

英语注释读物·名人世界

The Stories of Kennedy, Nixon and Bush 肯尼迪·尼克松·布什

许爱军 孙红洪 张祖武 钟 萍 编



北京大学出版社

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北 京

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

肯尼迪★尼克松★布什/许爱军等编. —北京:北京大学出版社,
1999. 4

ISBN 7-301-03419-9

I. 肯… I. 许… III. 英语-语言读物 IV. H319.4

书 名:肯尼迪★尼克松★布什

责 任 者:许爱军等编

责 任 编 辑:汪晓丹

标 准 书 号:ISBN 7-301-03419-9/H·362

出 版 者:北京大学出版社

地 址:北京市海淀区中关村北京大学校内 100871

电 话:出版部 62752015 发行部 62559712 编辑部 62752032

排 版 者:北京大学印刷厂

印 刷 者:中国科学院印刷厂

发 行 者:北京大学出版社

经 销 者:新华书店

787×1092 毫米 32 开本 13.75 印张 420 千字

1999 年 4 月第一版 1999 年 4 月第一次印刷

定 价:20.00 元

编辑出版例言

本书用简洁流畅的英语简单介绍了美国总统肯尼迪、尼克松、布什的生平和主要政绩。

约翰·肯尼迪是美国第35任总统。他入主白宫时年仅43岁，是美国最年轻的总统之一。他出身名门，拥有财富，有良好教养，家庭的熏陶对他有很大的影响。他朝气蓬勃，坚韧踏实，气质高雅，富有魅力。1961年他以“新边疆”开拓者的姿态进入白宫，煞费苦心以力挽颓势。1963年遇刺身亡。

理查德·尼克松是美国第37、38任总统。在他任职的近六年时间里，美国经历了美越战争、军备竞赛、美中关系解冻、美苏关系缓和、水门事件和总统辞职等一系列重大事件。这使尼克松成为美国历史上政绩突出但又屡遭指责的一位总统。

对中国人民来说，最难忘的是1972年2月那个寒冷的初春，在北京西郊一个军用机场上，尼克松走下“空军一号”总统座机向前来迎接的周恩来总理微笑着伸出手去。这是经历了二十多年仇恨、对峙之后的握手。本书同时还注意到了尼克松与美国其他总统的不同之处——积极在世界范围内谋求缓和、争取使争端双方进行对话，以及他与其他总统的共同之处——在政治斗争与党派斗争中为达目的而不择手段。

乔治·布什是美国第41任总统。他自幼好学，聪明热情。二战期间当过飞行员，是位战斗英雄，获得过飞行十字勋章。他做过推销员，凭着努力与实干，后成为全美第一流的企业家。……这些经历都成为他以后能从政，出任副总统、总统的宝贵财富。

通过阅读本书，读者可以看到这三位总统作为政治家的神韵和风采，可以看到他们作为活生生的立体的人的喜怒哀乐，可以看到他们在诸多问题上的远见卓识与失策。另外，我们中国家长们还

可以通过他们成长的道路获得某些珍贵的启迪。

值得一提的是，每篇后面都附有他们各自的就职演说词。

美国总统的就职演说词可谓是美国新政府的第一份政策宣言书，浓缩了美国政治、经济、外交、国际关系等方面的官方观点。就语言而论，这些演说词基本上都是出自一批职业作家、专职撰稿人之手，或是经过他们精心加工润色，语言规范，措辞审慎，修辞手法比比皆是。仅就这三位总统的就职演说词而论，风格各异，各有特色。肯尼迪的演说古朴、雄辩、浑厚，内容充实，节奏感强，色调明快。美国诗人卡尔·桑德伯格(Karl Sandburg)不无夸张地说过，肯尼迪的就职演说中的每一句话几乎都可以写一篇论文。其中有些句子已成为人们广为引用、传诵的经典佳句，如：“Ask not what your country can do for you;ask what you can do for your country.”“Ask not what American will do for you,but what together we can do for the freedom of man.”尼克松的第一篇就职演说，华丽，奔放，热烈，灵活，富有神秘色彩；他的第二篇就职演说则深沉，平稳，多富哲理意味。布什的就职演说务实，温和，谦虚，谨慎。

本书中的肯尼迪部分由北京国际关系学院的美国专家 Max Mailer 先生审阅并指正，尼克松部分由北京国际关系学院的美国专家 M. Marks 小姐审阅并指正。

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I . John Fitzgerald Kennedy

许爱军

Highlights in the Life of President Kennedy

Born: May 29, 1917, in Brookline, Mass.

Higher Education: Harvard University, B. A. , 1940

Religion: Roman Catholic

Occupation: Public Official

Political Party: Democrat

Marriage: September 12, 1953, to Jacqueline Bouvier

Children: Caroline, John, Patrick

Military Service: US Navy in World War II

Position before Taking Office: US Senator

Died: November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas

Burial Place: Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

1. Roots in the Past

For many years, Ireland had been a land of troubles. The summer of 1845 brought both England and Ireland heavy rain. The English wheat crop was severely damaged, the Irish was not; but the Irish potato crop was ruined. Irish wheat, however, was shipped to England.

The potato had been Irish staple food^①, Irishmen lived on potatoes for generations. With Irish grains being shipped to England, the Irish faced starvation. Between 1845 and 1847 over half a million Irish died of starvation. To make things worse,^② typhus spread and thousands more perished.^③

Some Irishmen, however, had a dream—a dream of leaving the troubled land and going to the promising land of America and making a fortune there. One of these dreamers was a youth named Patrick Kennedy^④. On a morning in 1850, he left his famine-plagued^⑤ hometown in southeast Ireland and endured the uncomfortable storm-tossed journey to the land of opportunity.

Upon reaching the crowded harbour of East Boston^⑥, Patrick Kennedy, strong and ambitious, immediately found himself a job. Despised by the so-called “proper Bostonians” because of their poverty and their religion, Kennedy and all the new immigrants were objects of intense discrimination. Life for them

① staple food: 主食必备食品

② to make things worse: 动词不定式作独立成分, 意为“使事情更为糟糕的是”。

③ perish: 死亡、夭折。此词用于此, 含“突然死亡”的意思。

④ Patrick Kennedy: 约翰·肯尼迪之曾祖父

⑤ famine-plagued: 受饥荒困扰的。此类由名词+动词过去分词构成的复合形容词很多, 再如 storm-tossed, poverty-stricken, man-made 等等。

⑥ 此介词短语相当于一个从句即: As soon as he reached the crowded harbour of East Boston. 由 upon 构成的此类短语还有: upon one's arrival; upon one's graduation; upon one's return 等等。

was hard and the families of the working men crowded together in cellars, attics and roughly built shacks.

Determined that he would not accept second class citizenship, Pat^① Kennedy worked hard, and managed to get along. He married an Irish girl who gave birth to three daughters and a son. Then, just before the outbreak of the Civil War, he died, leaving his widow with a family to support. Mrs. Kennedy went to work in a shop while the girls stayed at home taking care of Patrick Jr^②, the youngest. After only a little schooling, little Pat began to work on the docks to help support his mother and sisters. Then one day when he was about eighteen he noticed that although the labourers worked hard for their wage, they invariably spent some of it in the tavern as soon as the workday was over. It gave him an idea. If he would be able to collect enough money to set up a tavern just opposite the shipyard, he would certainly earn some money.

He immediately put his idea into practice and the tavern business proved a success. Within a few years, he became owner of several taverns. Patrick Kennedy also tried his hand^③ at other businesses and was as successful. Later he decided to enter politics. In 1886, Patrick Joseph Kennedy was elected to the Massachusetts^④ House of Representatives; after three terms he was elected to the State Senate. He married Mary Hickey, a girl from one of the most respected Irish families in Boston. In 1888, Mary gave birth to a son, Joseph Patrick^⑤. By this time, the Kennedys had definitely moved from the labouring class into the middle class.

While Patrick Kennedy was busy making a success of him-

① Patrick 的昵称

② Patrick Jr. Kennedy 约翰·肯尼迪之祖父

③ try one's hand at sth; 试着做某事

④ 马萨诸塞州, 美国东北部一州, 东临大西洋。

⑤ Joseph Patrick 约翰·肯尼迪之父

self, a similar course was being pursued by a youth named John F. Fitzgerald^①. Like Kennedy, young Fitzgerald had been on his own^② since childhood. Starting as a clerk in the customs house^③, he rose from councilman, state legislator to United States Congressman and lastly, mayor of Boston.

In the process, "Honey Fitz" as he was popularly known, had become one of Boston's most popular political figures. He married a daughter of a prominent Irish family. The couple had a daughter, Rose, who became the light of Honey Fitz's life.

Since the Kennedys and Fitzgeralds were both involved in Democratic politics in Boston, they knew each other well. But they did not like each other, for Fitz thought Patrick as too taciturn and humourless while Patrick thought Fitz too outgoing and noisy.

Therefore, both families were shocked to learn the fact that Joe Kennedy was making advances to^④ Rose Fitzgerald^⑤. Opposition from both sides was fierce, however, the young couple declared their intention of getting married.

Actually, most parents would have considered the Kennedy boy a perfect husband for a daughter. He came from a well-off, socially acceptable family; he was handsome and athletic; he was hard-working and ambitious.

At nine, young Joe began to work on the Boston Excursion boats. Then he got a job as an office boy in a bank. After finishing the famous Boston Latin school he enrolled at Harvard^⑥, there he continued to work hard at earning money. Although his aca-

① John F. Fitzgerald; 约翰·肯尼迪之外祖父

② be on one's own; 独立的, 依靠自己的

③ customs house; 海关

④ make advances to sb; 向某人求爱

⑤ Rose Fitzgerald; 约翰·肯尼迪之母

⑥ Harvard; 哈佛大学, 美国著名高等学府, 常青藤大学之一。位于马萨诸塞州波士顿市

demio grades were mediocre, he was a top college athlete and was recognized as one of the most gifted business brains on campus. By the time he was graduated from Harvard he had five thousand dollars to his name^①, which was quite a sum at that time. To Rose Fitzgerald he vowed that he would become a millionaire by the time he reached thirty-five.

He worked for his promise. Immediately after his graduation, he went into banking, and obtained a well paid job. One day, hearing the news that the Columbia Trust Company^② was about to be absorbed by a competing savings bank^③, Joe decided that his chance had come. He talked cautious Patrick Kennedy and a number of relatives and friends into getting whatever cash they could lay their hands on and turning it over to him for the purpose of gaining control of the bank. Before the bank officers knew what was happening, the bank was in the control of Joseph P. Kennedy who had managed to have himself elected president. He was then twenty-five.

Even John Fitzgerald now had to admit that the young man who was courting his daughter Rose was talented. He withdrew his objections to their marriage. On October 7, 1914, Rose Fitzgerald and Joe Kennedy were happily married.

After the honeymoon, the Joseph Patrick Kennedys settled down in Brookline, a suburb of Boston. Joe earnestly devoted himself to the task of keeping his word of amassing a million dollars by the time he was thirty-five. He speculated boldly in stocks, and soon gained a reputation as one of the biggest stock speculators. He bought into companies and was able to sell them out at a huge profit. He tried his hand at the industry of motion-picture and succeeded in accumulating huge sums of money. In

① to one's name: 在某人名下的, 如“*He has nothing to his name*”意为“他一文不名”。

② Columbia Trust Company: 哥伦比亚投资公司

③ savings bank: 储蓄银行

1923, by the time he was thirty-five, Joe Kennedy had achieved his goal and made a million dollars several times over.

While Joseph was busy making money, Rose Kennedy was busy producing a family. Within a year of their marriage, she gave birth to a son, Joseph Jr^①. Less than two years later, on May 29, 1917, she gave birth to a second son. They named him John Fitzgerald Kennedy, after his maternal grandfather^②. Then came five daughters and two more sons. The famous Kennedy family was beginning to take shape^③.

2. Family Education

By the time John Fitzgerald Kennedy was born, the Kennedy family was among the richest ones in Boston's Irish community, but that wealth did not make them acceptable to Boston's Protestant^④ elite. To the Bostonians, the Kennedys were still Irish immigrants, the objects of discrimination.

Joseph Kennedy had succeeded in making himself a millionaire, but the money, while giving him material well-being, did not give him social standing. No matter how wealthy he was, he was still the son of an Irish tavern keeper. Money, therefore, became a taboo in the family. Just as parents try to protect their children from four letter words^⑤, Joseph Kennedy tried to protect his children from the five letter word, money. Money and business were never discussed at home.

Joseph Kennedy considered money base, but a necessity. His need for money had prevented him from getting what he wanted

① Joseph Jr. Kennedy: 约翰·肯尼迪之兄长

② maternal grandfather: 外祖父

③ take shape: 成形, 形成

④ Protestant: 新教徒; 即基督教徒。

⑤ four letter words: 指脏话

most; political power. He was determined that his children would not suffer from the same handicap and, therefore, he established the vast trust funds^① that made them financially independent.

Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy brought home to their children^② that money brought responsibility. Rose used to tell her children, "To whom much has been given, much will be required." Money was never to be squandered or spent ostentatiously. Rose Kennedy made sure that her children never had more money than their friends. When John Kennedy went to Europe in 1937, he travelled on the standard of living of his companion, who was rather short of funds.

When Jack was about ten years old, he wrote his father asking for a raise in his allowance:

Chapter I

A Plea for a raise by Jack Kennedy

Dedicated to my Mr. J. P. Kennedy

My recent allowance is 40. This I used for aeroplanes and other playthings of childhood but now I am a scout^③ and I put away my childish things. Before I would spend 20 of my 40 allowance and in five minutes I would have empty pockets and nothing to gain and 20 to lose. When I am a scout I have to buy canteens^④, haversacks^⑤, blankets, searchlights, ponchos^⑥, things that will last for years and I can always use it while I can't use a chocolate marshmallow sundae with vanilla ice cream and so I put in my plea for a raise of thirty cents for me to buy scout things and pay my own way more around Finis.

① trust funds; 托管金, 委托金

② brought home to their children; 使他们的孩子明白(认识到)

③ scout; 童子军, 1908 年在英国创立, 强调室外活动及为他人服务。

④ canteens; 饭盒

⑤ haversacks; 行军时的帆布背包

⑥ ponchos; 雨披

John Fitzgerald Kennedy

His father, after talking it over with his mother, decided to grant the raise. So Jack did not have to write a "Chapter II".

Though Joseph Kennedy wanted to seal his children off from money and business, he had no wish to seal his children off from the outside world. On the contrary, he wanted them to know at the start that it was harshly competitive. He was determined that his children should have much exposure to reality at the earliest possible age.

He made one thing clear to them: Though they were wealthy, though they had a head start on^① other youngsters, that didn't mean they could be lazy. In fact, they were expected to use all their talents and work all that much harder, since they had advantages that other families did not.

Since, to Joseph Kennedy, life was a contest in which the winner took all and the loser got nothing, Mr. Kennedy made one other thing understood: He wanted his children to succeed, more than anything else. What a fellow did with his life was not as important as winning at whatever he chose. "I don't care what you do in life," He told his children, "but whatever you do, be the best person in the world when you do it. Even if you are a ditch digger^②, be the best ditch digger in the world." When his children competed in sailing races, he said, "If you're in a race, do it right. Come in a winner—second place is no good."

Not one Kennedy child doubted that their father liked best of all hard triers who won. As Rose Kennedy put it, "My husband was quite a strict father; he liked the boys to win at all sports and everything they tried. If they didn't win, he would discuss their failure with them, but he did not have much pa-

① head start on(over): 先起步; 比……早开始做(或学)某事

② ditch digger: 挖沟的人

tience with losers. "Eunice Kennedy^① remembers her father saying, "The important thing is to win—don't come in second or third—that doesn't count, but win, win, win!"

Encouraged by their father, the Kennedy youngsters vied among themselves fiercely, in tennis or football, in swimming or boating. The emphasis was on outdoing^② each other. The girls would compete with the boys with no mercy asked or given and would often leave the tennis courts sobbing after being bested^③ by their brothers. Mr. Kennedy was fond of telling his children that anyone who was not concerned with trying and winning was not worth much. The admonition was effective.

Once the young Kennedys were all sprawled around the lawn, sipping Cokes, bathing in the sun^④. Suddenly the Kennedy chauffeur appeared with the word that their father was landing at the airport and he was going to pick him up.

Almost instantly the scene changed. They all started playing tennis, football, readying the sailboat.

When their father arrived, he surveyed the scene. He liked to see them all busy.

And they knew it.

Within the Kennedy family there was constant competition. Jacqueline Kennedy^⑤ once described her first look at the family competition spirit when she saw a five-year-old Kennedy push over a four-year-old Kennedy, who immediately went over and pushed over a three-year-old Kennedy. Under the strict control

① Eunice Kennedy; 约翰·肯尼迪之妹

② outdo; 做得比……更好。由 out 加动词构成的词很多, 再如: outsell 比……卖得快, outswim 比……游得快, outlive 比……活得长。

③ 此处“best”为动词。口语中, 它可以表示打败、胜过的意思。如: None of the pictures on exhibition could best this one. 在展出的画中没有一幅超过这幅。

④ sipping Cokes, bathing in the sun; 为现在分词短语, 作伴随动作。

⑤ Jacqueline Kennedy; 杰奎琳·肯尼迪, 约翰·肯尼迪之妻。