

Elvis Presley

“猫王” 普雷斯利

【英汉双语】

人风景线



外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

● Rupert Matthews (英) 著 ● 唐晓萌 译



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北京 BEIJING

(京)新登字 155 号

京权图字 01 - 2003 - 2342

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

“猫王”普雷斯利/(英)马修斯(Matthews, R.)著;唐晓萌译.—北京:外语教学与研究出版社, 2003.11
(名人风景线)

ISBN 7 - 5600 - 3849 - 2

I. 猫… II. ①马… ②唐… III. 英语—双语读物, 传记—汉、英 IV. H319.4:K

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2003)第 103557 号

Elvis Presley by Rupert Matthews

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This edition is only for sale in the People's Republic of China.

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责任编辑: 王霖霖

出版发行: 外语教学与研究出版社

社 址: 北京市西三环北路 19 号 (100089)

网 址: <http://www.fltrp.com>

印 刷: 北京瑞宝画印有限公司

开 本: 787×1092 1/24

印 张: 4.5

版 次: 2004 年 2 月第 1 版 2004 年 2 月第 1 次印刷

书 号: ISBN 7 - 5600 - 3849 - 2/H·1927

定 价: 11.00 元

* * *

如有印刷、装订质量问题出版社负责调换

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名人风景线

(英 汉 双 语)

这套书中的“名人”，是那些在各自的领域中创造出不平凡业绩的人们。

那他们是怎样进入这些领域的？

他们奋斗不已的源泉何在？

他们的成就对社会产生了什么影响？

他们又有着怎样的成长经历？

在他们当中，包括政治家、艺术家、演艺界人士、以及那些自强不息的创业者，每一个人的故事，都是一道亮丽的“风景线”！

本套“名人风景线”丛书以英汉双语形式出版，书中还附有大量的历史资料和珍贵照片。针对不同读者，丛书分为两个难度等级，并对有一定难度的单词、短语作简要注释，分别适合英语的初学者和有一定基础的英语学习者阅读。

CONTENTS

■ WHO WAS ELVIS PRESLEY?	2
■ BOY IN TUPELO	6
■ FIRST SONGS	14
■ SUN RECORDS	22
■ COLONEL PARKER	30
■ TO HOLLYWOOD	38
■ GI BLUE	46
■ THE FILM YEARS	54
■ THE COMEBACK	62
■ THE VEGAS YEARS	70
■ THE END	78
■ THE LEGEND LIVES ON	86
■ THE CHANGING VIEW OF ELVIS	94
■ FILMS AND RECORDS	98

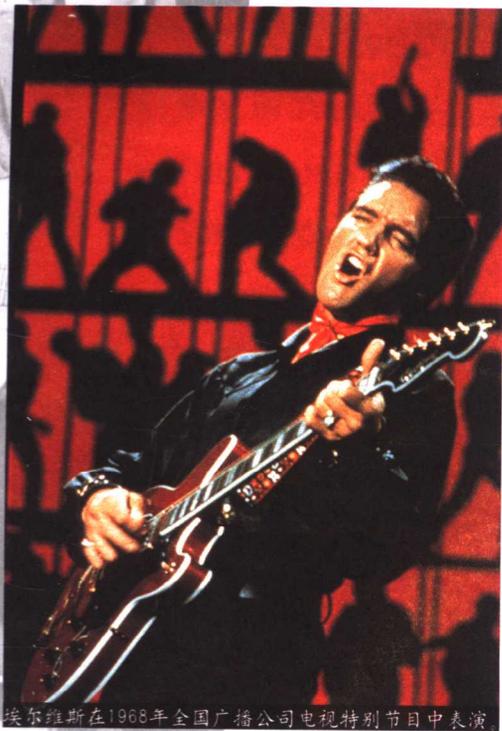
目录

▪ 谁是埃尔维斯·普雷斯利?	3
▪ 图珀洛镇的男孩	7
▪ 早期歌曲	15
▪ 太阳唱片公司	23
▪ 帕克上校	31
▪ 进军好莱坞	39
▪ 从军乐	47
▪ 电影年代	55
▪ 东山再起	63
▪ 赌城岁月	71
▪ 结局	79
▪ 不朽的传奇	87
▪ 评价在改变	95
▪ 电影及音乐专辑	99

WHO WAS ELVIS PRESLEY?

Elvis Presley was called the 'King of Rock and Roll'. His distinctive voice redefined popular music for a generation and he set the pace for other performers who entered the world of pop music.

Elvis grew up in the poor area of a poor town, but his talent became obvious at a young age. From singing at church services, revival meetings and school concerts, Elvis went on to perform at local halls and soared to national fame when still a teenager. Before long his face was being seen on record covers, television shows, films, key rings, watches, mugs and playing cards. No singer before Elvis had achieved such enormous fame.



埃尔维斯在1968年全国广播公司电视特别节目中表演

Elvis performs
on his 1968
NBC Television
Special.

After 1961 Elvis's career got stuck in a rut as he concentrated on making a series of bland but popular films. These films were hardly impressive, but the music was often superb and he made a lot of money. When he returned to the stage in 1968 Elvis

谁是埃尔维斯·普雷斯利？

埃尔维斯·普雷斯利被誉为“摇滚之王”。他极具特质的嗓音改变了整整一代人对流行音乐的观念，他也为后来步入流行乐坛的其他歌手树立了榜样。

埃尔维斯在一个贫穷城镇的穷人区长大成，但他的天分很早就显露出来。最早时他在教堂集会、陪灵会和学校音乐会上演唱，后来又在当地的音乐厅表演。还不到20岁，他就已闻名全国。很快他的形象就出现在唱片封套上、电视节目里、电影里、钥匙链上、手表上、咖啡杯上，还有扑克牌上。在埃尔维斯之前，还没有哪个歌手像这样红得发紫。

1961年以后，埃尔维斯的事业流入俗套，因为他把重心放在了拍摄一系列平庸但却大受欢迎的电影上。这些电影本身乏善可陈，但配乐却往往精彩绝伦，埃尔维斯也赚了不少钱。1968年，他重返舞台，

distinctive *adj.* 独特的

● redefine *v.* 给……重下定义

● in a rut 墨守成规，一成不变

impressive *adj.* 给人以深刻印象的

proved he was as dynamic as ever, but before long, binge eating, a lack of sleep and abuse of prescription drugs wrecked Elvis's health. In 1977 at the age of just 42 Elvis Presley died.

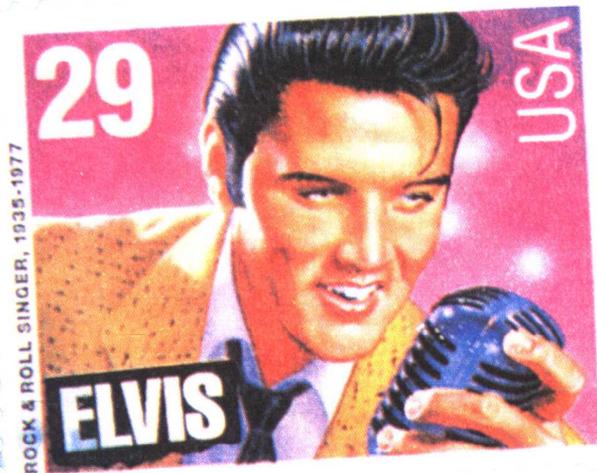
'When we were kids, all we ever wanted to be was Elvis Presley.'

Paul McCartney,
former member of
the Beatles

But Elvis the rock legend lives on. His music continues to make huge sales and his films are shown on television around the world. Some people refuse to believe that Elvis died so young and think he is living quietly in hiding somewhere. Elvis built up a legend that has survived long after his death.

A youthful Elvis Presley as commemorated on an American postage stamp.

埃尔维斯·普雷斯利年轻时的样子被印在美国的邮票上以示纪念。



证明自己活力依旧。但是好景不长，他因为暴饮暴食、缺乏睡眠以及滥用处方药物而严重损害了健康。1977年，埃尔维斯·普雷斯利离开人世，年仅42岁。

然而这位摇滚乐的传奇式人物依旧活在人们心中。他的唱片仍然销量巨大，他的电影还在全世界的电视上播映。有些人不愿相信埃尔维斯会英年早逝，认为他隐居在什么地方过着平静的生活。埃尔维斯虽然去世已久，但是他所创造的传奇仍在延续。

“我们小时候最大的愿望都是要成为埃尔维斯·普雷斯利。”

保罗·麦卡特尼，
前“甲壳虫”乐队成员

dynamic *adj.* 有活力的，精力充沛的

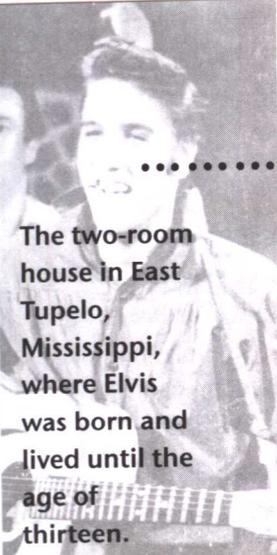
binge *n.* 无节制的行为

prescription drug 处方药

wreck *v.* 损害(身体健康等)

commemorate *v.* 纪念

BOY IN TUPELO



The two-room house in East Tupelo, Mississippi, where Elvis was born and lived until the age of thirteen.

Elvis Presley was born on 8 January 1935 in the small town of East Tupelo in the state of Mississippi in the southern USA. His twin brother, Jesse Garon Presley, died at birth and was buried the next day. Elvis's parents, Vernon and Gladys, had married two years earlier when aged just 17 and 21. They were poor but respectable, so Elvis's childhood would be a long struggle against poverty.



密西西比州东图珀洛镇这幢有两间屋的房子是埃尔维斯的出生地。他在这里一直住到13岁

图珀洛镇的男孩

埃尔维斯·普雷斯利于1935年1月8日出生在美国南部密西西比州的东图珀洛镇。他的孪生兄弟杰西·加伦·普雷斯利在出生时夭折，第二天就被安葬了。埃尔维斯的父亲弗农和母亲格拉迪斯在他出生的两年前结婚，当时他俩一个17岁，一个21岁。他们为人正派但一贫如洗，因此，埃尔维斯的童年注定要与贫穷长期打拼。

twin *n.* 双胞胎

respectable *adj.* 品行端正的，值得尊敬的

poverty *n.* 贫困

Elvis at the age
of three.



3岁时的埃尔维斯

The house in which Elvis was born had been built by his father and some relatives in the garden of Elvis's grandfather's house. The house measured just 9 metres by 3 metres.

Vernon Presley had a series of poorly paid jobs, while Gladys helped earn money by taking on sewing or cleaning work for wealthy local families. Despite their money troubles, the Presleys always found time for religion and it was at church that Elvis first showed his musical talents. By the age of three Elvis had learnt the words and tunes to the more popular hymns, and would sing along to them and dance up and down the aisles.

埃尔维斯出生时所在的那所房子是他父亲和几个亲戚在祖父的花园里修建的，房屋的面积只有27平方米。

弗农·普雷斯利干过不少工作，不过报酬都很微薄。格拉迪斯则靠帮助当地富裕人家缝缝补补、洗洗涮涮来贴补家用。尽管经济拮据，普雷斯利一家总要抽出时间去教堂，而埃尔维斯最早正是在教堂里展现音乐天赋的。他3岁时便学会哼唱一些流行赞美诗的曲调和歌词，并常常在教堂的走廊里来来回回地边跳边唱。

- ④ take on 从事，担任
- ④ hymn *n.* 赞美诗，圣歌
- ④ aisle *n.* 走道，走廊

EARLY INFLUENCES

Elvis loved church music and was particularly drawn to the African-American churches, but because he was white, Elvis was not always welcome and sometimes had to listen while sitting outside. The southern states of the USA were split by racism at this time. Whites were often banned from African-American areas. But Elvis was not put off and watched how the ministers and choirs would use their bodies to keep time with the beat and emphasize the underlying message of the words.

In 1941 the USA entered the Second World War. The need

Segregation

- Throughout most of the first half of last century the southern states of the USA (and some northern states)
- practised segregation of the races. African-Americans and whites not only went to different churches, they sat in different parts of buses, sat on different park benches and even used different drinking fountains. African-Americans
- were refused entry to many restaurants and theatres.

早期影响

埃尔维斯很喜欢教堂音乐，并对黑人的教堂情有独钟。但由于他是白人，在那里并不总是受到欢迎，有时候他只好坐在教堂外面聆听音乐。当时的美国南方因为种族主义而分裂，白人往往会被禁止进入到黑人的领地。不过埃尔维斯并没有因此而气馁，经常仔细观察牧师与唱诗班成员如何运用肢体来和应音乐的节奏，以此强调歌词所要表达的潜在信息。

1941年，美国加入第二次世界大战。对飞机、坦克、枪炮及其他

种族隔离

整个20世纪上半期，美国南部诸州(以及北方几个州)都在

- 实行种族隔离制度。黑人和白人不单去不同的教堂，还在公交车上坐不同的位置，在公园里坐不同的长椅，甚至使用
- 不同的喷嘴饮水器。很多餐馆和剧院都禁止黑人入内。

influence *n.* 影响

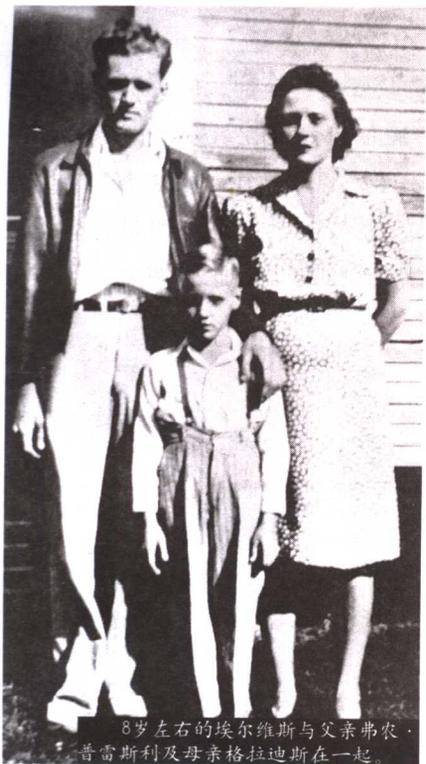
be drawn to 被……吸引

racism *n.* 种族主义，种族偏见

ban *v.* 禁止

segregation *n.* 隔离，分开





8岁左右的埃尔维斯与父亲弗农·普雷斯利及母亲格拉迪斯在一起。

Elvis aged about eight, with his father, Vernon Presley, and mother, Gladys.

ordered him to leave Mississippi and never return. Elvis later recalled: 'We left Tupelo overnight. Dad packed all our belongings in boxes and put them on the top and in the trunk of our Plymouth. Then we headed for Memphis.' Memphis, Tennessee, was a large industrial city of 300,000 people. At first the country boy Elvis found the city intimidating and daunting.

for aircraft, tanks, guns and other weapons to be used in the war meant more and better paid jobs, even in small towns like East Tupelo. Vernon had a steady job for the first time in his life. He used the money to buy a second-hand Plymouth car and a radio, on which Elvis got to hear country music, swing and other new styles, in particular the rhythm and blues performed by African-American musicians. With the extra income, Gladys had \$10 to spend on Elvis's eleventh birthday present. She bought a guitar and persuaded Elvis's Uncle Luther to give the boy lessons.

TO MEMPHIS

In September 1948 Vernon was arrested for selling illegal whisky. The local magistrate