### 全球阅读率仅次于圣经的 最佳书籍



一部让人爱不释手的漫画经典一部小孩大人百读不厌的寓言故事

# 少手子

圣埃克苏佩里 著 郑闯琦 译 侯海波 图



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一部让人爱不释手的漫画经典 一部小孩大人百读不厌的寓言故事



请孩子们原谅我,把这本书献给了一个大人。

在世界上,他是我最好的朋友,这是第一个重要的理由。他什么都能懂,即使是写给孩子们的书他也能懂,这是第二个理由。这个大人住在法国,他在那里饿着肚子,忍受着寒冷,他非常需要安慰和鼓励,这是第三个理由。如果这些理由还不够,那我就把这本书献给做小男孩时的这个大人。所有的大人都曾经是个孩子,然而,只有很少的人长大后还记得这一点。所以,我要把献词改为:

#### 献给做小男孩时的列翁·维尔特

I ask the indulgence of the children who may read this book for dedicating it to a grown-up. I have a serious reasons: he is the best friend I have in the world. I have another reason: this grown-up understands everything, even books about children. I have a third reason: he lives in France where he is hungry and cold. He needs cheering up. If all these reasons are not enough, I will dedicate the book to the child from whom this grown-up grew. All grown-ups were once children-although few of them remember it. And so I correct my dedication:

To Leon Werth when he was a little boy





我六岁的时候,看到了一本写原始森林的书,书名叫《源于自然的真实的故事》。书里有一幅让人惊讶的画,画中一条蟒蛇正在把一头大野兽吞下去。你看,就是上面这幅画。

Once when I was six years old I saw a magnificent picture in a book, called True Stories from Nature, about the primeval forest. It was a picture of a boa constrictor in the act of swallowing an animal. Here is a copy of the drawing.









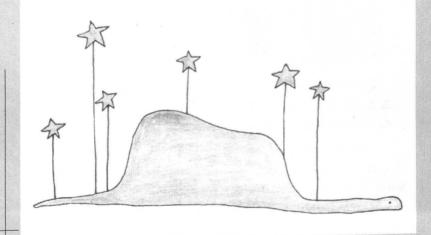
\*

书里是这样说明的:"蟒蛇往往把猎物不加咀嚼就整个地吞到肚子里去。然后它们就撑得一点也不能动。在以后漫长的六个月时间里,它们必须睡觉,才能消化完这些食物。"

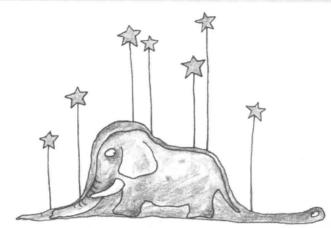
然后我就深深地陷入了对丛林冒险的无穷遐想之中。于是,我 开始用彩色铅笔在纸上涂抹——我的第一号绘画作品诞生了,就是 下面这幅画。

In the book it said: "Boa constrictors swallow their prey whole, without chewing it. After that they are not able to move, and they sleep through the six months that they need for digestion."

I pondered deeply, then, over the adventures of the jungle. And after some work with a colored pencil I succeeded in making my first drawing. My Drawing Number One. It looked like this:







我把这幅了不起的画给大人们看,问他们是不是被画里的东西 吓坏了。他们回答说:"一顶帽子也会吓人吗?"

我画的不是一顶帽子,而是一条巨大的蟒蛇,它正在消化着吞进肚子里的一头大象。我只好把大蟒蛇肚子里的情形画出来,以便大人们能够看懂。大人们为什么总是这样,需要我们详细地给他们解释才能懂呢?我的第二号作品就是这样一幅画。

I showed my masterpiece to the grown-ups, and asked them whether the drawing frightened them.

But they answered: "Frighten? Why should any one be frightened by a hat?"

My drawing was not a picture of a hat. It was a picture of a boa constrictor digesting an elephant. But since the grown-ups were not able to understand it, I made another drawing: I drew the inside of the boa constrictor, so that the grown-ups could see it clearly. They always need to have things explained. My Drawing Number Two looked like this:









大人们看完后,就劝我不要再画蟒蛇了,不管它们是吃撑了的样子,还是能看见肚子里情形的样子。要我把心思放在学习地理、历史、算术和语法上。就这样,六岁的时候我就放弃了成为一名画家的美妙理想。第一号和第二号作品的失败让我灰心丧气。大人们从来不主动去了解事情的真相,反而要我们小孩子一再做出解释,这是一件让人难以忍受的事情。

The grown-ups' response, this time, was to advise me to lay aside my drawings of boa constrictors, whether from the inside or the outside, and devote myself instead to geography, history, arithmetic and grammar. That is why, at the age of six, I gave up what might have been a magnificent career as a painter. I had been disheartened by the failure of my Drawing Number One and my Drawing Number Two. Grown – ups never understand anything by themselves, and it is tiresome for children to be always and forever explaining things to them.













后来,我只好去做一名飞机驾驶员。如今,我已经飞遍了世界上 几乎所有的地方。地理学对我来说很有用处,我可以一下子就分辨 出中国和亚里桑那。如果在夜晚迷航,这种能力是非常重要的。

这些年里,我接触过许多严肃的人。我在大人们中间已经生活 过很长时间,曾经仔细地观察过他们,但是他们在我的心里还是原 来那样,没有什么改变。

So then I chose another profession, and learned to pilot airplanes. I have flown a little over all parts of the world; and it is true that geography has been very useful to me. At a glance I can distinguish China from Arizona. If one gets lost in the night, such knowledge is valuable.

In the course of this life I have had a great many encounters with a great many people who have been concerned with matters of consequence. I have lived a great deal among grown-ups. I have seen them intimately, close at hand. And that hasn't much improved my opinion of them.















X

我一直保存着我的第一号作品,当遇到一个看来稍微可以交流的大人时,我就拿出这件作品来试探,看他是不是真的有理解力。可是,得到的回答永远是:"这是顶帽子。"我就不会和他谈大蟒蛇、原始森林或者星星这样的事情了。这样的人,就只能和他们谈些桥牌了、高尔夫球了、政治以及领带之类容易的事情。于是这些大人们就对我的通情达理感到很高兴。

Whenever I met one of them who seemed to me at all clear - sighted, I tried the experiment of showing him my Drawing Number One, which I have always kept. I would try to find out, so, if this was a person of true understanding. But, whoever it was, he, or she, would always say:

"That is a hat."

Then I would never talk to that person about boa constrictors, or primeval forests, or stars. I would bring myself down to his level. I would talk to him about bridge, and golf, and politics, and neckties. And the grown-up would be greatly pleased to have met such a sensible man.















这些年里我一直就这么孤独地生活着,没有一个可以真心交谈的人。这种状况一直持续到六年前在撒哈拉沙漠的那次事故为止。我的飞机发动机里某个部分出了故障。因为飞机上没有机械师,也没有乘客,我打算独自进行这个困难的修复工作。这对我来说是个生死攸关的问题,因为我带的水只能维持一个星期。

So I lived my life alone, without anyone that I could really talk to, until I had an accident with my plane in the Desert of Sahara, six years ago.

Something was broken in my engine. And as I had with me neither a mechanic nor any passengers, I set myself to attempt the difficult repairs all alone. It was a question of life or death for me: I had scarcely enough drinking water to last a week.



当天晚上我就睡在这没有人迹的大沙漠里。我感到很孤独,比大海中伏在小木排上的遇难者还要孤独。因此,第二天日出时分,当我被一个奇怪的小声音叫醒时,你们可以想象我那种说不出来的惊讶。这个小声音对我说:

"给我画一只羊,好吗?" "什么?"

The first night, then, I went to sleep on the sand, a thousand miles from any human habitation. I was more isolated than a shipwrecked sailor on a raft in the middle of the ocean. Thus you can imagine my amazement, at sunrise, when I was awakened by an odd little voice. It said:

"If you please-draw me a sheep!"

"W hat!"

