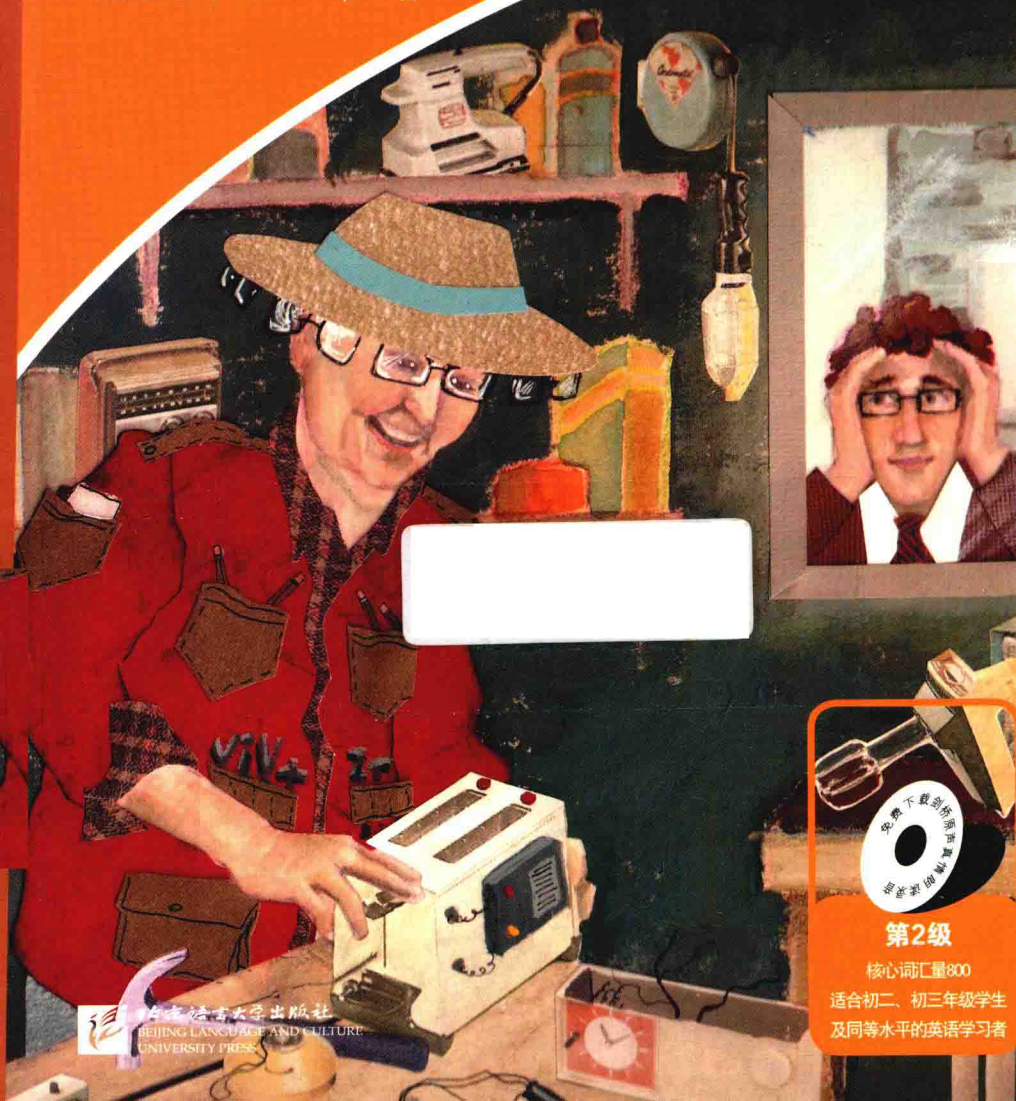




# Grandad's Magic Gadgets

## 爷爷的神奇小玩意儿

Helen Everett-Camplin 著



北京语言大学出版社  
BEIJING LANGUAGE AND CULTURE  
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彩绘小说馆

原版系列编辑 Nicholas Tims



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UNIVERSITY PRESS



CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

社图号14338

*Grandad's Magic Gadgets* [978-84-832-3526-3] by Helen Everett-Camplin was first published by Cambridge University Press in 2009. All rights reserved.

This bilingual (English-Simplified Chinese) edition for the People's Republic of China is published by arrangement with the Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom.

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此版本仅限在中华人民共和国大陆地区（不包括香港特别行政区、澳门特别行政区及台湾省）销售。

北京市版权局著作权合同登记图字：01-2014-5806号

### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

爷爷的神奇小玩意儿：英汉对照 / (英) 埃弗里特－坎普林 (Everett-Camplin, H.) 著；李琳琳编译．—北京：北京语言大学出版社，2014.12  
(剑桥双语分级阅读·彩绘小说馆)  
ISBN 978-7-5619-4062-4

I. ①爷… II. ①埃… ②李… III. ①英语－汉语－对照读物 ②短篇小说－英国－现代 IV. ① H319.4: I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2014) 第 284814 号

爷爷的神奇小玩意儿  
YEYE DE SHENQI XIAO WANYI

责任编辑：李 亮 张轶馨  
责任印制：陈 辉

美术设计：冯志才

出版发行：北京语言大学出版社

社 址：北京市海淀区学院路 15 号，100083

网 址：www.blcup.com

电子信箱：service@blcup.com

电 话：编辑部 8610-82303700

发行部 8610-8230 3650/3591/3648

读者服务部 8610-8230 3653

网购咨询 8610-8230 3908

印 刷：保定市中国画美凯印刷有限公司

版 次：2014 年 12 月第 1 版  
开 本：880 毫米 × 1230 毫米 1/32  
字 数：71 千字

印 次：2014 年 12 月第 1 次印刷  
印 张：3.125  
定 价：15.00 元

PRINTED IN CHINA

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北京市版权局著作权合同登记图字：01-2014-5806号

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(剑桥双语分级阅读·彩绘小说馆)

ISBN 978-7-5619-4062-4

I. ① 爷… II. ① 埃… ② 李… III. ① 英语—汉语—对照读物 ② 短篇小说—英国—现代 IV. ① H319.4; I

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开 本：880 毫米 × 1230 毫米 1/32

印 张：3.125

字 数：71 千字

定 价：15.00 元

PRINTED IN CHINA

“剑桥双语分级阅读·彩绘小说馆”从剑桥大学出版社原版引进，是“剑桥双语分级阅读·小说馆”的彩色升级版。“彩绘小说馆”由英美著名语言教学专家及小说家合力创作，是专为非英语国家的青少年英语学习者打造的分级阅读系列读物。

“剑桥双语分级阅读”丛书总规模 100 余册，其中本系列 20 余册，出版以来深受世界各地英语教师和学习者的喜爱，已有多个读本荣获英国“语言学习文学奖”和“语言学习文学奖提名奖”。

“彩绘小说馆”具有以下突出特色：

1. 它的故事均以青少年为主人公，从孩子的视角讲述那些充满冒险与挑战、幻想与新奇、开心与失落的故事，充分满足孩子的心理需求，使小读者在欣赏跌宕起伏的故事情节的同时不知不觉提升英语水平。

2. 它是专为非英语国家的英语学习者量身定制的读物，而非为英语母语者而写的大众读物。因此，本系列是中国读者首选的英语学习读物。

3. 它是英美知名小说家和英语语言教学专家合力创作的读物，小说家保障了读物的可读性与可欣赏性，英语语言教学专家保障了读物语言作为英语习得材料的科学性与可学性。因此，阅读本系列读物，我们会在欣赏小说的同时，自然而然地、有效地提高自己的英语水平。

4. 它的故事题材丰富多样，包括历险、悬疑、人文、奇幻、喜剧、历史、戏剧等，读者可以随心选择自己喜欢的类别进行阅读；它的故事内容生动有趣，故事情节引人入胜、扣人心弦，一旦开始阅读，就想一口气读完，使阅读真正升华到“悦读”。

5. 赠送原版配套单词互动游戏及剑桥原声真情朗读录音。所配音频不是普通英语母语者的朗读录音，而是专业配音员的演绎再创作。听着它，我们犹如在听广播剧、听评书，又仿佛是在听电影、听话剧……这种聆听英语的享受将彻底扫除学生对英语听力的畏难心理。

6. 读本中所使用的语言，既有英式英语，也有美式英语，对应的音频材料也相应分为英音和美音。读者可根据自己的喜好来选择。

7. 本系列读物根据“欧洲共同语言参考框架 (CEF)”和“剑桥大学外语考试部 (ESOL)”的标准来确定级别划分，是建立在科学研究和实践基础之上的分级。全套共分七个级别（与中国读者英语基础水平的大致对应关系，请参见图书封底表格），读者可根据自己的英语基础选择相应级别的读本来学习。

为了更好地帮助读者学习和欣赏,“彩绘小说馆”在阅读理解、文化扩展、词汇积累等方面进行了精心设计。

1. 增加适量辅助学习的内容。在章节中间设置了对页练习,包括 Looking back (前情回顾)、Activities (阅读活动)、Looking forward (情节预测) 三个板块,重点培养读者的阅读理解能力与思维判断能力。还增加了 Cultural note (文化点滴) 和 Words & expressions (词汇与表达) 板块,帮助读者扫除阅读障碍,提升鉴赏能力。

2. 增加了小说全文的参考译文。出于语言学习的考虑,译文尽量采用直译,保证两种语言句子的基本对应,避免文学式意译。值得一提的是,所增加的辅助学习内容和参考译文,均由来自全国不同省市著名中学(包括人大附中、北大附中、清华附中、黄冈中学、上海中学等三十余所中学)的一线英语教师完成,从而确保了所加内容与中国学生的英语学习特点和学习需求相吻合,为学生阅读和欣赏读物、提高英语水平给予恰到好处的助力。

3. 提供配套网络资源。本系列读物配有专题网页,读者可以在网页上了解读物的基本信息、故事梗概、作者和编译者介绍;可以通过“在线测试”([http://cdextras.cambridge.org/Readers/RPT\\_last.swf](http://cdextras.cambridge.org/Readers/RPT_last.swf)) 帮助自己确定适合的阅读级别,再结合自己对题材和英式或美式英语的偏好,来选择具体的读本;还可以进行故事预览和试听,下载录音和拓展习题,与其他读者分享、交流读书心得。教师还可以分享教学经验并下载教案等相关资源(<http://www.blcup.com> 和 <http://www.camstory.cn>)。

英语阅读是英语课堂的延伸和补充,也是培养英语语感、提高英语水平的有效途径。选择好的英语读物,收获的将不仅仅是语言的进步。欢迎年轻朋友们来到“剑桥双语分级阅读·彩绘小说馆”,打开一本本好书,品味一个个好故事,为实现梦想搭建桥梁。

北京语言大学出版社



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## People in the story

### 故事中的人物

**Marvin:** a thirteen-year-old schoolboy

**Tyson:** a bully at Marvin's school

**Grandad:** Marvin's grandad

**Mum:** Marvin's mum

**Headmaster:** the man in charge of Marvin's school

**Robert:** a new student at Marvin's school

马文：一个十三岁的男生

泰森：马文所在学校的一个爱欺负人的同学

爷爷：马文的爷爷

妈妈：马文的妈妈

校长：马文所在学校的负责人

罗伯特：马文所在学校的一名新生

### BEFORE YOU READ

1 Look at the cover and the pictures in the first two chapters. Answer the questions.

1 Who are the main characters (角色) in the story?

2 Can you see three things that Grandad has made?

# Chapter 1

## Escape from bed

'It's happening again, Mum,' Marvin shouted.

There was no reply.

Marvin was going to be late for school and it was all because of Grandad. Grandad and his mad gadgets.

Marvin looked up at the clock on his bedroom wall. The clock was one of Grandad's mad gadgets. It didn't say 'Quarter Past Eight' which was the real time. It said 'Quarter Past Shower Time' because Marvin usually had his shower at eight o'clock. Marvin shouted again.

'Mum. Can you help me? I can't get out of bed.'

Still no reply from downstairs. Marvin slowly counted to ten and then screamed as loudly as he could, 'HELLO. CAN ANYBODY HEAR ME?'

Nobody could. Grandad was making too much noise in the garage. He always made a lot of noise when he was making his gadgets.

Marvin's bed was another of Grandad's mad gadgets. Every morning at eight o'clock, the bed woke up and tidied the blankets so Marvin didn't have to. The problem was that today Marvin woke up at quarter *past* eight, so the bed tried to tidy him up too.

The blanket on the bed didn't want to let him go, so he couldn't move his arms and legs. He was like a banana, waiting for someone to come and eat him or like toothpaste in a tube, waiting for someone to push him out.





‘Am I more like a banana or toothpaste?’ he thought. Marvin could not decide which, but he knew that this was a very important question.

He closed his eyes. ‘Maybe I’m more like a banana in a toothpaste tube or perhaps toothpaste in a banana skin. Mmm, banana toothpaste—’

‘Marvin, get up. It’s time for school.’

Mum’s loud voice ended Marvin’s daydreams about fruit toothpaste. She was calling him from the kitchen.

‘But Mum...’ he shouted.

She didn’t hear him. The clock now said ‘Quarter Past Breakfast Time’ and Marvin decided to try again to get out of bed.

‘One, two, three, pull,’ said Marvin, as he tried to pull his arms out from under the blanket. But the blanket did not let him go.

‘One, two, three, push,’ said Marvin, as he tried to push the blanket away with his feet. But the blanket still did not let him go.

He couldn’t do it. The bed was stronger than he was.

‘I think I’ll go back to sleep,’ thought Marvin. ‘It’s better than going to school.’

Marvin didn’t really like school at the moment. Tyson was at school and he was a big bully. And Tyson liked to bully Marvin more than anyone else at school. Yes, it was better if he stayed in bed. He closed his eyes.

‘Marvin, you’re going to be late for school.’

Mum’s voice was loud and angry. Marvin heard her coming upstairs. Then his bedroom door opened and she was standing in front of him.

‘Get up now, Marvin!’

'I can't,' cried Marvin. 'The bed woke up at eight o'clock and tidied the blankets. I was still sleeping, so it tidied me too! Now I can't get out.'

'Oh Marvin. Not again.'

Mum quickly started to pull at the blankets. She could not move them.

'Let my son go,' she shouted at the blankets. 'You can stay in bed all day but he can't. He's got to go to school.'

'Talking to them won't help, Mum,' said Marvin quietly. 'You have to turn them off at the wall.'

Mum pushed a button next to Marvin's bed. As soon as she did this, the blankets let Marvin go.



'Thanks, Mum,' said Marvin. 'I thought I was never going to escape.'

'Why didn't you shout for help?'

‘I did. Nobody heard me.’

‘Sorry, love,’ said Mum. ‘I can’t hear anything downstairs. Your grandad is making things in the garage again and the noise is terrible.’

‘It’s always noisy now that Grandad is living with us,’ replied Marvin, just as the clock changed to ‘Walk To School Time.’

Marvin looked out of his bedroom window. He could see Grandad working in his garage. He was pulling the front off Mum’s old TV! Marvin watched with his mouth open as Grandad started to hit the TV with his big hammer. Pieces of glass and old TV were flying all around the garage.





'He's trying to help us, Marvin. You know that,' said Mum, as Marvin moved quickly away from the window. 'It's just that...well...it's just that the gadgets aren't always very good, are they? Like your bed—'

'Which stops me from getting up,' Marvin finished her sentence.

'Or the clock—' Mum continued.

'Which can't tell the time,' Marvin said.

'Or the singing shower—'

'Which has a terrible voice.'

'Or the toilet—'

'Which talks to you all the time.'

Soon Marvin and his mum were laughing.

'Life is more fun now that Grandad is living here,' said Marvin.

'That's true,' said his mum. 'Oh, and Marvin...'

'Yes, Mum.'

'Stop reading in bed. That's why you woke up late this morning.'

'How did you know?' asked Marvin.

'Mums know everything,' his mum replied. 'And you were still wearing your glasses when you woke up.' She smiled at him. 'Now, get ready for school or you really will be late.'

'Can I wear my new trainers?' Marvin asked.

'If you promise to look after them.'

'Thanks, Mum,' smiled Marvin, who felt that the day was better already.

But as he left his bedroom that morning, wearing his new trainers, he didn't see that the clock was now saying 'DANGER TIME!'



