

[★英汉双语版★]

美国语文

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[美] 威廉·H·麦加菲◎主编
赵燕飞◎译

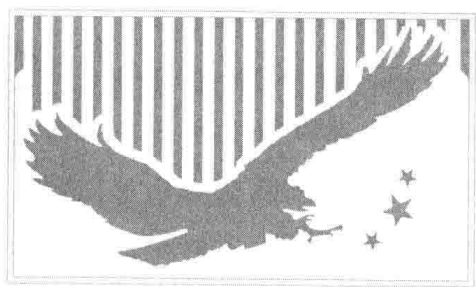
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③

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 北京理工大学出版社
BEIJING INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PRESS

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

美国语文. 第3册/ (美) 麦加菲主编; 赵燕飞译. —北京: 北京理工大学出版社, 2015. 9

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5682 - 0758 - 4

I. ①美… II. ①麦…②赵… III. ①英语课 - 中学 - 美国 - 教材
IV. ①G634. 411

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2015) 第 138179 号

出版发行 / 北京理工大学出版社有限责任公司

社 址 / 北京市海淀区中关村南大街 5 号

邮 编 / 100081

电 话 / (010) 68914775 (总编室)

(010) 82562903 (教材售后服务热线)

(010) 68948351 (其他图书服务热线)

网 址 / <http://www.bitpress.com.cn>

经 销 / 全国各地新华书店

印 刷 / 北京通州皇家印刷厂

开 本 / 710 毫米 × 1000 毫米 1/16

印 张 / 13.5

字 数 / 256 千字

版 次 / 2015 年 9 月第 1 版 2015 年 9 月第 1 次印刷

定 价 / 32.80 元

责任编辑 / 武丽娟

文案编辑 / 武丽娟

责任校对 / 周瑞红

责任印制 / 马振武



关于威廉·H·麦加菲

威廉·H·麦加菲 (William Holmes McGuffey, 1800 年 9 月 23 日—1873 年 5 月 4 日), 出生于美国宾夕法尼亚州, 美国著名教育家, 曾任迈阿密大学语言学教授、辛辛那提大学校长、俄亥俄大学校长, 被誉为美国的“民族教育家”。

在迈阿密大学执教期间, 麦加菲开始为美国孩子编写教材, 这就是著名的《美国语文》(即《麦加菲读本》)。在《美国语文》这部作品上, 麦加菲教授倾注了 20 年的心血。而这部作品也为他带来了巨大的荣誉。为纪念麦加菲在教科书领域和儿童教育方面所做出的杰出贡献, 美国全国教科书大奖被命名为“麦加菲历久弥新奖”。

1873 年, 威廉·H·麦加菲去世, 安葬于弗吉尼亚大学墓地。

关于《美国语文》

作为一套经典的英语分级读本,《美国语文》自 1836 年出版后就成为众多美国公立、私立学校的通用课本, 即便过了将近两百年, 到了 21 世纪, 西方一些私立学校和家庭学校仍把它作为教材, 足见这套书的价值与影响力。据估计, 这套书从问世至 1960 年, 至少发行了 1.22 亿册。它对美国中小学生的成长教育和人格塑造, 乃至“美国精神”的形成, 都产生了史无前例的影响。它已经影响了美国的数代人, 如果你能找到一个五世同堂的大家庭, 就

会惊奇地发现,从高祖到重孙,他们能异口同声地背诵其中的优秀篇章。

在内容上,《美国语文》汇集了狄更斯、莎士比亚、爱默生、梭罗等文豪的经典名篇,通过一篇篇短小精悍的故事,将道德教育的内容倾注于作品之中。既可以让孩子欣赏这些优美的文字,又能让他们从中感受到道德教育的力量,潜移默化地形成影响其一生的美德观念。诚如历史学家孔玛格所言:“它们为美国儿童提供了当今明显缺乏的东西,即普遍的引喻知识、普遍的经验 and 自制意识。”

《美国语文》被美国《出版周刊》评为“人类出版史上第三大畅销书”。应该说,没有哪一套个人主编的教材能超过此发行量了!

北京理工大学出版社出版的这套英汉双语版《美国语文》,完整保持了英文原版内容,共分为1~6级,从英语启蒙开始,循序渐进,是一套呈现美国文学与历史文化、体现美国精神与价值观念的优秀读本,对国内中小学生学习英语会有很大帮助。

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Lesson 1

牧童

THE SHEPHERD BOY

either *trickle* *fancied* *murmur* *reflected*
glossy *entered* *shepherd* *chestnuts* *command*



Little Roy led his sheep down to pasture,
 And his cows, by the side of the brook;
 But his cows never drank any water,
 And his sheep never needed a crook.

For the pasture was gay as a garden,
 And it glowed with a flowery red;
 But the meadows had never a grass blade,
 And the brooklet—it slept in its bed;

And it lay without sparkle or murmur,
 Nor reflected the blue of the skies;
 But the music was made by the shepherd,
 And the sparkle was all in his eyes.

Oh, he sang like a bird in the summer!

And, if sometimes you fancied a bleat,
That, too, was the voice of the shepherd,
And not of the lambs at his feet.

And the glossy brown cows were so gentle
That they moved at the touch of his hand
O'er the wonderful, rosy-red meadow,
And they stood at the word of command.

So he led all his sheep to the pasture,
And his cows, by the side of the brook;
Though it rained, yet the rain never pattered
O'er the beautiful way that they took.

And it wasn't in Fairyland either,
But a house in the midst of the town,
Where Roy, as he looked from the window,
Saw the silvery drops trickle down.

For his pasture was only a table,
With its cover so flowery fair,
And his brooklet was just a green ribbon,
That his sister had lost from her hair.

And his cows were but glossy horse-chestnuts,
That had grown on his grandfather's tree;
And his sheep only snowy-white pebbles,
He had brought from the shore of the sea.

And at length when the shepherd was weary,
And had taken his milk and his bread,
And his mother had kissed him and tucked him,
And had bid him "good night" in his bed;

Then there entered his big brother Walter,
While the shepherd was soundly asleep,
And he cut up the cows into baskets,
And to jackstones turned all of the sheep.

(Emily S. Oakey)

译文 TRANSLATION

小罗伊赶羊儿来到牧场，
同时领着牛儿来到溪旁。

他的牛儿根本没有饮水，
羊儿也根本不需要羊鞭。

牧场如花园般绚烂多姿，
闪烁着靓丽的红色光芒。
可是这片草地寸草不生，
小溪也只是沉睡在河床。

小溪既不闪耀也不呢喃，
更不折射天空中的蔚蓝。
音乐是那小牧童在演唱，
闪烁其实源于他的眼睛。

他唱得就像夏日的小鸟！
假若你恍惚听到咩咩咩，
那必定也是牧童在哼唱，
而并非他脚边那群羊儿。

油光滑亮棕色牛儿乖巧，
一旦牧童触摸便都跑开。
在那奇妙玫瑰红色草地，
牛儿立定只要主人下令。

他就这样领着羊儿来到牧场，
还有他的牛儿来到溪边游荡。
虽然下起雨可雨儿根本没有
淋湿他和牛羊行走过的地方。

这里并非什么人间仙境，
只不过是小镇一处屋舍，
罗伊从窗口还能看得到
窗外滴答而下银色雨滴。

原来牧场是张木头桌子，
桌面布满各色艳丽花瓣。
涓涓小溪就是绿色丝带，
从他妹妹头上偶然掉落。

牛儿是光亮的马栗树籽，
一直长在爷爷种的树上。
羊儿是那雪白的鹅卵石，

是他从海滩上捡拾回来。

最终牧童倦了这个游戏，
他喝完牛奶，吃了面包，
妈妈吻他还给他掖被子
对床上的他道声“晚安”。

接着走来他大哥沃尔特，
当牧童正在床上熟睡时，
将他的牛切了扔进篮里，
用他的羊玩抛接子游戏。

(爱米莉·奥凯)

Lesson 2

乔尼的第一场暴风雪

JOHNNY'S FIRST SNOWSTORM

country groves losing sugar freezes

Johnny Reed was a little boy who never had seen a snowstorm till he was six years old. Before this, he had lived in a warm country, where the sun shines down on beautiful orange groves, and fields always sweet with flowers.

But now he had come to visit his grandmother, who lived where the snow falls in winter. Johnny was standing at the window when the snow came down.



"O mamma!" he cried, joyfully, "do come quick, and see these little white birds flying down from heaven."

"They are not birds, Johnny," said mamma, smiling.

"Then maybe the little angels are losing their feathers! Oh! do tell me what it is; is it sugar? Let me taste it," said Johnny. But when he tasted it, he gave a little jump—it was so cold.

"That is only snow, Johnny," said his mother.

"What is snow, mother?"

“The snowflakes, Johnny, are little drops of water that fall from the clouds. But the air through which they pass is so cold it freezes them, and they come down turned into snow.”

As she said this, she brought out an old black hat from the closet. “See, Johnny! I have caught a snowflake on this hat. Look quick through this glass, and you will see how beautiful it is.”

Johnny looked through the glass. There lay the pure, feathery snowflake like a lovely little star.

“Twinkle, twinkle, little star!” he cried in delight. “Oh! please show me more snow-flakes, mother.”

So his mother caught several more, and they were all beautiful.

The next day Johnny had a fine play in the snow, and when he came in, he said, “I love snow; and I think snowballs are a great deal prettier than oranges.”

译文 TRANSLATION

乔尼·瑞德是个小男生,六岁那年,他第一次见到暴风雪。这之前,他一直生活在一个气候温和的国度。在那里,阳光普照着美丽的橘子树林,旷野里处处是芳香扑鼻的鲜花。

不过现在,他来探望奶奶,这里的冬天经常下雪。当雪片飞舞的时候,乔尼正好站在窗户旁边。

他开心地大喊:“妈妈,快过来啊,你瞧,这些白色的小鸟儿从天堂飞下来了。”

妈妈笑着纠正他:“乔尼,它们可不是小鸟啊。”

“也许是小天使在掉羽毛吧!快告诉我嘛,到底是什么,是白糖吗?我好想尝一下。”乔尼说。但就在品尝雪花时,他猛地跳起来——冰得厉害。

妈妈说:“是雪呀,乔尼。”

“妈妈,雪是什么?”

“乔尼,就是从云朵上掉下来的小水滴。从天上掉下来时,它们穿越的空气冷得厉害,结果冻住了,所以变成了飘飘洒洒的雪花。”

她一边说着,一边从橱柜里取出一顶黑色的旧帽子。“看啊,乔尼!我用帽子接了一片雪花。快用镜片看看,看它多么美丽。”

乔尼透过镜片看着雪花,纯白、羽毛般的雪花就像一颗可爱的小星星。

“一闪,一闪,小星星!”他高兴地喊道,“再给我多弄点雪花吧!”

于是,妈妈又接了几片雪花,都是那么漂亮。

第二天,乔尼在雪地里快活地玩了个够,回到家,他说:“我太爱雪了,我想,雪球可比橘子漂亮多了。”

Lesson 3

下雨了
LIT IT RAIN

daughter quench wreaths butter thirsty

Rose. See how it rains! Oh dear, dear, dear! how dull it is! Must I stay in doors all day?

Father. Why, Rose, are you sorry that you had any bread and butter for breakfast, this morning?

Rose. Why, father, what a question! I should be sorry, indeed, if I could not get any.

Father. Are you sorry, my daughter, when you see the flowers and the trees growing in the garden?

Rose. Sorry? No, indeed. Just now, I wished very much to go out and see them, — they look so pretty.

Father. Well, are you sorry when you see the horses, cows, or sheep drinking at the brook to quench their thirst?

Rose. Why, father, you must think I am a cruel girl, to wish that the poor horses that work so hard, the beautiful cows that give so much nice milk, and the pretty lambs should always be thirsty.

Father. Do you not think they would die, if they had no water to drink?

Rose. Yes, sir, I am sure they would. How shocking to think of such a thing!

Father. I thought little Rose was sorry it rained. Do you think the trees and flowers would grow, if they never had any water on them?

Rose. No, indeed, father, they would be dried up by the sun. Then we should not have any pretty flowers to look at, and to make wreaths of for mother.

Father. I thought you were sorry it rained. Rose, what is our bread made of?

Rose. It is made of flour, and the flour is made from wheat, which is ground in the mill.

Father. Yes, Rose, and it was rain that helped to make the wheat grow, and it was water that turned the mill to grind the wheat. I thought little Rose was

sorry it rained.

Rose. I did not think of all these things, father. I am truly very glad to see the rain falling.

译文 TRANSLATION

玫丝:瞧,下雨了!哦,天哪,天哪,天哪!多无聊啊!难道我得一整天都宅在家里吗?

爸爸:玫丝,早饭你吃了些面包和黄油,是不是不开心呢?

玫丝:什么啊,爸爸,这还用问吗!如果我不吃些面包和黄油,那才不开心呀。

爸爸:当你看到花园里绽放的鲜花和长得高大的树木时,你会不开心吗?

玫丝:不开心?绝对不会的。我刚才还想出去看看呢——它们实在太美了。

爸爸:看到牛儿、羊儿、马儿在溪边喝水解渴时,你会不开心吗?

玫丝:什么呀,爸爸。你一定认为我是一个铁石心肠的女孩,希望马儿任劳任怨、美丽的牛儿稳产高产、可爱的羊儿饥渴难挨。

爸爸:难道你不明白,要是没有水喝它们就会死掉吗?

玫丝:是啊,先生,我肯定它们会死的,它们要是死了,该是多么可怕呀!

爸爸:我以为小玫丝不开心是因为下雨了。如果没有雨滴滴在它们身上,你想,花草树木还会成长吗?

玫丝:不会长大,爸爸。它们会被太阳烤干的。那样,我们就再没有美丽的花儿可看了,也不能给妈妈编花环了。

爸爸:我还以为,小玫丝会因为下雨不开心呢。玫丝,面包是用什么做的呢?

玫丝:是用面粉做的,面粉是在磨坊磨成的。

爸爸:是呀,玫丝,正是雨水让小麦生长,也正是水推动水磨碾碎了小麦。我还以为小玫丝不喜欢下雨呢。

玫丝:爸爸,我没有想过那么多事情。下雨了,我确实很开心啊。