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The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin

[英] 毕翠克丝·波特/著 吴松梅 杨鸿飞/译





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福建少年儿童出版社

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出版发行:福建少年儿童出版社

社址:福州市东水路 76号(邮编:350001) http://www.fjcp.com e-mail:fcph@fjcp.com

经销:福建省新华书店

印刷:福建彩色印刷有限公司

开本: 889 毫米×1194 毫米 1/40

印张: 1.5 插页: 4

印数: 1-8180

版次: 2004年8月第1版

印次: 2004年8月第1次印刷

ISBN 7-5395-2536-3/J·526

定价: 6.80 元

书中如有印装质量问题,可直接向承印厂调换



毕翠克丝·波特 (Beatrix Potter, 1866-1943), 英国著名儿童文学作家。她是一个害羞而内向的人,一辈子都生活在自己的庄园里。然而,现在全世界都知道她的名字。这是因为,她的宠物兔子及其他动物为主角创作的,她童话,堪称儿童文学经典的最佳代表,再加上她为每个故事所配的几十幅精美生动的插图,使得她创作的彼得兔、汤姆猫,松鼠提米脚尖儿、平小猪、杰米玛鸭子等,成为世界上最有名的动物,都已经100岁了,还是可爱得不行,全世界还是有一堆人为之疯狂。

这些故事几乎被翻译成每一种主要语言,从1902年第一个故事的发表到今天,年年印刷,版本无数,销售量以千万计。在英语国家里,几乎每个孩子都有过一两本《彼得兔》或者《汤姆小猫》,连大人都爱不释手。

彼得兔的故事 汤姆猫历险记

## 0 松鼠坚坚果



THIS is a Tale about a tail — a tail that belonged to a little red squirrel, and his name was Nutkin.

这个故事讲的是一条尾巴——这条尾巴是一只红色小松

鼠的,他名叫坚坚果。

He had a brother called Twinkleberry, and a great many cousins: they lived in a wood at the edge of a lake.

坚坚果有个兄弟叫晶晶果,还有许多表兄弟、表姐妹, 他们住在湖边的一片树林子里。





In the middle of the lake there is an island covered with trees and nut bushes; and amongst those trees stands a hollow oak-tree, which is the house of an owl who is called Old Brown.

湖中间有一个岛,岛上长满了树 木和坚果丛。在林子中间长着一棵空 心橡树,那是猫头鹰老布朗的房子。



One autumn when the nuts were ripe, and the leaves on the hazel bushes were golden and green—Nutkin and Twinkleberry and all the other little squirrels came out of the wood, and down to the edge of the lake.

秋天到了,榛木丛的叶子开始变得有的金黄,有的碧绿,坚果也成熟了。坚坚果、晶晶果和所有的小松鼠们,都从林子里出来了,他们来到湖边。



They made little rafts out of twigs, and they paddled away over the water to Owl Island to gather nuts. Each squirrel had a little sack and a large oar, and spread out his tail for a sail.



They also took with them an offering of three fat mice as a present for Old Brown, and put them down upon his door-step. Then Twinkleberry and the other little squirrels each made a low bow, and said politely—

"Old Mr. Brown, will you favour us with permission to gather nuts upon your island?"



But Nutkin was excessively impertinent in his manners. He bobbed up and down like a little red cherry, singing—

坚坚果却太不懂规矩,他像颗红樱桃似的上蹿下跳,一 边跳还一边唱——

"Riddle me, riddle me, rot-tot-tote!

A little wee man, in a red red coat!

A staff in his hand, and a stone in his throat;

If you'll tell me this riddle, I'll give you a groat."

请你猜个谜, 嘀嗒嘀嗒嘀! 一个小人儿,身穿红大衣! 手里一根棍, 喉咙一颗石; 要是猜出来, 奖你块金币。

Now this riddle is as old as the hills; Mr. Brown paid no attention whatever to Nutkin.

这个谜语老得不能再老 了,布朗先生压根儿就没什 么兴趣。



He shut his eyes obstinately and went to sleep.

他没答理坚坚果, 闭上眼睛睡着了。

The squirrels filled their little sacks with nuts, and sailed away home in the evening.

傍晚鼠的 时候,松子里 的小袋坚果,他 们高高兴兴也 划船回去了。



But next morning they all came back again to Owl Island; and Twinkleberry and the others brought a fine fat mole, and laid it on the stone in front of Old Brown's doorway, and said—

第二天早晨,他们又都回到猫头鹰岛上。晶晶果和他的伙伴们这次带来的是一只胖胖的大鼹鼠,他们把鼹鼠放在老布朗门口的石阶上,说——

"Mr. Brown, will you favour us with your gracious permission to gather some more nuts?"

"布朗先生, 能允许我们在您 的岛上再采集些 坚果吗?"





But Nutkin, who had no respect, began to dance up and down, tickling old Mr. Brown with a nettle and singing—

坚坚果,这个没礼貌的家伙,又开始蹦啊跳啊,拿着一根树枝去挠老布朗的痒,嘴里还唱着——

"Old Mr. B! Riddle-me-ree! Hitty Pitty within the wall, Hitty Pitty without the wall; If you touch Hitty Pitty, Hitty Pitty will bite you!"



老布朗! 猜个谜! 撞啊空啊在墙外, 撞啊空啊在墙里; 要是你敢碰一碰, 他就会来咬咬你!

Mr. Brown woke up suddenly and carried the mole into his house.

布朗先生突然醒过来, 把鼹鼠叼进了屋。



He shut the door in Nutkin's face. Presently a little thread of blue smoke from a wood fire came up from the top of the tree, and Nutkin peeped through the key-hole and sang—

他当着坚坚果的面 关上门。很快,一缕蓝色 的烧木柴的烟,从那棵 树的树梢冒了出来。坚 坚果从钥匙孔里偷看, 又唱开了——

"A house full, a hole full!

And you cannot gather a bowlfull!"

屋也填满,洞也填满!

你却填不满一个碗!



The squirrels searched for nuts all over the island and filled their little sacks.

松鼠们在整个岛上搜寻坚果,装满了他们的小袋子。

But Nutkin gathered oak-apples — yellow and scarlet — and sat upon a beech-stump playing marbles, and watching the door of old Mr. Brown.

采红橡榉边弹意先坚的黄他桩橡 一老的坚地大家边布门







On the third day the squirrels got up very early and went fishing; they caught seven fat minnows as a present for Old Brown.

第三天,松鼠们起了个大早去钓鱼,他们钓到了七尾很肥的鲦鱼,给老布朗作礼物。

They paddled over the lake and landed under a crooked chestnut tree on Owl Island.

他们划过湖去,在猫头鹰岛的一棵歪脖子 板栗树下上了岸。 Twinkleberry and six other little squirrels each carried a fat minnow; but Nutkin, who had no nice manners, brought no present at all. He ran in front, singing—

