

高三~大学低年级
或英语高级学习者



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朗文
国际
悦读
系列
丛书



季风期往事

Once upon a Monsoon Time

拉斯金·邦德 / 著
汪方挺 陈文荣 / 注释



中国书籍出版社

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出版者的话

国人阅读的英语读物，大抵分两类，一类是国外引进版的学习读本，大多以欧美出版的版本较为精良，著名的有《新概念英语》、《心灵鸡汤》等；另一类就是国内学者自己编撰的学习读本了，较早的有《许国璋英语》等等。近20年来，尽管出版了很多由国内学者、专家编撰的英语阅读读本，但影响大的并不多。

在语言学习的历史上，各国有各国的特色。有一种现象较少受到教育界与出版界的关注，即百年以来，世界各个国家对英语学习的经验各具特色，在亚洲以中、日、韩、印度等国较有代表性。日、韩、印等国非常注重英语教育，皆有市场反响较大的学习读本，各自形成了本国的学习风格，有不少在其国内影响很大的读本，也许，这些读本并不像我国《许国璋英语》影响那么大。因为特殊的历史因素与市场竞争的不充分，《许国璋英语》曾经在我国独占鳌头。这种现象持续到国外读本更具原创特色的作品引进后开始有所改变。这些读本显然具有鲜明的本土风格与视角。阅读本身是语言学习的最重要的方式之一，它具有超越文化风格的某些共性，所以我们一直立意于寻找各国较有代表性的读本贡献给国内

读者，而这套《东方朗文国际悦读系列丛书》就是我们在这样一种思路下找到的一套影响较好的英语阅读读本。

经过编辑加工的《东方朗文国际悦读系列丛书》的出版，至少有以下三个方面的意义。

其一，借助阅读风格的不同，共享英语学习的他国经验。我们知道，各国学习英语，由于其思维方式，文化背景，乃至行为习惯等的诸多不同，形成的风格也就不同。我们习惯了中国的方式，如果尝试一下别国的思路或方式，或许会给您带来惊喜。印度是将英语作为社会主流语言的国家，这套丛书是专为各级不同层级的英语学习者打造的，所以读者通过阅读经印度一流出版公司、一流的改写者打造出的阅读版本，一定会有方法上的启迪，文体与表达差异会给您带来某种深刻印象。

其二，将各国学习英语过程中具有代表性的名著遴选出来，减少文化上的隔阂，有利于对英语阅读的快速进入。文学名著是人类精神的财富，我们可以通过阅读具有印度特色的名著，领略他们改编的方式和编辑的视角，获得对名著阅读更多的启发。基于此，我们为中国各个层次的英语学习者，挑选了43本脍炙人口的名著，用轻松活泼的形式呈现给广大英语学习者及大中小学生。

其三，考虑到中国人学习英语的水平与印度学生英语水平存在的差异，我们为中国读者重新量身打造。第一，邀请

了小学、中学、大学的一线英语教师进行座谈、讨论，根据中国学生学习英语的实际情况对丛书重新进行了划分，按年级分成了十套，从小学高年级到大学；第二，为了让学生更方便、更乐于阅读，通过阅读真正提高英语水平，我们同时请这些英语教师根据教学大纲、教学经验对每本书的生词作了旁注，让学生在阅读的同时学习新词，增加词汇量；第三，对书中出现的学习考试中高频率词汇以及重点句型进行了解析，让学生在阅读的同时复习和巩固了课堂中所学的知识。此外还在每本书的最后附上了本书针对中国英语中考、高考以及其他各类考试的高频率词汇表，充分加大了本套丛书的实用性和知识性。这样，就为我们更方便、深入地进行阅读架构了桥梁。

我们期待着您的反馈与批评。

**《东方朗文国际悦读系列丛书》
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1. *Beside the Arabian Sea*

阅读导引

还记得小时候与父亲一起度过的快乐时光吗？还记得父亲的谆谆教诲吗？下面的故事向我们展示了怎样的一种父爱……

1. poem n. 诗, 韵文

Last week I wrote a story, and all the time I was writing it I thought it was a good story; but when it was finished and I had read it through, I found that there was something missing, that it didn't ring true. So I tore it up. I wrote a poem¹, about an old man sleeping in the sun, and this was true, but it was finished quickly, and once again I was left with the problem of what to write next. And I remembered my father, who taught me to write; and I thought, why not write about my father, and about the trees we planted, and about the people I knew while growing up, and about what happened on the way to growing up...

2. insect n. 昆虫, 节肢动物

3. velvet n. 丝绒, 棉绒

4. bungalow n. 平房

And so, like Alice, I must begin at the beginning, and in the beginning there was this red insect², just like a velvet³ button, which I found on the front lawn of the bungalow⁴. The grass was still wet with overnight rain.

I placed the insect on the

palm¹ of my hand and took it into the house to show my father.

1. palm n. 棕榈树

“Look Dad,” I said. “I haven’t seen an insect like this before. Where has it come from?”

“Where did you find it?” he asked.

“On the grass.”

“It must have come down from the sky,” he said. “It must have come down with the rain.”

Later he told me how the insect really happened but I preferred his first explanation². It was more fun to have it dropping from the sky.

2. explanation n. 解释, 说明, 解剖

I was seven at the time, and my father was thirty-seven, but, right from the beginning, he made me feel that I was old enough to talk to him about everything—insects, people, trees, steam-engines, King George, comics³, crocodiles⁴, the Mahatma⁵, the Viceroy⁶, America, Mozambique⁷ and Timbuctoo⁸. We took long walks together, explored old ruins⁹, chased¹⁰ butterflies¹¹ and waved to passing

3. comic n. 喜剧

4. crocodile n. 鳄鱼

5. Mahatma n. 圣人

6. Viceroy n. 总督

7. Mozambique n. 莫桑比克(国家名)

8. Timbuctoo 廷巴克图(马里中部城市)

9. ruin n. 遗迹

10. chase n. 追赶

11. butterfly n. 蝴蝶

trains.

1. dim adj. 暗淡, 感知或记忆不清晰

My mother had gone away when I was four, and I had very dim¹ memories of her. Most other children had their mothers with them, and I found it a bit strange that mine couldn't stay. Whenever I asked my father why she'd gone, he'd say, "You'll understand when you grow up." And if I asked him where she'd gone, he'd look troubled and say, "I really don't know." This was the only question of mine to which he didn't have an answer.

But I was quite happy living alone with my father; I had never known any other kind of life.

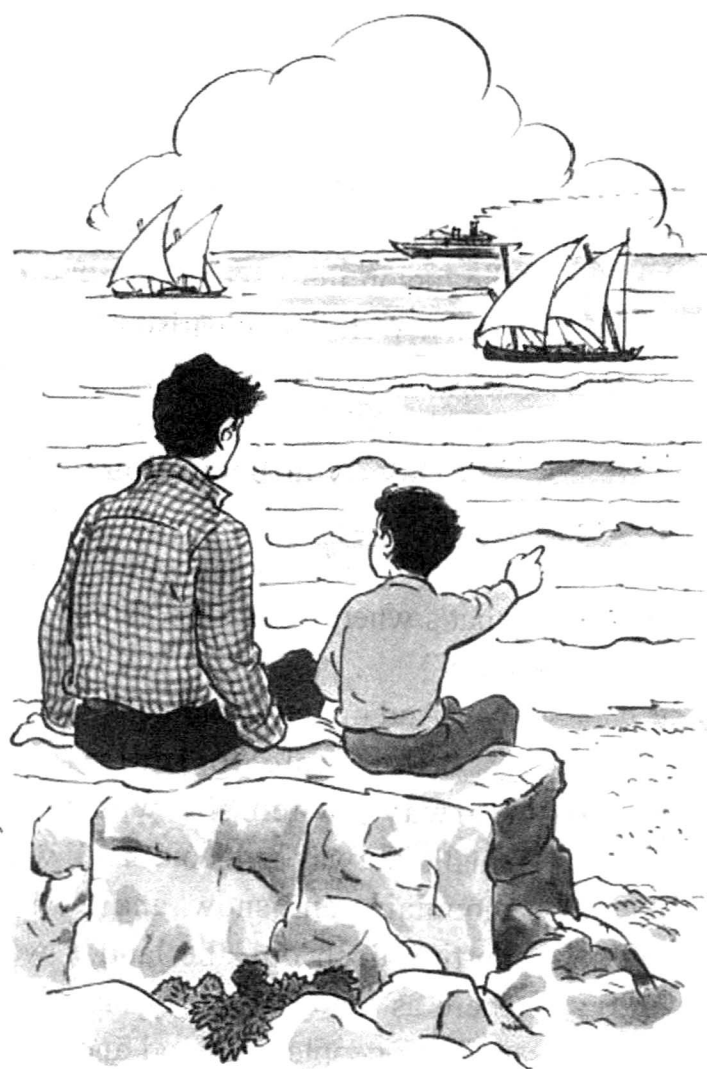
2. Arab dhows n. 阿拉伯海上一种单桅帆船

3. trampsteamer n. 不定期航行之货船

We were sitting on an old wall, looking out to sea at a couple of Arab dhows² and a trampsteamer³, when my father said, "Would you like to go to sea one day?"

"Where does the sea go?" I asked.

"It goes everywhere."



“Does it go to the end of the world?”

“It goes right round the world. It’s a round world.”

“It can’t be.”

“It is. But it’s so big, you can’t see the roundness¹. When a fly² sits on a water-melon³, it can’t see right round the melon, can it? The melon must seem quite flat to the fly. Well in comparison⁴ to the world, we’re much, much smaller than the tiniest⁵ of insects.”

“Have you been around the world?” I asked.

“No, only as far as England. That’s where your grandfather was born.”

“And my grandmother?”

“She came to India from Norway⁶ when she was quite small. Norway is a cold land, with mountains and snow, and the sea cutting deep into the land. I was there as a boy. It’s very beautiful, and the people are good and work hard.”

1. roundness n. 圆, 球形

2. fly n. 苍蝇

3. water-melon n. 西瓜

4. comparison n. 比较, 对照

5. tiny adj. 微小的

6. Norway n. 挪威 (国家名)

“I’d like to go there.”

“You will, one day. When you are older. I’ll take you to Norway.”

“Is it better than England?”

“It’s quite different.”

“Is it better than India?”

“It’s quite different.”

“Is India like England?”

“No, it’s different.”

“Well, what does ‘different’ mean?”

“It means things are not the same. It means people are different. It means the weather is different. It means trees and birds and insects are different.”

“Are English crocodiles different from Indian crocodiles?”

“They don’t have crocodiles in England.”

“Oh, then it must be different.”

“It would be a dull ¹ world if it was the same everywhere,” said my father.

1. dull adj. 乏味的,
枯燥的

He never lost patience ² with my endless ³ questioning. If he wanted a rest, he would take

2. patience n. 容忍,
忍耐, 坚持

3. endless adj. 无尽的,
无中止的

1. pipe n. 烟斗

out his pipe¹ and spend a long time lighting it. If this took very long, I'd find something else to do. But sometimes I'd wait patiently until the pipe was drawing, and then return to the attack.

"Will we always be in India?" I asked.

"No, we'll have to go away one day. You see, it's hard to explain, but it isn't really our country."

2. jewel n. 宝石

3. crown n. 王冠

"Ayah says it belongs to the King of England, and the jewels² in his crown³ were taken from India, and that when the Indians get their jewels back the King will lose India! But first they have to get the crown from the King. But this is very difficult, she says, because the crown is always on his head. He even sleeps wearing his crown!"

4. nanny n. 小孩保姆

Ayah was my nanny⁴. She loved me deeply, and was always filling my head with strange and wonderful stories.

5. comment v. 评论

My father did not comment⁵

on ayah's views. All he said was,
"We'll have to go away some day."

"How long have we been
here?" I asked.

"Two hundred years."

"No, I mean us."

"Well, you were born in India,
so that's seven years for you."

"Then can't I stay here?"

"Do you want to?"

"I want to go across the sea.
But can we take ayah with us?"

"I don't know son. Let's walk
along the beach."