



英语神话故事

郭跃进 主编

导读

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身读

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前言

人类对信仰的追求是永无止境的，他们在无限而又无法满足的渴望中，让自己的思维插上畅想的翅膀，塑造一个个傲视苍穹的大小诸神，并借助他们的神灵去演绎凡人的喜怒哀乐，借助他们的躯壳去实现人类自己的远大理想。

神话历经沧桑巨变和历史的风云，已成为人类文化宝库中一份丰厚的遗产。它反映了历史，反映了文化，反映了人类的精神面貌，也反映了人类创造性的思维，给我们的学习和生活注入了活力，增添了色彩。

本书中的故事大多数是选自古希腊和罗马神话。读者可以从字里行间沐浴太阳神“阿波罗”的光芒，领略女神维纳斯的青春与美丽，感悟普罗米修斯的献身与苦难，品味丘比特的博爱与浪漫，同情俄狄浦斯乱伦后的悲愤，憎恨潘多拉给人类铸成的大错……

阅读《神话》，仿佛是在聆听一首多元文化孕育时的摇篮曲，它使我们能进一步了解西方文化，透视跨文化交

际的历史底蕴,同时,也使我们在乐而不疲的阅读中提高我们的领悟和理解能力,让我们的思维绽开永不凋谢的创造之花。

郭跃进

于湖北教育学院

2001年12月15日

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故事欣赏

1. The Sky Father and the Earth Mother

The brown-skinned men live on almost every island in the Pacific Ocean. For hundreds of years they have been telling tales about the gods who made the world. This is one of the old legends that is told by the Maori people of New Zealand.

Long long ago, there was no ocean, no land and no sky. It was so long ago that everything was dark and shapeless.

The first of all the gods was called Rangi. He was the Sky Father. Papa, his wife, was the Earth Mother. They loved each other and lived close together. They had seventy sons, and each son was a god. Their sons were the gods of sea, land, wind, forests, birds, flowers, plants, men, beetles, fish, and insects.

The seventy sons of Rangi and Papa lived in the narrow space between their parents. There was hardly any room to move, and no light for them to see by. They were always complaining.

"It's no use talking if we don't do anything," one of them said. "If only we could separate Mother from Father would we have plenty of room."

The others thought that it was a good idea, "One of us must throw Rangi away from our Earth Mother."

One after the other tried, but Rangi was too heavy. The last of all came Tane, the god of nature. He lay on his back and put his feet on Rangi's body. Then he pushed and pushed. Rangi moved a little. Tane pushed harder and Rangi flew away so far that the gods thought he would never stop. They laughed and shouted for joy except Tawhiri, the god of wind, who loved his father more than his mother. When his brothers stayed on the earth, he flew up to the sky to be with his father.

The Earth Mother and the Sky Father were sad at being parted. Rangi cried and his tears fell on to the earth as rain. Papa sighed, and the mists of sorrow floated up as clouds towards her husband.

Tane was sorry for his parents. The Earth Mother was bare and cold. He covered her with forests and grass that were watered by Rangi's tears, so that she was beautiful in her loneliness.

"You have made Mama beautiful," Rangi called to him, "but what will you do for me, Tane?"

The god of nature flew back to his father. He put the golden sun on his breast, and covered him with a red cloak. Then he thought that his father did not like the red cloak, so he took it away; but sometimes we can still see part of that glowing robe when the sun rises and sets. By day Rangi was beautifully clad in robe of blue. For the night time Tane scattered shining stars and the round shining moon over him.

The last of all, the god of nature, filled the forests he had made with birds so that everyone could hear their cheerful singing.

Tawhiri, the god of wind, was still angry with his brothers.

He roared down from the sky and fought with the god of sea, turning the waters into waves. The water swept over the land, and the land gods fought the gods of wind and sea. No one could stand up against Tawhiri except Tu, who was the god of war.

As the wind stopped, the sea calmed down and birds were singing.

"There is one thing missing," Tane said. "We need men and women to walk under my trees, listen to my birds, sail their canoes on the waters of my brother's ocean, and sing praises to the gods."

So Tane made the first woman, the Earth-Formed Woman, from the red earth of Papa. Soon his dream came true. People loved his work—the flowers, the birds, the fish of the sea, the waterfalls, rivers, lakes, and the tall mountains.

That is how the world and all the lovely things on it were made by Tane, the god of nature, in the very beginning of time, said the Maori people.

词语注释

1. brown-skinned *adj.* 褐色的
2. tale *n.* 故事
3. legend *n.* 传奇
4. shapeless *adj.* 无形状的
5. complain *v.* 抱怨
6. sigh *v.* 叹息
7. float *v.* 漂浮
8. cloak *n.* 斗篷

9. glowing *adj.* 发光的
 10. robe *n.* 长袍
 11. scatter *v.* 分散
 12. insect *n.* 昆虫
 13. canoe *n.* 独木舟
 14. waterfall *n.* 瀑布

英文汉译

天父与地母

太平洋里的每个岛屿几乎都住着棕色皮肤的人。几百年来，他们一直讲述着诸神创世的故事。下面这则古老的传说是新西兰的毛利人流传下来的。

很久以前，没有海洋，没有陆地，没有天空，只有一片黑暗和无形之物。

诸神之首叫让依。他是天父，他的妻子帕帕是地母，他俩相爱并生活在一起。他们有 70 个儿子，个个都是神，他们分别为掌管海洋、大地、风、森林、禽鸟、花草、人类、甲虫、鱼类和昆虫之神。

让依和帕帕的 70 个儿子就住在父母之间的狭小空隙里。他们几乎没有挪动的空间，也看不见光线。他们总是抱怨个不停。

“我们只是一味地发牢骚而不采取措施，那是毫无用处的！”其中一个说道，“我们只要把父母分开，我们就会有足够的活动余地。”

其他诸神觉着这个主意不错。“我们其中一人得把让依与我们的地母分开。”

他们轮流着来,可让依太重了,就是分不开。最后一个轮到自然神,泰。他躺着用脚蹬在让依的身上,然后蹬了又蹬,让依移开了一点儿。泰更用力了,让依飞出了很远,诸神想,他可能会永远停不下来了。他们兴奋地笑着、喊着,只有风神拖里不高兴。比起母亲,拖里更爱父亲。当众神兄弟留在地上时,他飞上天与父亲呆在一起。

地母和天父分开后都很难过。让依哭了,流出的泪成了地上的雨水,帕帕叹息着,缕缕哀思像云朵似的朝她丈夫飘去。

泰为自己的父母伤心。地母赤身裸体,浑身冰凉。他给地母披上用让依的泪水浇灌的森林和草地。虽然孤独,她却漂亮了。

“你使妈妈变好看了,”让依对泰说,“可你能为我做些什么呢?”

自然神飞到他父亲身边,在他胸前挂了一轮金太阳,还给他披了件红披风。后来,他觉着父亲不喜欢红披风,就拿开了。可有时,日升日落之际,还能看见披在他身上的红披风的一部分。白天,让依穿上蓝色的衣服;到了晚上,泰在他身上撒下许多闪烁的星星,还挂上一轮明月。

最后,自然神把鸟类放进自己造的森林里,这样,大家都能听见小鸟的欢歌笑语了。

风神拖里仍在生众兄弟的气。他呼啸着从空中俯冲到海面迎战海神,拍打水面,激起水浪。海水掠过陆地,陆神就与风神和海神搏斗。他们当中除了战神突之外,谁也不能与拖里匹敌。

风一停息,海面就恢复了平静。鸟儿又在森林中唱歌了。

“还少一样东西,”泰说,“我们需要有男人和女人在树林中穿行,听我的鸟儿鸣唱,在海神兄弟的领海泛舟,为诸神高唱赞歌!”

泰从地母帕帕身上造就了第一个女人,用红泥捏成的女人。不久,他的梦想实现了。人们热爱泰创造的这一切——鲜花,鸟

儿,鱼儿,瀑布,河流,湖泊,还有那雄伟的高山。

毛利人说,世之初,自然神泰就是这样创造了世界和一切美好的东西。

故事欣赏

2. Apollo and a Sunflower

Apollo was the sun-god. He wore a purple robe. He usually sat in his bright palace early in the morning and made ready to start his daily journey across the sky. During the day he drove his carriage made of gold and ivory, and brought light, life and love to the great world below. Late in the afternoon he came to the end of his journey in the far western sea and got on his golden boat to return to his home.

Apollo was the god of music and poetry. He could stir up all feelings. These feelings are expressed in lofty songs. With his lyre of gold and the sweet accents of his god-like voice he led the choir of the Muses at Olympus. The pleasant music from his lyre was so exciting that stones marched into their places in rhythmic time and of their own will when he helped Poseidon build up the walls of Troy. On one occasion, invited to a contest by the human musician Marsyas, he won and then flayed him to death for his pride. On another occasion, he lost out to Pan at musical contest, and turned the ears of the judge, King Midas, into those of an ass.

His son, Orpheus, took over such skill from the father that his lyre moved man and animals alike.

Apollo stood for youthful and manly beauty. His golden hair, gravely manner and air all combined to make him the admiration of the world. A beautiful girl, by the name of Clytie, was so fond of his beauty and glory that from dawn to dusk she knelt on the ground, her hands outstretched towards the sun-god, and her eyes looked at his golden-wheeled carriage racing across the blue sky. Though her love was not returned, she had never changed her mind about Apollo. The gods were moved at the sad sight, and changed her into a sunflower.

词语注释

1. purple *adj.* 紫色的
2. robe *n.* 长袍
3. poetry *n.* 诗歌
4. lofty *adj.* 神圣的
5. accent *n.* 音调
6. rhythmic *adj.* 有节奏的
7. occasion *n.* 场合
8. contest *n.* 竞赛
9. lass *n.* 少女
10. outstretch *v.* 伸展
11. twins *n.* 孪生儿, 双胞胎
12. carriage *n.* 战车
13. ivory *n.* 象牙
14. stir up 激发