



英语新干线丛书

# The Pigeon with Broken Wings

## 断翅的鸽子

青闰 张玲 向晓瑶 / 译注



漓江出版社

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## 出版前言

常言道是：“熟读唐诗三百首，不会作诗也会吟。”这句话无疑说明了熟能生巧之类的道理，同时也表明了阅读或朗诵的重要性。学诗如此，学一门外语也不例外。

“英语新干线丛书”就是一套专门为青少年学生和英语爱好者设计的英语阅读与朗诵文选。鉴于这一特定读者群的年龄特点，丛书尽可能精选新潮英语时文，希望能以新颖的选材、精彩的故事、地道的语言和精彩的图片体现青春动感与时尚趣味。

“英语新干线丛书”力争做到寓学于乐、寓教于学，以便读者在休闲阅读、快乐阅读中学习英语知识，感受西方文化，领略异国风情。为此，译注者不仅为难词和惯用法加了文内注释，而且有的放矢地就重要的语法难点做了说明，还在书中配了众多富于异国特色的图片。另外，书中还配有适量的阅读与理解选择题，旨在培养读者实际应用英文的能力。

“英语新干线”各书均配有参考译文，译文力求忠实、准确。值得特别指出的是，我们特意把译文与原文分开编排，不采取英汉对照的形式，因为我们认为，既然是学习英文，就应该尽量多看英文少看中文，就应该直接通过英文去理解，直接用英文去思考，在纯粹的英文氛围中学好英文。



本书精选了英语时文佳作14篇，讲述人、动物和大自然之间的奇趣故事。语言地道，图片富于异国风味，极具可读性。

各篇英文均附有文内注释和篇末注释，旨在扫除生词、难词、惯用语和语法难点等阅读障碍，提高阅读速度与兴趣。各篇配有相关的英文思考题，书末附参考答案，旨在培养读者的阅读理解能力和用英语思考的能力。

另外，各篇还配有参考译文。把译文与英文分开排列的目的是敦促读者多读英文，尽量不看译文。

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## 1. The Arctic Sled Dog

Balto trotted (小跑) head down in the darkness of a stinging blizzard (长期大风雪). Behind him his ten teammates kept pace as he guided them into Nome, Alaska ,<sup>①</sup> and down a deserted (荒芜的) street to the hospital.

“Halt!” Musher Gunnar Kasson croaked through ice-

burned lips. Balto dropped into the deep snow at the door of the hospital. Kasson sank to his knees beside him. With tears *welling* (涌出) from his near-blinded eyes, hands shaking from *exhaustion* (极度疲劳), he pulled sharp chunks of ice from Balto's bleeding paws. "Balto," Kasson whispered into his neck fur. "Damn fine dog!"

It was 5:30 a.m. on February 2, 1998. Balto had saved lives.

The people of Nome were stricken with *diphtheria* (白喉), a deadly disease.

They were in desperate need of the *serum* (免疫血清) that would stop the "black death" that was killing a person a day in the sub-arctic town. When the railroad train carrying the serum had become snowbound in Nenana, 660 miles away, and the planes could not take off, the U.S. Signal Corps sent out a call for dog teams.

Mushers from miles around, including Gunnar Kasson, responded. They knew the assignment was dangerous, but they brought their strongest and most intelligent dogs to the snowbound *outposts* (前哨) along the route to Nome.

At one post after another, a team would pull in, the serum would be passed on, and another team would pull out.

The *relay* (连续; 接替) ran day and night for four

days. Then Charlie Olson and his team of seven pulled into Bluff, 67.5 miles from Nome, in a roaring blizzard. He handed Gunnar Kasson the serum and warned him about the winds and cold.

At first Kasson decided to wait out the storm. But at ten o'clock that night, the blizzard showed no sign of stopping or even *letting up* (减弱; 减缓). Kasson knew lives were *at stake* (紧急关头). He and his dogs took off into the icy *tempest* (大暴风雪).

The next relay point was 34 miles away. As Balto led his team across the Topok River, an 80-mile-an-hour wind struck like a railroad engine and lifted clouds of snow into the air. Neither the dogs nor Kasson could see. But Balto never hesitated. *He trotted on, following his own internal compass that guided him around drifts (漂流物) and out onto an ice - covered lagoon (环礁湖).*<sup>②</sup> Near the shore, Kasson sensed trouble. “Haw (吆喝牲口左转声),” he called.

Obedying reluctantly, Balto ran to the left, off the trail, and splashed into an overflow of water. Wet feet meant crippled dogs. In desperation Kasson drove the team into soft snow to dry their paws and was instantly lost in whiteness.

But Balto kept going. Picking his way, and making

intelligent decisions, he trotted on at a steady pace. Twice the sled overturned and the dogs *tangled* (变得混乱). Twice Kasson *righted* (校正; 调整) the sled, straightened the traces, and let Balto lead the way. Fortunately, as they crossed Norton Sound, the wind got behind them. They covered the next 12.5 miles to Port Safety in eighty minutes.

At the relay station, the lights were out. The musher and his team were asleep. Time would be lost waking them. Twenty-one miles away people were dying. Kasson made a decision. His dogs were running well. "Hup! Hup!" he called, and Balto kept going.

Along the seacoast the snow stopped. Kasson could see again. Two of his dogs were stiffening up. The temperature was thirty-six degrees below zero Fahrenheit. He stopped to quickly make rabbitskin boots for the dogs, and went on.

At last they pulled into Nome, exhausted but *undaunted* (无畏的; 大胆的). The dog relay teams had completed in five and a half days a trip that usually took the mail train more than twenty-five days. The next morning Balto's name appeared on the front page of every major newspaper in the United States. He was praised on the floor of Congress. Invitations for personal appearances poured in. Balto and Kasson toured from California to New York, stopping in big and little towns amid cheers and *fanfare* (敲锣打鼓).

Balto has not been forgotten. His statue, made by R. G. Roth, stands in New York City's Central Park. Under Balto's name are these words:

*Dedicated* (奉献) to the *indomitable* (不屈不挠的; 一往无前的) spirit of the sled dogs that relayed *antitoxins* (抗生素) 660 miles over rough ice, across *treacherous* (暗藏危险的) waters, through Arctic blizzards from Nenana to the relief of stricken Nome in the Winter of 1998. ③

## Notes

① *Behind him his ten teammates kept pace as he guided them into Nome, Alaska...* him 指公狗 Balto, 英文中对雄性动物用“he”, 雌性动物用“she”, 相应的指示代词则用“his”及“her”.

② *He trotted on, following his own internal compass that guided him around drifts and out onto an ice-covered lagoon.* that 引导的是限定性定语从句。

③ *Dedicated to the indomitable spirit of the sled dogs that relayed antitoxins 660 miles over rough ice, across treacherous waters, through Arctic blizzards from Nenana to the relief of stricken Nome in the Winter of 1998.* that...the Winter of 1998 是 dogs 的后置定语。

## Comprehension

1. Kasson said to the dog, "Damn fine dog!" What he said means that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. he scolded the dog
- B. he cursed the dog
- C. he praised the dog
- D. he made a joke with the dog

2. They were in desperate need of the serum because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the people of Nome were stricken with diphtheria
- B. this medicine would stop the "black death" that was killing a person a day in the sub-arctic town
- C. the people of Nome were so cold
- D. A and B

3. Kasson didn't wait out the storm because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the blizzard should no sign of stopping or even letting up
- B. Kasson knew lives were at stake
- C. Many patients waited to be saved
- D. all of the above

4. Kasson and his dog team completed a \_\_\_\_\_ trip.

- A. 660-mile
  - B. 67.5-mile
  - C. five-and-a-half-a-day
  - D. 675-mile
5. In which state did this story take place?
- A. New York
  - B. California
  - C. Alaska
  - D. Florida



## 2. Dolphins Talking to Each Other

*Dolphins (海豚)* can make all sorts of sounds. Some scientists believe that these sounds are a language — a way for dolphins to talk to each other. Many scientists are studying these different sounds. They are trying to understand what the sounds mean.

Dolphins make many kinds of sounds. They *squeak*