

超级科学家系列 SCIENTISTS

The Bright Idea: The Story of Thomas Edison

ETBZI:

爱迪生的故事

[英] 安·穆尔(Ann Moore) 著

[英] 迈克·亚当斯 (Mike Adams) 绘 洪瑞霞 译

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The sound of magic



"Marion tapped on the transmitter over and over again. Dot dash dash dot — dot dash. Dot dash dash dot — dot dash. The Morse Code spelt the letters PA. Marion sighed impatiently as she waited for her Pa. He said he had a surprise and she wanted to see it.

"Oh Dot, do be quiet!"He suddenly appeared in the doorway.

神奇的声音

玛丽恩在发报机上一遍又一遍地敲打着,发出了一阵阵嘟嘟嗒嗒的声音。摩尔斯电码解读出字母PA。玛丽恩不耐烦地叹着气等着她爸爸。他说有个令人惊喜的消息,她好想亲眼瞧瞧。

突然,爸爸出现在门口叫着:"嘿!嘟嘟!安静一 点好不好!"

tap [tæp] 囫 轻敲
transmitter [trænz`mitə] 图 发报机
dot [dɔt] 图点(摩尔斯电码的・)
dash [dæ] 图线(摩尔斯电码的一)
Morse Code 摩尔斯电码((美国人
Samuel F. B. Morse(1791-1872)
所发明,由点和线组成))
code [kod] 图 密码
impatiently [im`pei əntli] 副 不耐烦地
appear [ə`piə] 励 出现



Marion's father was the famous American scientist, Thomas Edison. Because he'd worked with Morse Code transmitters for many years, he'd **nicknamed** her Dot. Her brother Tom was Dash.

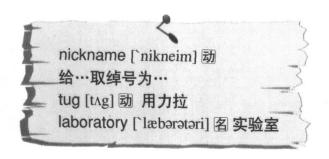
"Hurry up!" Marion **tugged** Edison's hand. "I want to see the surprise in the **laboratory**."





玛丽恩的爸爸是美国有名的科学家——托马斯· 爱迪生。因为他多年来研究摩尔斯电码传输机, 便昵称 玛丽恩为嘟嘟, 她的弟弟汤姆就叫做嗒嗒啰!

"快一点啦!"玛丽恩拉着爱迪生的手说:"我要去看实验室里的大惊喜。"



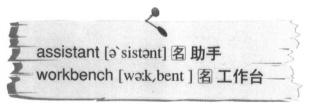


Marion ran along beside Pa as they crossed the grass to the long wooden laboratory. They hurried upstairs to join Edison's **assistants** round a **workbench**. Marion smiled excitedly at everyone.





玛丽恩在爸爸的旁边跑着,穿过草坪,来到了木造的长形实验室。他们急忙地上楼,和爱迪生的助理一起围在工作台旁。玛丽恩兴奋地朝着每个人微笑。



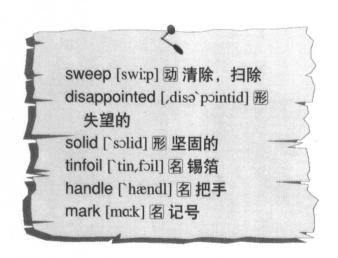




There!" Edison swept a cover off the end of the bench. Marion felt disappointed. Was this the surprise? All she could see was a solid metal tube wrapped in tinfoil, with a handle through it. A needle from a smaller tube at the side had made marks on the tinfoil.



爱迪生掀开桌角的盖布嚷着:"看这边喔!"玛丽 恩有点儿失望,这算惊喜吗?她看到的只是一根包着锡 箔纸、硬梆梆的金属管,旁边还连着一个把手。从旁边 另一根较小的管子中,有根针可以在锡箔纸上留下一些 记号。





"Ready?" Pa turned the handle.

Mary had a little lamb, its fleece was white as snow.

Marion heard Pa's voice. Then she watched him **sneeze**, but the **rhyme** didn't stop. How could Pa sneeze and yet go on speaking at the same time? He turned the handle faster and his voice went higher. It must be a **trick**!

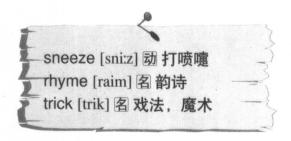




"准备好了吗?"爸爸摇摇机器的把手说。

玛丽有只羊咩咩,羊儿的毛白似雪。

玛丽恩听到爸爸的声音,然后她看到爸爸在打喷嚏,可是这韵诗并没有停止。爸爸怎么能一边打喷嚏一边还继续说话呢?他摇得越快,声音就变得越高。这里面一定有什么机关!





Pa's engineer, Charles Batchelor, laughed at Marion's puzzled expression.

"It's a **phonograph**!" he **announced**."Your father has **invented** an amazing machine which **records** sounds and then plays them back."

"What we say today, we could listen to again and again, Dot!"



爸爸的工程师查尔斯·巴彻看玛丽恩一脸狐疑,不 禁笑了起来。

"这是留声机呢!"他宣布说:"你爸爸发明了这台令人惊奇的机器,可以用来收录声音,然后再播出来。"

"嘟嘟,我们今天所说的话,以后可以放出来听好多次呢!"

engineer [ˌendʒi`niə] 图工程师 puzzled [`pʌzld] 丽 困惑的 expression [iks`pre ən] 图 表情 phonograph [founəgraf] 图 留声机 announce [ə`nauns] 励 宣布 invent [in`vent] 励 发明 record [`rekɔːd] 励 记录



Pa couldn't hide his **excitement**. "Think how useful that could be," he said as he **patted** the machine. "This baby's going to be very important!"



"Can I have a go?" asked Marion shyly.

For an hour Marion and her father played with the phonograph. She recorded a poem and everyone cheered when it was played back.



爸爸掩不住内心的狂喜,轻拍着机器说:"想想这 发明有多大的用处!这宝贝将会变得很重要哟!"

"我可以试试看吗?"玛丽恩害羞地问。

玛丽恩和爸爸玩留声机玩了一小时,她录了一首诗。当这首诗被播放出来时,大家都欢呼了起来。

