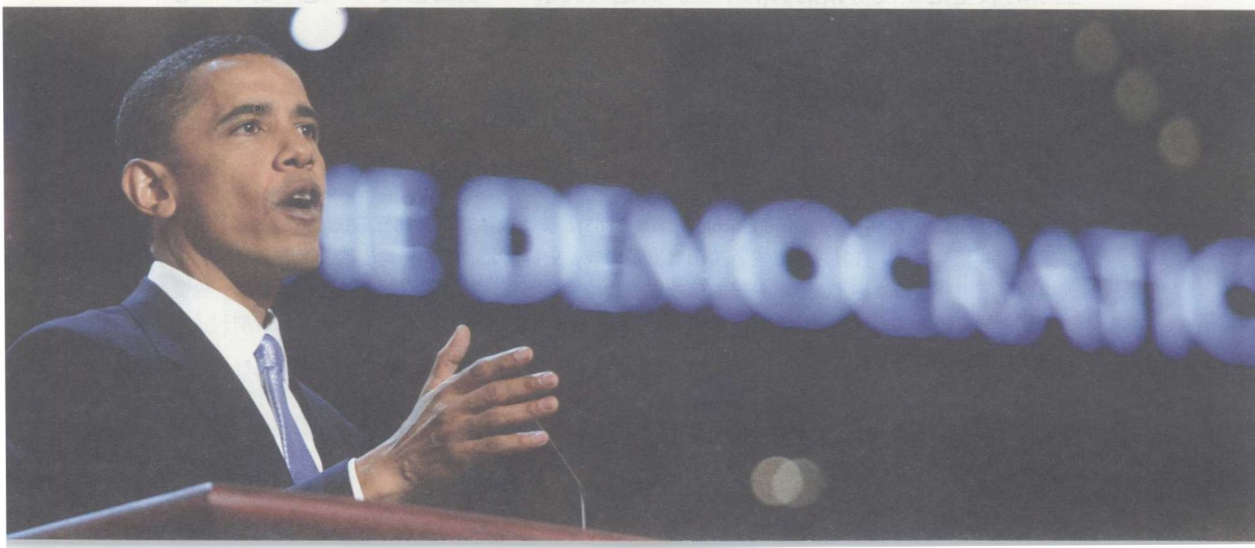
But my grandfather had larger dreams for his son. Through hard work and perseverance my father got a scholarship to study in a magical place, America, that shone as a **beacon**²⁾ of freedom and opportunity to so many who had come before.

While studying here, my father met my mother. She was born in a town on the other side of the world, in Kansas. Her father worked on oil **rigs**³⁾ and farms through most of the Depression. The day after Pearl Harbor my grandfather signed up for duty; joined **Patton**⁴⁾'s army, marched across Europe. Back home, my grandmother raised a baby and went to work on a bomber assembly line. After the war, they studied on **the GI Bill**⁵⁾, bought a house through **FHA**⁶⁾, and later moved west all the way to Hawaii in search of opportunity.

And they, too, had big dreams for their daughter. A common dream, born of two continents.

My parents shared not only an improbable love, they shared an abiding faith in the possibilities of this nation. They would give me an African name, Barack, or “blessed”, believing that in a tolerant America your name is no barrier to success. They imagined—They imagined me going to the best schools in the land, even though they weren’t rich, because in a generous America you don’t have to be rich to achieve your potential.

They’re both passed away now. And yet, I know that on this night they look down on me with great pride.



但祖父对父亲寄予厚望。凭借勤奋的学习和坚强的毅力，父亲获得了一项奖学金，使他有机会在美国这片神奇的土地上学习深造。美国，对许多外来者而言，是自由和机遇的灯塔。

学习期间，父亲遇到了母亲。母亲出生于堪萨斯的一个小镇，那是一个完全不同的世界。大萧条时期，外祖父在油田钻过井，在农场种过地。珍珠港事件之后的第二天，外祖父就自愿入伍，加入了巴顿将军的部队，横跨欧洲大陆。而在美国的家中，外祖母一边照顾年幼的孩子，一边在轰炸机生产装配线上打工。战后，依据《军人权利法案》，他们接受了教育，并通过联邦住房管理局购买了一套房子。后来，为了寻找机会，他们举家西迁，搬到了夏威夷。

同样，他们对自己的女儿也寄予了很大的希望。在非洲和美洲这两个不同的大陆上，诞生了同一个梦想。

父亲和母亲不仅拥有不可思议的爱情，他们对美国无限的机遇也有着共同的坚定信念。他们给我取了一个非洲名字，巴拉克，意为“上帝赐福”，因为他们相信，在美国这样一个包容的社会中，一个人不管叫什么名字，都不会成为成功的障碍。他们希望我能够接受美国最好的教育，尽管他们并不富有。因为在美国这样一个大度的社会中，即使你并不富有，也仍然可以人尽其能。

现在他们都已去世。但是，我知道，在这个特别的夜晚，他们都在自豪地注视着

2. beacon ['bi:kən] *n.* 灯塔

3. rig [rɪg] *n.* 钻探平台，钻塔

4. Patton: 即乔治·史密斯·巴顿(George Smith Patton Jr., 1885~1945)，是二次世界大战中最知名的美国将军。身为杰出的战场司令官和经验丰富的领袖，巴顿因其果断、坚定的性格而深受他手下将领的敬重。二次世界大战时，巴顿率领美军出入北非的荒漠、西西里的野外及欧洲的平原，参与了一系列的战役并取得了决定性的胜利。

5. the GI Bill: 即《军人权利法案》(The GI Bill of Rights)，该法案的正式名称为《1944年军人复员法案》(The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944)，该法案由美国总统罗斯福于1944年6月22日签署。在短短几年之内，这个新法的实施给美国社会与经济带来不少改变。该法案规定参与二次大战的军人可立即获得由失业保险支付的经济补贴，更重要的是，退伍军人可凭该法案获得多样化的教育机会(从在职训练到高等教育)，并可获得充足的家庭或商业贷款帮助。

6. FHA: *abbr.* The Federal Housing Administration 美国联邦住房管理局

And I stand here today, grateful for the diversity of my heritage, aware that my parents' dreams live on in my two precious daughters. I stand here knowing that my story is part of the larger American story, that I owe a debt to all of those who came before me, and that, in no other country on earth, is my story even possible.

Tonight, we gather to affirm the greatness of our Nation—not because of the height of our skyscrapers, or the power of our military, or the size of our economy. Our pride is based on a very simple premise, summed up in a declaration made over two hundred years ago:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

That is the true genius of America, a faith in simple dreams, an insistence on small miracles; that we can **tuck in**⁷⁾ our children at night and know that they are fed and clothed and safe from harm; that we can say what we think, write what we think, without hearing a sudden knock on the door; that we can have an idea and start our own business without paying a bribe; that we can participate in the political process without fear of **retribution**⁸⁾, and that our votes will be counted—at least most of the time.

This year, in this election we are called to reaffirm our values and our commitments, to hold them against a hard reality and see how we're measuring up to the legacy of our forbearers and the promise of future generations.

And fellow Americans, Democrats, Republicans, Independents, I say to you tonight: We have more work to do — more work to do for the workers I met in Galesburg, Illinois, who are losing their union jobs at the Maytag plant that's moving to Mexico, and now are having to compete with their own children for jobs that pay seven bucks an hour; more to do for the father that I met who was losing his job and choking back the tears, wondering how he would pay 4,500 dollars a month for the drugs his son needs without the health benefits that he

今天，我站在这里，为自己继承的多样性传统而心怀感激，也深知父母的梦想已在我的两个宝贝女儿身上得到延续。我站在这里，深知我的经历就是整个美国梦的一部分，对更早来到这里的先辈，我心怀感激，我深知，在地球上任何别的国家，我的故事都不可能发生。

今晚，我们聚集这里，再次见证我们国家的伟大之处——她的伟大，不是因为高耸入云的摩天大厦，不是因为强大无比的军事实力，也不是因为繁荣巨大的经济规模。我们的自豪基于一个非常简单的前提，两百年前的一个宣言（即《独立宣言》——编注）将其概括如下：

我们认为以下真理不言而喻：人人生而平等，人人享有造物主赐予的不可剥夺的权利，包括生命的权利、自由的权利和追求幸福的权利。

这才是美国的精髓所在：信仰简单的梦想，执着于创造微小的奇迹；夜晚，我们可以为孩子掖好被褥，确保他们衣食无忧，不受伤害；我们可以言我所想，写我所思，而无需担心会有人敲门盘问；我们可以按照自己的想法去创业，而无需行贿送礼；我们可以参政议政，而无需担心遭受报复；我们可以参加选举、投下自己的一票——至少大部分时间都是如此。

今年，在这次选举中，我们需要重申我们的价值观，重申我们肩负的使命，以此来应对严峻的现实，来衡量我们是否已接过前辈的遗产，造福子孙后代。

同胞们，民主党、共和党、无党派人士们，今晚，我想对各位说：我们要做的事还很多很多。在伊利诺伊州的盖尔斯堡，我遇到很多工人，由于美泰克电器公司的工厂要迁至墨西哥，他们很多人将失去工作，而不得和自己的子女一起竞争每小时7美元的工作，我们要为他们做的事还很多很多；我曾遇到一位即将失业的父亲，他强忍泪水，不知道在失去了健康补贴之后，该怎样为儿子支付每月4500美元的医药费用，我们要为他们做的事还很多很多；在东圣路易斯市，有一个年轻女孩，还有和她类似的千千万万的孩子，他们成绩出色、热爱学习、渴

7. tuck in: (为孩子)掖好被褥

8. retribution [retribution] n. 惩罚

counted on; more to do for the young woman in East St. Louis, and thousands more like her, who has the grades, has the drive, has the will, but doesn't have the money to go to college.

Now, don't get me wrong. The people I meet—in small towns and big cities, in diners and office parks—they don't expect government to solve all their problems. They know they have to work hard to get ahead, and they want to. Go into the collar counties around Chicago, and people will tell you they don't want their tax money wasted, by a welfare agency or by the Pentagon. Go in any inner city neighborhood, and folks will tell you that government alone can't teach our kids to learn; they know that parents have to teach, that children can't achieve unless we raise their expectations and turn off the television sets and eradicate the slander⁹⁾ that says a black youth with a book is acting white. They know those things.

People don't expect government to solve all their problems. But they sense, deep in their bones, that with just a slight change in priorities, we can make sure that every child in America has a decent shot at life, and that the doors of opportunity remain open to all.

They know we can do better. And they want that choice.

In this election, we offer that choice. Our Party has chosen a man to lead us who embodies the best this country has to offer. And that man is [John Kerry](#)¹⁰⁾.

John Kerry understands the ideals of community, faith, and service because they've defined his life. From his heroic service to Vietnam, to his years as a prosecutor and lieutenant governor, through two decades in the United States Senate, he's devoted himself to this country. Again and again, we've seen him make tough choices when easier ones were available.

His values and his record affirm what is best in us. John Kerry believes in an America where hard work is rewarded; so instead of offering tax breaks to companies shipping jobs overseas, he offers them to companies creating jobs here at home.

望学习，却没有钱上大学，我们要为他们做的事还很多很多。

请不要误解我的意思。我接触到的民众，不管在小乡镇还是大城市，不管是在餐厅还是办公楼停车场，他们并不指望政府解决他们所有问题。他们知道，只有通过努力工作，才能过上好日子，而他们也确实想这样做。走进芝加哥周边的城镇，人们会告诉你，他们不希望自己缴纳的税款被社会保障机构或五角大楼随意挥霍。走进市内的任何一个社区，人们会告诉你，单靠政府的力量无法教育好孩子。他们知道父母必须教育孩子，孩子要成材，就要为他们树立远大的目标，不让他们整天沉溺于电视，还要告诉他们，黑人的孩子读书，并不是像有些人所恶意揣测的那样，是在学白人的样子。这些他们都明白！

人们并不指望政府解决他们所有的问题。但在内心深处，他们相信，只要政策的偏向稍微进行调整，我们就能让所有美国孩子都过上有尊严的生活，就能让机遇的大门向每个人敞开。

他们知道我们可以做得更好。他们也希望我们做出这种选择。

在这次选举中，我们就提供了这样的选择。民主党已选出一位领袖人物，他是美国一切优秀品质的化身。他就是约翰·克里。

约翰·克里对于群体的理想、忠诚和服务精神有着深刻的理解，因为这些就是他生命的要素。对国家，他鞠躬尽瘁，不管是他在越南期间的英勇表现，还是他担任检察官和副州长时的尽职尽责，还是20年来在美国参议院的兢兢业业，莫不如此。一次又一次，我们看到，在面临抉择时，他总是知难而上，而非避重就轻。

他的信念和成就与我们心中的理想不谋而合。约翰·克里坚信，在美国，勤奋工作就该得到回报。因此他没有把税收上的优惠给予那些将工作机会输送到海外的公司，而是留给那些在本土创造就业机会的公司。

9. slander [ˈslændər] n. 诽谤

10. John Kerry: 约翰·福布斯·克里(John Forbes Kerry, 1943~), 美国民主党政治人物，及第68和现任美国国务卿。他于1985~2013年间担任代表马萨诸塞州的联邦参议员。克里是民主党在2004年的总统候选人，但败给了竞选连任的乔治·布什。2012年12月21日奥巴马提名克里为接替希拉里·克林顿的国务卿人选。克里于2013年2月1日起就任美国国务卿。

John Kerry believes in an America where all Americans can afford the same health coverage our politicians in Washington have for themselves.

John Kerry believes in energy independence, so we aren't held hostage to the profits of oil companies, or the sabotage of foreign oil fields.

John Kerry believes in the Constitutional freedoms that have made our country the envy of the world, and he will never sacrifice our basic liberties, nor use faith as a wedge to divide us.

And John Kerry believes that in a dangerous world war must be an option sometimes, but it should never be the first option.

You know, a while back I met a young man named Shamus in a [VFW^{11\)}](#) Hall in East Moline, Illinois. He was a good-looking kid—six two, six three, clear eyed, with an easy smile. He told me he'd joined the Marines and was heading to Iraq the following week. And as I listened to him explain why he'd enlisted, the absolute faith he had in our country and its leaders, his devotion to duty and service, I thought this young man was all that any of us might ever hope for in a child.

But then I asked myself, "Are we serving Shamus as well as he is serving us?"

I thought of the 900 men and women—sons and daughters, husbands and wives, friends and neighbors, who won't be returning to their own hometowns. I thought of the families I've met who were struggling to get by without a loved one's full income, or whose loved ones had returned with a limb missing or nerves shattered, but still lacked long-term health benefits because they were reservists.

When we send our young men and women into harm's way, we have a solemn obligation not to fudge the numbers or shade the truth about why they're going, to care for their families while they're gone, to tend to the soldiers upon their return, and to never ever go to war without enough troops to win the war, secure the peace, and earn the respect of the world.

约翰·克里坚信，在美国，所有美国人都应病有所医，都应享受到同华盛顿的政治家一样的医疗保障。

约翰·克里坚信，美国能源要自主，这样我们才不会再受到石油公司利润的绑架，也不会遭受国外油田对国家利益的破坏。

约翰·克里坚信，宪法赋予的公民自由不可剥夺，它使美国成为世人艳羡的国家，因此他永远都不会牺牲我们最根本的自由权，更不会打着信仰的幌子来制造分裂。

约翰·克里还坚信，在这个危险的世界里，战争有时也是一个解决问题的选项，但任何时候都绝对不应是首要选项。

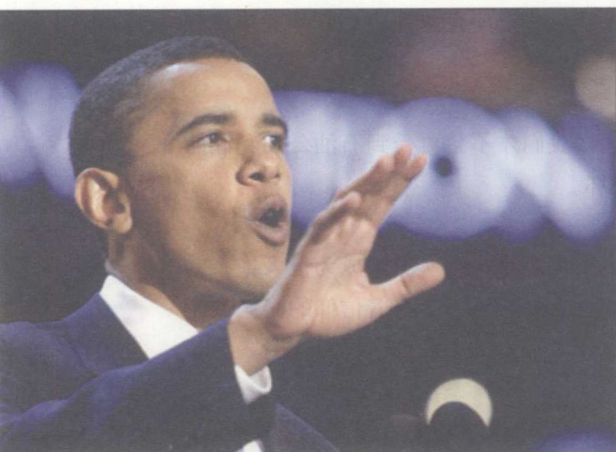
不久前，在伊利诺伊州东莫林市的外战老兵俱乐部里，我遇到一个叫沙莫斯的年轻人，他相貌英俊，身高六尺二三，有着清澈的目光，愉快的笑容。他告诉我，他加入了海军陆战队，下周就将开拔到伊拉克。他还向我讲述了他入伍的原因，讲述了他对国家和领导者的绝对信赖，对职责和使命的忠诚奉献。听到这些，我深深感到，这个年轻人身上所具备的品质，汇集了我们对子女的所有期待。

然而，过后，我们心自问：我们为沙莫斯所做的一切，是否与他的付出相当呢？

我想到在伊拉克战争中一去不返的九百多名勇士，他们也有自己的父母，有自己的妻子和丈夫，有自己的挚友和邻居，却再也无法回到他们身边。我想到曾经遇到的那些家庭，他们有的失去了亲人，从而也失去了亲人挣得的那份收入，因而度日艰难；有的亲人侥幸归来，肢体残缺，或者精神崩溃，却因其预备役军人的身份而无法享受长期的健康补贴。

当我们将这些可爱的年轻人送上战场，我们义不容辞地要告诉他们真实的数据，以及出征的真实理由；出征时要替他们照顾好家人，归来时要关照好他们的生活；一旦做出战争决定，务必要保证能够派出足够多的军队去赢得战争的胜利，这样我们才能获得和平，赢得世界的尊重。

11. VFW: *abbr.* Veterans of Foreign Wars 美国海外退伍军人



Now let me be clear. Let me be clear. We have real enemies in the world. These enemies must be found. They must be pursued. And they must be defeated. John Kerry knows this. And just as Lieutenant Kerry did not hesitate to risk his life to protect the men who served with him in Vietnam, President Kerry will not hesitate one moment to use our military might to keep America safe and secure.

John Kerry believes in America. And he knows that it's not enough for just some of us to prosper—for alongside our famous individualism, there's another ingredient in the American saga, a belief that we're all connected as one people. If there is a child on the south side of Chicago who can't read, that matters to me, even if it's not my child. If there is a senior citizen somewhere who can't pay for their prescription drugs, and having to choose between medicine and the rent, that makes my life poorer, even if it's not my grandparent. If there's an Arab American family being **rounded up**¹²⁾ without benefit of an attorney or due process, that threatens my civil liberties.

It is that fundamental belief—I am my brother's keeper; I am my sister's keeper—that makes this country work. It's what allows us to pursue our individual dreams and yet still come together as one American family.

E pluribus unum¹³⁾: “Out of many, one.”

Now even as we speak, there are those who are preparing to divide us—the spin masters, the negative ad **peddlers**¹⁴⁾ who embrace the politics of “anything goes.” Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a conservative America—there is the United States of America. There is not a Black America and a White America and Latino America and Asian America—there's the United States of America.