

寻找幸福 密西西比的蓝调

The Pursuit of Happiness:
Those People and Their American Dreams

雷嘉玮 汪蔼瑜 著
薄义群 摄影

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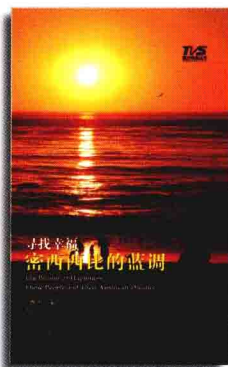
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第一章 等待中的幸福 / 018

Chapter I The Prequel To Flying To The United States

签证官：幸福的美国人其实在中国 / 021

Visa Officer: The Happy American Is Here In China

台湾美女荷官：有时候有钱人过得并不舒坦 / 025

The Beautiful Taiwan Dealer: Sometimes Rich Doesn't Mean Happy

南洋老太：幸福就是不勉强自己 / 033

The Elderly Lady: Happiness Is Not To Press Oneself Too Much

第二章 坚守中的幸福 / 036

Chapter II Happiness In Perseverance

阿米什人，守望世外桃源三百年 / 039

Arcadia, The Blessing Of Amish

迈克·丹玛斯：不幸意味着“幸福饼块”不全 / 045

Mike Damas: Unhappiness Means A Pie That Does Not Have All Pieces

赚够 500 万就退休 / 046

To Enjoy The Retiring Life After Earning 5 Million Dollars

热心肠的前校董 / 060

A Warm-hearted Past Trustee Of The Key School

我们教了一堂中文课 / 071

A Chinese Lesson In Annapolis

其乐融融的邻里关系 / 076

Harmonious Neighborhood Relationship

金融危机后重操旧业 / 078

Returning To Investment Industry After The Crisis

(附：迈克·丹玛斯的“幸福答卷”)

第三章 奋斗中的幸福 / 084

Chapter III Happiness Through Hard Work

克里斯·加德纳：幸福敲过每个人的门 / 087

Chris Gardner: Open The Door To Happiness

好莱坞制造的真实“美国梦” / 088

The American Dream In Hollywood's Movie

芝加哥的“珠宝盒子” / 093

The Jewel Box In Chicago

人生魔方，转动带来新组合 / 108

Life Changed By The Magic Cube

“李刚一点儿都不酷” / 110

Li Gang Not Cool At All

“‘精神遗传’让我变得更强大” / 112

Spiritual Inheritance Makes Me Stronger

没有金钱没有承诺 / 116

No Money, No Promise

美国流浪者：非妇非孺，非老非弱 / 121

Those Homeless And Their Way Of Living

柯克·鲍尔：用一条腿走出的幸福人生 / 127

Kirk Bauer: Life Is Still Happy Even Without One Leg

“我的幸福就是跟鸟儿一样飞翔” / 128

As Happy As A Flying Bird

美国英雄的传奇简历 / 130

The Legend Of The American Hero

琼斯：失去腿我和儿子照样幸福 / 135

John Jones: Happy Life With My Son And My Lost Leg

柯克·鲍尔：我的幸福最初来源于悲剧 / 138

Kirk Bauer: My Happiness Originated From The Tragedy

马克斯：摔倒 10 次，只为下次只摔 6 次 / 142

Max: I Fell Down Ten Times, But Next Time I Hope It Will Only Be Six.

三人一条腿，爬上乞力马扎罗山 / 147

Three Men Climbing Up The Kilimanjaro With Only One Leg

赢了事业，失去了伴侣 / 150

Winning Career Yet Losing My Marriage

第四章 及时行乐中的幸福 / 156

Chapter IV Just Enjoy The Happiness

约翰：每一次冒险都让我更幸福 / 159

John Wideman: Every Adventure Makes Me Happier Than Before

坐上约翰开的校车 / 160

Get On John's School Bus

人不风流枉少年 / 170

No Romance, No Youth

爱侣跟着一起疯 / 179

Like Boy Friend, Like Girl Friend

(附：约翰的“幸福答卷”)

第五章 “美漂”中的幸福 / 188

Chapter V Happiness Of American Immigrants

华人的淘金梦 / 190

Chinese Pursuit of Wealth

陈明威：幸福来源于现在获得的成就 / 193

Ming Chan: Happiness Comes From What You Already Have

(附：陈明威的“幸福答卷”)

陈文珠：幸福最重要的是被爱和支持包围 / 223

May-may Chan: The Most Importance Of Happiness Is Love And Being

Supported

徐小玉：有深爱的工作和丈夫，就是幸福 / 235

Xu Xiaoyu: Happiness Is Having A Job And A Husband I Deeply Love

林达：台北来的联合制片人 / 249

Linda: The Co-producer From Taiwan

杨耀明：广州来的大同脆皮鸡大师傅 / 257

Yang Yaoming And His Guangzhou Datong Roast Chicken

跋 / 262

Postscript

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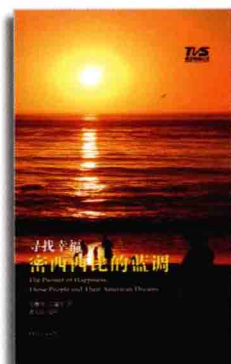
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纽约时代广场上正在拍戏的演员





阿米什人乘坐马车出行(区中摄)

美国人的幸福梦

请记住，幸福与否，不在于你是谁或拥有什么，而完全在于你怎么去看待。

——戴尔·卡耐基（1888—1955）

幸福，是一种个人感受。或者说，许多人觉得，幸福感只有在分享时才显得真实。在分享我们克服困难、实现目标及发现幸福的经验时，快乐指数会倍增。因此，我高兴地看到和感谢南方电视台对这个赴美项目的艰辛付出和投入。不仅这本书，还有他们的电视系列纪录片，都让我们有机会分享到成功的滋味，也激励着我们，去发现和经营自己的幸福。

南方电视台在他们的作品中，包含了许多令人倍受鼓舞的美国故事。“生活、自由和追求幸福”，是《独立宣言》中阐明的美国立国准则。它不保证你一定幸福；但它保障了每一位美国人有权利去定义幸福，有权利去争取幸福。世界各地的人常说“美国梦”。美国梦，它因人而异——有多少个美国人，就有多少个美国梦。每天都有新的梦想诞生，美国梦就像我们人民一样多姿多彩。土地和房屋的所有权吸引了许多早期移民到了美国，百叶窗与白篱笆的经典美式房子成了成功、舒适与安宁的象征。还有许多华人移民的故事催人奋进，他们在美国觅得幸福，圆了梦想。他们的贡献，让我们的文化和历史更加丰富多彩，并不断谱写美国的成功新篇章。

在我眼里，美中两国人民都有着乐观的品质。我亲身见证和听闻了人们如何实现梦想的精彩故事。许多时候，这包括了生活的改善——自己的、他人的生活。世界各地的人对幸福都有一些共同的感受——珍爱及享受亲情和友情，实现追求，成就自我，回馈社会。梦想，比金钱和名望更重要。我们希望，能让事物更加美好，社会更加繁荣，自我更加完善——创造更美好的将来。这是合作的精神，它支撑着我们的商贸、文化、教育、军事以及人与人之间的交流，而这种交流对推动双边了解，价值无疑是巨大的。

今年夏天，我作为驻广州总领事的任期将满。与中国人民交流，让我开心。我希望，美中两国之间能有更深厚、更广泛的开放度与紧密伙伴关系，让我们的人民能有更多机会，享受对幸福的追求和实现梦想。

高来恩（时任美国驻广州总领事）

2012年7月

American Dreams in Happiness are as Diverse as Our People

Remember, happiness doesn't depend upon who you are or what you have, it depends solely upon what you think.

——Dale Carnegie (1888-1955)

Happiness is personal, or so it would seem, yet many people believe that happiness isn't real until it is shared. Sharing our experiences of overcoming obstacles, achieving goals, and finding happiness multiplies our joy. For this reason, I am delighted and grateful for Southern TV's hard work and dedication to this project. Not only does this book, along with the TV series, provide us the opportunity to share triumphs, it also inspires us to find and make our own happiness.

Southern TV included many inspirational stories from the U.S. in its collection. "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness" is a core founding U.S. principle articulated in our Declaration of Independence. It does not guarantee happiness; rather, it guarantees each American the right to define what happiness is and the right to try to attain it. "The American Dream" is often used by people worldwide. But there is no one immutable American Dream; there are many – as many as there are Americans. We add more every day, and they are as diverse as our people. Land and home ownership attracted many early immigrants to America, and so the classic American-style house with shutters and a white picket fence came to symbolize the achievement of success, comfort and security. There are also many inspiring stories of Chinese immigrants who have found happiness and realized their dreams in the United States. They made rich contributions to our culture, history, and success of the still unfolding American story.

A sense of optimism is a quality that I believe Americans and Chinese share. I have witnessed and heard many impressive stories here about people who successfully attained their dreams. Often this involved bettering their own lives, as well as the lives of others. There are common attributes of happiness shared worldwide: cherishing family and friends, realizing one's passion, fulfilling one's potential, and giving back to one's community. Our dreams are larger than mere money or fame. We want to make things better, strengthen our communities, and improve ourselves – to shape a better future. It is this spirit of collaboration that underpins our commercial, cultural, educational, military, and people-to-people exchanges, exchanges that have proven invaluable in improving our mutual understanding.

My term as Consul General in Guangzhou ends this summer. I've enjoyed meeting the Chinese people and hope greater openness and closer partnership between the U.S. and China will expand and deepen, bringing more opportunities for our citizens to enjoy the pursuit of happiness and the realization of our dreams.

Brain L. Goldbeck(Then Consul General of the U. S. in Guang zhou)

July ,2012