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前言 preface

怀旧是对过往岁月的点点追忆。

黄昏里一段沙哑的老歌,老屋墙壁上几张泛黄的照片,小时候百玩不厌的几个玻璃球,百看不厌的几本小人书……都是装裱在镜框里凝固的风景,是我们心中永远挥之不去的记忆。即使在科技非常发达、生活非常便利、生活节奏特别快捷的今天,我们也会在不经意间停下匆匆的脚步,想起我们生命中曾经穿越而过的人、事、物。回忆往事,使我们仿佛一下子又找回了真实的自己,脸上洋溢出久违的笑容,心头荡漾起温暖的涟漪。怀旧是我们曾经历过和拥有过的一种证明,怀旧是一种幸福的体验。

有人说怀旧是沉湎故往、不思进取,它其实是一种人生美好情愫的 积淀,是心灵憩息的港湾,它让我们反思过往的心路历程,珍惜拥有的 美好瞬间,感念帮助我们的那些好人,并由此获取前行的信念与力量。

人不能生活在对往日的回忆中,但不意味着就不能怀旧。羁鸟还恋旧林,池鱼还思故渊呢!享尽繁华,感觉麻木,心灵空虚时,需要怀旧,以便给自己空虚的灵魂找一个能激发斗志的栖息地;身处逆境,望尽天涯,皆无归路时,需要怀旧,以便给自己脆弱的心灵找一个有力的支撑点。怀旧能让我们蓦然明白一些是是非非,怀旧能让我们回首过往,心存感激。

本书收录的是英美散文中的怀旧名作,文章雅致,字字珠玉。有对故园故土的怀念,有对故人故事的追忆,也有对今时今世的感慨。无论是故园故土,还是故人故事,都是情溢笔端,感人至深。让我们不仅能体会名家的细腻情怀,领略作者独特的艺术匠心和人生智慧,还让我们感受到英语是如何在各位语言大师手下妙笔生花的。所配优美流畅的译文,为品读英汉两种语言提供了便利,让读者在阅读中感受不同的语言



魅力。作家介绍、选文简析让读者在体味名家怀旧情怀的同时,增添文化知识,提高文化素养,促进英语水平的整体提升。

如果你是一名大、中学生,阅读怀旧经典,可以让你在丰富英语知识的同时,感受到成长的美好和快乐,如果你是一位文学爱好者,阅读怀旧经典不仅可以让你饱览名家杰作的熠然风采,而且可以丰富思想,怡情益智,如果你是一位历经沧桑的智者,阅读怀旧经典能勾起你一份或遥远或苍凉或刻骨铭心或淡淡而美好的追忆,但无论着以什么样的色彩,都是你人生宝贵的财富。

愿你经常翻开怀旧经典,在阅读中感受他人的成长,回顾自己的青春年华,把自己内心深处最柔软、最美好的瞬间定格成永恒的记忆。

本册书主编为王婧,副主编为许剑楠、王星宇,参与本书编写的还有:刘晓琳、王宁、王欣、王丽丽、余双全、周迈、汪露秋、项丹凤、王晓英、庄欣、孙礼中、刘瑜、宋沈黎、李雪等老师,在此表示感谢。

编者 2012.8



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My Boyhood's Home 我童年时代的家

> I Observe 我的回忆

The Legend of Sleep Hollow 睡谷传说

Going Home Again 再访故居

Mark Twain 马克。吐温

马克·吐温(1835—1910),原名塞缪尔·朗赫恩·克莱门斯(Samuel Langhorne Clemens),美国批判现实主义文学的奠基人,世界著名的短篇小说大师。他经历了美国从"自由"资本主义到帝国主义的发展过程,其思想和创作也表现为从轻快调笑到辛辣讽刺再到悲观厌世的发展阶段。代表作有短篇小说《竞选州长》(Running For Governor, 1870)、《哥尔斯密的朋友再度出洋》(Goldsmith's Friend Abroad Again, 1870)等,中篇小说《镀金时代》(The Gilded Age, 1873,与查尔斯·特德雷·华纳)、《哈克贝里·费恩历险记》(Huckleberry Finn, 1885)及《傻瓜威尔逊》(The innocents abroad, 1893)等。19世纪末,随着美国进入帝国主义发展阶段,马克·吐温的一些游记、杂文、政论等的批判揭露意义逐渐减弱,而绝望神秘情绪则有所增长。他被誉为"美国文学中的林肯"("Lincoln of American literature")。

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My Boyhood's Home

At seven in the morning we reached Hannibal, Missouri where my boyhood was spent. I had had a glimpse of it fifteen years ago, and another glimpse six years earlier, but both were so brief that they hardly counted. The only notion of the town that remained in my mind was the memory of it as I had known it when I first quitted it twenty-nine years ago. That picture of it was still as clear and vivid to me as a photograph. I stepped ashore with the feeling of one who returns out of a dead-and-gone generation. I had a sort of realizing sense of what the Bastille² prisoners must have felt when they used to come out and look upon Paris after years of captivity3, and note how curiously the familiar and the strange were mixed together before them. I saw the new houses — saw them plainly enough but they did not affect the older picture in my mind, for through their solid bricks and mortar⁴ I saw the vanished houses, which had formerly stood there, with perfect distinctness.

It was Sunday morning, and everybody was abed⁵ yet. So I passed through the vacant

我童年时代的家

早上七点,我们抵达密苏里 州的汉尼拔, 我曾在这儿度过了我 的童年时光。十五年前我回此地匆 匆地看了它一眼, 六年前又来这儿 匆忙一瞥,但那两次都为时过短, 没留下什么印象。在我心中关于小 镇的一切还和我二十九年前离开它 时的记忆一样。对我来说,它的图 景仍然像一幅照片那样清晰,那么 栩栩如生。我向岸边走去,感觉自 己从已经死去好久了的一代人中回 来;好似巴士底狱中的囚徒,在被 囚禁多年之后,离开监狱仰望巴黎 面貌时,发现眼前那些混淆在一起 的既熟悉又陌生的东西,心头是多 么的惊奇。我看到新的房屋一 看得分外清晰——但它们没有影 响我脑中那张小镇的旧图景,我 却从它们坚实的砖泥当中看到了 那些化为乌有的老房子,它们站 在那儿,轮廓十分清晰。

星期天早晨,大家都还没有起床。我走在空荡无人的街道



¹ Hanniba n. 汉尼拔,美国密苏里州东北部的一个城镇,马克·吐温在此度过童年

² Bastille n. 巴士底狱,法国专制王朝的象征,关押了许多反对封建制度的著名人物。1789年7月3 日,巴黎人民愤然起义,14日攻占了巴士底狱,史称法国大革命,标志着法国资产阶 级革命的开始

³ captivity /kæp'tivəti/ n. 囚禁, 关押

⁴ mortar/'mo:tə(r)/ n. 灰泥

⁵ abed /əˈbed/ adv. 在床上

一造化藏水年华;面化為

streets, still seeing the town as it was, and not as it is, and recognizing and metaphorically shaking hands with a hundred familiar objects which no longer exist; and finally climbed Holiday's Hill to get a comprehensive view. The whole town lay spread out below me then, and I could mark and fix every locality, every detail. Naturally, I was a good deal moved. I said, "Many of the people I once knew in this tranquil refuge of my childhood are now in heaven; some, I trust, are in the other place." The things about me and before me made me feel like a boy again — convinced me that I was a boy again, and that I had simply been dreaming an unusually long dream; but my reflections spoiled all that; for they forced me to say, "I see fifty old houses down yonder, into each of which I could enter and find either a man or a woman who was a baby or unborn when I noticed those houses last, or a grandmother who was a plump³ young bride at that time."

From this vantage ground⁴ the extensive view up and down the river, and wide over the wooded expanses of Illinois⁵, is very beautiful — one of the most beautiful on the Mississippi, I think; which is a hazardous⁶ remark to make, for the eight hundred miles of river between St. Louis⁷ and St. Paul⁸ afford an unbroken succession of

上,看到的仍是小镇的旧貌,而非 新颜。我的头脑中映出了上百个熟 悉的事物,我和它们——握手,虽 然它们已经不复存在。最后我登上 了假日山,得以鸟瞰小镇全景。整 个镇子在我脚下延伸开来, 而我则 能够细致地标记每个地方,给它们 定下方位。自然地,此情此景使我 深受感动。我说道: "我童年时静 谧的住处, 当年我认识的人们中, 有许多已经进入了天堂; 而我相 信,另一些则在别的什么地方。" 周围和眼前的事物让我觉得自己 又回到了童年——让我深信自己又 回到了童年, 而这种感觉恰恰是我 长久以来希冀的梦想,但我的思绪 却破坏了它,因为它们让我不得不 说: "我看到的五十幢老房子, 走 进他们中的任何一家, 都找到一个 成年男子或妇女,当我最后看到那 些房子时他们不过是婴儿甚至还未 出世,而那时丰满年轻的新娘如今 也已经变成了孩子的祖母。"

从这一有利地形可以俯瞰 小河绵长的流域,并能一直看 到伊利诺伊州辽阔的森林,景 致十分优美——我认为它是密

¹ tranquil / trænkwil/ adj. 安静的

² refuge /'refju:dz/ n. 避难所

³ plump/plʌmp/ adj. 丰满的

⁴ vantage ground /'vo:ntid3/ 有利地形, 优越地位

⁵ Illinois 美国伊利诺伊州

⁶ hazardous / hæzədəs/ adj. 有争议的,有待商権的

⁷ St.Louis 圣·路易斯,美国密苏里州最大的城市,位于密西西比河西岸

³ St. Paul 圣·保罗,美国明尼苏达州首府,位于密西西比河东岸

我童年时代的家 My Boyhood's Home

lovely pictures. It may be that my affection for the one in question biases my judgment in its favor; I cannot say as to that. No matter, it was satisfyingly beautiful to me, and it had this advantage over all the other friends whom I was about to greet again: it had suffered no change; it was as young and fresh and comely and gracious as ever it had been; whereas, the faces of the others would be old, and scarred with the campaigns of life, and marked with their grieves and defeats, and would give me no uplifting of spirit.

An old gentleman, out on an early morning walk, came along, and we discussed the weather, and then drifted into other matters. I could not remember his face. He said he had been living here twenty-eight years. So he had come after my time, and I had never seen him before. I asked him various questions; first about a mate of mine in Sunday² school — what became of him?

"He graduated with honor in an Eastern' college, wandered off into the world somewhere, succeeded at nothing, passed out of knowledge and memory years ago, and is supposed to have gone to the dogs4."

"He was bright, and promised well when he was a boy."

1 comely /'kʌmli/ adj. 清秀的, 标致的

西西比河上最美丽的景致之一。 这是个危险的评论, 因为密西西 比河在圣·路易斯和圣·保罗之 间的八百英里中, 可爱美丽的 图景延绵不断。可能是我颇具争 议的情感, 让我的判断偏向于对 它的喜爱; 对于这偏爱我也说不 出什么。不过没关系,对我来 说,它是如此令人心旷神怡的美 丽, 我想再见它的欲望胜过我想 见任何一位老朋友。它没有经受 任何改变;它还像原本那样生气 勃勃、清新秀丽、优美亲切。然 而,其他人的面容将会变老,留 下岁月磨难的痕迹,带着悲伤和 失败的标志,它们不会带给我高 涨的心绪。

一位早上出去散步的老先生走了过来,我们从天气一直谈到了其他一些事情。我已经记不得他的长相。他说自己已经在这居住二十八年了。所以他是我离开之后才来的,之前我从没见过他。我问了他许多问题,首先问及了一个我在主日学校的伙伴——他过得怎样?

"他是一所东正教学院的荣誉毕业生,在这个世界的某个地方徘徊游荡,一事无成,几年前他满带着学识和记忆去世了。大家觉得他堕落了。"



² Sunday 主日学校,基督教教会为了向儿童灌输宗教思想,在星期天开办的儿童班

³ Eastern /ˈi:st(ə)n/ adj. 罗马东正教的

⁴ dogs 每况愈下

⁵ promised /'promist/ adj. 有希望的

一造化遊水卒學:回忆篇

"Yes, but the thing that happened is what became of it all."

I asked after another lad, altogether the brightest in our village school when I was a boy.

"He, too, was graduated with honors, from an Eastern college; but life whipped him in every battle, straight along, and he died in one of the Territories, years ago, a defeated man."

I named three school-girls.

"The first two live here, are married and have children; the other is long ago dead — never married."

The answer to several other inquiries was brief and simple —

"Killed in the war."

I named another boy.

"Well, now, his case is curious! There wasn't a human being in this town but knew that that boy was a perfect chucklehead¹; perfect dummy²; just a stupid ass, as you may say. Everybody knew it, and everybody said it. Well, if that very boy isn't the first lawyer in the State of Missouri today, I'm a Democrat³!"

"Is that so?"

"It's actually so. I'm telling you the truth."

"How do you account for it?"

1 chucklehead /'tʃʌk(ə)lhɛd/ n. 傻子

2 dummy /'dʌmi/ n. (口语) 傻瓜, 笨蛋, 蠢货

3 Democrat /'deməkræt/ n. 美国民主党

"他过去很聪明啊,小的时候很有希望呢。"

"没错,可是这就是已经 发生了的事实。"

我问到另一位老朋友,我 小时候,他简直是我们村庄上 最聪明的孩子。

"他也一样,从一所东 正教学院荣誉毕业,但是生活 在每一次搏斗中都直面鞭打了 他。几年前,他在其中一次战 斗中死了,一个失败的人。"

我又说了三个女同学的名字。

"前两个生活在这,已经 结婚生子了,另一个很久以前 就死了,还没结婚呢。"

对另一些询问的回答则简单明了——

"在战争中死了。"

我问了另一个男同学的情况。

"嗯,好吧,他的情况倒是很不寻常!这个镇上没人不知道那小子是个十足的傻瓜,十足的笨蛋,或者你会说,完全是个蠢驴。每个人都知道,并且每个人都这么说。可是,如果那小子不是现如今密苏里州的首席律师,那我就是民主党人了!"

"真的吗?"

"确实是这样,我告诉你 的都是实事。"

"那你怎么解释这事儿



我童年时代的家 My Boyhood's Home

"Account for it? There ain't any accounting for it, except that if you send a damned fool to St. Louis, and you don't tell them he's a damned fool they'll never find it out. There's one thing sure — if I had a damned fool I should know what to do with him: ship him to St. Louis — it's the noblest market in the world for that kind of property. Well, when you come to look at it all around, and chew at it and think it over, don't it just bang anything you ever heard of?"

"Well, yes, it does seem to. But don't you think maybe it was the Hannibal people who were mistaken about the boy, and not the St. Louis people."

"Oh, nonsense! The people here have known him from the very cradle² — they knew him a hundred times better than the St. Louis idiots could have known him. No, if you have got any damned fools that you want to realize³ on, take my advice — send them to St. Louis."

I mentioned a great number of people whom I had formerly known. Some were dead, some were gone away, some had prospered, some had come to naught⁴; but as regarded a dozen or so of the lot, the answer was comforting:

呢?"

"解释?这件事没什么可解释的,除了说,如果你把一个该死的蠢货送到圣•路易斯去,并不告诉他们他是个该死的蠢货,那他们就永远也发现不了他蠢。有件事我很确定——要是我生了个该死的蠢货,我可知道该把他怎么办:让他坐船去圣•路易斯——那儿是这世界上有着那种货色最著名的市场。好吧,你好好看看这事,反复考虑一下,它不比你听到的任何事情都震撼吗?"

"嗯,是的,好像确实是这样。但你不认为,也许错看他的是汉尼拔人,而非圣·路易斯人呢?"

"噢,一派胡言!这儿的人从他还是婴儿的时候就认识他了——他们要比圣•路易斯那些白痴了解他一百倍。不,如果你生了该死的蠢货,并想用他们换点钱的话,听我的话,把他们送到圣•路易斯去。"

我提到了我之前认得的一大群人。一些已经死了,还有一些去了其他地方,有一些人成功了,另一些人一无所获;但是这些人里大约对于十二个人的回答令人满意:



¹ bang /bæŋ/ vt. 重敲, 猛撞

² cradle /'kreɪdl/ n. 婴儿时期

³ realize on /ˈri:əlaiz/ 变卖

⁴ naught /no:t/ n. 零

一逸化藏水卒华; 回忆篇

"Prosperous — live here yet — town littered with their children."

After asking after such other folk as I could call to mind, I finally inquired about MYSELF:

"Oh, he succeeded well enough — another case of damned fool. If they'd sent him to St. Louis, he'd have succeeded sooner."

It was with much satisfaction that I recognized the wisdom of having told this candid gentleman, in the beginning, that my name was Smith.

"很成功,还住在这儿, 在镇上生了很多孩子。"

问过了所有我能想起的人以后,最终,我问到了关于我自己的事情:

"噢,他相当成功——另一个该死的蠢货的实例。如果他被送去圣•路易斯,那他早就成功了。"

我对自己的小聪明十分 满意,因为一开始我就告诉这 位公正的先生,我的名字叫史 密斯。

1 candid / kændid/ adj. 无偏见的, 公正的

含英咀华

本文选自马克·吐温的《密西西比河》 (Life on the Mississippi, 1875),写的是作者多年后再次回到童年时生活的小镇时的见闻,以及与一位多年生活在这个镇上的老人的谈话。文章写景优美动人,对话生动诙谐,流露出作者对故乡小镇的美好眷恋之情。