



双语天才阅读坊

Readings for Bilingual Genius

天宝物华

中英对照

Ends
Odds and

张同冰/编著

读经典美文

集知识大成

观自然万象

品百味人生

随书附赠MP3
(标准美式发音)



机械工业出版社
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本书以独特的构思、全新的理念、创意的视角、全景式地为我们展现了自然界的神奇美景、人文景观、奇珍异宝、风物地貌和人类的科技发明以及西方国家人们的生存方式和生活状态。选文精美,一气呵成,结构精巧,浑然一体,让读者在学习英语这一优美语言的同时,不知不觉地受到一次热爱地球,热爱自然,热爱家园,热爱生活的情感教育,是自然科学知识与人文理想关怀水乳交融的最佳英语读物。

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前言

状物,就是描摹物体。

咏物抒怀、托物言志从来就是艺术家的惯用手法。

翻开古今中外的人类文化史,我们会发现,不论是诗章辞赋,还是绘画雕塑、音乐戏曲,其中状物的篇什在某些艺术门类中几乎占去半壁江山,让人美不胜收,叹为观止。

就拿文学艺术来说,在中华文明光辉灿烂的五千年历史长河中,我们的祖先给人类留下了难以计数、不胜枚举的咏物名篇和状物佳作。从早期的《诗经》、《楚辞》以及汉代乐府,到建安诗文,到南北朝民歌,到唐诗宋词,到元曲小令,到明清文学,其中状物的篇章浩如江河,光如日月,让人眼花缭乱,应接不暇。这些文字有的飘逸瑰丽,气象廖廓;有的诗心画境,旖旎悱恻;有的真挚深婉,情味隽永;有的意象驰骋,意蕴凝练,脍炙人口,百读不厌,其经久不息的艺术震撼力和咄咄逼人的文化扩张力,滋养和哺育了一代又一代中华儿女。

其实,利用自己手中的生花妙笔挥写状物的佳句名段从来就不是中国文学家的专利,咏物抒怀也永远不是中国文学大观园中的独特风景。在我们熟悉的外国文学巨匠的笔下,这些文字俯拾即是。特别是那些以英语为母语进行创作的文坛泰斗,如莎士比亚、罗伯特·彭斯、狄更斯、萨克雷、华盛顿·欧文、惠特曼、马克·吐温、海明威等等都是写物叙事的能人高手。翻开他们的大作,这些华美精彩的句段比比皆是,直本读者眼帘。

本书以独特的构思、全新的理念,创意的视角,全景式地为我们展现了自然界的神奇美景、人文景观、奇珍异宝、风物地貌和人类的科技发明以及西方国家人们的生存方式和生活状态。选文精美,一气呵成,结构精巧,浑然一体,让读者在学习英语这一优美语言的同时,不知不觉地受到一次热爱地球,热爱自然,热爱家园,热爱生活的情感教育,是自然科学知识与人文理想关怀水乳交融的最佳英语读物。

张同冰

2004年6月

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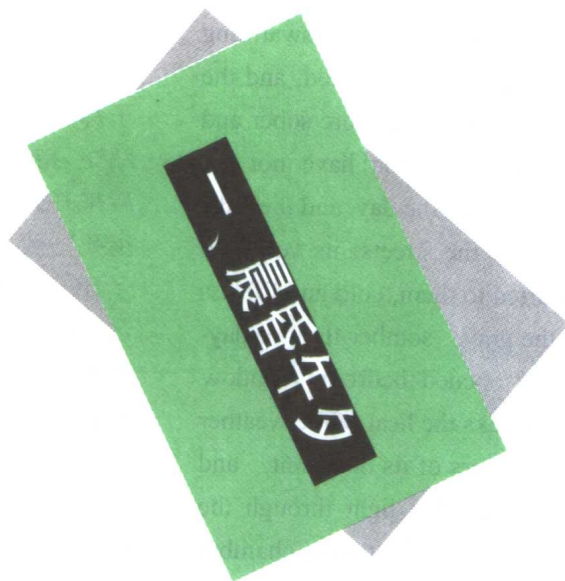
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一、晨昏午夕



日出前的一小时

查尔斯·狄更斯

An Hour Before Sunrise

By Charles Dickens

双
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An hour before sunrise in the city there is an air of cold, solitary desolation about the noiseless streets, which we are accustomed to see thronged at other times by a busy, eager crowd, and over the quiet, closely shut buildings which throughout the day are swarming with life. The drunken, the dissipated, and the criminal have disappeared; the more sober and orderly part of the population have not yet awakened to the labors of the day, and the stillness of death is over the streets; its very hue seems to be imparted to them, cold and lifeless as they look in the gray, somber light of day-break. A partially opened bedroom window here and there bespeaks the heat of the weather and the uneasy slumbers of its occupant; and the dim scanty flicker of a light through the blinds of yonder windows denotes the chamber of watching and sickness. Save for that sad light, the streets present no signs of life, nor the houses of habitation.

日出前的一小时,城里一片冷清和孤寂,我们惯于看到的在一日中其他时刻挤满匆忙人群的大街变得空荡荡、静悄悄;整天人来人往、活动频繁的房屋,此刻门户紧闭、寂静无声。醉鬼、放荡者、犯罪分子都不见了;居民中比较循规蹈矩、持重沉着的人们还没有醒来开始他们一天的工作;大街死一般地寂静,似乎也染上了死一般的色彩,在拂晓阴沉、灰暗的光线里显得冷清而毫无生气。间或有一扇扇半开半掩的卧室窗户,表明天气炎热,屋主人睡眠不宁;那边百叶窗里透露出摇曳的微光,表明那房间里有人卧病或守夜。除了那忧郁的灯光,街上一片死寂,住房里也没有人活动的迹象。

An October Sunrise

By Richard D. Blackmore

十月的日出

理查德·D.布莱克默

I was up the next morning before the October sunrise, and away through the wild and the woodland. The rising of the sun was noble in the cold and warmth of it; peeping down the spread of light, he raised his shoulder heavily over the edge of Gray Mountain and wavering length of up-land. Beneath his gaze the dew-fogs dipped and crept to the hollow places, then stole away in line and column, holding skirts and clinging subtly at the sheltering corners where rock hung over grass - land, while the brave lines of the hills came forth, one beyond other gliding.

The woods arose in folds, like drapery of awakened mountains, stately with a depth of awe, and memory of the tempests. Autumn's mellow hand was upon them, as they owned already, touched with gold and red

第二天凌晨，在十月的太阳升起之前，我已经起身，并穿过旷野和丛林。十月的清晨乍寒还暖，日出的景象是很壮观的。透过一片晨曦，朝日从朦胧的山岗和起伏连绵的高地边际，沉重地抬起肩头。在它的逼视下，含有露珠的雾气向下沉降，落到洼地里去，接着化成一丝丝一缕缕，悄悄地飘去了，而在草地之上悬崖之下的那些隐蔽角落里，雾气却还在引裾徘徊，而群山的雄姿却在接二连三地涌现。

树木层层叠叠，宛若披在刚被唤醒的山峦上的斗篷，端庄威严，唤起狂风暴雨的回忆。秋季的成熟的手已经在抚摸它们了，它们顺从秋季的到来，染上了金黄、

and olive, and their joy towards the sun was less to a bridegroom than a father.

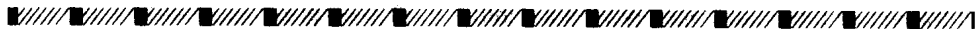
Yet before the floating impress of the woods could clear itself, suddenly the glad-some light leaped over hill and valley, casting amber, blue, and purple, and a tint of rich red rose, according to the scene they lit on, and the curtain flung around; yet all alike dispelling fear and the cloven hoof of darkness, all on the wings of hope advancing, and proclaiming, "God is here!" Then life and joy sprang reassured from every crouching hollow; every flower and bud and bird had a fluttering sense of them, and all the flashing of God's gaze merged into soft beneficence.

So, perhaps, shall break upon us that eternal morning, when crag and chasm shall be no more, neither hill and valley, nor great unvintaged ocean; when glory shall not scare happiness, neither happiness envy glory; but all things shall arise, and shine in the light of the Father's countenance, because itself is risen.

丹红和橄榄绿。它们对朝日所怀的一片喜悦，像是奉献给一个新郎的，但更像是奉献给一位尊长的。

然而，在树林的缥缈的印象逝去之前，突然那欢悦的晨光跃过峰峦和山谷；光线所及，把照到的景致和撒开的帷幕分别染成青色、紫色、琥珀色和富丽的红玫瑰色。而所有的一切都同样在驱散恐惧和黑暗的魔影；所有的一切都展开希望的翅膀，向前飞翔，并大声宣告“上帝来到这里！”于是生命和欢乐从每一个蜷伏的洞穴里信心十足地欣然跃出；一切花朵、蓓蕾和鸟雀都感到了生命和欢乐而抖动起来；上帝炯炯的目光全部融入温柔的恩泽。

也许，那永恒的晨光就会这样降临人间，那时不再有岩沟壑，不再有峰峦山谷，也不再有浩瀚而无际的海洋；那时荣耀不会吓走幸福，幸福也不会忌妒荣耀；万物都将踊跃升腾，在造物主慈爱的光芒中生辉，因为太阳已经升起。



Night in the Open World

By Robert Louis Stevenson

露天世界的夜晚

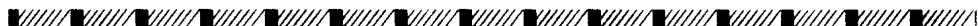
罗伯特·路易斯·斯蒂文森

Night is a dead and monotonous period under a roof; but in the open world it passes lightly, with its stars and dews and perfumes, and the hours are marked by changes in the face of Nature. What seems a kind of temporal death to people choked between walls and curtains is only a light and living slumber to the man who sleeps afield. All night long he can hear nature breathing deeply and freely; even as she takes her rest she turns and smiles; and there is one stirring hour, unknown to those who dwell in houses, when a wakeful influence goes abroad over the sleeping hemisphere, and all the outdoor world are on their feet. It is then that the cock first crows, not this time to announce the dawn, but like a cheerful watchman speeding the course of night. Cattle awake on the meadows; sheep break their fast on dewy hill-sides, and change to a new lair

在室内，夜是死气沉沉、单调乏味的时刻。但是在露天世界里，有星星，有露珠，还有芬芳的香气；黑夜轻快地流逝，而大自然的面貌却在夜里时刻变化着。禁锢在室内和帘后的人们觉得夜似乎是短暂的死亡；而露宿野外的人却觉得夜只是一场充满生机的微睡。他整夜能听见大自然深沉的、自由自在的呼吸。大自然即使在休息时也在转动和微笑。当沉睡着的半球出现警醒迹象的时候，室外的万物都起来了，那种忙碌的时刻是居住在室内的人所不知道的。雄鸡最先啼鸣，这时不是报晓，而是像欢乐的更夫在催黑夜快走。草地上牛群醒来；露珠晶莹的山坡上羊群在进早餐，并且在羊齿植物丛中

among the ferns; and houseless men, who have
lain down with the fowls, open their dim eyes and
behold the beauty of the night.

改换新的羊窝;与禽鸟共眠的无
家可归的人们睁开了惺忪的双
眼,观赏美丽的夜色。





Night

By Nathaniel Hawthorne

夜

纳撒尼尔·霍桑

Night has fallen over the country. Through the trees rises the red moon, and the stars are scarcely seen. In the vast shadow of night the coolness and the dews descend. I sit at the open window to enjoy them; and hear only the voice of the summer wind. Like black hulks, the shadows of the great trees ride at anchor on the billowy sea of grass. I cannot see the red and blue flowers, but I know that they are there. Far away in the meadow gleams the silver Charles. The tramp of horses' hoofs sounds from the wooden bridge. Then all is still save the continuous wind of the summer night. Sometimes I know not if it be the wind or the sound of the neighboring sea. The village clock strikes; and I feel that I am not alone.

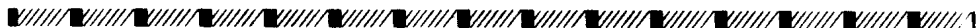
How different it is in the city! It is late,

夜幕已笼罩着乡间。一轮红月正从树林后面冉冉升起，天上几乎看不到星星。在这苍茫的夜色中，寒气与露水降下来了。我坐在敞开的窗前欣赏着这夜色，耳边只听到那夏天的风声。大树的阴影像黑色的大船停泊在波浪起伏的茫茫草海上。虽然我见不到红色和蓝色的花朵，但我知道它们在那儿。在远处的草地上，银色的查尔斯河闪闪发光。木桥那边传来了踢嗒踢嗒的马蹄声。接着，一片寂静，留下的只是那夏夜不断的风声。有时，我根本辨别不出它究竟是风声，还是邻近的海涛声。村子里的时钟敲起来了，于是我觉得并不孤独。

城市的夜晚可是那么不同

and the crowd is gone. You step out upon the balcony, and lie in the very bosom of the cool, dewy night as if you folded her garments about you. Beneath lies the public walk with trees, like a fathomless, black gulf, into whose silent darkness the spirit plunges, and floats away with some beloved spirit clasped in its embrace. The lamps are still burning up and down the long street. People go by with grotesque shadows, now foreshortened, and now lengthening away into the darkness and vanishing, while a new one springs up behind the walker, and seems to pass him revolving like the sail of a windmill. The iron gates of the park shut with a jangling clang. There are footsteps and loud voices;—a tumult;—a drunken brawl;—an alarm of fire;—then silence again. And now at length the city is asleep, and we can see the night. The belated moon looks over the roofs, and finds no one to welcome her. The moonlight is broken. It lies here and there in the squares, and the opening of the streets—angular like blocks of white marble.

呀！夜深了，人群已经散去。你走到阳台上，躺在凉快和露水弥漫的夜幕中，仿佛你用它作为外衣裹住了你的身子。阳台下面是栽着树木的人行道，像一条深不可测的黑色海湾，飘忽的精灵就投入了这漆黑沉静的海湾，拥抱着某个所爱的精灵随波荡漾而去。漫长的大街上，街灯依然到处亮着。人们从灯下走过，拖着各种各样奇形怪状的影子，影子时而缩短，时而伸长，最后消失在黑暗中；同时，一个新的影子又突然出现在那个行路人的身后，这影子似乎像风车上的翼板一样，转到他身体的前方去了。公园的铁门当啷一声关上，耳边可以听见脚步声和响亮的说话声；——一阵喧闹；——一阵酒醉后的吵架声；——一阵火灾的报警声；——接着，又是一片寂静。于是，城市终于沉睡，我们终于能看到夜的景色。姗姗来迟的月亮从屋顶后面探出脸来，发觉没有人在欢迎她。破碎的月光东一块，西一块地撒落在各个广场上和各条大街的开阔处——像一块块白色的大理石一样棱角分明。



The Balance of Nature

By Julian Huxley

自然界的平衡

朱利安·赫胥黎

The balance of nature is a very elaborate and very delicate system of checks and counterchecks. It is continually being altered as climates change, as new organisms evolve, as animals or plants permeate to new areas. But the alterations have in the past, for the most part, been slow, whereas with the arrival of civilized man, their speed has been multiplied manifold: from the evolutionary timescale, where change is measured by periods of ten or a hundred thousand years, they have been transferred to the human timescale in which centuries and even decades count.

Everywhere man is altering the balance of nature. He is facilitating the spread of plants and animals into new regions, sometimes deliberately, sometimes unconscious-

自然界的平衡是一种十分精密复杂而又敏感脆弱的抑制与反抑制体系,它总是随着气候条件的变化,随着新的生物体的形成,和随着动植物蔓延入新的地区而持续不断地变化着。可是,在过去,这些变化大部分是很缓慢的,而自从文明人出现以后,变化的速度便增大了很多倍。用以测量它们的时间标度,已经从适用于自然演化过程的、以一万年或十万年为计量单位的时间标度,转变成人类所使用的、以几百年甚至几十年为计量单位的时间标度。

人类到处都在改变着自然界的平衡。他帮助动植物进入新的地区,有时是有意的,有时是无意的。他正在用新的植物种类,或者用房

ly. He is covering huge areas with new kinds of plants, or with houses, factories, slag-heaps and other products of his civilization. He exterminates some species on a large scale, but favours the multiplication of others. In brief, he has done more in five thousand years to alter the biological aspect of the planet than has nature in five million.

Many of these changes which he has brought about have had unforeseen consequences. Who would have thought that the throwing away of a piece of Canadian waterweed would have caused half the waterways of Britain to be blocked for a decade, or that the provision of pot cacti for lonely settlers' wives would have led to Eastern Australia being overrun with forests of Prickly Pear? Who would have prophesied that the cutting down of forests on the Adriatic coasts, or in parts of Central Africa, could have reduced the land to a semi desert, with the very soil washed away from the bare rock? Who would have thought that improved communications would have changed history by the spreading of disease—sleeping sickness into East Africa, measles into Oceania, very possibly malaria into ancient Greece?

These are spectacular examples; but examples on a smaller scale are everywhere to be found. We make a nature sanctuary for rare birds, prescribing absolute security for all species; and we

屋、工厂、炉渣堆或其他文明产物覆盖大片的土地。他使有些物种大批消亡，却助长另外一些物种成倍地增加。总之，人类在五千年内比大自然在五百万年内做了更多的事来改变地球的生物。

他所造成的许多变化已经产生了没有预料到的后果。谁能料到，扔掉一株加拿大水草会使英国的一半水路阻塞十年之久？谁又能料到，为那些移民们的寂寞的妻子提供盆栽的仙人掌会使澳大利亚东部的霸王树林蔓延成灾？谁能预知，砍去亚德里亚海滨或中非某些地区的森林会使泥土流失，剩下光秃秃的岩石，使良田变成半沙漠？谁想得到，改进交通竟也会传播疾病——使昏睡症传入了东非，麻疹传入了大洋洲，古希腊的疟疾很可能也是别处传入的——从而改变了历史的发展。

这都是些令人瞩目的例子，规模较小的例子则到处可见。我们为某些稀有鸟类



may find that some common and hardy kind of bird multiplies beyond measure and ousts the rare kinds in which we were particularly interested. We see, owing to some little change brought about by civilization, the starling spread over the English countryside in hordes. We improve the yielding capacities of our cattle; and find that now they exhaust the pastures which sufficed for less exigent stock. We gaily set about killing the carnivores that molest our domestic animals, the hawks that eat our fowls and game-birds; and find that in so doing we are also removing the brake that restrains the multiplication of mice and other little rodents that gnaw away the farmers' profits.

设立了自然保护区,规定保障全部物种的绝对安全;其结果却可能是一些普通而又易生存的鸟类大量繁殖,逐出了我们真正感兴趣的珍贵品种。我们看到,由于现代文明带来的某些小变化,使英国处处出现了成群结队的燕八哥。我们提高了牛群的生育能力,现在却发现它们耗竭了过去足以养活那些对生存条件不那么苛求的牲畜的牧场。我们得意地着手捕杀危害家畜的食肉动物、攫食家禽及野味的苍鹰,但发现这样做却使啃噬农民收益的老鼠和其他啮齿动物无限制地繁殖起来。

