



史上最美 英文

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ENGLISH

幸福的港湾

刘红 / 编译



从婴儿呱呱落地开始，
一切都开始改变，
唯一不变的是蕴涵在生活中的真理，
而真理就隐藏在普通的话语中。

在英语世界里，

其中的点点滴滴。

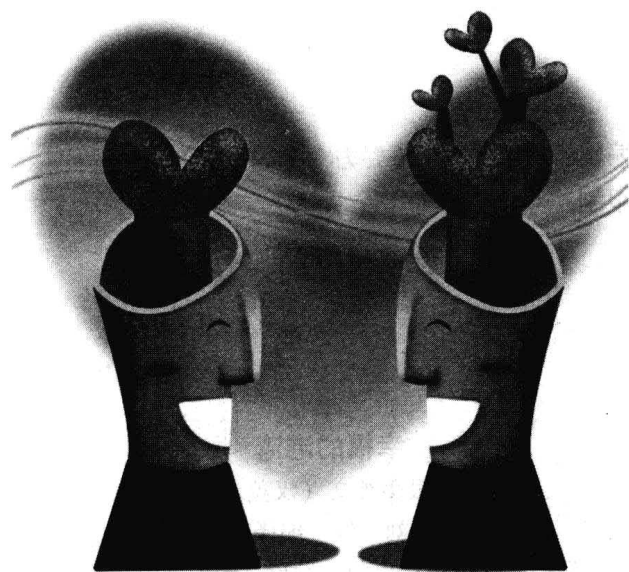
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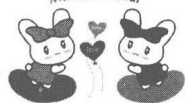
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前言

Maimai & Didi

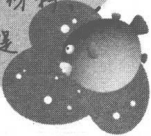


人生的苦乐全由自己去把握、去体验。对于深受现代文明之发达及其无可避免的压力的学生来说，怎样面对逆境是他们目前刻不容缓、迫在眉睫的严肃课题。

高尔基先生说过：“书籍是人类进步的阶梯。”书还能带给你许多重要的好处，也是获取精神食粮的最佳途径之一。用母语之外的语言阅读，可以拓展人生版图，感悟各国文化气息，增强人身素养，培养英语语感。

对于坎坷曲折的人生道路而言，本套英语书籍便是学生人生路上的最佳润滑剂。面对苦难，我们苦闷、彷徨、悲伤、绝望，甚至我们低下了曾经高贵骄傲的头。然而我们可否想到过书籍可以给予我们希望和勇气，将慰藉缓缓注入我们干枯的心田，使黑暗的天空再现光芒？

“史上最美英文”系列书籍中，每篇文章的文字均取自国外最经典、最时尚、最感人的篇章，它语言优美、情感深厚、英文地道，让学生们在阅读这些动人的绝美篇章时，不仅仅可以作为学习地道英语的材料，而且可以启迪心智、丰富思想，更能够提升生活质量，丰富人生内涵，最后，

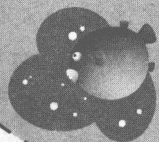


让你轻松提升英文领悟能力，体味英文之美，
轻松提高学习兴趣。

本系列书籍中列出了许多词汇，均是生活和学习中的
常用词汇，可重点记忆。文章后还有一些知识链接，
让你用最短的时间、最有趣的方式就能强化知识。

如果你是一名英语爱好者，通过阅读本套书，你
就可以学到很多知识，然后把这些知识应用到生活的
方方面面。这套书籍将为你学习道路和人生道路点
亮一盏明灯照亮心灵之路。

大千世界，人生百态，伟大的作家往往能捕捉到
哲理闪光的瞬间，凝聚睿智的理念。这些文字耐人寻
味、震撼人心，希望读者能够在学习之余、在茶余饭
后，在品读中英两种文字的同时，感受笔墨下的精神
力量和人生真理。希望读者能得到片刻的心灵慰藉，
且这种内化作用无疑是巨大的。

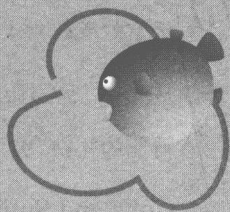


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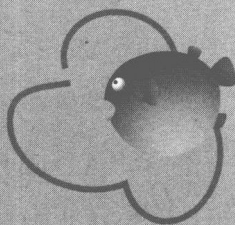
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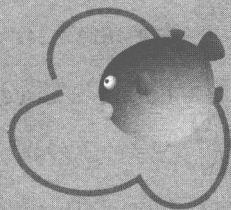
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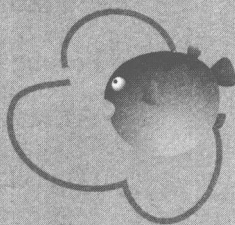
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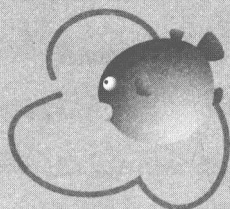
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5

01

The Heart-Shaped Pillow

心形枕头

Anonymous

内容导读

她在一块红布上绣上“我爱你”三个字……

这个枕头里面倾注了她多少爱啊！我将永远珍爱它。

我不知道这个枕头是否藏有什么魔力，但我能肯定，这么多年来，这枕头给我带来了说不尽的喜悦。

Valentine's Day had arrived and like every other day of the year, I was very busy. My romantic husband, Roy, planned a date like we had never had before. A **reservation**^[1] at an expensive restaurant was made. A beautifully wrapped present had been sitting on my dresser for a few days **prior to**^[2] the heart-filled holiday.

After a hard day at work, I hurried home, ran into the house and jumped into the shower. When my sweetheart arrived, I was dressed in my finest outfit and ready to go. He hugged me, just as the **sitter**^[3] arrived. We were both excited.

Unfortunately, the littlest member in our **household**^[4] wasn't so happy.

"Daddy, you were going to take me to buy Mamma a present." Becky, my eight-year-old daughter said, as she sadly walked over to the couch and sat down beside the **babysitter**^[5].

[1] **reservation** n. 预约, 预订; 保留

[2] **prior to** 在……之前; 居先

[3] **sitter** n. 临时看孩子的人

[4] **household** n. 家庭 **adj.** 家庭的

[5] **babysitter** n. 临时照顾幼儿者

Roy looked at his watch and realized that if we were to make our reservation, we had to leave right away. He didn't even have a few minutes to take her to the corner **drugstore**^[1] to buy a heart-shaped box of chocolate candy.

"I'm sorry, I was late getting home, honey," he said.

"That's OK," Becky replied, "I understand."

The entire evening was **bittersweet**^[2]. I couldn't help being concerned about the disappointment in Becky's eyes. I remembered how the joyful Valentine's Day glow had left her face, just before the door closed behind us. She wanted me to know how much she loved me. She didn't realize it, but I already knew it very well.

Today, I couldn't remember what was wrapped in that beautiful box, which I **swooned**^[3] over for several days, but I'll never forget the special gift, which I received when we arrived, back home.

Becky was asleep on the couch, clutching a box, which was sitting on her lap. When I kissed her cheek, she awoke. "I've got something for you, Mamma." She said, as a giant smile

[1] **drugstore** n. 药房 (常兼售化妆品、杂志等杂货)

[2] **bittersweet** adj. 又苦又甜的

[3] **swoon** v. 昏晕, 晕倒

covered her tiny face.

The little box was wrapped in newspaper. As I tore the paper off and opened the box, I found the sweetest Valentine gift that I had ever received.

After Roy and I left for our date, Becky got busy. She **raided**^[1] my fabric and **cross-stitch**^[2] box. She **stitched**^[3] the words “I Love Ya” on a piece of red fabric, cut the fabric in the shape of a heart, stitched the two pieces together, **adorned**^[4] it with lace and stuffed it with cotton. It was a heart-shaped pillow, filled with love, which I’ll cherish forever.

My wonderful Valentine gift has a special place in my bedroom today, some thirteen years later. As she was growing up into a young woman, many times I held that pillow close to my heart. I don’t know if a pillow can hold magic, but this pillow has surely held a great deal of joy for me over the years. It has helped me through several sleepless nights since she left home for college. I not only cherish the gift, but the memory, as well.

I know that I am a very lucky mother, indeed, to have such a wonderful little girl, who wanted so desperately to share her

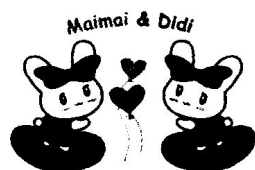
[1] **raid** v. 突然袭击, 突击搜捕

[2] **cross-stitch** n. 十字绣

[3] **stitch** v. 缝, 绣

[4] **adorn** v. 装饰, 使生色

heart with me. As long as I live, there will never be another Valentine's Day, which will be any more special to me.



情人节到了，跟往常一样，我的日程表依然安排得满满的。我的丈夫罗伊是个很浪漫的人，策划好了一个我们从未有过的约会。他在一家高档餐厅预订了桌位，在情人节到来的前几天，他还在我的梳妆台上留下了一份包装精美的礼品。

一天繁忙的工作过后，我匆匆赶回家，跑进屋，一头便扎进了浴室。等丈夫到家的时候，我已经穿上自己最漂亮的衣服，只等出发了。他拥抱了我，此时帮我们照看小孩的人也正好到了。我们俩都很高兴。

遗憾的是，我们家里最小的成员却不那么高兴。

“爸爸，你不是要带我去给妈妈买礼物的吗？”我那8岁的女儿贝姬一边说着，一边沮丧地走向沙发，坐在了那位临时过来照顾她的女士旁边。

罗伊看了一下手表，他意识到如果我们想要按时到达我们预订的餐厅，必须立即动身。他甚至都抽不出几分钟时间带女

儿去街角小店买盒鸡心形盒装巧克力糖。

“对不起，宝贝，今天回家会晚点儿。”他说。

“没事儿，”贝姬回答道，“我明白。”

整个晚上可以说是既甜蜜，却又有几分苦涩。我总会情不自禁地想到贝姬眼里流露出的失望。我忘不了就在我们关上房门的一刹那，贝姬脸上那原本因情人节而散发出的兴奋的光芒一下子消失了。她想让我知道她是多么爱我。她或许并没有意识到，我心里已经很清楚了。

今天，我已记不得那个精美的盒子里装的是什么礼物了，尽管我因它兴奋了好几天，但是当晚我们回到家时收到的另一份特殊的礼物让我永生难忘。

贝姬在沙发上睡着了，但双手还紧握着一个放在她腿上的盒子。当我亲吻她的脸颊时，她醒了。“妈妈，我有样东西要送给您。”她说，小脸蛋上绽放出灿烂的笑容。

小盒子用报纸包裹着。当我把报纸撕开，打开盒子时，我看到了一份最甜美的情人节礼物，这是我从未收到过的。

在罗伊和我离开家去约会后，贝姬便忙了起来。她把我的织品和十字绣盒子都找了出来，先在一块红布上绣上“我爱你”三个字，然后把布料按照心的形状剪了下来，再把剪下来的两块布缝在一起，缀上了一圈花边，最后在里面塞满棉花。一个心形的枕头就这样做成了。这个枕头里面倾注她

多少爱啊！我将永远珍爱它。

如今13年过去了，我那珍贵的情人节礼物依然放在卧室的一个特殊位置。女儿已经长大成人，这期间有多少次我紧紧地将这枕头贴在心窝。我不知道这个枕头是否藏有什么魔力，但我能肯定，这么多年来这枕头给我带来了说不尽的喜悦。女儿离开我进入大学时，它帮助我度过了无数个不眠之夜。我不仅珍爱这礼物，也珍爱这美好的记忆。

我知道我自己的确是位非常幸运的母亲，有这么一个值得称道的女儿，她是那么渴望与我分享她心中的爱！对我来说，有生之年，恐怕再也不会比这更特殊的情人节了。