

双语名著无障碍阅读丛书

经典集

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# 百万英镑

*The 1,000,000 Bank Note*

[美国] 马克·吐温 著  
潘华凌 译



中国出版传媒股份有限公司  
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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學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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美国批判现实主义文学奠基人的不朽之作

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# *The 1,000,000 Bank Note*

## 1

When I was twenty-seven years old, I was a mining-broker's clerk in San Francisco, and an expert in all the details of stock traffic. I was alone in the world, and had nothing to depend upon but my wits and a clean reputation; but these were setting my feet in the road to **eventual**<sup>①</sup> fortune, and I was content with the **prospect**<sup>②</sup>.

My time was my own after the afternoon board, Saturdays, and I was **accustomed**<sup>③</sup> to put it in on a little sail-boat on the bay. One day I **ventured**<sup>④</sup> too far, and was carried out to sea. Just at nightfall, when hope was about gone, I was picked up by a small **brig**<sup>⑤</sup> which was bound for London. It was a long and stormy voyage, and they made me work my passage without pay, as a common sailor. When I stepped ashore in London my clothes were ragged and shabby, and I had only a dollar in my pocket. This money fed and sheltered me twenty-four hours. During the next twenty-four I went without food and shelter.

About ten o'clock on the following morning, **seedy**<sup>⑥</sup> and hungry, I was dragging myself along Portland Place, when a child that was passing, **towed**<sup>⑦</sup> by a nurse-maid, **tossed**<sup>⑧</sup> a **luscious**<sup>⑨</sup> big pear—minus one bite—into the **gutter**<sup>⑩</sup>. I stopped, of course, and fastened my desiring eye on that muddy treasure. My mouth watered for it, my stomach craved it, my whole being begged for it. But every time I made a move to get it some passing



# 百万英镑

## 1

我二十七岁时担任旧金山一家矿业经纪人事务所的雇员，十分熟悉证券交易中的全部细节。我独自一人活在上，举目无亲。我头脑聪明，声名清白，除此之外，没有什么可以依靠的。但是，上述两个优点却使我踏上了最终获得成功的大道。我对这个前景感到满意。

星期六下午收盘之后的时间是属于我自己的。我习惯于把那个时间花费在到海湾里驾驶小帆船上。一天，我冒险冒得过了头，把帆船驾到了大海上。夜幕降临时，我差不多已经绝望了。就在这个当儿，一艘驶向伦敦的小型双桅横帆船把我给搭救了。旅途遥远，狂风暴雨，船上的人要求我干普通水手的活儿，不付工钱，以此来抵搭船的费用。我在伦敦登岸时，身上衣衫褴褛，口袋里只有一美元。这一美元钱让我维持了二十四个小时的食宿。

翌日上午十点钟左右，我没精打采，饥肠辘辘，独自一人徘徊在波特兰广场一带。这时候，有个小孩由保姆牵着从我身边经过，把一个美味香甜的大梨——只是咬掉了一口啊——扔进了路边的阴沟里。我当然停住了脚步，目光中充满了渴望，盯着那个沾了泥巴的宝物看。我嘴里馋得直流口水，胃里渴望它来填充，整个躯体都在祈求着它。但是，我每次移动着身子想要把它捡起来时，都会有路过的人看出我的企图，这时候，我当

- ① eventual [i'ventʃʊəl] *a.* 最终的
- ② prospect ['prɒspekt] *n.* 前景
- ③ accustomed [ə'kʌstəmd] *a.* 习惯的
- ④ venture ['ventʃə(r)] *v.* 冒险
- ⑤ brig [brig] *n.* 双桅横帆船

- ⑥ seedy ['si:di] *a.* 憔悴的
- ⑦ tow [təu] *v.* 拖，拉
- ⑧ toss [tɒs] *v.* 投掷
- ⑨ luscious ['lʌʃəs] *a.* 甘美的
- ⑩ gutter ['gʌtə(r)] *n.* 排水沟

eye detected my purpose, and of course I straightened up then, and looked **indifferent**<sup>①</sup>, and pretended that I hadn't been thinking about the pear at all. This same thing kept happening and happening, and I couldn't get the pear. I was just getting desperate enough to brave all the shame, and to seize it, when a window behind me was raised, and a gentleman spoke out of it, saying:

“Step in here, please.”

I was admitted by a **gorgeous**<sup>②</sup> **flunkey**<sup>③</sup>, and shown into a **sumptuous**<sup>④</sup> room where a couple of elderly gentlemen were sitting. They sent away the servant, and made me sit down. They had just finished their breakfast, and the sight of the remains of it almost overpowered me. I could hardly keep my wits together in the presence of that food, but as I was not asked to sample it, I had to bear my trouble as best I could.

## 2

Now, something had been happening there a little before, which I did not know anything about until a good many days afterwards, but I will tell you about it now. Those two old brothers had been having a pretty hot argument a couple of days before, and had ended by agreeing to decide it by a bet, which is the English way of settling everything.

You will remember that the Bank of England once issued two notes of a million pounds each, to be used for a special purpose connected with some public transaction with a foreign country. For some reason or other only one of these had been used and canceled; the other still lay in the **vaults**<sup>⑤</sup> of the Bank. Well, the brothers, chatting along, happened to get to wondering what might be the fate of a perfectly honest and intelligent stranger who should be turned **adrift**<sup>⑥</sup> in London without a friend, and with no money but that million-pound bank-note, and no way to **account for**<sup>⑦</sup> his being in possession of it. Brother A said he would starve to death; Brother B said he wouldn't. Brother A said he couldn't offer it at a bank or anywhere else, because he would be arrested on the spot. So they went on disputing till

① indifferent [in'difrənt] *a.*  
漠不关心的

② gorgeous ['gɔ:dʒəs] *a.* 穿着华丽的

③ flunkey ['flʌŋki] *n.* 穿制服的仆役

④ sumptuous ['sʌmptʃuəs] *a.*  
豪华的

⑤ vault [vɔ:lt] *n.* (银行等的) 保险库; 金库

⑥ adrift [ə'drift] *a.* 漂泊的

⑦ account for 解释

然直挺着身子，显得无所用心的样子，假装着自己压根儿没对那个大梨动过念头。同样的情形一次又一次地重演，但我始终未能拿到那个大梨。我决定孤注一掷，不顾一切颜面，准备抓起梨子，突然，我身后的一扇窗户向上拉起了百叶窗，有位绅士探出头来喊着：

“请进屋来吧。”

一位外表体面的仆人把我领了进去，进入了一个奢华的房间，里面端坐着两位上了年纪的绅士。他们支开了仆人，请我坐了下来。他们刚刚用完早餐，我看见吃剩下的食物后，几乎控制不了自己了。面对着那些食物，我几乎要失去理智。但是，由于他们并没有请我品尝，我就得尽最大努力忍受着饥饿的痛苦。

## 2

是啊，那儿不久前发生了一件事情，我当时对此一无所知，直到好些日子之后才知道，不过，我这就向您叙说吧。两天前，老绅士兄弟二人为一件事情争论得不可开交，最后一致同意用打赌的方式来做决断。这是英国人决定事情时常用的方式。

您一定还记得，英国同某个国家有过公共交易，为了达到其中某个特殊目的，英格兰银行曾经发行过两张纸钞，每张面值一百万英镑。不知为什么，只使用并注销了其中的一张，另外一张仍然存放在银行的保险库里。是啊，绅士兄弟二人闲聊时正好思忖着，如果有那么一位陌生人，绝对诚恳老实，聪颖智慧，却流落到了伦敦，无亲无故，身上除了揣着一张百万英镑的大额钞票之外身无分文，而且还无法证明自己就是钞票的拥有者，那此人的境遇会如何呢？兄长说，此人会活活饿死，弟弟说，他不会饿死。兄长说，此人无法把钞票拿到银行或者任何别的地方去使用，因为他会当即遭到逮捕。于是，兄弟二人一直争论着。最后，弟弟说，他愿意赌两万英镑，因为断定，陌生人揣着钞票无论如何可以活上三十天，而且还不会进监狱。兄长接受了他下的

Brother B said he would bet twenty thousand pounds that the man would live thirty days, anyway, on that million, and keep out of jail, too. Brother A took him up. Brother B went down to the Bank and bought that note. Just like an Englishman, you see; **pluck**<sup>①</sup> to the backbone. Then he **dictated**<sup>②</sup> a letter, which one of his clerks wrote out in a beautiful round hand, and then the two brothers sat at the window a whole day watching for the right man to give it to.

They saw many honest faces go by that were not intelligent enough; many that were intelligent, but not honest enough; many that were both, but the possessors were not poor enough, or, if poor enough, were not strangers. There was always a defect, until I came along; but they agreed that I filled the bill all around; so they elected me **unanimously**<sup>③</sup>, and there I was now waiting to know why I was called in. They began to ask me questions about myself, and pretty soon they had my story. Finally they told me I would answer their purpose. I said I was sincerely glad, and asked what it was. Then one of them handed me an envelope, and said I would find the explanation inside. I was going to open it, but he said no; take it to my **lodgings**<sup>④</sup>, and look it over carefully, and not be hasty or **rash**<sup>⑤</sup>. I was puzzled, and wanted to discuss the matter a little further, but they didn't; so I took my leave, feeling hurt and insulted to be made the **butt**<sup>⑥</sup> of what was apparently some kind of a practical joke, and yet obliged to **put up with**<sup>⑦</sup> it, not being in circumstances to resent **affronts**<sup>⑧</sup> from rich and strong folk.

### 3

I would have picked up the pear now and eaten it before all the world, but it was gone; so I had lost that by this unlucky business, and the thought of it did not soften my feeling towards those men. As soon as I was out of sight of that house I opened my envelope, and saw that it contained money! My opinion of those people changed, I can tell you! I lost not a moment, but **shoved**<sup>⑨</sup> note and money into my vest pocket, and broke for the nearest

① pluck [plʌk] *n.* 勇气, 胆量

② dictate [dik'teit] *v.* 口述

③ unanimously [ju:'næni məsli] *ad.* 全体一致地

④ lodging ['lɒdʒɪŋ] *n.* 住所

⑤ rash [ræʃ] *a.* 轻率的; 鲁莽的

⑥ butt [bʌt] *n.* 笑柄

⑦ put up with 忍受

⑧ affront [ə'frʌnt] *n.* 轻蔑; 公开侮辱

⑨ shove [ʃʌv] *v.* 塞进

赌。弟弟跑到了银行, 把那张百万英镑的钞票买了下来。您看看, 完全是英国人的气派, 浑身都是勇气。紧接着, 他口授了一封信, 由他的一位秘书用漂亮的圆体字写了出来。然后, 兄弟二人在窗户前面坐了一整天, 注视着有位合适的人选把信托付。

他们倒是看到了许多长着诚恳老实面孔的人经过, 但显得不够聪颖智慧。有许多聪颖智慧的人, 但又显得不够诚恳老实。有许多人两者兼而有之, 但看上去不是穷人, 或者即便是穷人, 但又不是陌生人。总是美中不足, 直到我出现了。他们一致认为, 我符合所有条件, 于是毫无异议地选定了我。我此刻正在等待着, 想要知道把我召唤进屋的原由。他们开始询问关于我本人的情况, 很快就清楚了我的经历。最后, 他们告诉我说, 我符合他们设定的目标。我说, 我打心眼里高兴, 便问了那是什么目标。他们中一位接着递给了我一个信封, 说我可以信封里面找到答案。我正要拆信, 但他说不拆, 要我把信带回寓所, 仔细认真地看信, 不要匆忙或者草率。我被弄得云里雾里, 想要把事情讨论得清楚一些, 但他们不肯。于是, 我告辞了, 心里觉得委屈, 感觉受到了侮辱, 因为这显而易见是个恶作剧, 而自己则成了嘲弄的对象。不过, 我只得忍辱负重, 因为自己深陷眼下的处境, 面对有钱有势的人的轻蔑傲慢态度, 我是不能表露出愤怒情绪的。

### 3

我本来可以把那个大梨捡起来, 堂而皇之地把它吃掉, 但是, 梨子不见了, 因为这桩倒霉的事情, 我失去了梨子。一想到这一点, 我对那两个人就没有好感。我刚一到达看不见那幢房子的地方便拆开了信封, 看到里面装了钱呢! 我对那两个人的看法有了变化, 我可告诉您啊! 我片刻都没有耽搁, 而是把信和钞票塞进背心的口袋里, 兴冲冲地跑进附近一家廉价餐馆。哎呀, 我铆足了劲吃啊! 最后, 肚子里再也装不下东西了, 我便把

cheap eating house. Well, how I did eat! When at last I couldn't hold any more, I took out my money and unfolded it, took one **glimpse**<sup>①</sup> and nearly fainted. Five millions of dollars! Why, it made my head swim.

I must have sat there **stunned**<sup>②</sup> and **blinking**<sup>③</sup> at the note as much as a minute before I came rightly to myself again. The first thing I noticed, then, was the landlord. His eye was on the note, and he was **petrified**<sup>④</sup>. He was worshiping, with all his body and soul, but he looked as if he couldn't **stir**<sup>⑤</sup> hand or foot. I **took my cue**<sup>⑥</sup> in a moment, and did the only rational thing there was to do. I reached the note towards him, and said, carelessly:

"Give me the change, please."

Then he was restored to his normal condition, and made a thousand apologies for not being able to break the bill, and I couldn't get him to touch it. He wanted to look at it, and keep on looking at it; he couldn't seem to get enough of it to **quench**<sup>⑦</sup> the thirst of his eye, but he shrank from touching it as if it had been something too sacred for poor common clay to handle. I said:

"I am sorry if it is an inconvenience, but I must insist. Please change it; I haven't anything else."

But he said that wasn't any matter; he was quite willing to let the **trifle**<sup>⑧</sup> stand over till another time. I said I might not be in his neighborhood again for a good while; but he said it was of no consequence, he could wait, and, moreover, I could have anything I wanted, any time I chose, and let the account run as long as I pleased. He said he hoped he wasn't afraid to trust as rich a gentleman as I was, merely because I was of a merry disposition, and chose to **play larks on**<sup>⑨</sup> the public in the matter of dress. By this time another customer was entering, and the landlord hinted to me to put the monster out of sight; then he bowed me all the way to the door, and I started straight for that house and those brothers, to correct the mistake which had been made before the police should hunt me up, and help me do it. I was pretty nervous; in fact, pretty badly frightened, though, of course, I was no way in fault; but I knew men well enough to

① glimpse [glim(p)s] *n.* 一瞥，一看

② stunned [stʌnd] *a.* 受惊的

③ blinking ['blɪŋkɪŋ] *a.* 眨眼的

④ petrified ['petrɪfaɪd] *a.* 惊呆的；目瞪口呆的

⑤ stir [stə:] *v.* 摇动；使晃动，使抖动

⑥ take one's cue 懂得别人的暗示

⑦ quench [kwɛn(t)] *v.* 解渴

⑧ trifle ['traɪf(ə)] *n.* 小事

⑨ play larks on 开玩笑

钱掏了出来，展开，只是瞥了一眼，几乎就要晕过去了。一百万英镑啊！天哪，我感觉天旋地转起来了。

我一定坐在那儿目瞪口呆，眼巴巴地看着钞票，足足有一分钟之久，这才回过神来。当时，我注意到的第一个目标就是餐馆的老板，只见他眼睛盯着钞票，呆若木鸡。他全身心地顶礼膜拜着，但看上去手脚都动弹不得。我瞬间有了主意，做了当时唯一符合理性的事情。我把钞票递给了他，用漫不经心的口气说：

“请给我找零钱吧。”

他随后恢复了常态，一个劲儿地赔礼道歉，说无法找零钱。我无法说服他接过钞票。他想要看一看，持续不断地看着，目光中充满了如饥似渴的神情，似乎怎么看也看不够。但是，他退缩着，不敢接过钞票，好像是什么过于神圣的东西，可怜的肉体凡胎不可以触碰。我说：

“如果带来了不便，很对不起啊。但是，我必须坚持我的立场，请找零钱吧。我别无他物了。”

但是，他说，没有关系的，区区一笔小账，他很乐于延迟到下一次。我说，自己可能好一阵子不会再到这一片来了。但他却说，无关紧要，他可以等待的。此外，我还可以想吃什么吃什么，任何时候都可以，而且账目可以记着，想要拖欠多久就拖欠多久。他说，但愿自己不敢相信像我这样一位富翁，纯粹是由于我性情诙谐，有意要在衣着装束上对着公众开玩笑。这时候，进来了另外一位顾客，餐馆老板示意我把巨额钞票收起来，接着一路点头哈腰把我送到门口。我径直走向那幢住宅，回到那两兄弟身边，趁着警察还没有逮到我，纠正已经犯下的错误，请他们帮助我纠正。我战战兢兢，事实上，已经被吓坏了，不过，这并不是我的错。但是，我知晓人情世故，足以知道，当他们发觉自己把一张一百万英镑的钞票当成一英镑送给一位流浪者时，他

know that when they find they've given a tramp a million-pound bill when they thought it was a one-pounder, they are in a **frantic**<sup>①</sup> rage against him instead of quarreling with their own near-sightedness, as they ought. As I approached the house my excitement began to **abate**<sup>②</sup>, for all was quiet there, which made me feel pretty sure the blunder was not discovered yet. I rang. The same servant appeared. I asked for those gentlemen.

4

"They are gone." This in the lofty, cold way of that fellow's **tribe**<sup>③</sup>.

"Gone? Gone where?"

"On a journey."

"But **whereabouts**<sup>④</sup>?"

"To the **Continent**<sup>⑤</sup>, I think."

"The Continent?"

"Yes, sir."

"Which way—by what route?"

"I can't say, sir."

"When will they be back?"

"In a month, they said."

"A month! Oh, this is awful! Give me some sort of idea of how to get a word to them. It's of the last importance."

"I can't, indeed. I've no idea where they've gone, sir."

"Then I must see some member of the family."

"Family's away, too; been abroad months—in Egypt and India, I think."

"Man, there's been an immense mistake made. They'll be back before night. Will you tell them I've been here, and that I will keep coming till it's all made right, and they needn't be afraid?"

"I'll tell them, if they come back, but I am not expecting them. They



① frantic ['fræntik] *a.* 狂乱的；疯狂的

② abate [ə'beɪt] *v.* 缓和

③ tribe [traɪb] *n.* 一伙

④ whereabouts [weəə'reɪb  
aʊts] *ad.* 在何处

⑤ Continent ['kɒntɪnənt] *n.*  
[the C-] (区别于英伦三  
岛的) 欧洲大陆

们会气势汹汹地冲着他发怒，而不是责怪他们自己视力不佳，其实他们本来应该这样做的。我临近那幢住宅时，激动的心情有所缓和，因为周围一片静谧，我据此确信，他们尚未发觉出了差错。我按响了门铃，应门的还是先前那位仆人。我请求见那两位绅士。

#### 4

“他们出门了。”说话的语气傲慢冷漠，这种人说话往往如此。

“出门了？去哪儿了？”

“旅行去了。”

“到底去哪儿了呢？”

“我估计是去欧洲大陆了。”

“去欧洲大陆了？”

“是啊，先生。”

“哪边走的——走哪条线路？”

“我说不准啊，先生。”

“他们什么时候回来呢？”

“一个月之后，他们说了。”

“一个月！噢，这真是要命啊！请给我想想办法吧，看看怎么样给他们捎个信儿，事情非同小可。”

“我无能为力，真的。我根本不知道他们去哪儿了，先生。”

“那我一定要见见这个家庭中的其他成员。”

“其他成员也不在家，出国都已经几个月了——在埃及和印度，我觉得是这样。”

“伙计啊，出了一个莫大的差错。他们天黑前一定会回来的，请您转告他们，说我来过这儿了，我还会不停地来，直到错误得到了纠正，不过他们用不着害怕，好不好？”

“如果他们回来了，我会转告他们的，不过，我看他们是不会回来的。他们说了，您一个小时之后会来这儿打听情况，但是，我必须告诉您，一切都很正常，