



智慧英文

4

看伊索寓言学英语

李思/编译

English Stories of Wisdom IV

读故事 · 长智慧 · 学英语

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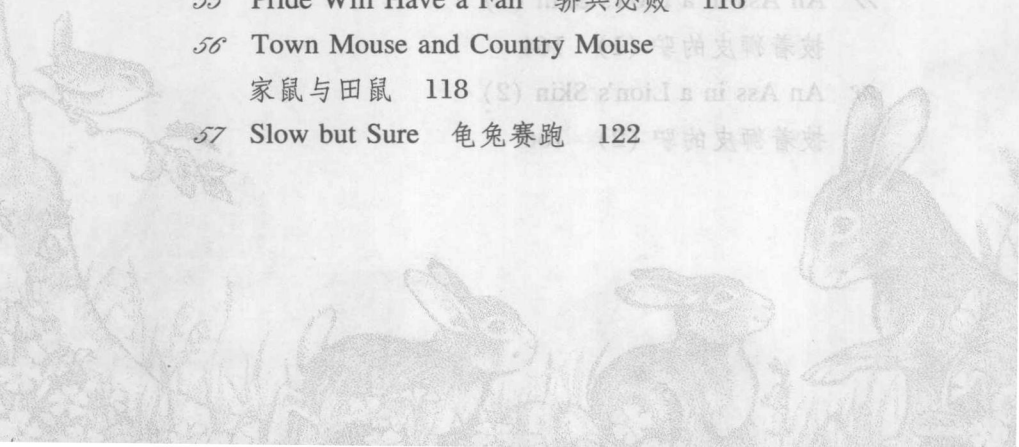
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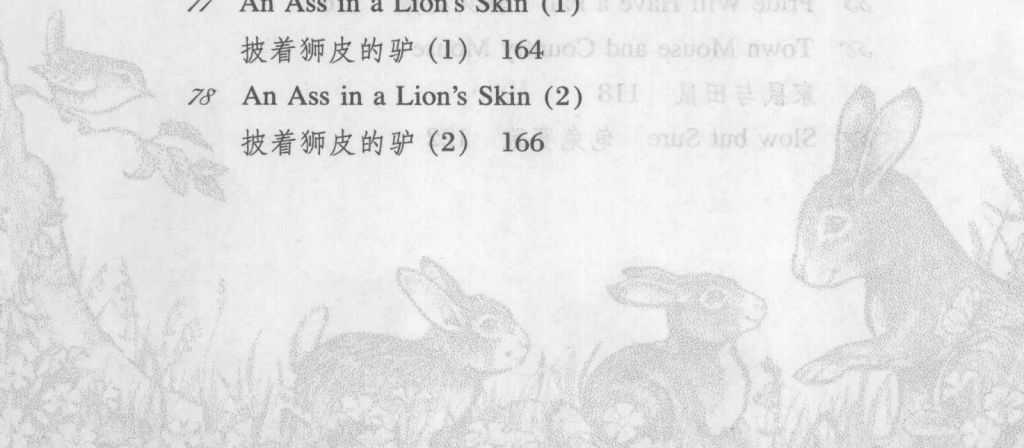
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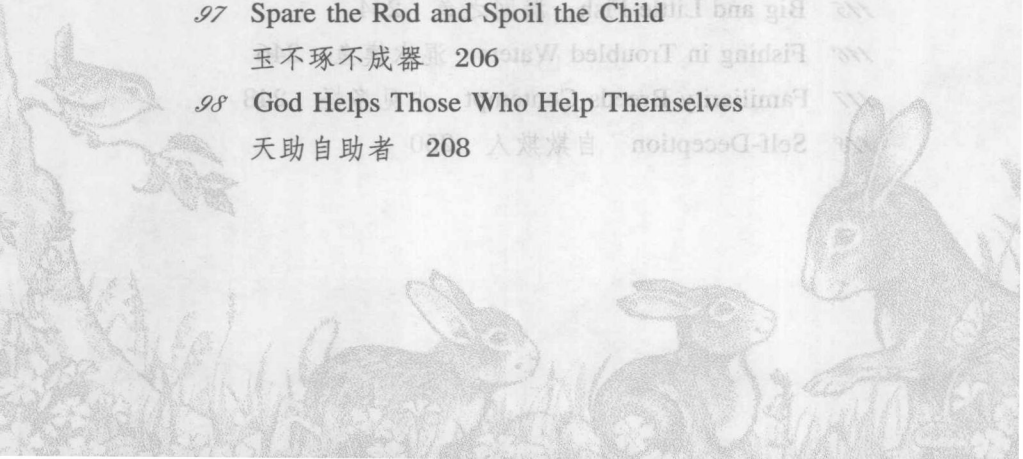
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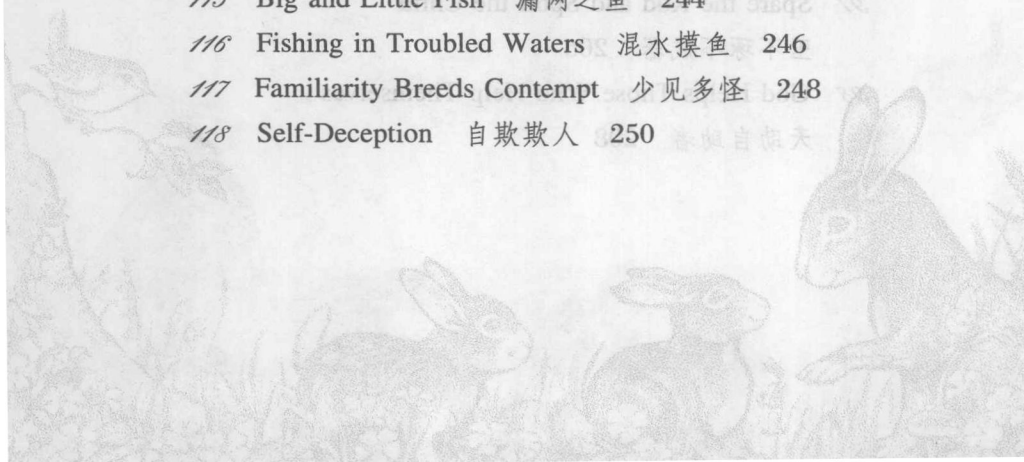
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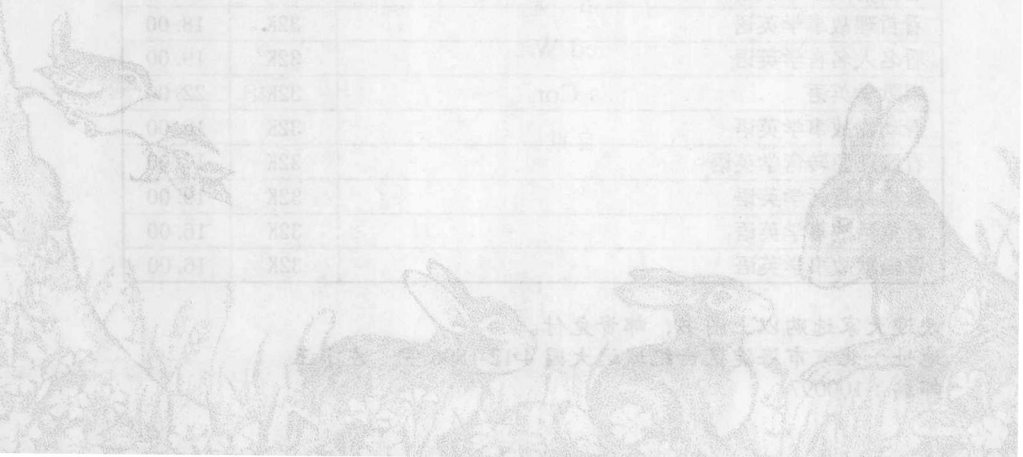
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前言

AESOP'S FABLES

《伊索寓言》乃西方寓言文体文学的祖师爷，现今世界各地，有数不清的各种语言译本。伊索借由不同生物的生态与习性，用巧妙的比喻手法，简约的机智言语，生动而活泼地刻画人性。书中每一则故事均富含深意：有启发、有训诫、有讽刺、有警示；从中，我们不仅可以欣赏到优雅的遣词用字，更可学到先人宝贵的生活智慧与处世哲学。因此，书中每一则故事，都值得我们细细玩味、一读再读。

本书共收录了一百多则生动有趣的著名故事，比如：龟兔赛跑、放羊的孩子，和下金蛋的鹅等，都是我们从小就耳熟能详的。而中英对照的体贴设计，则让读者在欣赏经典文学之余，更能进一步地丰富与加强您的英语能力，可谓一举数得。



A LESSON FOR FOOLS

A crow sat in a tree holding in his beak a piece of meat that he had stolen. A fox which saw him determined to get the meat. He stood under the tree and began to tell the crow what a beautiful big bird he was. He ought to be king of all the birds, the fox said; and he would undoubtedly have been made king, if only he had a voice as well.

The crow was so anxious to prove that he had a voice, that he dropped the meat and **croaked** for all he was worth. Up ran the fox, snapped up the meat, and said to him, "If you added brains to all your other qualifications, you would make an ideal king."

1. **croak** [krəʊk] *v.* 发出深沉而嘶哑的声音; 呱呱叫





1

愚人一课

一只乌鸦停在树上，嘴里衔着刚偷来的肉。狐狸看见了，就想把肉弄到手。于是他站在树下，极力赞美乌鸦是一只美丽的大鸟，应该做鸟中之王；还说，如果乌鸦能够发出声音说话，那么鸟王的宝座必能手到擒来。

为了急于展现自己确实拥有说话能力，乌鸦呱呱大叫，口中的肉却因此掉了。这时，狐狸冲上去，一口把肉叼走，对乌鸦说：“如果你有大脑，也许还有可能称王吧！”





2

A LESSON LEARNT TOO LATE

A bird in a cage at a window used to sing at night-time. A **bat** which heard her came up and asked why she never sang by day, but only at night. She explained that there was a good reason: it was while she was singing once in the daytime that she was captured, and this had taught her a lesson.

“It’s no good taking **precautions** now,” said the bat, “You should have been careful before you were caught.”

The moral is that it is too late to be sorry after you have let things go wrong.

-
1. **bat** [bæt] *n.* 蝙蝠
 2. **precaution** [pri'kə:ʃən] *n.* 预防措施或方法
☞ precautions against fire 防火措施





2

THE REWARD OF THE WICKED
为时已晚

窗边笼子里的小鸟，习惯在晚上唱歌。一只蝙蝠听到她的歌声，飞过来问她，为什么从不在白天唱歌，却只在夜里歌唱。鸟儿说她有一个好理由：因为她就是在白天唱歌被抓到的，为此，她学乖了。

蝙蝠说：“现在才预防，一点用处也没有，你应该在被抓之前就小心一点的。”

寓言：这个故事告诉我们，等事态恶化之后再来懊悔，已经太迟了。





3

THE REWARD OF THE WICKED

An eagle and a vixen became friends and decided to live near each other in the hope that closer acquaintance would **cement** their friendship. The eagle flew to the top of a very tall tree and laid her eggs there, while the vixen gave birth to her cubs in a **thicket** underneath.

One day the vixen went off in search of food. The eagle, feeling hungry, **swooped** into the bushes, **snatched** up the cubs, and made a meal of them with her brood. The vixen came back and saw what had happened. She was less distressed by the loss of her young than by the difficulty of punishing the eagle. How could she, tied down to earth as she was, pursue a bird? All she could do was to stand far off and curse her enemy—like any weak and feeble creature.

But it chanced before long that the eagle was punished for violating the **sanctity** of friendship. Some men were sacrificing a goat in a field, and the eagle darted down onto the altar and carried off a burning piece of **offal** to her nest. Just then a strong wind sprang up and fanned into a blaze the bits of dry stalk of which the nest was made. The result was that



老天有眼

彼此非常要好的老鹰和狐狸，决定比邻而居，希望如此一来可以增进彼此的认识，加强她们之间的友谊。于是，老鹰就在一棵很高的树上筑巢、孵小鹰，而狐狸则在树下的灌木丛里，生下小狐狸。

有一天，狐狸出去觅食，正感到饥饿的老鹰飞快地冲进草丛里，把小狐狸抓回巢里，作为自己与小鹰们的食物。狐狸回来后，知道了这个变故，非常伤心难过，但更难过的是，她无法替被吃掉的小狐狸报仇。她不会飞，怎么追得上可以在空中飞翔的鸟类呢？她所能做的，就是像所有弱小的动物一样，只能站在远处诅咒她的敌人。

但是，没过多久，亵渎神圣友谊的老鹰就遭到报应了。有人在野外杀羊祭神，老鹰飞到祭坛上，把着了火的羊内脏抓回巢里。这时，正好刮起一阵大风，火一下子就蔓延到鸟巢的干草上，而且越烧越旺。还不会飞的小鹰都被烧死了，掉到地上，狐狸便立刻冲过去，当着老鹰的面，把小鹰一只只全都吃光了。