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珊瑚岛

The Coral Island

[英国] R.M. 巴兰坦 著 沈忆文 沈忆辉 译



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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。

《珊瑚岛》(1885年)是英国著名作家罗伯特·迈克尔· 巴兰坦的成名之作,流传甚广,被列为经典著作之列。 本书所采用的删节本,自1931年问世以来,已再版数十次。

小说描写了三少年在南太平洋珊瑚岛上的经历。主人公拉尔夫从小热爱大自然,特别向往遥远神秘的珊瑚岛。他十五岁时征得父亲的同意,乘船周游世界。船遇暴风雨失事后,他和两个好友杰克和彼得金漂到珊瑚岛上,开始了一段难忘的历险生活。

岛上奇特的生物景观、美妙的热带风光迷住了三个孩子,但他们很快就发现生活并不像表面那么和平宁静,食人者的暴行使他们深感震惊和愤怒,他们不惜一切代价,勇敢机智地向受害者伸出了救援之手。最后他们终于找到机会,踏上了归乡之途。

三少年热爱生活、勇于探索、乐于助人的精神风貌 在书中得到了充分展现,给人留下了很深的印象。

值得一提的是:本书是专门为学习英语的读者准备的,小说经过删节后词汇量不超过两千,而且几乎都是英文最常见的词汇。本书语言简单、生动、地道,保持

了原著的风格,不失为学习英语的一本理想读物。

巴兰坦是苏格兰人,生于1825年4月24日,卒于1894年2月8日,另著有《雪光和日光》(1855年)。

译者

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Chapter 1 The Storm

Wandering has always been, and still is, what I love to do, the joy of my heart, the very sunshine of my life. As a child, as a boy, and as a man, I have been a wanderer throughout the length and **breadth**^① of the wide, wide world.

My father had been a captain, and when I was about twelve years of age I went to sea. For some years I was happy in visiting the seaports, and in coasting along the shores of England. But, while engaged² in the coasting trade, I met with many seamen who had travelled to almost every quarter of the globe. Of all the places of which they told me, none pleased my thoughts so much as the Coral Islands of the Southern Seas. They told me of thousands of beautiful islands that had been formed by a very small creature called the coral animal; islands where summer reigned³ nearly all the year round; yet where, strange to say, men were wild, bloodthirsty savages savages. These accounts had so great an effect upon my mind that, when I reached the age of fifteen, I resolved to make a journey to the South Seas myself.

I had much difficulty in persuading my parents to let me go; but

• 002 •

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① breadth /bred0/ n. 宽度

② engaged /in'geid3d/ a. 忙碌的,使用中的

- ③ reign /reɪn/ v. 当政,统 治,占有优势
- ④ bloodthirsty a. 嗜杀的, 残忍的
- ⑤ savage /ˈsævɪdʒ/ n. 野蛮 人,野人,残酷之人
- ⑥ resolve /rɪ'zɒlv/ ν. 决定, 解决,决心

周游世界,无论过去还是现在,一直都是我最 喜欢的事情,它使我心中充满欢乐,是我生命中的 阳光。从童年,少年,一直到成年,我都是一个旅 行家,漫游整个广阔无垠的世界。

我的父亲曾是位船长,在我十二岁时带我出海。那以后的几年里我曾有幸到过许多港口,并沿着英国海岸线航行。当我们在沿海做贸易的时候,我遇到了许多水手,他们几乎到过地球的各个角落。在他们讲给我听的所有地方中,我最感兴趣的是南海的珊瑚岛。他们给我讲述了那数以千计的由一种名叫珊瑚虫的小生物构成的美丽岛屿,岛上几乎四季如夏,然而说来奇怪,那里的人反倒成了嗜血成性的野蛮人。这些话在我心里留下了深刻的印象,在我十五岁的时候,决定离开父母漫游南海!

说服我的父母让我独自旅行,是件相当不容易的事情。但是我极力强调如果父亲只满足于在沿海做做贸易,就永远不能成为一个伟大的船长。他认

when I urged on my father that he would never have become a great captain if he had remained in the coasting trade, he saw the truth of what I said, and gave his consent. My father placed me under the charge of an old friend of his, a **merchant**[®] captain, who was about to sail to the South Seas in his own ship, the Arrow.

It was a bright, beautiful, warm day when our ship spread her sails to the wind and sailed for the regions of the south. The captain shouted; the men ran to **obey**^②; the noble ship bent over to the wind, and the shore gradually **faded**^③ from my view, while I stood looking on with a kind of feeling that the whole scene was a **delightful**^④ dream.

There were a number of boys in the ship, but two of them were my special favourites, Jack Martin was a tall, broad-shouldered youth of eighteen, with a handsome, pleasant, firm face. He had been to a good school and was clever and lion-like in his actions, but **mild** and quiet by nature. Jack was a general favourite, and had a special **fondness** for me. My other **companion** was Peterkin Gay. He was little, quick, funny, and about fourteen years old. But Peterkin's fun was almost always harmless, else he could not have been so much liked as he was.

"Hallo, young man!" cried Jack Martin, touching me on the shoulder the day I joined the ship. "Come below, and I'll show you your bed. You and I are to be companions, and I think we shall be good friends, for I like the look of you."

Jack was right. He and I and Peterkin afterwards became the best and truest friends that ever sailed together on the stormy waves.

I shall say little about the first part of our voyage. We had the usual amount of **rough**[®] weather and calm; also we saw many strange fish **rolling**[®] in the sea, and I was greatly delighted one day by seeing a number of flying fish come out of the water and fly through the air about a foot above the surface.

① merchant /'mɜːtʃənt/ a. 商业的

- ② obey /ə'beɪ/ v. 服从,听 从
- ③ fade /feɪd/ v. 褪色,消失,凋谢
- ④ delightful /dr'lartful/ a. 令人愉快的,可喜的
- ⑤ mild /marld/ a. 轻微的, 温柔的,文雅的
- ⑥ fondness /' fondnis/ n. 友好,溺爱
- ⑦ companion
 /kəm'pænjən/ n. 同伴,
 同事

为我说得对,就同意了,并把我托付给他的一位老朋友。他是一艘商船的船长,将开着自己的船——"箭号"到南海去。

在一个温和而晴朗的日子里,我们的船在微风中扬帆起航,驶向南方。水手们认真地执行着船长的命令。我们的大船乘风破浪。陆地渐渐地消失在我的视野中。当我站在那里注视着这些的时候,突然有一种感觉,就仿佛这一切都是一个欢乐的梦。

船上还有另外几个男孩子,其中有两个成了我的好朋友。杰克·马丁是个高个子宽肩膀的十八岁男孩儿,有着一张英俊的脸,看起来意志坚强而又惹人喜爱。他受过良好的教育,聪明,有着狮子般敏捷的动作,但是天性却安静平和,他很有人缘,大家都很喜欢他,并且他和我特别好。我的另一位朋友是彼得金·盖伊。他个子小小的,十四岁左右,动作敏捷,爱开玩笑。但是彼得金的玩笑是没有恶意的,否则的话我们也就不会像现在这样喜欢他。

"你好!哥们儿!"在我第一天上船的时候,杰克·马丁一边拍着我的肩膀一边同我打招呼,"跟我下去,我带你去看你的床。你和我现在是同伴了,我挺喜欢你的,我想我们一定能成为好朋友!"

杰克是对的。在狂风暴雨的海上,他和我还有彼得金后来成了一起航行过的最要好、最可信赖的朋友。

起初一切都很顺利,无论是狂风暴雨还是风和 日丽,我们都习以为常。我们还看到了许多从没见 过的鱼在海里游弋。有一天我还惊奇地发现有许多 飞鱼从水里跃出,在离开水面将近一英尺的空中滑 翔。

[®] rough /rʌf/ a. 粗野的, 粗暴的

⑨ roll /rəul/ v. 滚,使…转动,摇摆

At last we came among the **coral**^① islands of the Pacific, and I shall never forget the delight with which I gazed — when we chanced to pass one — at the pure white shores, and the green **palm**^② trees, which looked bright and beautiful in the sunshine. And often did we three wish to be landed on one, thinking that we should certainly find perfect happiness there! Our wish was granted sooner than we expected.

A Wreck®

One night, soon after we entered the **tropics**[®], an awful storm **burst**[®] upon our ship. For five days the storm continued in all its force. Everything was swept off the decks except one small boat, and we all thought ourselves lost. The captain said that he had no idea where we were, as we had been blown far out of our course; and we were much afraid that we might get amongst the dangerous coral reefs, of which there are so many in the Pacific.

At daybreak ⁶ on the sixth morning of the storm we saw land in front of us. It was an island circled by a reef ⁷ of coral, on which the waves broke with great force. There was calm water within this reef, but we could only see one narrow opening into it. This opening we tried to reach, but before we reached it a great wave broke over the back of the ship, damaged it, and thus left us at the mercy of the waves.

"That's the end of us now!" said the captain to the men. "Get the boat ready, we shall be on the rocks in less than half an hour."

The men obeyed in silence, for they felt that there was little hope for so small a boat in such a sea.

"Come. boys," said Jack Martin, in a grave tone, to me and Peterkin as we stood on the deck[®] awaiting our fate. "Come, boys; we three shall stick[®] together. You see. it is impossible that the little boat

① coral /'kprəl/ n. 珊珊

② palm /pa:m/ n. 棕榈树

- ③ wreck /'tropik/ n. 失事, 破坏
- ④ tropic /'tropik/ n. 回归 线,热带
- ⑤ burst /bɜːst/ v. 爆裂,突发

- ⑥ daybreak /' deɪbreɪk/ n. 黎明,拂晓
- ⑦ reef /ri:f/ n. 暗礁

最后我们来到了太平洋珊瑚岛附近的海域,最让我难忘的是,当我们碰巧驶过一座珊瑚岛时,那洁白的海岸和翠绿色的棕榈树,在阳光的照耀下是那么明媚美丽,让我欣喜万分。我们三个经常渴望能够登上一座珊瑚岛,心想那里肯定能找到完美的幸福!然而,不久我们的梦想就成为了现实,比我们预想的要快得多。

失 事

我们刚刚进入热带地区的一天晚上,一场可怕的暴风雨袭击了我们的船。这场暴风雨一连肆虐了五天。狂风席卷了甲板上所有的东西,只留下一只小艇。而且在风中我们迷了航。船长也不知道我们现在的方位,因为我们被吹得远离了航线。更令人担心的是,在太平洋中到处是危险的珊瑚暗礁,我们或许正身处其中。

这场暴风雨中的第六个黎明到来的时候,我们的前方出现了一块陆地。那是一座被珊瑚礁环抱的小岛,狂风掀起的巨浪拍打着礁石,而珊瑚礁内却风平浪静。我们发现只有一条狭窄的水道通向那里。我们试着靠近这个开口。就在我们快要到达的时候,一个巨浪打在我们船尾,船毁了,我们只能任凭风浪的摆布了。

"我们完了!"船长对大家说, "把小艇准备好, 也许在半小时之内我们的船就沉了。"

水手们默默地执行着命令,因为他们知道在这样的大海里,这艘小艇太小了,不能对它抱什么希望。

"嗨,小伙子们,"当我和彼得金站在甲板上听 天由命的时候,杰克·马丁用严肃的语气对我们说,

[®] deck /dek/ n. 甲板

⑨ stick /stīk/ ν. 钉住,粘 贴,坚持

can reach the shore, crowded with men. It will be sure to turn over; so I mean rather to trust myself to a large oar. I see through the telescope that the ship will strike at the tail of the reef, where the waves break into the quiet water inside, so, if we manage to keep hold of the oar till it is driven over the waves, we may perhaps reach the shore. What say you, will you join me?

We gladly agreed to follow Jack, although I knew by the sad tone of his voice that he had little hope; and indeed, when I looked at the white waves that broke on the reef and boiled against the rocks as if in anger, I felt that there was but a step between us and death.

The ship was now very near the rocks. The men were ready with the boat, and the captain beside them giving orders, when a great wave came towards us. We three ran forward to lay hold of our oar, and had only just reached it when the wave fell on the deck with a sound like **thunder**^⑤. At the same moment the ship snuck, the **mast**^⑥ **broke off**^⑦ close to the deck and went over the side, carrying the boat and the men along with it. Jack seized an axe to cut our oar free, but, owing to the motion of the ship, he missed and struck the axe deep into the oar. Another wave, however, washed the oar free. We all seized hold of it. and the next instant we were in the wild sea. The last thing I saw was the boat turning over, and all the sailors^⑥ in the angry waves. Then I lost my senses.

. 008 .