



LIFE
WITH FATHER
父子之间



人民教育出版社

简易英语读物

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C. 戴 (C. Day) 著

E. 张伯伦 (E. Chamberlain) 改写

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这本小说描写的是纽约一个家庭的故事。“父亲”在家里是位中心人物，他常常声严色厉，刚愎自用，用“铁腕”统治着家庭。但是他性格坦率真诚，严肃认真，深深地爱着家庭的每个成员，因而又是位令人喜爱的人物。“母亲”很理解他，爱他，但同时又不完全同意他的某些做法，从而引出一幕幕令人捧腹的家庭悲喜剧。孩子们却通过一种极不寻常的方式，学习、生活和成长。

全书用1,000个常用英语单词写成，共有30多篇日常生活小故事，既能自行成文，又有互相联系。内容生动活泼，故事吸引人。文字流畅，浅显易懂，生词和语言难点都作了汉语注释。适合高中学生、大学低年级学生和同等英语程度的自学者阅读。

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*A Day with Father*¹

Sometimes Father took me down to his office. This could happen only on a Saturday morning, when there was no school.² I felt very important on the days I went to "The Office" — not after I got there, but as I was leaving the house, with Mother and my three little brothers respectfully saying goodbye.³

If it was a rainy day, Father would prepare for bad weather by wearing a low-topped⁴ hat and a black raincoat over his usual long coat. (He would almost never wear a short coat except on warm days, or when he left New York to go to the country, in the summer.) If the sun was out, he would wear a tall hat and carry a walking stick⁵, like his friends. When he and

1. A Day with Father 和爸爸一起度过的一天。 2. This could happen only on a Saturday morning, when there was no school. 这件事只是在不上课的星期六上午才会发生。no school 不上课;不上学。 3. I felt very important on the days I went to ... saying goodbye. 当我去“事务所”的日子——不是当我到达那里之后,而是当我离开家,恭恭敬敬地向妈妈和三个小弟弟举行告别的时候,我觉得自己非常了不起。respectfully [ris'pektfuli] *adv.* 恭敬;尊敬。 4. low-topped ['ləu-'tɒpt] *adj.* 顶部低的。 5. walking stick 手杖。

they passed each other on the street, they raised their walking sticks and touched the edges¹ of their hats with them.

I liked this rich and showy² movement, and wished I could do the same, but I was too young for a walking stick.

On one of these Saturdays, although it was sunny, Father put on his low-topped hat. I didn't know why until later. I walked by his side through the long rows of nice-looking³ houses from Madison Avenue⁴ to Sixth Avenue, and we went up the steps to the Elevated⁵. There he talked with one of his friends while we waited for the next train.

During the journey downtown I looked with deep interest into the windows of poor people's houses, or into the rooms where homeless men could stay at night.⁶ I wished my life was like theirs. Nothing to do;

1. edge [edʒ] *n.* 边缘。 2. rich and showy 饶有意义的; 多采多姿的。 showy [ˈʃəʊi] *adj.* 显眼的, 炫耀的。 3. nice-looking [ˈnaɪs-ˈlʊkɪŋ] *adj.* 好看的; 漂亮的。 4. Madison [ˈmædɪsn] Avenue 麦迪森大街。 avenue [ˈævɪnju:] *n.* (美) (城市中的) 大街。 5. Elevated [ˈelɪveɪtɪd] *n.* (=elevated railroad) (美国口语) 高架铁路。 这里指高架火车。 6. During the journey downtown I looked ... at night. 在去商业区的路上, 我怀着极大的兴趣, 向穷人住房的窗户里面望去, 或者向那些无家可归的人们能够过夜的房间里望去。 downtown [ˈdaʊndˈtaʊn] *adv.* 往城市的商业区。 homeless [ˈhəʊmlɪs] *adj.* 无家可归的。

just sit around in old clothes, and smoke. If I were one of them, I wouldn't have to wash my hands so clean every Friday and pull some little fat girl around the floor at dancing school. It wouldn't cost much either. The sign on these houses said, "Ten Cents a Night."¹

When Father and I left the train at the end of our journey, we went down into little streets full of men and boys but no women. Most of the business buildings were old and many of them were not very clean. Father's office was on the ground floor of the building at 38 Wall Street².

The office was busy in a way I could not understand. One man sat closed away in a small space, where he would never let me enter. He had a money drawer³, a safe full of books⁴, and another safe for valuable papers. One or two bookkeepers⁵ were writing in big books. Office boys⁶ ran in and out. Other boys rushed in with telegrams. In the front room there was a long table full of business reports⁷. Also on the table were

-
1. The sign on these houses said ... Night. 这些房子的招牌上写着“(住)一夜十分钱”。 2. Wall Street 华尔街(纽约金融中心)。 3. drawer [drɔ:] n. 抽屉。 4. a safe full of books 一个放满帐簿的保险箱。 safe [seif] n. 保险箱。 books 这里作帐簿讲(常用复数)。 5. bookkeeper ['buk'ki:pə] n. 记帐人, 簿记员。 6. office boys 办公室勤杂人员。 7. business reports 营业报告。

business newspapers, and four or five men sat around the table talking about what they read in the newspapers.¹

Father went into his own office, sat down, and began to open his mail.²

There were many things for me to do in the office. Also, I was sometimes sent out³ to carry a note to some other office and perhaps bring back an answer, for there were no telephones in those days. I liked doing all of this.

Suddenly it was noon. At half past twelve Father called to me and we went out to eat.

“Will you be back, Mr. Day?” one of the bookkeepers asked respectfully, but with great interest, too. On days when Father said “yes,” the bookkeepers looked sorry.⁴ They had to stay in the office and couldn’t even smoke until Father had gone home for the day.

Today he said “no.” I saw them getting ready to smoke as he stepped into the hall.

1. ... and four or five men sat around ... newspapers. 有四五个人围坐在桌子旁边, 谈论着在报纸上读到的内容。talking about ... 是现在分词短语作状语, 表示伴随情况。 2. mail [meil] n. 邮件。 3. send out 派遣。 4. On days when Father said ... sorry. 当爸爸说“是的”的那些天, 记帐人看起来很不高兴。

I went at Father's side down to Beaver Street¹, where there stood an old, friendly-looking building. This was Delmonico's², and the food there was so good that everyone talked about it. It was a place that just suited people like Father.

We went into the long, crowded room and were led to a table for two.

Old François³, who usually served Father, hurried to us, and he and Father had a talk, in French, about the best food for him to bring. They spoke so fast that I couldn't understand a word, except that François kept telling Father that a certain thing would surely be good. It seemed that the last time Father had had the same thing, it had not been as good as it should be.⁴

Today everything was perfect, and Father and François smiled together over the food. I used to wonder why Father never got as angry at Delmonico's as he did at home, but I see now that he may have felt lonely at home, where no one felt as he did about food.⁵

1. Beaver ['bi:və] Street 海狸大街。 2. Delmonico's [del'monikəu] 德尔莫尼科饭店。 3. François ['fra:nswei] 弗朗斯韦(法国人名)。 4. It seemed that ... should be. 似乎爸爸上次吃的这道相同的菜,做得并不那么好吃。 5. I used to wonder why ... about food. 我过去常常不知道为什么爸爸在德尔莫尼科饭店不像在家里那样发火,可现在我明白了,可能他在家里感到孤独,在家里吃饭谁也没有他那样的感受。

Father liked French cooking and French menservants.¹ At home we had a girl to cook for us, and her food, though the best of its kind, wasn't French.² He ate it with pleasure, when he thought it was good enough for him, but he ate like a city man in the country enjoying good, simple food.

I didn't always like French cooking myself. It tasted all right, but there wasn't much of it. It seemed to me that Father needed very little food. However, when he saw a hungry look on my face, he smiled understandingly³. He raised a hand to call François, who smiled too and soon came back with something large and sweet and good called a chocolate éclair.⁴ The richness of its soft, thick, yellow filling and the taste of it were so delightful that time stood still as I happily

1. Father liked French cooking and French menservants.

父亲喜欢法式烹调和法国男仆。 menservants ['mensə:vents] 为复数,单数为 manservant ['mænsə:vənt] *n.* 男仆。 2. ... and her food, though the best of its kind, wasn't French.(而且)她做的食品虽是同类中最好的,但不是法式的。

3. understandingly [ˌʌndə'stændɪŋli] *adv.* 理解地;会心地。

4. ... and soon came back with ... éclair.不久就端回来一种又大、又甜、又好的叫巧克力包奶油的手指形蛋糕。chocolate ['tʃɒkəlɪt] *n.* 巧克力。éclair ['eɪkleə] 巧克力包奶油的手指形小蛋糕。

ate it, and I almost forgot where I was.¹

After eating, instead of taking me home, Father walked down to a place on the waterfront² called the Battery³, and to my surprise we got on the boat there. We had never done this before. I now saw why he was wearing his low-topped hat. We were going out to the country. Off we went across the bay filled with sailboats and other boats, and when we landed on Staten Island Father told me that we were going to see Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show.⁴

Rows of seats, rising one behind another like steps, had been built out of wood. We sat down, and there, spread out before us, was the Wild West—men, horses, dust, and all. On the way home I told Father I wanted

1. The richness of its soft ... I was. 那又软又厚的黄色奶油大馅及其味道诱人极了, 当我兴致勃勃地吃的时候, 就连时间都静止不动了似的, 我几乎忘记了自己在什么地方。richness ['ritʃnis] *n.* 丰富。delightful [di'laitful] *adj.* 令人高兴的, 讨人喜欢的。stand still 站着不动; 停滞不前。 2. waterfront ['wɔ:tə'frant] *n.* 水边; 滩。 3. Battery ['bætəri] *n.* 巴特利(地名)。 4. Off we went across the bay filled with ... Wild West show. 我们度过满是帆船和其他船只的海湾, 在登上斯塔腾岛的时候, 爸爸告诉我要去看布发罗·比尔的荒凉的西部骑术表演。sailboat ['seilbɔ:t] *n.* 帆船。Staten ['stætən] *n.*³ 斯塔腾(岛名)。Buffalo Bill ['bʌfələu 'bil] 布法罗·比尔, 是过去西部一位著名人物, 他的骑术很高。他表演的骑术是野外旅行最好的骑术表演。Wild West 荒凉的西部(即美国西部, 指早年拓荒时代的美国西部地区, 该地当时无法律)。Wild West Show(由牛仔、印第安人等演出的)荒凉的西部骑术表演。

to go out to the Wild West. He chuckled¹ and said no I didn't. He said I might as well² be one of those homeless men I had seen that morning.

I wondered if I should tell him that I had had this idea, too. I decided that it might not be a good day to speak of it; however, I did ask what was the matter with the West.

Father explained that the men out there lived strange lives and that their food and their homes were poor. They lived where all was wild, he told me, and had themselves gone wild.³ "Put your hat on straight," he added. "I am trying to bring you up to be a civilized man."⁴

I put my hat straight and walked on, thinking over⁵ this future. The more I thought about it, the less I wanted to be a civilized man.⁶ I had not had much to eat. I had walked a long way, and I was hungry. I

-
1. chuckle [ˈtʃʌkl] *vi.* 抿着嘴轻声地笑。 2. as well. 也, 又。 3. ... and had themselves gone wild.已经使他们自己变野蛮了。 4. I am trying ... man. 我在设法把你培养成一个文明的人。bring up 教育, 培养。civilized [ˈsɪvɪlaɪzd] *adj.* 文明的; 有教养的。 5. think over 仔细考虑。 6. The more I thought ... man. 我对将来考虑得越多, 越不想成为一个文明的人。the ... the ... 越……越…… (用在形容词或副词的比较级前)。

thought of keeping hands clean, and reading good books, and dancing school, and church on Sundays. The few chocolate *éclairs* that a civilized man got to eat were not worth it.

Father on Horseback

Father had been gaining weight¹ and he didn't like it. He was a firmly-built man with a light, easy step, and the added fat made him feel too heavy.² When the fat of fat men seemed to fit them by nature, Father was willing to laugh about it; but he felt that it was bad to be careless about getting heavier.³

He talked about this at his club⁴. He would stop there for about half an hour on his way home from

1. weight [weit] *n.* 体重。 2. He was a firmly-built man with ... too heavy. 他是一个体格健壮、步履轻盈的人，但是脂肪的增多使他感到心情沉重。 3. When the fat of fat men seemed to fit ... heavier. 胖人的脂肪好像生来对他们就合适，爸爸对此欣然而笑；但是他觉得不重视体重的增加是不好的。 by nature 生来；生性。 be willing to (do) 乐意进行；欣然从事。 be careless about 不关心；漠视。 4. club [klʌb] *n.* 俱乐部。

the office, or would walk down there at nine in the evening when Mother had gone up to bed. He would have a drink, and talk with his friends, and meet important visiting foreigners¹, whom he usually didn't like. And he would ask what to do about getting fat.²

Some members told him to take long walks, but Father had always done a lot of walking. The opinion of the club was that therefore he had better ride horseback.³

The only right way to ride horseback, Father felt, was to join one more club. He joined the Riding Club, on East Fifty-eighth Street, and after learning to ride inside, there, he rode outside in the Park.

There was nothing very different, nothing wild, about the Park; but it suited Father.⁴ He did not like wildness⁵. He liked things to be orderly. From this time

1. foreigher ['fɔ:ɪnə] *n.* 外国人。 2. And he would ask what ...fat. 他经常打听对发胖问题该怎么办。 would 在这里用作情态动词,表示过去时间经常发生的习惯性动作。

3. The opinion of the club was ... horseback. 俱乐部的意见是让他最好去骑马。opinion [ə'pɪnjən] *n.* 意见;看法。therefore ['ðəfɔ:] *adv.* 所以;为此。horseback['hɔ:s'bæk] *n.* 马背。

4. There was nothing ... Father. 这座公园里没有什么很特殊的地方,没有野生的东西,但是它中爸爸的意。suit[sju:t] *vt.* 适合。 5. wildness ['waɪldnis] *n.* 杂乱无章,荒野。

on¹, he watched the Park as he watched his own home. Everything had to be taken care of, with no papers lying about.²

His first horse was a powerful red-brown one by the name of³ Rob Roy. This horse didn't like Father, and Father liked him less. This was not supposed to⁴ be important. Father got him because he was spirited⁵ and strong; good-looking, too. He paid three hundred dollars for him, and expected him to do what he was told.

Rob Roy did not share this feeling, however.⁶ He was always thinking of his own point of view. Even if⁷ he had loved Father, which he never did, this would have made trouble.

One scene between them, I remember, took place near the Park entrance. It was a warm morning. Rob Roy and Father had come out of the club and into the Park, each completely healthy⁸ and strong, and each

1. from this time on 从这时起。 2. Everything had to be ... lying about. 什么东西都得有人收拾,不能到处都是废纸。 lying 是动词 lie 的现在分词。 3. by the name of 名叫……。 4. be supposed to 被认为……;应该。 5. spirited ['spiritid] *adj.* 生气勃勃的;勇猛的。 6. Rob Roy did not share this feeling, however. 但罗布·罗伊并没有这种感觉。 7. even if 即使;纵然。 8. healthy ['helθi] *adj.* 健康的。