

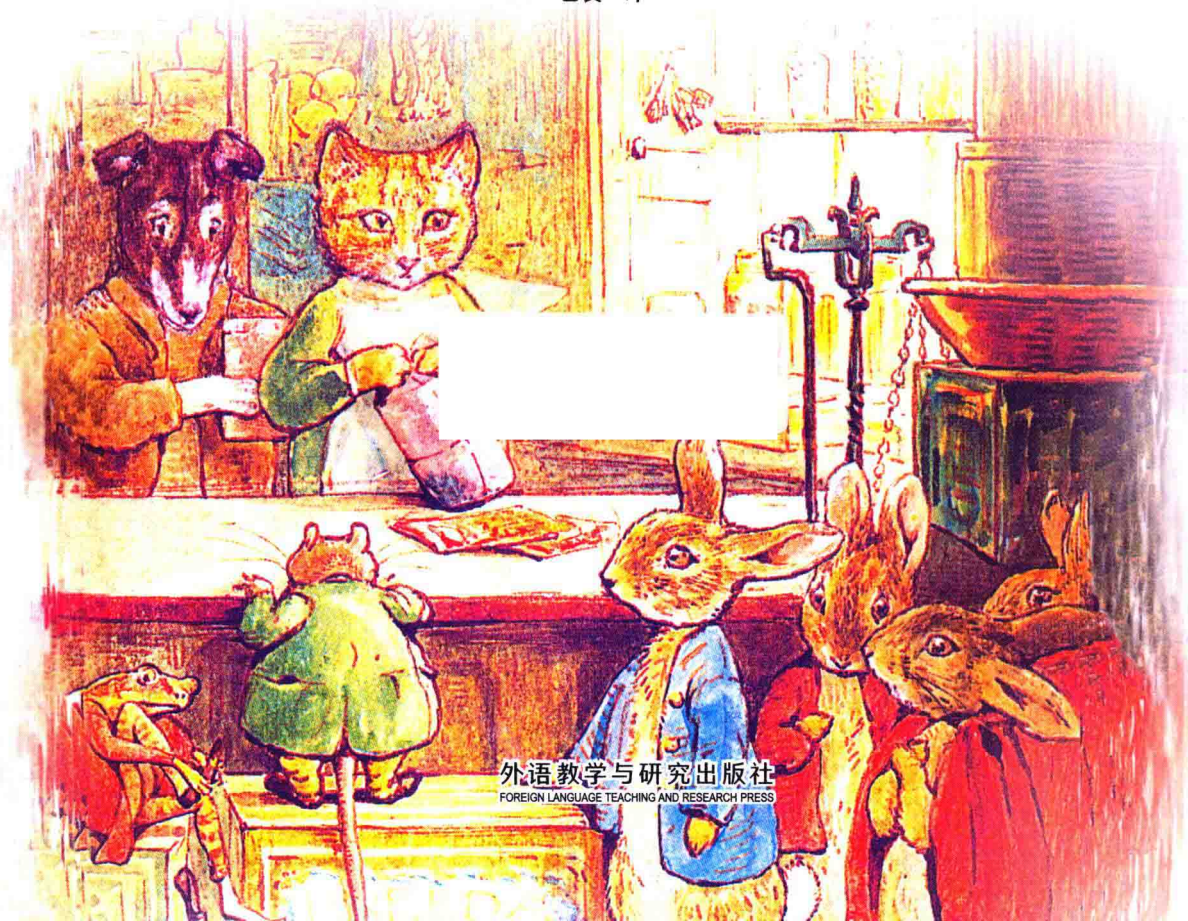


THE TALE OF GINGER AND PICKLES

金杰和皮克尔斯的故事

BEATRIX POTTER (英) 著

老饕 译



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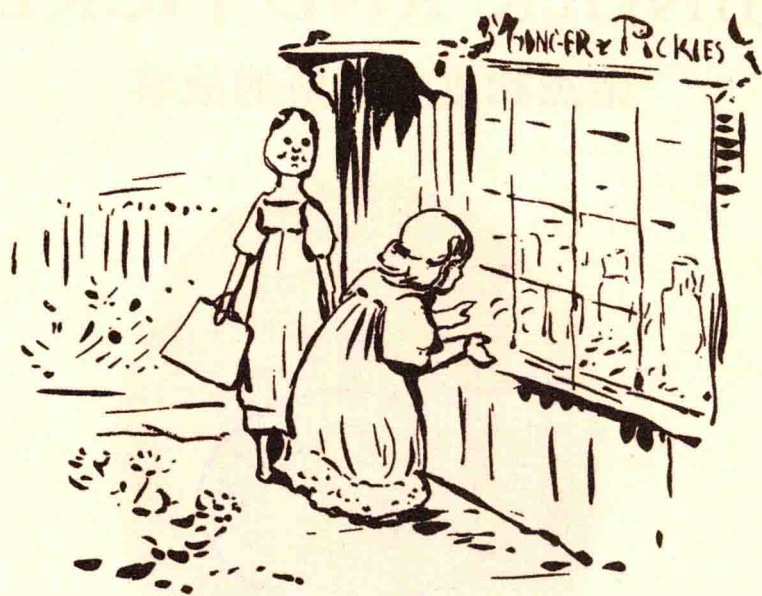
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Once upon a time there was a village shop. The name over the window was “Ginger and Pickles”.

从前，村子里有一间杂货铺，橱窗上方写着店铺的名字“金杰和皮克尔斯”。

It was a little small shop just the right size for Dolls—Lucinda and Jane Doll-cook always bought their groceries at Ginger and Pickles.

这间杂货铺小巧玲珑，正适合洋娃娃们来买东西——洋娃娃露辛达和厨娘简就总是到金杰和皮克尔斯杂货铺采购日用品。

The counter inside was a convenient height for rabbits.

而对于兔子们来说，店内柜台的高度恰到好处。





Ginger and Pickles sold red spotty pocket-handkerchiefs at a penny three farthings.

金杰和皮克尔斯出售红斑点手帕，每块卖一便士三法寻（英国旧时硬币，值 1/4 便士）。

They also sold sugar, and snuff and goloshes.

他们还卖糖果、鼻烟和橡胶套鞋。

In fact, although it was such a small shop it sold nearly everything—except a few things that you want in a hurry—like bootlaces, hair-pins and mutton chops.

虽然这间杂货铺很小，但事实上除了少数几种你急需的，比如鞋带、发卡和羊排之类的物品，你几乎能在这里买到所有的东西。

Ginger and Pickles were the people who kept the shop. Ginger was a yellow tom-cat, and Pickles was a terrier.

金杰和皮克尔斯是这间杂货铺的老板——金杰是一只黄色的公猫，皮克尔斯则是一条猎犬。

The rabbits were always a little bit afraid of Pickles.

兔子们总是有点儿怕皮克尔斯。



The shop was also patronized by mice—
only the mice were rather afraid of Ginger.

老鼠们也会光顾这家店——只不过他们很怕金杰。

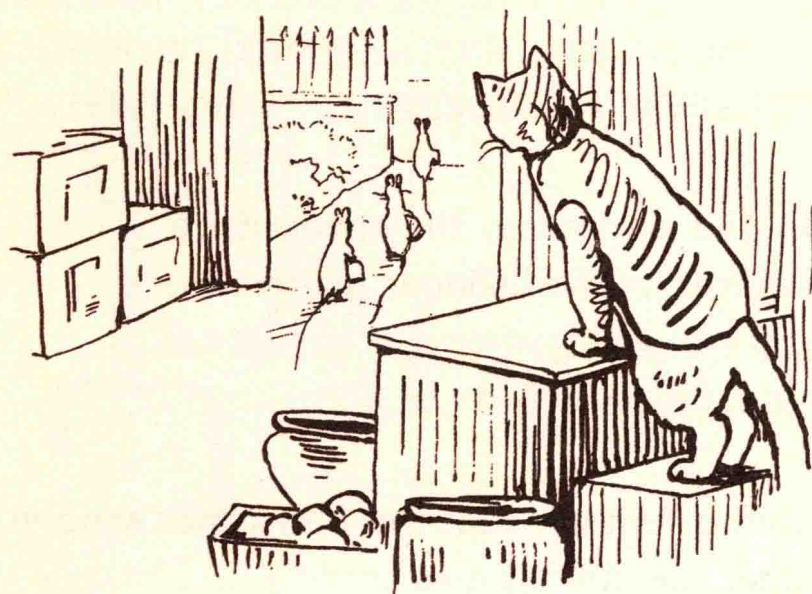
Ginger usually requested Pickles to serve them,
because he said it made his mouth water.

如果老鼠们过来买东西，金杰通常会请皮克尔斯招待他们，因为他说这些老鼠总是搞得他口水直流。

“I cannot bear,” said he, “to see
them going out at the door carrying
their little parcels.”

“我真是受不了啊，”他说，“看着这些老鼠带着小
小的包裹从门口出去。”





"I have the same feeling about rats," replied Pickles, "but it would never do to eat our customers; they would leave us and go to Tabitha Twitchit's."

“其实，我看到老鼠也会垂涎三尺。”皮克尔斯回答说，“不管怎样，我们总不能把我们的顾客吃了吧！那他们以后就不会来我们这儿了，会跑到塔比莎·特威奇特店里去的。”

"On the contrary, they would go nowhere," replied Ginger gloomily.

“不，正相反，要是我们把他们吃了，他们就哪儿都不会去了。”金杰沮丧地答道。

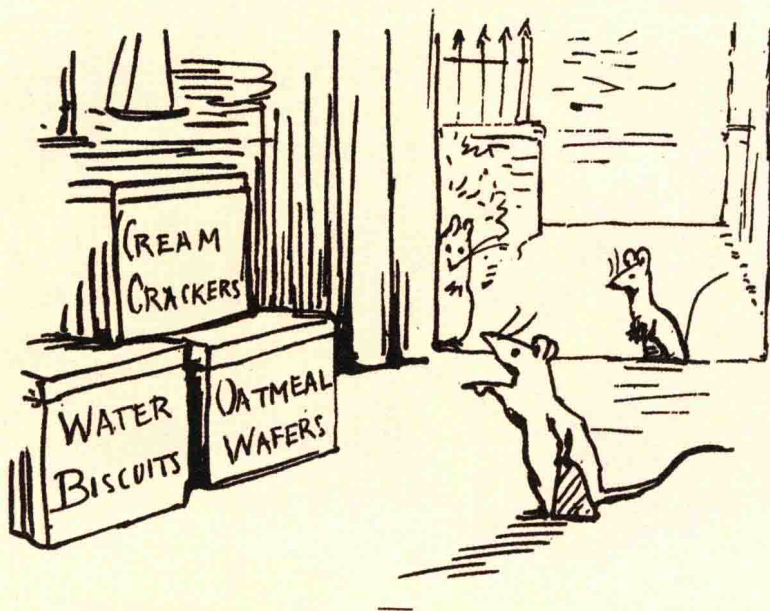
(Tabitha Twitchit kept the only other shop in the village. She did not give credit.)

（塔比莎·特威奇特经营着村子里的另一间杂货铺，也是金杰和皮克尔斯杂货铺的唯一竞争者。她从不让顾客赊账。）

Ginger and Pickles gave unlimited credit.

而在金杰和皮克尔斯杂货铺，顾客想怎么赊账就怎么赊账。







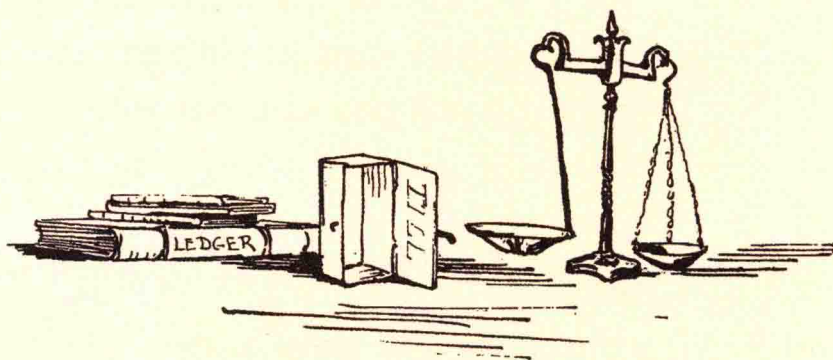
Now the meaning of “credit” is this—when a customer buys a bar of soap, instead of the customer pulling out a purse and paying for it—she says she will pay another time.

所谓“赊账”是指当一位顾客买一块肥皂时，她不会马上掏出钱包付钱，她会下次再给。

And Pickles makes a low bow and says, “With pleasure, madam,” and it is written down in a book.

这时，皮克尔斯会深深地鞠一个躬，说：“非常乐意，女士！”然后把账记到一个本子上。





The customers come again and again,
and buy quantities, in spite of being afraid
of Ginger and Pickles.

尽管顾客们害怕金杰和皮克尔斯，但他们总是来了又来，
从这里买走很多很多的东西。

But there is no money in what is called the
“till”.

不过，所谓的“收银箱”里却空空的，一分钱都没有。



