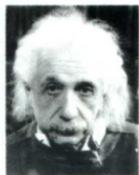


励志经典
中英对照

名家名句
001

爱因斯坦 的智慧

Bite-Size Einstein



二十世纪最著名的科学家
渊博的知识、卓越的想像力
改变了人类对生命及宇宙本质的见解

[美] 约翰·霍姆斯 杰瑞·梅尔 编著 田倩 译

华夏出版社

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WHEREVER I GO AND wherever I stay,
There's always a picture of me on display.
On top of the desk, or out in the hall,
Tied round a neck, or hung on the wall.

WOMEN AND MEN, they play a strange game,
Asking, beseeching: "Please sign your name."
From the erudite fellow they brook not a quibble,
But firmly insist on a piece of his scribble.

SOMETIMES, surrounded by all this good cheer,
I'm puzzled by some of the things that I hear,
And wonder, my mind for a moment not hazy,
If I and not they could really be crazy.

—Albert Einstein





不论我走到哪里，或停留在何处，
总是会看到我自己的照片。
可能在桌上、在走廊外、
在柱子上，或在墙壁上。

男男女女玩着怪异的游戏：
争相向我索取签名，
这位博学的家伙并非固执，
而是对自己的签名谨慎。

有时候被这些赞美的喝彩围绕，
我会对自己所听到的感到疑惑，
在清醒时刻的瞬间不禁怀疑，
究竟是自己还是他们疯了。

——爱因斯坦







ON HIMSELF

关于自己



【To his niece:】 I hear from Elsa that you are dissatisfied because you did not see your Uncle Einstein. Let me therefore tell you what I look like: pale face, long hair, and a tiny beginning of a paunch. In addition an awkward gait, and a cigar in the mouth—if he happens to have a cigar—and a pen in his pocket or his hand. But crooked legs and warts he does not have, and so he is quite handsome—also no hair on his hands as is often found on ugly men. So it is indeed a pity that you did not see me. With warm greetings from Your Uncle Einstein.

I collect nothing but unanswered correspondence and people, who, with justification, are dissatisfied with me. But can it be otherwise with a man possessed. As in my youth, I sit here endlessly and think and calculate, hoping to unearth deep secrets. The so-called Great World, that is, men's bustle, has less attraction than ever, so that each day I find myself becoming more of a hermit.





【给侄女的信：】我听艾尔莎说你因为没见到爱因斯坦叔叔而感到不开心，那我就告诉你我的长相：苍白的脸、长长的头发和一个微凸的肚子；步伐踉蹌；如果有雪茄的话，会叼根雪茄在嘴里，还会放支笔在口袋或手里。但我并没有弯曲的腿和肉瘤，所以我还算英俊。我的手上也不像一般丑陋的男人一样有毛。所以你没能见到我，实在是很可惜。你的爱因斯坦叔叔祝福你。

我有很多信件没有回复，所以人们认为他们有理由对我感到不满。但回信会占据我的时间。当我年轻时，我坐在这儿不断思索和计算，希望能解开深奥的秘密。我对熙来攘往的花花世界，比过去更加不感兴趣；日复一日，我发觉自己越来越像个隐士。



I am truly a “lone traveler” .

With fame I became more and more stupid, which, of course, is a very common phenomenon. There is far too great a disproportion between what one is and what others think one is, or at least what they say they think one is. But one has to take it all with good humor.

All I have is the stubbornness of a mule; no, that's not quite all, I also have a nose.

With me, every peep becomes a trumpet solo.

Yesterday idolized, today hated and spit upon, tomorrow forgotten, and the day after tomorrow promoted to Sainthood. The only salvation is a sense of humor, and we will keep that as long as we draw breath.

I live in that solitude that is painful in youth but delicious in the years of maturity.



我是个独来独往的旅者。

由于名气，我变得越来越愚笨，当然这是个常见的现象。一个人是什么、以及别人如何看待他，或别人如何猜想他，是差别极大的。但一个人必须用幽默来承受这一切。

我所拥有的就是固执的骡子脾气；不，不尽然，我还有一个鼻子。（译注：虽固执但不笨之意。）

对我而言，每个细微的嘀咕都像是喇叭独奏般大声。

昨日被视为偶像的，今日会被唾弃；明天会被遗忘的，而后天又被奉为圣贤。对此，惟一的解脱方法只能是幽默感；而只要我们活着，就应该保有这种特质。

我的孤独生活在年轻时是痛苦的，但年长后却是美好的。



It was no different in Berlin, and before that in Switzerland. One is born a loner.

To one bent by age death will come as a release; I feel this quite strongly now that I have grown old myself and have come to regard death like an old debt, at long last to be discharged.

It's not that I'm so smart; it's just that I stay with problems longer.

I have no special gift. I am only passionately curious.

Everything that has anything to do with the cult of personality has always been painful to me.

Neckties and cuffs exist for me only as remote memories.

In the course of my long life I have received from my fellow men far more recognition than I deserve, and I confess that my sense of shame has always outweighed my pleasure therein.



对天生独来独往的人来说，不论是住在柏林还是瑞士，都没有什么不一样。

对一个日益衰老的人来说，死亡是一种解脱。我现在明显感觉自己已相当年迈，且开始觉得死亡就像一笔拖欠已久、终需偿付的债务。

并不是我特别聪明，我只是较执着于解决问题。

我并不是天资聪颖，只是有无比的好奇心。

任何与个人崇拜有关的事，总是让我难以忍受。

需戴正式领带和袖扣的场合，已经离我很远了。

在我漫长的人生中，我从同事身上得到了多于自己应得的赞誉；对此，我承认我的羞愧感总是多于喜悦。



People flatter me as long as I do not get in their way.

Here is yet another application of the principle of relativity for the delectation of the reader: today I am described in Germany as a “German savant,” and in England as a “Swiss Jew.” Should it ever be my fate to be represented as a *bête noire*, I should, on the contrary, become a “Swiss Jew” for the Germans and a “German savant” for the English.

My part in producing the atomic bomb consisted in a single act: I signed a letter to President Roosevelt, to press the need for experiments on a large scale in order to explore the possibilities for the production of an atomic bomb. The likelihood that the Germans were working on the same problem with a chance of succeeding forced me to this step.

I have never belonged wholeheartedly to any country or state, to my circle of friends, or even to my own family. These ties have always been accompanied by a vague aloofness, and the wish to withdraw into myself increases with the years.



人们奉承我是因为我与他们不同。

举个相对论的例子让读者笑笑：现在，德国人说我是“德国学者”，英国人说我是“瑞士犹太人”。如果我注定是个惹人厌的家伙，那么我在德国人眼中反而是个瑞士犹太人，在英国人眼中则是个德国学者。

在促成原子弹的行动中，我只做了一件事：在签署一封给罗斯福总统的信件中，强调从事大规模实验以探究原子弹制造的必要性。由于德国正在从事相关的研究工作，并可能获得成功，促使我采取这个行动。

我从未完全地属于任何一个国家、政府，或是任何一个朋友圈，甚至我的家庭。因为这些束缚，总伴随着某些隐约的疏离。因此，想要回归自我的念头与日俱增。

