

红叶英语工作室
青闰 张玲 译注

华中科技大学出版社

木筏上的男孩

人 与 自 然 系 列

The Boy on a Raft

英汉对照



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常青藤寄语



“英语常青藤”系列图书自 1998 年推出以来,受到了广大读者的热烈欢迎和喜爱,虽一再重印仍供不应求,单本累计印数最高已达近十万册。在此谨向支持我们的读者致以衷心的感谢。

我们收到了许多热心读者的来信,他们对“英语常青藤”图书给予了充分的肯定和赞誉,这对于我们出版者来说,真是莫大的欣慰和鼓励,同时也鞭策我们向更高的目标迈进,为读者提供更多更好的英语轻松阅读类的图书。

时值人类迈入又一个新千年之际,我们对“英语常青藤”读物进行了重大改版和扩充,不仅内容更精彩、更可读了,而且版式更好看、装帧更精美了;呈现在读者面前的也不再是仅有的两个辑子,而是包括“精品回味”、“名家名篇”、“名人小传”、“开心草莓”、“人与自然”、“心动驿站”、“象牙塔”、“咖啡屋”等近十个子系列的大型系列丛书。读者朋友在这里不仅能接触到纯正、地道的英语,增强综合运用英语的能力,而且能领略到国外生活的方方面面,扩大与外部世界的沟通,成为新世纪的新型人才。

新版“英语常青藤”图书具有以下几大特点:

(1) 内容丰富,表达地道。读物所选的英文材料绝大多数直接取自国外原版,内容广泛,涉及语言、文化、风俗、习惯、历史、传统等许多方面。

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(2) 形式活泼,易学易用。编排方式新颖活泼,所配插图清新高雅,使读书学习变得轻松愉快,给读者以美的享受。读物多采用英汉对照形式,必要处还加有注释,方便读者学习。

(3) 装帧精美,适于收藏。装帧设计力求精美大方,加之内容实用可读,因此颇具收藏价值;若将其作为礼品,馈赠亲友,则更显得温馨高雅,意义非凡。

最后依然是我们出版人的宗旨:愿“英语常青藤”带给您的,不仅是常青的英语,更是常青的人生。

出版者

前言

我们策划推出的《悬崖上的牛仔》、《落雪初恋》、《一路天使》、《蓝鸟的承诺》和《木筏上的男孩》，是“英语常青藤”之“人与自然”系列中的五本。

我们之所以把这个系列称为“人与自然”，顾名思义是想在我们设定的特殊背景下充分展现人与自然的融融亲情和相互间千丝万缕的种种联系，让读者朋友从中领略到一种源于自然、归于自然的感召力和神秘感。

这里有人与飞禽走兽、花草虫鱼的亲情友爱，也有人与山川湖泊、日月星辰的心灵共鸣，还有人类征服自然的勇敢果决，具有极强的亲和力和包容性。

我们这里所选的文章长短适中、难易结合，或优美隽永，或汪洋恣肆，或科学严谨，或撼人心魄，或催人泪下……可谓色彩缤纷，尽收其中。

为了帮助读者准确快捷地把握原文、最大限度地汲取英语精华，我们以英汉对照的形式编排，并对疑难词加以注解。在翻译上，我们力求准确到位，再现原作神韵，使读者既能学到地道纯正的英语，又能管窥到汉语的博大精深。同时，我们还配制了精美贴切的情景图片，使读者朋友能赏心悦目、乐在其中。

本书除标有译者姓名的文章外，均为青闰、张玲合译并注解。由于译者能力有限和各方面条件制约，书中肯定会存在不少缺憾和纰漏，因此恳请读者朋友不吝赐教，以便我们精益求精进一步修订，将更加精彩的内容奉献给更多的读者朋友。

最后，让我们在英语常青藤的牵引下，走进大自然，感受大自然，融化在它宽广的怀抱里吧。

青闰

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紫丁香的回忆





The Remembrance of Lilacs

The family had just moved to Rhode Island, and the young woman was feeling a little *melancholy*¹ on that Sunday in May. After all, it was Mother's Day—and 800 miles separated her from her parents in Ohio.

She had called her mother that morning to wish her a happy Mother's Day, and her mother had mentioned how colorful the yard was now that spring had arrived. As they talked, the younger woman could almost smell the *tantalizing*² *aroma*³ of purple *lilacs*⁴ hanging on the big bush outside her parents' back door.

Later, when she mentioned to her husband how she missed those lilacs, he popped up from his chair. "I know where we can find you all you want," he said. "Get the kids and c'mon⁵."

So off they went, driving the country roads of northern Rhode Island on the kind of day only mid-May can produce: sparkling sunshine, unclouded *azure*⁶ skies and *vibrant*⁷ newness of the green growing all around. They went past small villages and *burgeoning*⁸ housing developments, past *abandoned*⁹ apple *orchards*¹⁰, back to where trees and brush have devoured old *homesteads*¹¹.

Where they stopped, dense thickets of *cedars*¹² and *junipers*¹³ and *birch*¹⁴ crowded the roadway on both sides. There wasn't a lilac bush in sight.

"Come with me," the man said. "Over that hill is an old *cellar*¹⁵ hole, from somebody's farm of years ago, and there are

紫丁香的回忆

5 月的那个星期天，一家人刚移居罗德岛，那个年轻女人感到有点儿忧伤。毕竟，这一天是母亲节——而她却与俄亥俄州的父母亲遥距 800 英里。

她那天早上给母亲打去电话，祝母亲节日愉快。随后，她的母亲向她提到，因为春天已经来临，所以院子里的色彩是多么绚丽。在她们通话的当儿，年轻女人几乎可以闻到悬垂在父母亲后门外大灌木丛上紫丁香的醉人的芬芳。

后来，当她向丈夫说起她是如何怀念那些丁香时，他突然从椅子上一跃而起。“我知道我们可以在哪儿找到你想要的东西，”他说，“带上孩子，走吧。”

于是，他们就出发了，驱车行驶在罗德岛北部的乡村小路上，那种天气只有五月中旬才会有：闪闪发亮的阳光、蔚蓝色的晴空以及生机勃勃、随处可见的鲜嫩的青草。他们穿过一座座小村庄和一座座拔地而起的房屋，穿过废弃的苹果园，来到了树林和灌木丛掩映的老农场。

他们停下车。车道两边长满了茂盛的雪松、杜松和白桦树。连一棵紫丁香也没看到。

“随我来，”那个男人说，“翻过那座小山，有个老地窖，几年前那是一个人的农场，四周长满了紫丁

1. a. 愁思的；忧伤的

2. a. 引人入胜的；挑逗性的

3. n. 香气；芳香

4. n. 丁香

5. = come on

6. a. 天蓝色的

7. a. 生机勃勃的

8. a. 迅速增长的

9. a. 废弃的

10. n. 果园

11. n. 家宅

12. n. 雪松

13. n. 杜松

14. n. 白桦

15. n. 地窖



人与自然本一体 自然与人两相依

lilacs all round it. The man who owns this land said I could *poke around*¹⁶ here anytime. I'm sure he won't mind if we pick a few lilacs."

Before they got halfway up the hill, the fragrance of the lilacs drifted down to them, and the kids started running. Soon, the mother began running, too, until she reached the top.

There, far from view of passing motorists and hidden from *encroaching*¹⁷ civilization, were the *towering*¹⁸ lilacs bushes, so laden with the huge, *cone-shaped*¹⁹ flower clusters that they almost bent *double*²⁰. With a smile, the young woman rushed up to the nearest bush and buried her face in the flowers, drinking in the fragrance and the memories it recalled.

While the man examined the cellar hole and tried to explain to the children what the house must have looked like, the woman drifted among the lilacs. Carefully, she chose a *sprig*²¹ here, another one there, and *clipped*²² them with her husband's pocket knife. She was in no hurry, *relishing*²³ each blossom as a rare and delicate treasure.

Finally, though, they returned to their car for the trip home. While the kids *chattered*²⁴ and the man drove, the woman sat smiling, surrounded by her flowers, a faraway look in her eyes.

When they were within three miles of home, she suddenly shouted to her husband, "Stop the car. Stop right here!"

The man slammed on the *brakes*²⁵. Before he could ask her why she wanted to stop, the woman was out of the car and hurrying up a nearby grassy slope with the lilacs still in her arms.

At the top of the hill was a *nursing home*²⁶ and, because it was such a beautiful spring day, the patients were outdoors strolling with relatives or sitting on the porch.

香。这块地的主人说我可以随时到这里来闲逛。我相信,我们要是采几束紫丁香,他是不会介意的。”

还没等他们到达半山腰,紫丁香的芬芳已经向他们飘了过来。于是,孩子们开始奔跑。不久,那位母亲也开始跑起来,直至到达山顶。

那里,远离了过往汽车司机的视野,避开了纷扰的文明世界,高耸的丁香花丛开满了硕大的圆锥形的串串花束,几乎把花茎都压弯了。那个年轻女人微笑着冲到离得最近的花丛,把脸埋在鲜花中,啜饮着芳香,它重新唤起了她的记忆。

在那个男人察看地窖试图向孩子们解释这个房子必定是什么样子的当儿,那个女人不由自主地走进了丁香花丛。她小心翼翼地在这儿摘一枝,在那儿挑一束,然后用丈夫的袖珍小刀将它们剪下来。她不慌不忙,像欣赏稀有珍宝似的欣赏着每一朵花。

然而,他们终于还是返回了汽车,走在了回家的路上。孩子们叽叽喳喳说个不停,那个男人驾着车,那个女人坐在那儿面带微笑,她周围放满了鲜花,眼睛里充满着向往。

当他们离家不足 3 英里时,她突然向丈夫大声喊道:“停车,就在这里停车!”

那个男人嘎地刹住车。还没等他问为什么要停,那个女人就已经下了车,匆匆走向附近的草坡,怀里仍抱着丁香。

山顶上是一家疗养院,而且因为这是一个美丽的春日,所以病人正在室外和亲友溜达或坐在门廊上。

16. 闲逛

17. vt. 逐步侵犯;
侵蚀

18. a. 高耸的

19. a 球茎状的

20. ad. 弓着身子
地;下弯地

21. n. 小枝

22. vt. 剪

23. vt. 享受

24. vi. 不停地谈

25. n. 刹车;刹闸

26. 疗养院



人与自然本一体
自然与人两相依



The young woman went to the end of the porch, where an elderly patient was sitting in her wheelchair, alone, head bowed, her back to most of the others. Across the porch railing went the flowers, into the lap of the old woman. She lifted her head, and smiled.

For a few moments, the two women chatted, both *aglow with*²⁷ happiness, and then the young woman turned and ran back to her family.

As the car pulled away, the woman in the wheelchair waved, and *clutched*²⁸ the lilacs.

"Mom," the kids asked, "who was that? Why did you give her our flowers? Is she somebody's mother?"

The mother said she didn't know the old woman. But it was Mother's Day, and she seemed so alone, and who wouldn't be cheered by flowers? "Besides," she added, "I have all of you, and I still have my mother, even if she is far away. That woman needed those flowers more than I did."

This satisfied the kids, but not the husband. The next day he *purchased*²⁹ half a dozen young lilacs bushes and planted them around their yard, and several times since then he has added more.

I was that man. The young mother was, and is, my wife.

Now, every May, our own yard is *redolent with*³⁰ lilacs. Every Mother's Day our kids gather purple *bouquets*³¹. And every year I remember that smile on a lonely old woman's face, and the kindness that put the smile there.



那个年轻女人走到门廊的尽头,只见那里有一个上了年纪的病人正坐在轮椅里,独自一人,低着头,背对着其他大多数人。年轻女人越过门廊栏杆,将鲜花放在了老太太的膝间。老太太抬起头,露出了笑脸。

两个女人聊了一会儿,都兴高采烈。随后,那个年轻女人转身跑回家人的身边。

当汽车开动时,坐在轮椅里的那个女人挥动着手,手里紧紧地握着那束丁香。

“妈妈,”孩子们问,“那人是谁呀?你为什么把我们的花送给她?她是谁的母亲呀?”

他们的母亲说,她不认识那个老太太,但今天是母亲节,她看起来是那么孤独,谁不情愿用鲜花为自己喝彩呢?“再说,”她补充道,“我拥有你们所有的人,而且我还有自己的母亲,即使她离我很远。那个女人比我更需要那些鲜花。”

她这一席话使孩子们都很满意,但她的丈夫却不是这样。第二天,他买了半打丁香幼苗,栽到了院子四周;而且从那以后,每隔一段时间,他就会增加一些。

我就是那个男人,那个年轻母亲是我妻子。

如今,每年5月,我们自家的院子都会散发出浓烈的紫丁香的芬芳。每逢母亲节,我们的孩子都要采摘紫丁香花束。而且每年我都会记起一位孤独的老太太脸上露出的那种笑容,以及笑容里呈现出的那种慈祥。

27. 洋溢着

28. vt. 紧握

29. vt. 购买

30. 散发出强烈
气味

31. n. 花束

夜色家园

