

美国青少年
必读经典

中英对照

Andy Grant's
Pluck
勇敢的格兰特

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霍瑞修·爱尔杰是19世纪末美国著名教育家和小说家，生于1832年，19岁毕业于哈佛大学，此后从事过家庭教师和记者职业，1868年开始从事文学创作。他一生创作了一百多部以“奋斗与成功”为主题的小说，塑造了一系列出身寒微，但靠着自身的信念、勇气和进取精神顽强奋斗，终于获得成功的男孩形象。其作品影响了好几代美国人，至今畅销不衰。

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AN INVITATION TO DINNER

Andy reached his boarding house at four o'clock.

"What brings you home so early, Mr. Grant?" asked Warren, whose door was open. "Is business poor?"

"It is with me," answered Andy. "I am discharged."

"You don't tell me so! How did it happen?"

"My employer is out West, and the head salesman has discharged me and engaged his nephew in my place."

"It's a shame. What shall you do about it?"

"Wait till Mr. Flint gets home."

"I hope you won't leave us."

"No, I think not."

"Of course you will miss your salary. I wish I could lend you some money, but I have not heard from the article I sent to the Century. If accepted, they will send me a large check."

"Thank you, Mr. Warren. I shall be able to get along for the present."

Soon Sam Perkins arrived, with a new and gorgeous necktie.

"Glad to see you, Andy," he said. "Won't you go with me to

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宴会邀请

四点钟的时候，安迪回到了自己住的地方。

“你今天怎么回来这么早，格兰特先生？”沃伦问道，他房间的门敞开着，“生意不好吗？”

“是我的问题，”安迪回答道，“我被解雇了。”

“你不是开玩笑吧！怎么会这样呢？”

“我老板去西部了，领班把我解雇了，然后让他外甥取代了我的位置。”

“真是可耻。你打算怎么办？”

“等到弗林特先生回来。”

“我希望你不会离开我们。”

“不，我想不会的。”

“当然，你现在没薪水了。我希望我能借给你些钱，可我寄给《世纪》杂志的那篇文章还没有消息。如果那篇文章得到发表的话，他们会寄给我一大笔钱。”

“谢谢你，沃伦先生。我现在还能应付。”

很快，山姆·培金斯回来了，系着一条新的漂亮领带。

“很高兴见到你，安迪，”他说道。“你今天晚上难道不

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the Star Theater this evening?"

"I can't, Sam. I have no money to spare."

"I thought you got a good salary?"

"Just at present I have none at all. I have been discharged."

"I am sorry for that. I wish there was a vacancy in our place, I should like to get you in there."

"Thank you. That is quite friendly."

Andy was about to go down to supper when Eva, the servant, came upstairs.

"There's a messenger boy downstairs wants to see you, Mr. Grant," she said.

In some surprise Andy went downstairs to see the messenger. He was a short boy of fourteen, Tom Keegan by name. "I have a letter for Andrew Grant," he said.

"Give it to me. I am Andrew Grant. Here's a dime."

"Thank you," said the boy in a tone of satisfaction, for his weekly income was small.

Andy opened the letter. It was written on fashionable note paper. At the top of the paper was a monogram formed of the letters H and M.

Here is the letter:

MY DEAR MR. GRANT:

I shall be glad to have you take dinner with me at seven o'clock. I should have given you earlier notice, but supposed you would not be back from the store till six

跟我去斯达剧院吗？”

“我不能去，山姆。我现在可没闲钱了。”

“我以为你的薪水很高呢？”

“只是暂时的。我被解雇了。”

“很遗憾。希望我们那儿能有个空缺，要是那样的话，我会很乐意让你去我们那儿工作的。”

“谢谢你。你真是太好了。”

安迪正要下去吃晚饭，突然艾娃跑了上来。

“楼下有位送信的人想见你，格兰特先生。”她说道。

安迪惊讶地走下楼去见那位送信人。那是个个头不高的十四岁的小男孩，名字叫汤姆·凯甘。“我有封信要交给安德鲁·格兰特先生。”他说道。

“给我吧。我就是安德鲁·格兰特。这是十美分。”

“谢谢你，”孩子满意地说道，因为他每个星期的收入都非常少。

安迪打开了信。信是写在一张时髦的便签纸上的。纸的最上端，有一个H和M字母组成的签名。

信的内容如下：

我亲爱的格兰特先生：

我很高兴请你今天晚上七点跟我一起共进晚餐。我本来应该提前通知你，可我知道你要到六点钟才从商店下班回来。你会见到我的儿子罗伊，他比你小一两

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*o'clock. You will meet my son Roy, who is a year or two
younger than yourself, and my brother, John Crawford.
Both will be glad to see you.*

Yours sincerely,

HENRIETTA MASON.

"What is it, Andy?" asked Sam.

"You can read the note."

"By George, Andy, you are getting into fashionable society!
Couldn't you take me along, too?"

"I am afraid I am not well enough acquainted to take such a
liberty."

"I'll tell you what I'll do for you. I'll lend you my best necktie."

Sam produced a gorgeous red tie, which he held up
admiringly.

"Thank you, Sam," said Andy, "but I think that won't suit me."

"What are you going to wear?"

Andy took from the bureau drawer a plain black tie.

"That!" exclaimed Sam, disgusted. "That is awfully plain."

"It suits my taste."

"Excuse me, Andy, but I don't think you've got any taste."

Andy laughed good-naturedly.

"Certainly my taste differs from yours," he said.

"I suppose you'll have a fine layout. I'd like to go to a
fashionable dinner myself."

岁，还有我的弟弟，约翰·克劳福德。他们两个都很想见你。

近安。

亨利塔·梅森

“什么事，安迪？”山姆问道。

“你自己看吧。”

“是乔治写来的，安迪，你在进入一个时髦的圈子！能带我一起去吗？”

“恐怕我跟人家还不够熟，还不能这么放肆。”

“告诉你，我可以把我最好的领带借给你。”

山姆拿出了一条漂亮的红领带，一副得意洋洋的样子。

“谢谢你，山姆，”安迪说道，“可我想这可能不大适合我。”

“你带什么？”

安迪从抽屉里拿出了一条普通的黑领带。

“你就带这个！”山姆厌恶地叫道，“这可真是太一般了。”

“这符合我的品味。”

“对不起，安迪，但我觉得你并没有品味。”

安迪善意地大笑起来。

“是的，我的品位跟你的不一样。”他说道。

“我想你的安排很好，我喜欢自己去吃一顿时尚的晚餐。”

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"I'll tell you all about it when I get back."

"Just mention that you've got a friend—a stylish young man whom they'd like to meet. That may bring me an invitation next time."

Andy laughed.

"So far as I am concerned, Sam," he said, "I wish you were going. But you have an engagement at the Star Theater."

"So I have. I almost forgot."

Andy had very little time for preparation, but made what haste he could, and just as the public clocks struck seven he rang the bell of Mrs. Mason's house.

"I am glad you received my invitation in time," said the lady.

"So am I," returned Andy, "nothing could have been more welcome."

Just then Roy and her brother, Mr. Crawford, entered.

Roy was a very pleasant-looking boy, with dark-brown hair and a dark complexion. He was perhaps two inches shorter than Andy.

"This is Roy," said Mrs. Mason.

"I am glad to see you," said Roy, offering his hand.

Andy felt that he should like his new boy friend.

Next he was introduced to Mr. Crawford, a stout gentleman of perhaps forty, looking very much like his sister.

“等我回来的时候，我会告诉你的。”

“别忘告诉对方你有了一位朋友——一位他们可能会想见一见的时髦的年轻人。他们下次说不定会邀请我呢。”

安迪笑了起来。

“在我看来，山姆，”他说道，“我希望你也能去，可你在斯达剧院有个约会。”

“是的。我差点儿忘了。”

安迪几乎没有时间做准备，所以他只是匆忙地整理了一下，当外面的大钟敲响七下的时候，他准时按响了梅森太太家的门铃。

“我很高兴你能及时收到我的邀请。”这位女士说道。

“我也是，”安迪说道，“没有什么更让人高兴的了。”

就在这个时候，罗伊跟她的弟弟，克劳福德先生走了进来。

罗伊是一个长得很好看的孩子，一头黑棕色的头发，皮肤黝黑。

他大概比安迪矮两英寸。

“这是罗伊。”梅森太太说道。

“很高兴见到你。”罗伊伸出手说道。

安迪觉得他应该会喜欢自己的这位新朋友。

然后他被介绍给克劳福德先生，一位身材矮胖，大约四十岁的男士，样子长得很像他姐姐。

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"I have heard my sister speak of you so often that I am glad to meet you, Andy," he said, affably.

"Thank you, sir."

"John, lead the way to the dining room," said his sister.

So they filed downstairs, and took their seats at the table.

Mr. Crawford sat at the head, opposite his sister, while Roy and Andy occupied the sides.

When dinner was nearly over, Mr. Crawford remarked:

"I believe, Andy, you are in the employ of Mr. Flint, the jeweler."

"I was," answered Andy.

"Surely you have not left him?" exclaimed Mrs. Mason.

"No, I have been discharged."

"I am surprised to hear it. I thought you were a favorite with Mr. Flint."

"So I was. He does not know I have been discharged."

"You puzzle me."

"Mr. Flint is in Colorado, and Mr. Rich, his head salesman, has taken the opportunity to discharge me, and put his nephew in my place."

"But surely he would not venture to do this without some pretext."

"He claims that I took a watch from the case, and pawned it."

"Of course that is untrue."

"Yes, and I am in a position to prove it when Mr. Flint returns."

“很高兴见到你，我经常听到姐姐说起你，安迪。”他和蔼地说道。

“谢谢你，先生。”

“约翰，带他去餐厅吧。”姐姐说道。

于是他们就走到楼下，在桌子旁边坐了下来。

克劳福德先生坐在桌子一端，对面是他姐姐，罗伊和安迪坐在两边。

晚餐快结束的时候，克劳福德先生说道：

“我想，安迪，你在珠宝商弗林特先生那里工作吧。”

“以前是。”安迪回答道。

“你现在应该没离开他吧？”梅森太太大声说道。

“没有，可我被解雇了。”

“这很让我吃惊。我以为你是弗林特先生最喜欢的孩子。”

“是的。他不知道我被解雇了。”

“你把我说糊涂了。”

“弗林特先生在科罗拉多，他的领班里奇先生利用这个机会把我赶走了，然后让他外甥接替了我的工作。”

“可他不敢在没有任何借口的情况下这么做吧。”

“他说我偷了店里的手表，然后拿去典当了。”

“这肯定不是真的。”

“是的，等弗林特先生回来的时候，我会向他证明这一点。”