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D. Bell A D. Beil

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The Story of a Little Negro Boy

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#### LITTLE TOM

The Story of a Little Negro Boy

小湯姆(簡写本)

(美) B. Beil & D. Beil 原苔 北京外国语学院英语系 課外閱续教材小組

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## 英语簡易證物

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#### 本书簡介

本书描写一个美国黑人孩子揚姆 (Tom) 和他的家庭在二次世界大战前后的生活遭遇。 作者反映了美国 統治阶級的种族歧视政策的残暴,揭露了美国 統治 阶级利用种族歧视来分裂工人阶级团结的阴谋。同时,也反映了美国黑人对于这种非人的生活的 反抗,以及一部分白人工人的觉醒。他們已认識到,工人阶級必須不分种族,团結起来,共同斗爭。

本书根据苏联出版的簡写本略加删节, 非加汉語 注释。书末附有颜汇表。本书文字浅易,故事生动,适于初学英語者閱讀。



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#### PART I

#### LITTLE TOM

Tom was a little Negro boy. He was six years old. He lived in America.

Little Tom lived with his father and mother. They lived in a little town on the Mississippi River.<sup>2</sup> Their house was near the river.

#### TOM'S FATHER

Tom's father was a poor Negro worker. His name was Ed Porter. He worked on the Mississippi River. He worked from morning till night, but he got very little money for his work. He worked hard, but he was very poor.

#### TOM'S MOTHER

Tom's mother was a poor Negro woman. Her name was Stella Porter. She worked for a white lady. She did all the hard work in the

<sup>1.</sup> Little Tom ['lit1 'tom] — (人名) 小湯姆, Tom 是 Thomas ['toməs] 的爱称, 是英美男子常用的名字。

<sup>2.</sup> on the Mississippi River [misisipi rrivə] — 在 密土类比河边、密士失比河是縱貫美国中部南北的一条大河。

<sup>3.</sup> from morning till night — 从早到晚。

<sup>4.</sup> he got very little money for his work — 他工作 押来的銭很少.

white lady's house. She washed and cleaned and worked from morning till night, but she also got very little.

#### BOATS

Tom liked the river. He liked it because it was so big.

One day he went to the riverside. Many Negroes were working there. They were working hard.

Tom looked at the river. How big it was!<sup>1</sup>
There were many boats on it. How big they were! Tom loved boats. He looked at them and cried, "Look at the boats on the river. What nice big boats!<sup>2</sup> I want to run that big boat there!"

"Then you must be a captain,3 Little Torn, someone said to him.

Little Tom said to himself, "I want to be the captain of a boat, a big boat!"

#### TOM DREW A BOAT .

In the evening Tom's father came home;

<sup>1.</sup> How big it was! — (嚴叹句) 这河多大啊!

<sup>2.</sup> What nice big boats! — (威叹句) 多么好看了 大的船啊!

<sup>3.</sup> Then you must be a captain. — **海体有线** 

<sup>4.</sup> Little Tom said to himself — 小場類母里電 (集自己說).

<sup>5.</sup> came home — 阿到家里、home 在这里是蘭詞。

He was very tired. Tom was sitted table. He was drawing.

"What are you drawing, son?" asked Town's father.

"I am drawing a boat," said Tora.

"A boat?"

"Yes, daddy, I want to be the captain of a boat."

"The captain of a boat? Oh, sonny, you can't be the captain of a boat!"

"Why can't I be the captain of a boat, daddy?"

"Because you are 'coloured', sonny! A Negro cannot be the captain of a boat in America. A Negro can work on the river all his life, but he can never be the captain of a boat."

Little Tom was sad. "Why can't a Negro be the captain of a boat?" he asked himself.

#### TOM WANTED TO HELP HIS FATHER

One day Tom's father came home early. He was very sad, because he was out of work. There was no work on the river. There was no money in the house. There was nothing to eat.

Tom wanted to help his father.

<sup>1.</sup> at the table — 在桌旁; 在桌前.

<sup>2.</sup> all his life — 一輩子.

<sup>3.</sup> out of work — 失业; 沒有工作.

<sup>4.</sup> There was nothing to eat. — 沒有可吃的东西; 沒有东西吃.

"Daddy," he said, "I know we have no money. We are poor. But I can help you. I can work at the mill. Many children work at the mill. I can work there too. Then I can buy a coat and shoes and go to school."

"No," said Tom's father, "you are too young. You are only six years old. You must not work at the mill. I'll find work soon. Then we can buy a coat and shoes for you."

But he did not often find work, and then the family had nothing to eat.

#### NEGRO TOWN1

In America the Negroes cannot live near the white people. They must live in 'Negro Town.'

Tom and his parents lived in a little old wooden house. All the houses in Negro Town were like theirs. They were very old and dirty. There were big cracks in the walls and in the roofs of most of these houses. The rooms were small and dark. In summer the houses were too hot and in winter they were too cold. But the Negroes had to pay a lot of money for these bad houses to a rich white man.<sup>2</sup> When they

京,需要完整PDF请访

<sup>1.</sup> Negro Town [mi:grou daun] — 黑人区,美国城市中黑人被追聚居的地区,房屋常是拥挤破烂的,街道窄狭肮脏。

<sup>2.</sup> But the Negroes had to pay a lot of moncy for these bad houses to a rich white man. — 但是黑人(为了)住这些破房子得向一个有錢的白人付很多租錢。

had no money to pay the white man, he threw them and their things out of the houses.

One day the rich white landlord, Mr. Green, came to Negro Town. Two other white men were with him. They went to a poor Negro's house and began to throw out the things. A woman ran out of the house.

"Mr. Green," she cried, "please don't throw out our things. Where can we go? What shall I do with my three little children? Their father can't get work. We have no money, but we will pay you. Please just wait a little.<sup>2</sup> Please don't throw out our things!"

But the rich white landlord did not listen to her. He would not listen, and he would not help her. He would not wait either.

"No, I can't wait," he shouted at the Negro woman. "Pay me now, or you can get out."

Then he said to the white men, "Throw out their things!"

The poor woman and her children were crying. Tom heard what the white man had said.<sup>3</sup> He ran from house to house<sup>4</sup> and said to the Negro families, "Mr. Green is throwing out Aunt Bessie's things! He is throwing out all

<sup>1.</sup> out of -- 往...外面.

<sup>2.</sup> wait a little -- 等些时候; 等几天.

<sup>3.</sup> Tom heard what the white man had said. — 湯姆听見了白人所說的話。

<sup>4.</sup> from house to house — 从一家到另一家; 换家.

her things because the can't pay him. Sammy, Mary, and Baby Jane are crying."

The Negroes came out of their houses. "Mr. Green is throwing out Bessie's things. We must help her. We mustn't let the white landlord do this to one of our neighbours," they said. They gave Aunt Bessie their last pennies. They stood by her and looked at Mr. Green with hatred in their eyes.

"Mr. Green, here is the money for the rent," said Bessie. Mr. Green looked around. He saw the angry faces of the Negroes. He took the money and went away with his men.

The Negroes helped Aunt Bessie to carry her things back into the house. Some women helped her to look after the children. Now Aunt Bessie could live in the house for another month.<sup>2</sup> "Thank you! Thank you ever so much, my good neighbours!" she said.

Tom ran home. "Mama," he said. "Mr. Green is a bad man. I hate him!" "Hush, Tom," said his mother. She was afraid. She was afraid that Mr. Green might come the next day and throw out their things too!

#### LITTLE TOM WAS ILL

It was winter. Tom's shoes were very old. They were full of holes. His feet were often wet.

<sup>1.</sup> their last pennies - 他們仅有的几个銅子儿(一点鎖)。

<sup>2.</sup> for another month — 两(住) 一个月.

One day he came home and went to bed.<sup>1</sup> His head was hot. His mother put her hand to his head.<sup>2</sup>

"Tommy," she said, "you are ill. You must stay in bed."

"We must take him to a doctor," said Tom's father.

"No, Tom must stay in bed," said the mother. "He must not go out. He is very ill. Ask the doctor to come here. Tell him that Tom is very ill. Tell him also that we have no money to pay him now, but we will pay him later."

Tom's father went for the doctor, but came back without him. He was sad when he told his wife about the doctor.

"The doctor says, 'I am a white doctor and I only go to see white children when they are itl. I don't go to see coloured children.'"

Tom's mother began to cry.

Tom was ill for a long time.<sup>5</sup> It was cold in their room. Tom's father had no money to buy good food for Tom.

<sup>1.</sup> went to bed — 上床; 去睡覚.

<sup>2.</sup> His mother put her hand to his head. — 他母亲用手摸他的头.

<sup>3.</sup> We must take him to a doctor. — 我們必須帶他 去看医生·

<sup>4.</sup> Tom's father went for the doctor, but came back without him: — 湯姆的父亲去講医生, 但是沒有請到 (一个人回来).

<sup>5.</sup> for a long time - 很久

At last<sup>1</sup> Tom got well,<sup>2</sup> but he was weak for a long time.

In America there are very few doctors and hospitals for Negroes. The white hospitals do not take in Negro children when they are ill, and many of them die.

#### "THE CIRCUS IS HERE!"3

One day when Tom was playing near the river, a little white boy ran up to him.<sup>4</sup> It was Billy Brown. Billy's father and mother were poor white people. They worked at a mill. Billy and Tom liked to play together.

"Tom," cried Billy. "The circus is in town! Let's go to the circus, Tom! Now we can see lions and tigers and elephants and bears and monkeys... And acrobats and clowns, too. Let's go, Tom."

"But how can we go?" asked Tom.

"I have some money," said Billy. "Today is my birthday. We can buy two tickets! Don't you want to see real lions and tigers, and clowns, too?"

So the two boys went to the circus. There

<sup>1.</sup> at last - 終于; 最后.

<sup>2.</sup> got well - 康复; 好起来·

<sup>3.</sup> The circus is here! - 馬戏团来了!

<sup>4.</sup> ran up to him - 顯到他顯前.

<sup>5.</sup> Don't you want to...? — 你(难道)不想...么? 否定的一般疑問句, 常表示"难道""竟然"的意思。

were many children there. They all wanted to see the animals and clowns and acrobats.

Billy bought two tickets and gave one to Tom. Both boys were very happy, because they were going to see the circus.<sup>1</sup>

But the big white man who was taking the tickets at the gate suddenly pushed Tom back.

"Hey, little darky!" he cried. "Where are you going?"

"It's all right," said Billy. "We've got two tickets. Here they are."

"All right. Go in, little white boy," said the man at the gate to Billy. "But that little darky can't go in. This circus is for white children only."

Billy went into the circus alone. He saw all the animals and the funny clowns, too, but he was not happy. He was thinking of his little black friend.

"Why can't Tom and I go to the circus together?" he asked himself.

In the southern states of America Negro children cannot go to school with the white children. They cannot go to the cinema or to the park together. They cannot go to the Zoo or the circus together. They cannot sit together in the street cars.

<sup>1. ...</sup>because they were going to see the circus — ...因为他們就要看到馬麥了-

<sup>2.</sup> It's all right. - 沒錯儿·

<sup>3.</sup> Here they are. - 在这儿·

The white children and the Negro children like to play together. But the white children's parents say to them, "Don't play with coloured children! You mustn't play with coloured children."

#### BILLY'S FATHER

In the evening Billy's father came home from the mill.

"A happy birthday, son!" he said to Billy.
"Well, son, how did you like the circus?"2

"I—I like the circus—but—" and Billy began to cry.

"Then why are you crying? What's the matter?"

When Billy told his father the story,4 Mr. Brown got angry. "Don't play with coloured children, do you hear?" he cried.

"But why, daddy? Is Tom a bad boy? Why can't I play with him?"

"Don't talk so much! You mustn't play with coloured boys, that's all. Now go to bed."

<sup>1.</sup> A happy birthday (to you) — (祝你)生日快乐 (这是常用的生日祝贺辞).

<sup>2. ...</sup>how did you like the circus? — ...馬及怎么样 (依喜欢那黑戏嘛)?

<sup>3.</sup> What's the matter? — 怎么回事? 怎么啦?

<sup>4.</sup> told his father the story — 把事情的經过告訴他 父亲。

<sup>5.</sup> that's all — 就这些,沒有别的。这里意思是: 別的 你不用問。