



# 三条规则 Three Precepts

主 编: 岳玉庆

副主编: 王德峰 姜淑萍

译 者: 蒋金霞 鞠燕娥 郭 真

岳玉庆 赵汗青 姜雪梅



#### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

三条规则:英汉对照/岳玉庆主编.一青岛:青岛出版社,2007.2 (英语故事会)

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5436 - 4044 - 3

I. 三... Ⅱ. 岳... 英语课-中学-课外读物 IV. G634, 413

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2007)第 010316 号

书 名 英语故事会 ——三条规则

**主 编** 岳玉庆

出版发行 青岛出版社(青岛市徐州路77号,266071)

本社网址 http://www.qdpub.com

邮购电话 13335059110 (0532)85814750(兼传真) 85840228

责任编辑 曹永毅 E-mail: cyyx2001@ sohu. com

封面设计 喻 鹏 王雪枚

照 排 青岛正方文化传播有限公司

印 刷 青岛双星华信印刷有限公司

出版日期 2007年2月第1版 2007年2月第1次印刷

开 本 20 开(889mm×1194mm)

印 张 10.8

字 数 200 千

书 号 ISBN 978 - 7 - 5436 - 4044 - 3

定 价 16.00 元

盗版举报电话 (0532)85814926

青岛版图书售出后如发现印装质量问题,请寄回青岛出版社印刷物资处调换。

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通过读故事学英语,这是一条实践已经证明了的有效的途径。我国老一辈英语专家很多都是通过读《一千零一夜》、《福尔摩斯探案集》等饶有趣味的故事逐渐培养起对英语的兴趣,进而步入英语的殿堂的。读故事,读到着迷处,人们往往爱不释手,欲罢不能。常言说,兴趣是最好的老师。学英语亦复如此。读英语故事,没有语法的枯燥,没有死记单词的单调;有的只是引人入胜的情节,栩栩如生的人物,睿智诙谐的语言。寓学于乐,其乐无穷。

本丛书所收的故事,都是来自世界各地。无论是欧洲的英国、德国、俄罗斯,还是非洲的尼日利亚、埃及,无论是美洲的印第安人、近邻日本、朝鲜和印度,还是南半球的澳大利亚,或多或少,都有收入。所有故事都是编者精心挑选,篇幅短小精炼,内容丰富多彩,有神话,有寓言,有童话,有幽默,有笑话;有的教读者处世做人,有的仅供读者开心一笑,有的发人深思,有的让人叹息甚至落泪。故事的主角有人们熟悉的传统的老虎、狮子、狐狸和猴子,有帝王、总统、大臣和将军,有富翁、乞丐、农民和士兵,也有美女、儿童、学生和小偷。本丛书堪称世界故事的百花园。

您可以把本书当作"疯狂英语"的素材,用以复述故事,提高口语;也可以当作"床头灯系列",睡前给小孩或者是自己读上一篇;也可以摆放在案头桌旁,随手翻上一篇,放飞您的心情。无论您是中小学生,是大学生,还是已经踏上社会,无论您是用来参加故事大赛,用来学习英语,还是用于娱乐,本丛书定会让您开卷有益,平添几分乐趣。

本丛书英汉对照,译文力求忠实通顺。但由于时间和水平有限,疏漏之处在所难免,敬请读者批评指正。

本册编译人员分工如下:姜雪梅,故事 1-39,69-88;赵汗青,故事 40-44,100-109, 110-114;鞠燕娥,故事 45-46,115-116;蒋金霞,故事 47-56;岳玉庆,故事 57-68;郭真,故事 89-99。





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### 1. Even Friendship Has Its Limits

There was once a man who was a champion wrestler. He had mastered 360 holds and tricks, and used a different one every day of the year. It so happened that he was fond of one of his students, and taught him all his tricks, except one.

The boy grew in strength and skill, and no one among his contemporaries was able to challenge him. One day, he boasted in front of the king: "My teacher is unchallenged only because he is older than me and because I respect him as my teacher. Otherwise my strength is not less than his and my skill is quite equal to his."

The King did not appreciate this boasting and ordered a match to take place. They cleared the broad wrestling ground and gathered ministers, courtiers and sportsmen to watch.

The boy charged out into the ring like a mad elephant. His master knew that his pupil was not stronger than him, so he used the 360th hold the he had never taught him. The boy did not know how to counter it. His master raised him with both hands above his head and smashed him to the ground. The crowd cheered wildly.

The King congratulated the champion and ordered a robe of honor to be given to him. He reproached the boy, saying: "You were ill-bred enough to dare to challenge your teacher and how you see how hollow your boast was!"

The boy answered: "O lord of the word! He did not overpower me with his strength but rather because of one trick which he never taught me. Today this one trick gave him the victory."

The King retorted: "It was just for such a day that he had kept his trick! Have you not heard what the wise say?" Never give a friend such power over you that if one day he







tries to be your enemy, he can defeat you.

The teacher betrayed by his pupil said: "There is no such thing as loyalty in this world, or at least no one today knows the meaning of loyalty. Whoever learned tricks from me, finally tried to do me down."



#### 1. 友谊也有限度

从前,有一个摔跤冠军,他会360种抓法和技巧。每一天,他都使用一种不同的技巧。碰巧,他非常喜欢自己的一个学生,就把自己的技巧倾囊相授,只保留了一招。

那个男孩的力量和技巧天天都在进步,当时的人没有谁能向他挑战。一天,他在国王面前吹嘘道:"我的师傅没有受到挑战,只是因为他比我年长,而且我尊敬他是我的师傅。否则的话,我的力量不比他的小,技术也与他旗鼓相当。"

国王并不赏识他自我吹嘘,遂下令举行一场比赛。他们打扫了宽敞的摔跤场地,召集大臣、侍臣和运动员来观战。

那个男孩就像一头疯了的大象一样冲进了赛场。师傅知道徒弟并不比自己实力强,因此他使用了第360招,也就是他从来没有教他的那一招。那个男孩不知该如何应付。他的师傅双手把他举过头顶,然后一下子把他摔在了地上。人群里爆发出一阵欢呼声。

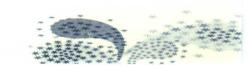
国王向冠军道贺,下令赏赐给他一件象征荣誉的袍子。国王责备那个男孩道:"你真是没有教养,竟敢挑战师傅。现在你明白你的吹嘘有多么空洞了吧!"

那男孩回答说:"噢,国王大人!他并不是在力量上超过我,而是因为他没有教给我的那一招。今天他是一招制胜。"

国王反驳道:"这就是他把那一招保留到今天的原因!你没听过智者所说的话吗?'不要给予朋友一种超越你的力量,以防有一天他成为你的敌人打败你。'"

遭徒弟背叛的那个师傅说道:"世上没有绝对的忠诚,或者说现在至少没有人懂得忠诚的 含义。拜我为师学习技巧的人,最终都想把我打败。"









#### 2. The Strong Child

There was once a child who was so big and strong that he thought he was a man.

"See!" he said to his mother, "I am a man! Give me my father's sword, and I will take care of you."

"That will be beautiful!" said his mother; and she gave him the sword, and sighed and smiled.

The child held the sword lightly, he was so strong, and brandished it about.

"Look!" he said, "I can wield it easily. If we meet a lion or a bear on the road, I will kill it with one blow, thus!"

"That will be glorious!" said the mother; and she sighed and smiled.

But when the child put the sword back in the sheath, it chanced that he caught his finger on a pin that was on his dress, and tore the flesh.

"Oh, mother!" he cried. "This dreadful pin has scratched my finger. Look! Here is a great drop of blood! Oh! How it hurts!" And he wept bitterly.

"Thank God!" said the mother. "You are still a child."

And she kissed the finger, and bound it up, and wept too, for joy.









#### 2. 强壮的孩子



从前,有一个又高大又强壮的孩子。他以为自己就是一个 男子汉了。

"看!"他对母亲说,"我是一个男子汉了! 把父亲的剑给我,我会照顾你的。"

"那太好了!"他母亲说,然后把剑给了他,叹了口气,笑了笑。

孩子很强壮,轻而易举地拿着剑到处挥舞着。

"看!"他说,"我可以很容易地就舞动它。如果我在路上碰到一只狮子或者一头熊,我一挥,就能把它杀死。"

"那将多光荣啊!"他母亲说,接着又叹了口气,笑了笑。

但是当那个孩子把剑收回剑鞘时,刚好衣服上的一个饰针剐了手指,戳破了一块肉。

"噢!妈妈!"他哭着说,"这个该死的饰针划破了我的手指。看!滴了一大滴血!噢!好疼哦!"他伤心地哭着。

"谢天谢地!"他母亲说,"你还是个孩子啊!"

然后她吻了吻他受伤的手指,把它包扎起来。她哭了,但流下的却是高兴的泪水。











#### 3. The Man Who Complains

A man was complaining of his neighbors.

"I never saw such a wretched set of people," he said, "as are in this village. They are mean, selfish, greedy of gain, and careless of the needs of others. Worst of all, they are forever speaking evil of one another."

"Is it really so?" asked an Angel who happened to be walking with him.

"It is indeed!" said the man, "Why, only look at this fellow coming towards us! I know his face, though I cannot

tell you his name. See his little sharp, cruel eyes, darting here and there like a ferret's, and the lines of covetousness about his mouth! The very droop of his shoulders is mean and cringing, and he slinks along instead of walking."

"It is very clever of you to see all this," said the Angel, "But there is one thing that you do not perceive."

"What is that?" asked the man.

"Why, it is a looking-glass we are approaching!" said the Angel.







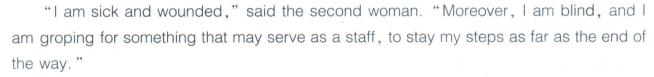


#### 4. The Staff

Once there was a woman who had a sword in her heart; but because she was a decent body, she covered it with her shawl, and went about her business, and no one knew of it.

Once as she went along the way, she saw another woman, tottering slowly along, groping with her hands, and moaning as she went.

"Why do you grope thus?" asked the first woman, "And why do you moan as you go?"



The first woman looked about for a tree, but there was none, nor any bush from which she could cut a staff.

Then she drew the sword out from under her shawl, and put it in the blind woman's hand, and said, "Take this, since it is all I have to give."

The blind woman took it, and felt it all over, and leaned on it.

"Oh," she cried joyfully, "here is a good staff; with this I shall do well." And she thanked the other, and blessed her.









And when the first woman looked at that which had been her sword, it was a staff indeed.



4. 拐 杖



从前有一个妇人,心里面有一把剑。但是,她是一个体面的 人,她用披巾盖住了那把剑,然后出去做事,没有人知道这件事。

一次,她走在一条路上,看到了另外一个妇人摇摇晃晃、慢慢悠悠地走着,还用双手摸索着,边走边呻吟。

"你为什么摸索着走呢?"第一个妇人问,"为什么边走还边呻吟呢?"

第二个妇人回答道:"我生病了,又受伤了,而且看不见,我正摸索着找个能当拐杖的东西,支撑我走到路的尽头。"

第一个妇人向四周看了看,想找一棵树,但是没有。也没有

任何灌木丛能从中砍下一棵当拐杖。

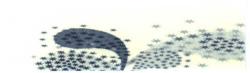
于是,她从披巾下面拔出那把剑,放在盲妇的手里,说:"拿着这个吧,这是我唯一能给你的了。"

盲妇接过剑,从头到尾地摸了一遍,然后当拐杖拄了。

"噢!"她高兴地流着泪,"这是一根不错的拐杖,有了它路就好走了。"她谢过了第一个妇人,并且祝福她。

第一个妇人定睛一看:原先的剑,此时已经是一根地地道道的拐杖了。





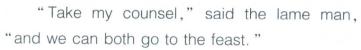




# 5. How the Lame Man and the Blind Man Helped Each Other

A certain king made a great feast, and invited many guests to it. There was to be much eating and drinking, and every one besides was to have a present. The servants of the king gave the bidding to one and another, and in jest bade two men to the feast, one of whom was strong but stone blind, while the other had good sight but was dead lame.

"What a pity it is," said the blind man, "that we cannot go to the feast, for we should have enough to eat and drink, and a present beside. But I am blind and cannot see the way, and you are lame and cannot walk."



"Why, how may that be?"

"It is easily done," said the lame man. "You are strong and I can see. Let me mount your back. You can carry me, and I will show you the way."

"Well said," quoth the blind man. So he took the lame man on his back and trudged along, and both sat down at the king's feast.









#### 5. 瘸子和瞎子是如何互相帮助的

有一个国王大摆宴席,邀请了许多人来参加。宴席上可以 大吃大喝,而且每个人还可以得到一份礼物。国王的仆人传达 着命令,还开玩笑命令两个人赴宴:他们其中的一个很强壮,但 却是个瞎子;另一个眼睛很好,但却是个瘸子。

瞎子说:"多遗憾啊,我们不能去参加宴会。如果我们去了,就要吃有吃,要喝有喝,另外还有一份礼物。但我是瞎子,看不见路,你又是瘸子,不能走路。"





- "什么,怎么会呢?"
- "这很容易。"瘸子说,"你很强壮,我又能看见,我爬到你背上,你背着我,我给你指路。"
- "说得好!"瞎子说。于是他背上瘸子艰难地上路了。后来,他们俩都坐在了国王的宴席上。





