

理想  
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imagine



# THE SLOWPOKE SNAIL 蜗牛慢慢爬

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…… 撰文 周宗伟 Text by Zhou Zongwei …… 绘图 朱赢椿 Illustrations by Zhu Yingchun ……



· 2 · 3 · 我走得很慢很慢，

I plod along as slow as slow can be,

并不是因为我懒散，

Not because I am lazy,

而是我天生一副柔弱微小的身体，

But because I was born with this tiny frail physique,

只能背着壳缓缓地爬行。

I can only crawl along slowly, bearing this shell on my back,



· 4 · 5 · 虽然我走得很慢，

Although I walk very slowly

但走路已变成了习惯。

I have gotten into the habit of walking,

走路本身机械又枯燥，

Walking itself is mechanical and dull,

可停下来反而更觉无聊。

Yet I feel even more bored standing still,

无论路上的风景如何绚烂，

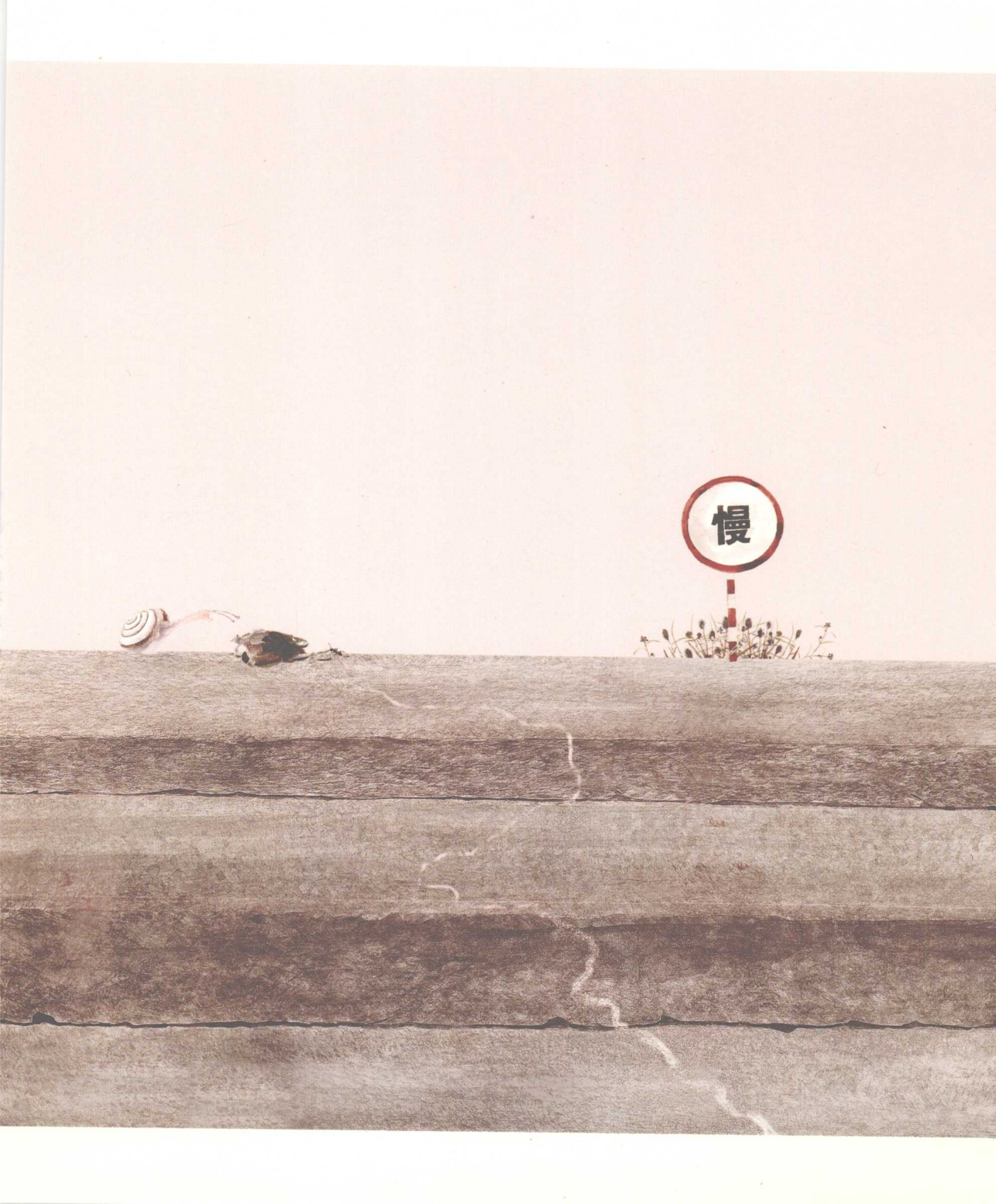
No matter how splendid the roadside scenery is,

我的内心却总是茫然。

In my heart I feel at a loss,







祖先教我们缓慢地生活, · 6 · 7 ·

Ancestors taught us to live at a slow leisurely pace;

我从未对此产生怀疑,

I have never doubted about this

直至一天在路上,

Until one day on the road

看到了被踩扁的同伴,

I saw a companion get flattened underfoot.

他颤抖的样子让我触目惊心,

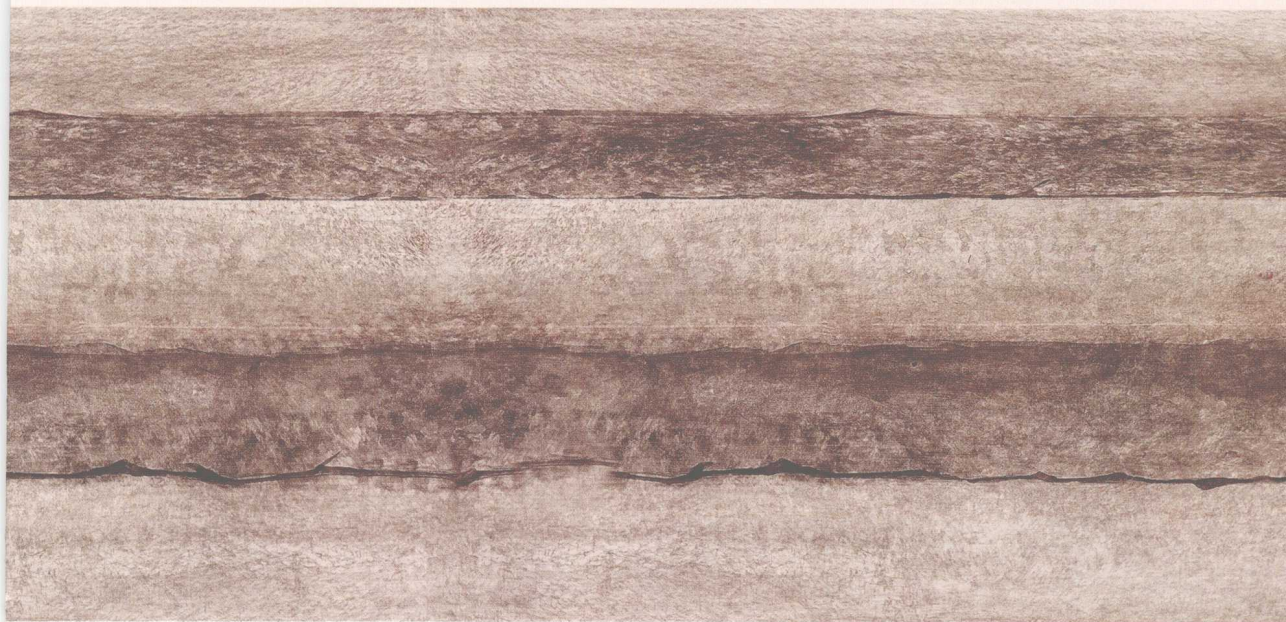
The way he quivered shocked me dreadfully.

行人的脚步让他丧生,

Passing footsteps ended his life.

“慢”却救不了他的命。

And his “slowness” could not save him.





· 8 · 9 · 对死亡的恐惧。

Due to fear of death,

让我认真思考“活着”的问题。

I earnestly pondered the problem of “living”.

怎样活着才有意义？

How can living be meaningful?

既然“慢”不能让我们活得更好，

Since “slowness” cannot make my life better,

那么“快”就该是真理。

Then the truth must lie in being “fast”.





我想学习“快”的生活, · 10 · 11 ·

I wanted to learn about living "fast".

随处可见比我“快”的老师——蚂蚁、瓢虫, 还有毛毛虫,

In many places I saw teachers faster than me—such as ants and ladybugs, And also caterpillars.

当然,

Of course

更快的还是黄蜂。


The wasp was even faster.

我虚心地向黄蜂请教“快”的问题,

I humbly asked for instruction in being fast.

他热心地给我示范如何快速地飞行。

He enthusiastically showed me how fast he could fly.



·12·13· 我惊叹于他高超的飞行技巧，

I was amazed by his accomplishments in flying,

却见他飞得太快而不小心撞上了蛛网，

But he went too fast and carelessly flew into a spider web,

片刻间一命归西。

In a moment's time he gave up the ghost,

我替他惋惜又暗自庆幸，

I felt terrible for him, yet I rejoiced to myself,

慢的好处真要细心才能领会，

It takes careful thought to grasp the benefit of slowness,

祖先的智慧自有道理。

Our ancestors' wisdom makes sense after all.





·14·15· 我继续缓缓地、缓缓地爬行。

I continued crawling in my slow leggardly way;

路边传来一阵呻吟。

From the roadside I could hear a moaning sound.

是一只年老的蜗牛摔破了壳。

It was an old snail whose shell had been broken in a fall.

正被蚂蚁们啮咬着身体。

There were ants gnawing at her flesh.

可怜她已经老得走不动路。

Pitiful old soul—she was no longer able to walk.

只能任由欺凌。

She could only submit to her torments.





· 16 · 17 · 我上前安慰她：放宽心，一切都会好的。

I approached and spoke reassuring words, "Put your mind at ease, Things will work out in the end."

她无奈地摇头道：没有用的，等你自己到了这一天就会知道。

She shook her head in resignation, "It is no use. When your dark day comes, you will know."

我们已习惯于用安慰去表示关心，

It was our habit to say comforting words, to show concern,

明知安慰只是欺人并自欺，

We knew our reassurances were deceptive to both of us,

却没有面对真相的勇气。

But we lacked courage to face the truth.

