

◇校园中英对照读物◇

2004年
美国首次出版
畅销全美

美国总统青少年时代
Childhoods of the Presidents

富兰克林·D·罗斯福

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

【美】小阿瑟·M·史勒辛格 主编

【美】安妮·玛丽亚·苏莉安 著
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中国出版集团 现代教育出版社

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图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

富兰克林·D·罗斯福 / (美) 苏莉安著; 王杨译.

—北京: 现代教育出版社, 2005. 1

(美国总统青少年时代)

书名原文: Franklin D. Roosevelt

ISBN 7-80196-033-5

I. 富… II. ①苏…②王… III. 罗斯福, F. D. (1882~1945)

—生平事迹—青少年读物 IV. K837. 127=5

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2004)第136747号

著作权合同登记图字 01-2005-0397

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责任编辑: 王宇虹

装帧设计: 叶多

出版发行: 现代教育出版社

地址: 北京市朝阳区安贞里2区1号金瓯大厦 邮编: 100029

电话: (010) 64423901 传真: (010) 64420542

印刷: 三河市科达彩色印装有限公司

开本: 787 × 1020 1/32 印张: 3

版次: 2005年1月第1版 印次: 2005年1月第1次印刷

标准书号: 7-80196-033-5

印数: 5000册 定价: 8.00元

★ *Introduction* ★

Alexis de Tocqueville began his great work *Democracy in America* with a discourse on childhood. If we are to understand the prejudices, the habits and the passions that will rule a man's life, Tocqueville said, we must watch the baby in his mother's arms; we must see the first images that the world casts upon the mirror of his mind; we must hear the first words that awaken his sleeping powers of thought. "The entire man," he wrote, "is, so to speak, to be seen in the cradle of the child."

That is why these books on the childhoods of the American presidents are so much to the point. And, as our history shows, a great variety of childhoods can lead to the White House. The record confirms the ancient adage that every American boy, no matter how unpromising his beginnings, can aspire to the presidency. Soon, one hopes, the adage will be extended to include every American girl.

All our presidents thus far have been white males who, within the limits of their gender, reflect the diversity of American life. They were born in nineteen of our states; eight of the last thirteen presidents were born west of the Mississippi. Of all our presidents, Abraham Lincoln had the

least promising childhood, yet he became our greatest president. Oddly enough, presidents who are children of privilege sometimes feel an obligation to reform society in order to give children of poverty a better break. And, with Lincoln the great exception, presidents who are children of poverty sometimes feel that there is no need to reform a society that has enabled them to rise from privation to the summit.

Does schooling make a difference? Harry S. Truman, the only twentieth-century president never to attend college, is generally accounted a near-great president. Actually nine—more than one fifth—of our presidents never went to college at all, including such luminaries as George Washington, Andrew Jackson and Grover Cleveland. But, Truman aside, all the non-college men held the highest office before the twentieth century, and, given the increasing complexity of life, a college education will unquestionably be a necessity in the twenty-first century.

Every reader of this book, girls included, has a right to aspire to the presidency. As you survey the childhoods of those who made it, try to figure out the qualities that brought them to the White House. I would suggest that among those qualities are ambition, determination, discipline, education—and luck.

—ARTHUR M. SCHLESINGER, JR.

序

亚历克西斯·德·托克维尔以讲述人的童年作为他的巨著《美国的民主》的开始。托克维尔说，如果我们想理解支配一个人生活的偏见、习惯和爱好，我们必须观察他还是襁褓中的婴孩这一时期的情况；我们必须审视世界投射到他心灵上的第一个印记；我们必须聆听唤醒他那沉睡中的思想力量的第一句话。他写道：“可以说，从婴孩时期的摇篮中将可以了解整个人。”

这就是为什么这套关于美国总统童年的书如此重要。另外，正如历史所展示的，尽管童年时代的经历多种多样，却都能引导一个人走上通往白宫的道路。历史的记录验证了一句古话：每个美国男孩，不管早期看起来前途多么无望，都能够立志成为总统。人们还希望，这句古话所涵盖的范围不久将扩展，把每个美国女孩也包括在内。

迄今为止，所有的美国总统都是白人男性，他们在有限的性别范围之内，反映了美国生活的多样性。他们出生于合众国的19个州；最后13位当中有8位出生在密西西比河西部。在所有的总统当中，亚伯拉罕·林肯的童年最显得前途无望，然而他却成为美国历史上最伟大的总统。非常奇怪的是，童年生活优裕的总统有时却有一种责任感，进行社会改革，给家庭贫苦的孩子创造更好的机会。而另一方面，除林肯是一个特例之外，出身贫苦的总统有时却感到，对于使他们从穷困的底层发展到事业颠峰的社会，没有进行改革的必要。

学校教育重要吗？哈里·S·杜鲁门是仅有的一位从未上过大学的20世纪的美国总统，然而却被普遍认为接近最伟大的总统。实际上，我们的总统当中有9位——占全部的五分之一还多——从未上过大学，包括乔治·华盛顿、安德鲁·杰克逊以及格罗弗·克利夫兰这些杰出的人物。但是，除杜鲁门以外，所有这些没上过大学却担任了总统这一最显要职务的人都生活在20世纪以前。由于社会生活变得越来越复杂，大学教育毫无疑问将成为21世纪美国总统的必备条件。

该书的每位读者，包括女孩在内，都有权立志当总统。你们在探讨这些总统的童年时，要努力去领悟是什么品质使他们当上了白宫的主人。我在这里做一提示，在这些品质当中包括志向、决心、纪律、教育——当然还有机会。

——小阿瑟·M·史勒辛格



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A Small Child in a Small World

High on a snow-covered hill overlooking the Hudson River stood a large, comfortable wooden house with a porch and a three-story tower. Acres of trees, a thriving farm, and stables of fine horses surrounded the house. This was Springwood, the home of James and Sara Delano Roosevelt.

On the night of January 30, 1882, a newborn baby's cry could be heard coming from one of the upstairs bedrooms. After a long and difficult labor, Sara had given birth to her first and only child, a boy weighing 10 pounds. Sara was James's second wife. She was in her mid-twenties and James in his early fifties when they married several years after the death of James's first wife. He had a son by his first marriage, James Roosevelt, known as Rosy.

It would be some time before James and Sara would agree upon a name for their new baby. They finally settled on Franklin Delano Roosevelt, after Sara's uncle. This was the name given to the baby at his **christening** on March 20, 1882, at St. James **Episcopal** Church in Hyde Park, New York, not far from Springwood. One of Franklin's

第一章

狭小天地中的幼小儿童

从白雪覆盖的山头远眺哈得逊河，那里座落着一幢宽敞而又舒适的木屋，木屋带有门廊和一座三层高的塔楼。林木繁茂，农场兴盛，四周还有几处良种马匹的马厩——这儿便是史柏雷伍德—詹姆斯·罗斯福与萨拉·德拉诺·罗斯福的家。

1882年1月30日深夜，一阵新生儿的哭声从楼上的一间卧室传出。在经历了长时间痛苦的挣扎之后，萨拉终于生出了她第一个、也是唯一的一个孩子。这是一个重约10磅的男婴。萨拉是詹姆斯的第二个妻子，他们在詹姆斯前妻去世几年后结婚。当时，萨拉二十五岁左右，而詹姆斯已经五十出头。詹姆斯在第一次婚姻中有一个儿子，名叫詹姆斯·罗斯福，通常人们都叫他罗西。

过了一段时间以后，詹姆斯和萨拉才在他们的新生儿取名上有了一致看法。他们最后决定以萨拉伯父的名字为儿子取名为富兰克林·德拉诺·罗斯福。1882年3月20日，他们在离史柏雷伍德不远的纽约海德公园的圣·詹姆斯英国国教教堂里为这孩子举行了洗礼仪式，于是孩子的名字就此给定了。富兰克林的一位教父是他父亲的远房堂

godparents was his father's distant cousin Elliott Roosevelt, whose brother Theodore would one day become the 26th president of the United States.

Little Franklin was born into a small and privileged world. The Roosevelts were among the oldest and most respected families in New York. They had descended from one of the original Dutch settlers of the area and were known as *Knickerbockers*. In addition to their very old family ties to the area, the Roosevelts enjoyed great

One of the earliest photographs of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who was born into wealth and privilege in Hyde Park, New York, in 1882.

富兰克林·德拉诺·罗斯福于1882年出生于纽约海德公园一个富有而又地位显赫的家庭中。这是他幼时的一张照片。

注：① 美国第二十六任副总统的弟弟，也是富兰克林的教父。

兄伊里亚德·罗斯福^①，伊里亚德的哥哥西奥多·罗斯福后来当选为美国第二十六届总统。

幼小的富兰克林诞生在一个狭小却又尊贵的世界里。罗斯福家族是纽约最古老、地位最显赫的家族之一。他们是早期荷兰移民的后裔，所以又被称为荷兰裔纽约人。罗斯福家族除了在当地历史久远外，还拥有巨大的财富。他





wealth. So did many of their neighbors. In fact, the area of the Hudson River where Springwood was located became known as " Millionaire's Row." Many of the richest and most powerful families in New York City chose to build their lavish country estates there. Sara's family, the Delanos, had a lot of money as well. They had made a fortune in the shipping business in New England. Sara's father, Warren Delano, also had an estate on the Hudson, known as Algonac.

Much of the wealth in the United States at that time was concentrated in the hands of a few powerful families. Of these, the wealthiest and most powerful was the Astor family. Every year, Mrs. Caroline Astor held a ball to which only 400 people were invited. These 400, in a city of 1.2 million people, were considered the upper crust of New York society. Franklin's parents were always invited. In fact, Franklin's half brother, Rosy, was married to one of Mrs. Astor's daughters.

New York's powerful families formed a small social circle that followed the same comfortable routines year after year. They spent the coldest months of the winter in their city homes attending dances, parties, and the theater with other members of the same group. Many could be found at their country estates during the more pleasant

注：① 居住在哈得逊流域的多为纽约上层社会的人士，他们都很富有，且地位尊贵，因此这一地区被称做富人区。



们的邻居也大多如此。事实上，史柏雷伍德所在的哈得逊河畔已成为有名的“百万富翁区”^①，纽约城许多非常富有和有影响的家族都选择把他们大片的庄园建在这里。萨拉的家族——德拉诺一家，同样也很富有。他们在新英格兰经营造船业中发了家。萨拉的父亲华伦·德拉诺在哈得逊也拥有一座庄园，名为阿尔冈纳克。

当时美国大部分的财富都集中在少数几个很有势力的家族手中。在他们中间，最富有、最有影响的当属阿斯特家族^②。每年，卡洛琳·阿斯特夫人都会举办一场只邀请四百人参加的晚会。在拥有一百二十万人口的城市，这四百人往往都被认为是纽约社会的上流人士，富兰克林的父母也总会被邀请。实际上，富兰克林同父异母的哥哥罗西，当时已与阿斯特夫人的一个女儿结婚。

纽约城这些实力雄厚的家族渐渐形成了一个狭小的社会圈子，年复一年，这个圈中的人们按照同样舒适的方式生活。每年冬天最冷的几个月，他们总是呆在城中居所，一起参加舞会、派对，或去剧院看戏。在季节更宜人的几个月里，好多人都在他们的乡下庄园里。在这儿，他们追

注：② 19世纪末美国地位最尊贵的家族之一，以从事皮毛业而闻名。



A society gathering, late 1800s or early 1900s. Because the Roosevelts traveled in the most exclusive social circles, Franklin's childhood included almost no contact with anyone outside the upper-class elite.

18 世纪末、19 世纪初美国上层人士的聚会。罗斯福一家都来自上流社会，所以富兰克林的童年也都是在这个圈子中度过的。

months. Here, they pursued outdoor pleasures such as riding horses and hunting. It was also quite common for these families to own summer homes on the coast and travel frequently to Europe. Even overseas, the families remained within their own social group, finding one another on the same luxurious ships and at the same European resorts.

Franklin's parents followed this pattern closely. In addition to Springwood, they owned a home on Campobello Island, just off the coasts of Maine and New Brunswick, Canada. When they were in the United States, they spent their summers there. They also lived in New York City for part of the year. They left the United States often, however, for both Sara and James loved to travel. The first year of their marriage, they spent 10 months in Europe. Their habits did not change when Franklin joined the family. He crossed the Atlantic with his parents many times as a very small child.





求着户外运动给他们带来的乐趣，如骑马、打猎。对这些家族而言，拥有海边消夏寓所以及经常去欧洲旅游，都是再平常不过的事情了。即使是在海外，他们也只同自己所在的那个社交圈中的人打交道，总能在豪华的游轮上或在欧洲国家的旅游胜地相遇。

富兰克林的父母紧紧效仿着这种生活方式。除了史柏雷伍德，他们在坎波贝罗岛也拥有一座房子，这儿离缅因海滨和加拿大的新布伦瑞克都很近。他们在国内时，便会去那里避暑，也经常在纽约市区待上一段时间。不过，因为詹姆斯与萨拉都喜爱旅游，所以他们经常离开美国。婚后的第一年，他们就曾在欧洲住了十个月。家里添了富兰克林以后，他们也没有改变这一习惯。富兰克林很小的时候就已经跟随他的父母多次穿越大西洋了。



In some ways, Sara was different from other mothers in her social class. All her friends and relatives hired nurses, nannies, and **governesses** to care for their children. Most of these parents pursued very busy social lives and left the care and daily routines of their children to the servants. They often left the children at home when they traveled. Many women observed a "mother's hour," the



富兰克林与母亲萨拉的一张合影。萨拉非常疼爱自己的儿子，和别的母亲不同，她更喜欢亲自照顾富兰克林，而不是把他交给仆人。

Franklin with his mother, Sara Delano Roosevelt, who doted on her only child. Other parents in the Roosevelts' social circle often left the care of their children up to servants, but Sara was very involved in taking care of her son.