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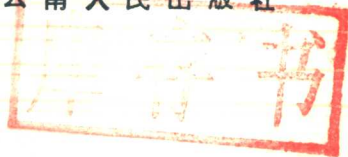
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特洛伊的陷落

THE FALL OF TROY

〔美〕詹姆斯·鲍德温 著
喻 翔 生 译注

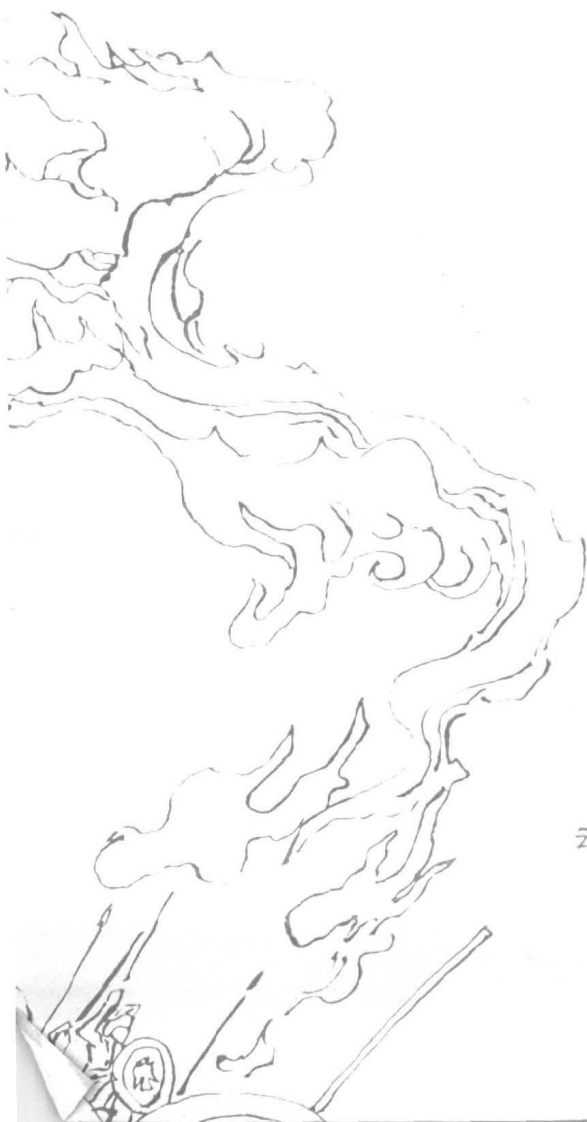
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THE FALL OF TROY

JAMES BALDWIN

特洛伊的陷落

〔美〕詹姆斯·鲍德温著

喻翔生 译注

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前 言

本书原名“THIRTY MORE FAMOUS STORIES RETOLD”，是美国詹姆斯·鲍德温（James Baldwin）继“FIFTY FAMOUS STORIES RETOLD”续成的姊妹篇。

本书包括三十篇著名轶事：有叙述科学家、发明家如修道士培根，阿基米德，伽利略，瓦特，牛顿，古腾堡等人孜孜不倦，致力于发明创造的故事7篇；有描绘殖民者、探险家哥伦布，巴尔波亚及邦塞·德里昂在美洲探险的故事4篇；有介绍文学家约翰生，政治家韦伯斯特的童年轶事各1篇；有叙述国王名将描绘重要历史事件的逸闻11篇。特别是集中刻划古希腊两大史诗《伊利亚特》、《奥德赛》主要片断的两篇传说——《特洛伊的陷落》、《珀涅罗珀的织物》，生动地描述了古希腊著名的特洛伊攻城战。告诉我们希腊人怎样采用伊大卡王尤利西斯的木马计，最后轻取特洛伊以及尤利西斯随希腊军队凯旋归国途中遇险，其妻珀涅罗珀怎样坚贞自守，待到尤利西斯重返家园，智歼群丑。

这些著名轶事，原作的英文行文流畅，文字简洁，可以帮助我们学习英文并领略英文短篇故事的写作技巧。

本书英文版尽管出版时间较早，但经过十年浩劫，旧版本已不可多得。译注者就英文本作作了适当的注释，每篇并附有汉语译文，但因水平有限，译注中肯定有不当甚至错误之

处，殷切地希望读者给予指正。

译注者

1980年10月

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THE FALL OF TROY

特洛伊的陷落

COLUMBUS AND THE EGG

¹Christopher Columbus discovered America on the 12th of October, 1492. He had spent eighteen years in planning for that wonderful first voyage which he made across the ²Atlantic Ocean. The thoughts and hopes of the best part of his life had been given to it. He had talked and argued with ³sailors and scholars and princes and kings, saying, "I know that, by sailing west across the great ocean, one may ⁴at last reach lands that have never been visited by Europeans." But he had been ⁵laughed at as a foolish dreamer, and few people ⁶had any faith in his ⁷projects.

At last, however, the king and queen of Spain gave him ships with which to ⁸make the trial voyage. He crossed the ocean and discovered strange lands, ⁹inhabited by a people unlike any that had been known before. He believed that these lands were a part of India.

When he returned home with the news of his discovery there was great rejoicing, and he was ¹⁰hailed as the hero who had given a new world to Spain. Crowds of people ¹¹lined the streets through which he passed, and all were anxious to ¹²do him honor. The king and queen welcomed him to their palace and listened with pleasure to the story of his voyage. Never had so great respect been shown to any common man.

But there were some who ¹³were jealous of the discoverer, and as ready to ¹⁴find fault as others were to praise. "Who is this Columbus?" they asked, "and what

哥伦布和鸡蛋

1492年10月12日，哥伦布发现美洲。为了规划那破天荒第一次的横越大西洋的航行，他曾花了十八年的时间。他大半生中的思想和希望都寄托在这次航行上。他曾和水手们、学者们、王子们和国王们争论说：“我知道，向西边航行，渡过大西洋，到头总会到达欧洲人从来没有游览过的境界。”但是，人们都把他当作一个愚蠢的空想家加以嘲笑，相信他计划的人绝无仅有。

最后，西班牙王及其王后毕竟给了他供试航用的船只。他横渡大洋，发现了奇妙的陆地，在那儿住有一种民族，和原来所知道的截然不同。他相信这些陆地是印度的一部分。

当他带着他的发现的消息归来时，人们大为欣喜，他被欢呼为给与西班牙新领域的英雄。人群拥挤，排列在他所经过的街上，众人都渴望向他致敬。国王和王后欢迎他到王宫之中，愉快地倾听他的航行故事。一个普通老百姓受到这样隆重的敬意，还从未有过。

可是，有一些嫉妒这位发现者的人，正象旁人准备赞扬那样，对他却要加以挑剔。“这哥伦布是个什么人？”他们

1. Christopher Columbus (1451—1506) 克利斯多弗·哥伦布，意大利航海家，于1492年发现美洲。 2. the Atlantic [ət'ləntɪk] ocean 大西洋。 3. sailors ['seɪləz] n. 水手。 4. at last 最后。 5. laugh at 嘲笑。 6. have faith in 相信。 7. projects ['prɒdʒekts] n. 计划。 8. make the trial voyage 进行试航。 9. inhabited [ɪn'hæbɪt-ɪd] v. 居住。 10. hail [heɪl] v. 为……欢呼。 11. lined the streets 沿街排列。 12. do him honour 向他表示敬意。 13. be jealous of 妒忌。 14. find fault 找(……的)毛病。

has he done? Is he not a pauper ¹⁵pilot from Italy? And could not any other seaman sail across the ocean just as he has done?"

One day Columbus was at a dinner which a Spanish gentleman had given in his honor, and several of these persons were present. They were proud, conceited fellows, and they very soon began to try to make Columbus uncomfortable.

"You have discovered strange lands beyond the sea," they said. "¹⁶But what of that? We do not see why there should be so much said about it. Anybody can sail across the ocean, and anybody can ¹⁷coast along the islands on the other side, just as you have done. It is the simplest thing in the world."

Columbus made no answer; but after a while he took an egg from a dish and said to the company, "Who among you, gentlemen, can make this egg ¹⁸stand on end?"

One by one those at the table tried the experiment. When the egg had gone entirely around and none had succeeded, all said that it could not be done.

Then Columbus took the egg and struck its small end gently upon the table so as to break the shell a little. After that there was no trouble in making it ¹⁹stand upright.

"Gentlemen," said he, "what is easier than to do this which you said was impossible? It is the simplest thing in the world. Anybody can do it — *after he has been shown how.*"

问。“他做了些什么事？他不就是一个从意大利来的穷舵手？难道别的水手就不能象他那样横渡大洋吗？”

一天，有一个西班牙绅士为了向哥伦布表示敬意，设宴款待。有这样的几个人在场，他们全是傲慢自大的人，很快就使哥伦布感到不快。

“你已经发现了海外奇异的土地，”他们说。“不过，那算得什么呢？我们真不明白，为什么人们老讲这件事？任何人都能渡过大洋，任何人都能象你所做的那样，沿着对岸的岛屿航行。这是世界上最简单不过的事。”

哥伦布并不作答，过了一会，他从盘中取了一个鸡蛋，向客人们说，“诸位先生，你们当中有谁能把这个鸡蛋直立起来？”

座上的客人，一个接一个作了试验。鸡蛋传了一转，却无人成功，都说这是不可能做的事。

于是哥伦布接过鸡蛋，把小的一端向桌上轻轻的一敲，微微敲破了点鸡蛋壳，这样，就毫不费力地把鸡蛋直立起来了。

“先生们，还有比你们所讲的不可能做的事更容易做的事吗？这是世界上最简单不过的事了。任何人，只要得到指点怎样去做以后，他就做得成。”

15. pilot ['pailot] n. 舵手。 16. what of that? 那又有什么价值(意义)呢？ 17. coast along 沿岸航行。 18. stand on end 直立。 19. stand upright 笔直地立着。

"UPON A PEAK IN DARIEN"

FIRST STORY

After Columbus had shown the way to America a great many Spaniards ¹came over. They came to ²Haiti and ³Cuba and ⁴porto Rico and the smaller islands near them. Like Columbus they believed that these lands were near the eastern coast of Asia. They believed that they were a part of India, and therefore spoke of them as the Indies. Afterwards, when their mistake became known, these islands were named ⁵the West Indies and the true islands of India were called the East Indies.

Far to the southwest of Cuba, Columbus had discovered a long coast which he named Darien. It was the neck of land which we call the ⁶Isthmus of Panama, but he supposed that it was a part of the mainland of Asia. A few years later some Spanish sailors visited Darien and carried word back to Haiti that there was gold there. Now at that time a Spaniard would go to the end of the world for gold, and therefore this news caused great excitement among the young men who had come across the ocean ⁷for the purpose of adventure.

"To Darien! to Darien!" was the cry; and soon a company was formed and two ships were made ready to sail to that ⁸land of promise.

The voyage was a delightful one from the start. The sea was calm, the wind was fair, and the ⁹vessels sped swiftly on their way. Soon the pleasant shores and green mountains of Haiti were lost to ¹⁰view. Only little rocky

“在达里安之巅”

第一个故事

在哥伦布指明了通向美洲的途径之后，许多西班牙人远道而来，他们来到海地，古巴，波多黎各和附近的小岛。象哥伦布那样，他们相信这些陆地接近亚洲的东海岸。他们相信这些陆地是印度的一部分，因而称之为印度群岛。后来，人们知道他们弄错了，便把这些岛屿改名为西印度群岛，而真正的印度群岛则称为东印度群岛。

在古巴西南较远处，哥伦布发现了一条长长的海岸，他把它命名为达里安。这个陆地的狭窄地带，我们称之为巴拿马地峡；可是，哥伦布却以为它是亚洲大陆的一部分。过了几年以后，有一些西班牙航海家到达里安游览，把那里有黄金的传说带回海地。当时，西班牙人宁愿走到世界的尽头找寻黄金，因此这一消息在那些远渡重洋而来、目的在于探险的青年人中，引起了很大的激动。

在“到达里安去！到达里安去！”的呼声中，很快就组织了一队人员，并准备好两艘船向那渴求的福地启航。

一开始，这航程是令人愉快的。海平风顺，船在途中疾行。不久，海地的可爱的海岸和绿色的山脉从视线中消逝

1. come over 渡越…而至。 2. Haiti ['heiti] n. 海地[拉丁美洲]。 3. Cuba ['kju:bə] n. 古巴[拉丁美洲]。 4. Porto Rico [pɔ:'tu:ri:kou] n. 波多黎各[拉丁美洲]。 5. The West Indies ['west'indiz] 西印度群岛[拉丁美洲]。 6. isthmus ['isməs] n. 地峡。 the Isthmus of Panama 巴拿马地峡。 7. for the purpose of 为……起见。 8. land of promise 福地，乐土。 9. vessel ['vesl] n. 船。 10. view [vju:] n. 眼界，视域。

²¹islets could be seen. The ship was ¹²heading straight into the ¹³Caribbean Sea.

Then, what was the surprise of the ¹⁴crew of the larger ship to hear strange ¹⁵rappings in the ¹⁶hold! A voice also was heard, like that of some one calling for help. What could it mean? The sailors could not see any one, and yet the sounds could not be mistaken.

"Please help me out!" The voice seemed to come from among some ¹⁷barrels in which ¹⁸provisions were stored.

"A man is in one of the barrels," said the captain.

Soon the barrel was found and opened. Out of it leaped a young man, richly clad in a velvet cloak and a silk ¹⁹doublet ²⁰embroidered with gold. He was a handsome fellow. His eyes were keen and bright, and his face had a determined look, like that of one who is used to ²¹having his own way about things. At his side hung a long sword, and in his belt was a dagger.

Several of the men knew him; and so he did not need to say that his name was ²²Vasco Nuñez de Balboa. They knew that he was a ²³dashing adventurer, always doing and ²⁴daring, and always borrowing and spending money. But why was he in the barrel?

"The truth of the matter is this," he said; "I am ²⁵in debt to almost everybody in Haiti. The officers were looking for me and would have taken me to prison. So I persuaded one of my friends to put me in a barrel and send me ²⁶on board with the salt beef. And now here I am, ²⁷bound with the rest of you for the rich coast of Darien."

The captain was very angry. He threatened to put Balboa ²⁸ashore on one of the rocky islets. "Shame!

了，只能看见些多岩石的小岛。船只径直驶入加勒比海。

接着，大船上的水手听见底层舱中发出奇怪的敲击声，他们是多么的惊讶！听见了一种象是有人呼救的声音。这是什么意思？水手们一无所见，然而这声音总不会听错。

“请帮助我出来！”声音象是从储藏粮食的几只桶中传来的。

“有个人在一只桶里边。”船长说。

这只桶很快就找到，打开了。一个衣着华丽，穿天鹅绒斗篷和绣金丝织紧身上衣的青年从桶中跳了出来。他是个漂亮的小伙子，双目锐利而明亮，带着坚定的面容，就象一个好随心所欲的人。他身挂长剑，腰佩匕首。

水手中有些人认识他，所以他无须说他名叫瓦斯科诺纳斯·巴尔波亚。他们知道他是一个勇猛的冒险家，敢做敢为，经常借钱挥霍。可他怎么会在桶中呢？

“事情的真相是这样，”他说，“我几乎欠了每一个海地人的债。当官的正在查访我，要把我抓进监狱里。所以我说服了我的一个朋友把我装到桶里边，和咸牛肉一起送到船上。现在我就在这里，要跟你们其余的人驶向达里安富饶的海岸。”

船长大怒。他恫吓着要把巴尔波亚放到一个多岩石的小

11. islet ['aɪlɪt] n. 小岛。 12. head into 驶入。 13. the Caribbean Sea [ˌkæriˈbi(ə)n siː] 加勒比海[拉丁美洲]。 14. crew [kruː] n. 水手们。 15. rapping [ˈræpɪŋ] n. 嗒嗒地敲拍声。 16. hold [həʊld] n. 底层舱。 17. barrels ['bærəl-z] n. 大琵琶桶。 18. provisions [prəˈvɪʒənz] n. 粮食，食物。 19. doublet ['dʌblɪt] n. (古装)男紧身上衣，马甲。 20. embroidered [ɪmˈbrɔɪd-ɪd] v. 加刺绣于。 21. have one's own way 恣所欲为；自主行事。 22. Vasco Núñez de Balboa [bælˈbəʊə] 巴尔波亚，西班牙探险者。 23. dashing [ˈdæʃɪŋ] a. 精神抖擞的。 24. daring [ˈdeərɪŋ] a. 勇敢的。 25. in debt to 欠……的债。 26. on board 在船上。 27. bound for 开往…… 28. ashore [əˈʃɔː] ad. 上岸。