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出版前言。

多年以来,中国对外翻译出版有限公司凭借国内一流的翻译和出版实力及资源,精心策划、出版了大批双语读物,在海内外读者中和业界内产生了良好、深远的影响,形成了自己鲜明的出版特色。

二十世纪八九十年代出版的英汉(汉英)对照"一百丛书",声名远扬,成为一套最权威、最有特色且又实用的双语读物,影响了一代又一代英语学习者和中华传统文化研究者、爱好者;还有"英若诚名剧译丛"、"中华传统文化精粹丛书"、"美丽英文书系",这些优秀的双语读物,有的畅销,有的常销不衰反复再版,有的被选为大学英语阅读教材,受到广大读者的喜爱,获得了良好的社会效益和经济效益。

"双语名著无障碍阅读丛书"是中译专门为中学生和 英语学习者精心打造的又一品牌,是一个新的双语读物 系列,具有以下特点:

选题创新——该系列图书是国内第一套为中小学生量身打造的双语名著读物,所选篇目均为教育部颁布的语文新课标必读书目,或为中学生以及同等文化水平的社会读者喜闻乐见的世界名著,重新编译为英汉(汉英)

对照的双语读本。这些书既给青少年读者提供了成长过程中不可或缺的精神食粮,又让他们领略到原著的精髓和魅力,对他们更好地学习英文大有裨益;同时,丛书中入选的《论语》、《茶馆》、《家》等汉英对照读物,亦是热爱中国传统文化的中外读者所共知的经典名篇,能使读者充分享受阅读经典的无限乐趣。

无障碍阅读——中学生阅读世界文学名著的原著会遇到很多生词和文化难点。针对这一情况,我们给每一本读物原文中的较难词汇和不易理解之处都加上了注释,在内文的版式设计上也采取英汉(或汉英)对照方式,扫清了学生阅读时的障碍。

优良品质——中译双语读物多年来在读者中享有良好口碑,这得益于作者和出版者对于图书质量的不懈追求。"双语名著无障碍阅读丛书"继承了中译双语读物的优良传统——精选的篇目、优秀的译文、方便实用的注解,秉承着对每一个读者负责的精神,竭力打造精品图书。

愿这套丛书成为广大读者的良师益友,愿读者在英语学习和传统文化学习两方面都取得新的突破。

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How the Stories Came to Be Told

It is well known that in former days the Kings of the East were great **tyrants**^①, and knew no law but their own will. Now one of them had a wife who did not obey him, and he was so angry that he had her put to death, and because he no longer had any faith in women, he caused it to be known that he meant to have a new wife every day. He would be married at night, and in the morning his wife was to have her head cut off. What was the **terror**^② of the **Grand Vizier**^③, when his daughter *Schehera-zade* came forward and begged to be the **Sultan**^④'s wife!

"Do you know, my daughter," he asked, "what that means? Though you are the daughter of the Grand Vizier, that will not save your life." Now *Schehera-zade* was as brave as her beauty, then she said, "I know it well, but I have thought of a plan by which I may put an end to this dreadful state of things. If you do not take me to the Sultan, I shall go by myself." So the Grand Vizier went to the Sultan and told him that his own daughter begged for the honor of being the Sultan's wife for one night. The Sultan was filled with wonder.

When *Schehera-zade* was led into the presence of the Sultan, her **veil**^⑤ was lifted, and the Sultan saw that she was very **fair**^⑥, but she had tears

故事流传的由来

众所周知,从前东方许多国王们大都是不懂 法律、只知道为所欲为的专制君主。且说其中有 一个苏丹,他有个不顺从命令的妻子,于是他就 气得把她判了死刑,也因为如此,他对女人不再 信任,且下旨宣告全国,声称他要每天娶一个新 娘,在晚上结婚,而次日就把她斩首。因此,当 首相的女儿司凯儿·瑞里请求做苏丹的妻子时, 首相是多么的恐惧啊!

"我的女儿,你要明白!"他问道: "虽然你是首相的女儿,但绝不会因此就能救你的性命,你是为什么呢?" 美丽勇敢的司凯儿·瑞里说道: "我很明白,但我已想到一个计策,可以制止这种可怕的事情。假如您不把我带到苏丹那儿,我就只好自己去了!"因此,首相就告诉苏丹,自己的女儿要求拥有成为苏丹一夜之妻的荣耀。苏丹感到满腹狐疑。

当司凯儿·瑞里被带到苏丹面前,她的面纱被揭开时,苏丹发现她非常美丽,眼中却含着泪水。

① tyrant /'taɪərənt/ n. 暴君

- ② terror /'terə/ n. 恐怖
- ③ grand vizier 首相
- ④ Sultan / sʌltən/ 苏丹 (某些 伊斯兰国家最高统治者的 称号)

- ⑤ veil /veil/ n. 面纱
- ⑥ fair /feə/ adj. 美丽的

in her eyes.

"Why do you weep^①?" he asked.

"I weep," she said, "because of my sister, I have the honor to be the wife of the Sultan, but I love my sister, and I cannot bear the thought of saying good-bye to her now. Grant me one favor, let her pass this one night on a **couch**² near me."

The Sultan had already been won by the beauty of Schehera-zade, and he found it easy to grant this favor. So the younger sister, Dinarzade, was brought in. Now Schehera-zade had told her sister how she was to act, and about an hour before dawn, Dinar-zade who was wide-awake, spoke and said, "Sister, if you are not asleep, I wish you would tell me one of those delightful stories you know so well. It will soon be light." Schehera-zade turned to the Sultan and said, "Will Your Highness permit me to tell my sister a story?"

"Freely," said the Sultan, who liked stories himself, and *Schehera-* zade began to tell a story. She told it in such a way that, when daylight came, she had reached the most interesting point. But at daylight the Sultan must rise and go to his council.

"That is the most interesting story," said *Dinar-zade*. "But how does it end?"

"The end is more strange than the beginning," said her sister. "If Your Highness," she said, turning to the Sultan, "will let me live one more day, I can then finish the story."

The Sultan wanted very much to hear the end, so he gave *Schehera-zade* one more day to live, meaning to have her head cut off after that. But when the next morning came, and *Dinar-zade* asked for the rest of the story, *Schehera-zade* told it in such a way that it carried her into the middle of another story, and daylight came, and that story was not done. The Sultan **put off**[®] her death one day more.

① weep /wi:p/ v. 哭泣, 流泪

② couch /kautʃ/ n. (文学) 床, 睡椅 "你为什么哭呢?" 苏丹问。

"我哭泣,"她说, "是因为我的妹妹,我虽荣幸地成了您的妻子,但我深爱妹妹,不忍心向她诀别。请赐给我恩典,让她今晚能在我的床边,和我同度这一夜!"

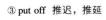
苏丹已被司凯儿·瑞里的美丽所俘虏,因此轻易地同意了,所以她妹妹玲娜·瑞里便被带进宫中。司凯儿·瑞里早已告诉妹妹该如何行动,于是大约在日出前的一小时,清醒的玲娜·瑞里开口说道:"姐姐!假如你没有睡着,请讲一个你熟悉的有趣故事给我听,天就要亮了!"司凯儿·瑞里转头对苏丹说:"陛下可否允许我讲一个故事给妹妹听呢?"

"当然可以。"苏丹说。其实他自己也爱听故事,于是司凯儿·瑞里开始讲故事。她故意在天亮的时候讲到故事最有趣的地方,但是天亮之后,苏丹却必须去上朝。

"这故事真有趣!"玲娜·瑞里说: "但是结局如何呢?"

"结局比开头还要奇妙,"她姐姐说着又转向 苏丹:"假使陛下准许我再多活一天,我就能把 故事说完。"

由于苏丹很想知道结尾,所以准许司凯儿·瑞里再多活一天,打算在第二天早上才砍她的头。但是一到第二天早上,当玲娜·瑞里请她继续讲未完的故事时,司凯儿·瑞里又如法炮制,使另一个故事讲到一半天又亮了,所以这个故事又不能说完,于是苏丹又把她的死期延缓一天。



Arabian Nights

Thus it went on and on, the story was never done, and for a thousand and one nights, *Schehera-zade* told her stories to the Sultan. By that time, though she had not told nearly all her stories, the Sultan had grown so fond of her, and had come to have such faith in her, that he forgot the wife who once did not obey, and made it known throughout the kingdom that *Schehera-zade* was to be the one Sultaness so long as he lived. The Grand Vizier and all the people had great joy at this; all the girls in the kingdom once more breathed freely, and Schehera-zade kept on telling her stories.

Now these are some of the tales of the Thousand and One Nights.



日复一日,故事总讲不完,而司凯儿·瑞里为苏丹讲故事讲了一千零一夜。这时,她虽然还没把她所有的故事讲完,但苏丹却已渐渐爱上了她,也对她有了信任感,更忘掉了那个从前不服从他的妻子。因此他向全国人民宣告,司凯儿·瑞里将是他永远和唯一的王后。首相和人民对此都非常高兴,全国上下所有的女孩也都松了一口气,而司凯儿·瑞里继续讲着她的故事。

以下就是一千零一夜里她所讲的故事中最精 彩的几个。



1

The History of Ali Baba, and of the Forty Robbers Killed by One Slave

There once lived in a town of *Persia* ^① two brothers, one named *Cassim* and the other *Ali Baba*. Their father divided his small property equally between them. *Cassim* married a very rich wife, and became a wealthy merchant. *Ali Baba* married a woman as poor as himself, and lived by cutting wood and bringing it upon three **asses** ^② into the town to sell.

One day, $Ali\ Baba$ noticed far off a great cloud of dust. As it drew nearer, he saw that it was made by a body of **horsemen**³, whom he suspected to be **robbers**⁴. Leaving the asses, he climbed a large tree which grew on a high rock, and had branches thick enough to hide him completely, while he saw what passed **beneath**⁵. The **troop**⁶, forty in number, all well **mounted**⁷ and armed, came to the foot of the rock on which the tree stood, and here dismounted. Each man **unbridled** his horse, tied him to a **shrub**, and hung about his neck a bag of corn. Then each of them took off his **saddlebag**, which from its weight seemed to $Ali\ Baba$ full of gold and silver. One, whom he looked to be

阿里巴巴和四十大盗

① Persia /'p3:ʃə/ n. 波斯 [现称伊朗]

② ass /æs/ n. 马

- ③ horseman /'hɔːsmən/ n. 骑 马的人
- ④ robber /'robə/ n. 强盗;盗 贼
- ⑤ beneath /bɪ'ni:θ/ ad. 在下 方
- ⑥ troop /tru:p/ n. [pl.] 军队:一群
- ⑦ mounted /'mauntid/ adj. 骑 在马上的
- ® unbridle /'ʌn'brɪdl/ vt. 去 掉(马)的辔头
- ⑨ shrub /frab/ n. 灌木
- ® saddlebag /'sæd(ə)l'bæg/ n. 鞍囊

从前在波斯的某个城里,有两个兄弟:一个叫寇米;另一个叫阿里巴巴。他们的父亲把他稀少的财产平分给兄弟二人。寇米娶了一个非常富有的妻子,所以就成了富商。而阿里巴巴娶了一个和他一样贫穷的妻子,靠用三头驴子运送阿里巴巴所伐的木头到城中贩卖维生。

一天,阿里巴巴注意到远处尘土飞扬。等到靠近了,他发现尘土乃是一群马队经过所造成的,他怀疑他们是强盗。于是离开驴子,攀登到峭壁上一棵特别茂密的大树顶上,这棵树枝叶茂密,足够他藏身,这样他看到了底下所发生的一切。马队共计四十人,全都骑着马,配备着武器,他们到了大树所在的岩石下,便下了马。每人卸去马辔头,把马系在矮木上,并在马脖子上挂了一袋谷物。接着每人取下鞍囊——阿里巴巴从袋子的重量上看出里面装满了金银。有一个

their captain, came under the tree in which $Ali\ Baba$ was **concealed**^①; and, making his way through some shrubs, spoke the words, "Open, **Sesame**^②." As soon as the captain of the robbers said this, a door opened in the rock, and after he had made all his troop enter before him, he followed them, when the door shut again of itself.

The robbers stayed some time within, and Ali Baba, fearful of being caught, remained in the tree, At last the door opened again, and the captain came out first, and stood to see all the troop pass by him. Then Ali Baba heard him make the door close by saying, "Shut, Sesame." Every man at once **bridled** his horse, fastened his wallet, and mounted again. When the captain saw them all ready, he put himself at their head, and they returned the way they had come.

Ali Baba watched them **out of sight** $^{\textcircled{4}}$, and then waited some time before coming down. Wishing to see whether the captain's words would have the same effect if he should speak them, he found the door hidden in the shrubs, stood before it, and said, "Open, Sesame." **Instantly** $^{\textcircled{5}}$ the door flew wide open.

Instead of a dark, **dismal**[®] **cavern**[®], *Ali Baba* was surprised to see a large **chamber** [®], well lighted from the top, and in it all sorts of **provisions** [®], rich **bales** [®] of silk, **stuff** [®], **brocade** [®] and carpeting, gold and silver **ingots** [®] in great **heaps** [®], and money in bags.

Ali Baba went **boldly** into the cave, and collected as much of the gold coin which was in bags, as he thought his asses could carry.

When he reached home, he carefully closed the gate of his little yard, and carried the bags into the house. They were emptied before his wife, and the great heap of gold **dazzled** her eyes. Then he told her the whole adventure, and warned her, above all things, to keep it secret.

Ali Baba would not let her take the time to count it out as she wished, but said, "I will dig a hole and bury it."