

汉英传世金句

Chinese-English Golden Sayings

杨晓明 编译

新时代出版社

<http://www.ntp.cn>

H319.4: I276.7

1

汉英 传世金句

杨晓明 编译

CHINESE-ENGLISH GOLDEN SAYINGS

新时代出版社

· 北京 ·

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

汉英传世金句/杨晓明编译. —北京:新时代出版社,
2003(2004.4 重印)

ISBN 7-5042-0785-3

I. 汉... II. 杨... III. 谚语-汇编-中国-古代-
汉、英 IV. I276.7

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2002)第 075508 号

新 时 代 出 版 社 出版发行

(北京市海淀区紫竹院南路 23 号)

(邮政编码 100044)

腾飞印刷厂印刷

新华书店经售

*

开本 787×960 1/32 印张 6% 154 千字

2003 年 1 月第 1 版 2004 年 5 月北京第 2 次印刷

印数:5001—8000 册 定价:15.00 元

(本书如有印装错误,我社负责调换)

**一个民族之特色、才智与其精神，
皆在其谚语中显示。**

——(英)培根

The genius, wit, and spirit of a nation are discovered in its proverbs.

——Francis Bacon(1561 – 1626)

智者智慧的奇葩(序一)

万昌盛

智者是智慧的化身,是智慧的传承者。他具有深邃的思想,充满真知灼见;他拥有博大的胸怀,培育、追求高尚的情操和品德;他怀有丰富的社会和生活阅历,并为之总结、升华,成为科学理论和聪明才智,变为光芒万丈的成就灯塔,照亮人类前进的道路。概言之,智者,是大智大勇者,是先知先觉者,是人类高尚思想的导师和理论大师。一个普通人,要成为智者或稍微聪明的人,就必须学习与实践,而且必须孜孜不倦地学习,认认真真地实践,向所有智者和先知者学习,向一切传承体现人类智慧、中外古今文明的书本学习,以充实、完善自己,做一个有知识、智慧和道德的文明人,做一个对祖国、对社会、对人民有用的人。

《汉英传世金句》(下面简称《金句》)正是一本介绍智慧的书。它尽管篇幅短小,只有薄薄的二百多页,但它的内容极为深广丰富,收集了中国古代自孔子、老子以来诸多哲学家、思想家以及诗人、词作家有关人生感悟、命运机遇、生活哲理、爱情友谊、金钱财富、道德操守等流传千秋百代业经千锤百炼的警句和格言二千多条。这些源远流长、脍炙人口的“金句”,言简意赅,意蕴深厚,文采飞扬,自

然流畅,朗朗上口,你可以在书斋从头至尾正襟危坐去精读、品味,也可以倚身旅途的行椅上随意翻阅,挑选几句以饱眼福,它无疑会充实你的智慧,增长你的才气,滋养你的思绪,陶冶你的心境,提高你的人生涵养和境界。

就英语翻译而言,《金句》可说是一本难得的教本——信、达、雅的译句,神形兼备,凝练隽永,如:“金玉其外,败絮其中”Fair without, foul within. (见 194 页)押头韵,对仗,简练。“富润屋,德润身”Riches adorn the dwelling, virtue adorns the person. (见 56 页)“待人宽容如待己”Live and let live. (见 55 页)有的简直是炉火纯青,白玉无瑕,让人赞美不已。

所以说,对于中国读者,尤其是大中专学生,《金句》是学习英语的好材料;而对于国际友人,《金句》则是系统介绍中华文化和文明的优秀读物。

《金句》编译者杨晓明先生是位作家,兼俱汉语、英语深厚的功底,有相当的编译水平,且人品敦厚,勤奋好学,刻苦成就了一桩桩事业。鉴于此,我诚挚地推荐《金句》。愿新版《金句》,犹如一缕催生万物的温馨春风,抚摸你俊秀娇嫩的面颊,开启你汲纳河海的心扉,让你沉醉,让你感奋,让你开朗,让你聪颖,让你进入先贤哲人的领地,吮吸智慧奇葩的花蜜,畅游在华章佳句辉映的波光殿堂内。

(万昌盛,浙江省大学外语教学研究会会长、浙江大学英语教授)

了解华夏文明的窗口(序二)

谢基铎

有人说华夏文明是半神文化,窃以为此话并非过分。中华文化之历史沉积五千余年,经多少先圣先贤先哲先知先觉者的精心过滤、锤炼,已在世界上呈现出独树一帜的风格。这种非拼音的方块字,以四声音韵组成语音的铿锵跌宕,显示其特有的表达技巧,与其他各种文字语言迥然不同。

中华谚语,是中华民族文化的精华。改革开放以来,中华民族发展成了国际大家庭中举足轻重的一员。不管是白种人,还是有色民族,他们都竞相了解中国,纷纷走近中国,形成了 21 世纪的“中国热”。介绍中华谚语,是一条让世界尽快了解华夏文化的捷径;翻译中华谚语,正是向全球敞开中华文明的窗口。

吾友晓明君,笔耕三十余载,具有深厚的国学和英文之功底,曾先后出版过多部个人专(译)著,又以其所编译之《汉英传世金句》示我,初窥一斑,已惊佳语,细品全貌,见极妙之译句比比皆是,心存惊异。翻译是一种再创作,既要忠实于原文,又须保持原文精神,更求译文练达、隽永。尤其是中华谚语,涵义深奥,要圆满成功地翻译,须绝对避免形式的对应,又要兼顾动态的对等,凿方枘圆,拘于巢

白,均为流弊,实乃不易。

欣喜晓明君的《汉英传世金句》,语言简练,紧切原意,且诵之朗朗上口。更难能可贵的是其译作手法灵巧活泼,绝不落一般翻译的俗套,如:“痴风知劲草”The force of the wind tests the strength of the grass. (见 9 页)“树大招风,名大招忌”Detraction pursues the great. (见 18 页)“无可奈何花落去,似曾相识燕归来”Flowers fall off, do what one may; swallows return, no strangers they. (见 22 页)简直是以诗译诗,非常传神,或可谓字字珠玑,句句玲珑,不失为一本中国人特别是青少年学生学英语的理想辅助读物,也是一本国际友人了解中华文化和文明的优秀材料。

在此书削青付梓之际,谨奉荐于国内外同好者共赏,并作文以志之。

(谢基铎,上海某大学外语系教授,曾任中央某部外事翻译,精通英、日、德、法等国语言)



CONTENTS

1. 自然哲理篇 PHILOSOPHY IN NATURE 1
2. 人生机遇篇 FORTUNE IN LIFE 29
3. 自身修养篇 CULTIVATION IN SELF 51
4. 天下攘攘篇 BUSTLING IN THE WORLD 83
5. 互相关爱篇 CARING FOR EACH OTHER 97
6. 学无止境篇 LEARNING WITHOUT END 123
7. 男儿自强篇 MAN ON HIS WILL 139
8. 征途劝慰篇 ADVISING IN ADVANCE 161
9. 实践真知篇 PUDDING IN THE EATING 187

1 自然哲理篇

PHILOSOPHY IN NATURE





百川归大海。

All rivers find their way to the sea.

笨鸟先飞早入林。

Clumsy birds have to start flying early.

本固而枝荣。

When the root is firm, the branches flourish.

冰冻三尺，非一日之寒。

It takes more than one cold day for the river to freeze three feet deep.

冰炭不相容。

As incompatible as ice and hot coals.

不是东风压倒西风，就是西风压倒东风。

Either the east wind prevails over the west wind, or the west wind prevails over the east wind.

苍蝇不叮无缝的蛋。

Flies go for cracked eggs.

草履知风向。

A straw shows which way the wind blows.

长江后浪推前浪。

In the Changjiang River the waves behind drive on those before.





车到山前必有路。

The cart will find its way round the hill when it gets there.

沉舟侧畔千帆过，病树前头万木春。

By the side of a vessel sunk, a thousand sails are floating past;

In front of a tree, sick with age, thousands of trees grow thick and fast.

城中桃李愁风雨，春在溪头荠菜花。[辛弃疾]

Inside the walls the peach and plum look poorly after the winter,

but at the head of the stream the spring has brought its wild-flowers out. [Xin Qiji]

城门失火，殃及池鱼。

When the city gate catches fire,
the fish in the moat suffer from it.

秤不离锤，锤不离秤。

The steelyard never goes without the weight inseparable.

秤砣虽小压千斤。

The sliding weight of a steelyard, though small in volume, may hold down a thousand catties.





虫来啖桃根,李树代桃僵。

When the worms come to gnaw at the root of the peach tree,
the plum tree suffers them to gnaw at its own and eventually dies ossified.

出头椽子先锈烂。

Exposed rafters are the first to rot.

春蚕到死丝方尽,蜡炬成灰泪始干。

The silkworm labors until death its fine thread severs,
the candle's tears are dried when it itself consumes.

春江水暖鸭先知。

The duck knows first when the river becomes warm in spring.

春雨贵如油。

Rain in spring is as precious as oil.

村无猛犬,劣狗挡道。

If there is no mastiff in the village, any cur will rule.

大河有水小河满,大河无水小河干。

The small streams rise when the main stream is high,
when the main stream is low, the small streams run dry.





大树底下好乘凉。

Great trees are good for shade.

大鱼吃小鱼。

The great fish eat up the small.

单丝不成线,独木不成林。

One strand of silk doesn't make a thread,
one tree doesn't make a forest.

东风吹马耳。

The east wind blows at the ear of a horse.

得胜的猫儿欢似虎。

The victorious cat is as jubilant as tiger.

灯蛾扑火,惹焰烧身。

The moth flies into the flame only to get itself burnt
to death.

地冻三尺,寒非一时。

The ground is frozen three feet deep—a rather long
process.

丁是丁,卯是卯。

A nail is a nail, a dowel is a dowel.

鼎分三足,缺一不可。

A tripod vessel must have three legs,
with only two it cannot stand.





滴水成冰。

The dripping forms into ice.

滴水穿石。

Constant dripping wears away a stone.

东方不亮西方亮,黑了南方有北方。

When it is dark in the east, it is light in the west;
when things are dark in the south, there is still light
in the north.

二虎相争,必有一伤。

When two tigers fight, one is sure to lose.

凡木有本,是水有源。

Every tree has its roots and every river has its
source.

飞蛾扑火,自取灭亡。

When the moth flies around the flame, it burns
itself to death.

飞鸟之景,未尝动也。

The shadow of a flying bird is not in motion.

风生袖底,月到波心。

The breeze is playing about one's sleeves,
While the moon's image sparkles in the rippling
water.





斧头吃凿子，凿子吃木头。

The axe strikes the chisel,
and the chisel strikes the wood.
Everything has its vanquisher.

覆巢之下无完卵。

No eggs can remain unbroken when the nest is upset.

干柴易燃。

Dry wood will easily make the fire burn.

甘瓜苦蒂。

The melon is sweet but the stalk is bitter.

高岸为谷，深谷为陵。

High banks make valleys and deep valleys make hills.

狗吃屎，狼吃人。

Dogs eat dung, wolves eat men.

狗嘴里长不出象牙。

No ivory will come of a dog's mouth.

古井不起波。

A dried-up well doesn't have ripples.

瓜熟蒂落，水到渠成。

When a melon is ripe, it falls off its stem;
and when water flows, a channel is formed.





光打雷,不下雨。

All thunder no storm.

光阴似箭,日月如梭。

Light travels like an arrow, and time like a shuttle.

滚石不生苔。

A rolling stone gathers no moss.

好鼓不用重打。

A good drum does not require hard beating.

好蜂不采落地花。

The wise bee does not sip from a flower that has fallen.

好马不吃回头草。

A good horse will never turn round to graze on an old pasture.

花尽已无擎雨盖,菊残犹有傲霜枝。[苏轼]

The lotus leaves that hold the rain no more appear, though yet chrysanthemums would rear their frosted stalks. [Su Shi]

荷花虽好,也要绿叶扶持。

For all its beauty, the lotus needs yet the green leaves to set it off.

合抱之木,生于毫末。

A huge tree grows from a tiny seedling.

