

THIRTY FAMOUS STORIES RETOLD

英汉对照



插图珍藏

西方经典故事30篇

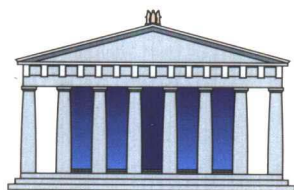
(美) 詹姆斯·鲍德温 著

王天权/贺敏洁 译

古声 注



暨南大学出版社
中国·广州



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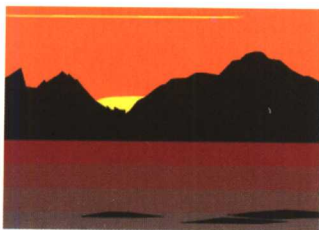
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编译者的话

你知道橙色的晚照为什么迟迟不肯淡去？大概是它太钟情于这位手不释卷的女孩吧——虽然掩卷之余，她已深深沉醉于灿然的晚霞。

她手中的正是一本令人着迷的书，这书整整陶冶了中国几代读书人。早在 1872 年（同治十一年）詹天佑、蔡绍基等首批赴美的官派留学少年踏上新英格兰的土地，最早接触到的书面英语正是这两本名为《Thirty Famous Stories Retold》和《Fifty Famous Stories Retold》启蒙性质的读物。辛亥革命后，现代教育体制在中国落地生根，研习英文蔚然成风。当时中国最有名的两大出版企业——商务印书馆和中华书局不失时机，分别于 1921 年和 1922 年以本土化的书名《泰西五十轶事》与《泰西三十轶事》刊行了这两本著名的英语读物，坊间一时洛阳纸贵，有的中学甚至大学以此作英语课教材或课外必读。可以说，两书至少惠及中国几代知识分子，梁思成、张爱玲、杨振宁、季羨林、孙犁……More than can be listed（不胜枚举）。台湾作家罗兰如是追忆：“考大学是在八年抗战以后，沦陷区学生英文程度较低，入学考试未考英文，大一的英文课又回过头来念《泰西五十轶事》，使我几乎变成‘教授级’的学生而骄傲不已。”至今许多学有专长事业有成的专家学者、资深院士每提及早年的英语学习，对两书的影响最是念念不忘。

正因为内容好、流传广、惠人众。因此，我们决定重新刊印两种业已经过时间检验的经典，或者说我们决意把昨天的经典带给今天的书友，旨在提高青少年的英语水准、传播西方的文化知识与分享亲近经典的乐趣。由于两书内容多取材于西方历史名人轶事和民间传说，其中许多人事虽耳熟能详，但为了便于书友进一步的了解，除了对应的中文译文外，我们还增加了一些必要的注释，并予以适当引申，类同于时下媒体常采用的横向“链接”，以拓展读者的知识视野。同时，我们在书中使用了大量精美的图片资料，目的既是为了提高读物审美价值，也是为了丰富读物的信息内涵。图文并茂，知识性强、美学意味浓厚、具时代气息、有收藏价值是这次重刊的版本特色，所以，两书的内容虽说是传统的经典，但整体面貌已脱胎换骨。这么说吧，我们尽力把传统的经典做成潮流的范本，载陈酿以新瓶。为此，我们把书名改成了《西方经典故事 30 篇》与《西方经典故事 50 篇》，诚望新的版本能施惠于新一代书友。

我们说过金色的晚霞为何不愿遽尔离去，其实是它太依恋阳光普照的白昼了，这不就是我们读过一本好书后的感觉吗？或许正是此书使画中的女孩如此安详、陶醉，以至物我两忘，与美融为一体了。



2003 年 8 月 10 日



CONTENTS 目录



Columbus and the Egg /4
哥伦布和鸡蛋 /5



“Upon a Peak in Darien” First Story /8
“矗立在达连的山巅”（一） /9



“Upon a Peak in Darien” Second Story /16
“矗立在达连的山巅”（二） /17



The Fountain of Youth /24
青春泉 /25



“Eureka!” /32
“我发现了!” /33



Galileo and the Lamps /38
伽利略和灯 /39



Sir Isaac Newton and the Apple /42
艾萨克·牛顿爵士和苹果 /43



The First Printer /46
第一个印刷家 /47



John Gutenberg and the Voices /54
约翰·古登堡和人声 /55





James Watt and the Teakettle /58
詹姆斯·瓦特和茶壶 /59



Dr. Johnson and his Father /64
约翰生博士和他的父亲 /65



Webster and the Woodchuck /74
韦伯斯特和土拨鼠 /75



Friar Bacon and the Brazen Head /82
培根修士和黄铜头像 /83



“As Rich as Croesus” /100
“像克罗伊斯一样富有” /101



The Gordian Knot /108
戈狄阿斯之结 /109



Why Alexander Wept /118
亚历山大为什么落泪 /119



King Richard and Blondel /122
理查德国王和布隆德尔 /123



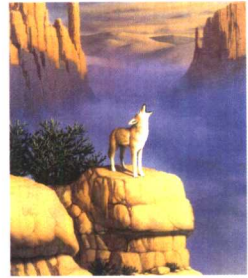
King John and Prince Arthur /134
约翰王和亚瑟王子 /135



King John and Magna Charta /148
国王约翰和大宪章 /149



Frederick Barbarossa /154
弗里德里克·巴巴罗萨 /155





The Man in the Iron Mask /166
铁面人 /167



The Fall of Troy /172
特洛伊的陷落 /173



Penelope's Web /198
佩内洛普的布 /199



How Rome was Founded /224
罗马是怎样建成的 /225



How Decius Mus Saved Rome /250
德西乌斯·穆斯拯救了罗马 /251



"Delenda est Carthago!" /256
“一定要摧毁迦太基!” /257



Hannibal, the Hero of Carthage /262
迦太基的英雄汉尼拔 /263



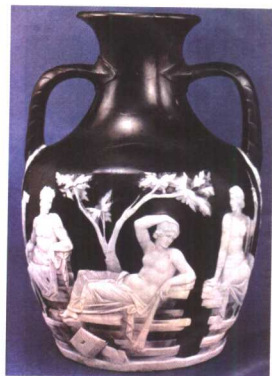
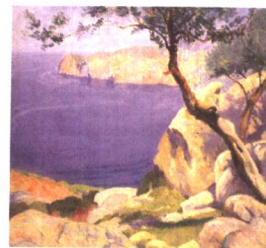
Crossing the Rubicon /270
横渡卢比孔河 /271



The White-headed Zai /276
白发扎尔 /277



Peter Klaus the Goatherd /288
牧羊人彼得·克劳斯 /289





Columbus Day

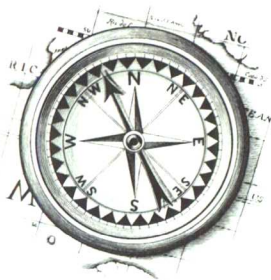
Columbus Day 哥伦布发现美洲纪念日，每年的10月12日。



COLUMBUS AND THE EGG



Christopher Columbus discovered America on the 12th of October, 1492. He had spent eighteen years in planning for that wonderful first voyage which he made across the Atlantic Ocean. The thoughts and hopes of the best part of his life had been given to it. He had talked and argued with sailors and scholars and princes and kings, saying, "I know that, by sailing west across the great ocean, one may at last reach lands that have never been visited by Europeans." But he had been laughed at as a foolish dreamer, and few people had any faith in his projects.



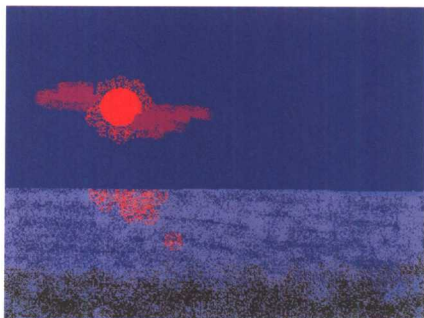
At last, however, the king and queen of Spain gave him ships with which to make the trial voyage. He crossed the ocean and discovered strange lands, inhabited by a people unlike any that had been known before. He believed that these lands were a part of India.



哥伦布横渡大西洋的帆船。

When he returned home with the news of his discovery there was great rejoicing, and he was hailed, as the hero who had given a new world to Spain. Crowds of people lined the streets through which he passed, and all were anxious to do him honor. The king and queen welcomed him to their palace and listened with pleasure to the story of his voyage. Never had so great respect been





神秘的大西洋。

哥伦布和鸡蛋

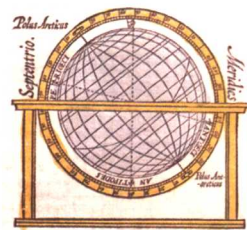
1492年10月12日，克里斯托弗·哥伦布发现了美洲。他用了18年的时间来筹划那惊人航行——首次横渡大西洋。他把自己一生中的黄金时期都用来思考和祈盼这件事情。他曾经同许多海员、学者、王子和国王等人探讨和争辩过，他说：“我认为，向西航行横渡大洋，人们可以最终到达欧洲人从没去过的陆地。”但是人们嘲笑他，说他是痴人说梦，没人相信他的设想。

最后，西班牙国王和王后给了他船只去试航。他横渡大洋，发现了新奇的陆地，那里的居民同人们过去所知道的任何一种人都不一样。哥伦布以为，这些陆地是印度的一部分。

当他带着新发现的消息回来时，引起了巨大的欣喜，大家向他欢呼致敬，把他看成是带给西班牙一个新世界的英雄。一群群的人排成队站在他经过的街道上，人人都渴望向他致敬。国王和王后迎接他到皇宫去，高兴地



哥伦布(Christopher Columbus 1451?—1506)西班牙航海家。生于意大利的热那亚 Genoa, 得到西班牙国王斐迪南 Ferdinand 和王后伊莎贝拉 Isabella 的资助。于1492年, 携带致中国皇帝的国书, 首次远航, 横渡大西洋后发现了巴哈马群岛和古巴、海地等岛。先后航海美洲四次。哥伦布误认为他所到达的地方是印度, 故称当地居民为印第安人 Indian(此字本意为印度人, 为示区别美洲世居土著, 中文称印第安人)。



哥伦布时代的地球仪。



Thirty Famous Stories Retold

早期航海定位必不可少的工具——海图与罗盘。



哥伦布把鸡蛋轻轻一磕破，鸡蛋就竖起来了。真是“不破不立”，这就叫创新。



shown to any common man.

But there were some who were jealous of the discoverer, and as ready to find fault as others were to praise. “Who is this Columbus?” they asked, “and what has he done? Is he not a pauper pilot from Italy? And could not any other seaman sail across the ocean just as he has done?”

One day Columbus was at a dinner which a Spanish gentleman had given in his honor, and several of these persons were present. They were proud, conceited fellows, and they very soon began to try to made Columbus uncomfortable.

“You have discovered strange lands beyond the sea,” they said. “But what of that? We do not see why there should be so much said about it. Any body can sail across the ocean; and anybody can coast along the islands on the other side, just as you have done. It is the simplest thing in the world.”

Columbus made no answer; but after a while he took an egg from a dish and said to the company, “Who among you, gentlemen, can make this egg stand on end?”

One by one those at the table tried the experiment. When the egg had gone entirely around and none had succeeded, all said that it could not be done.

Then Columbus took the egg and struck its small end gently upon the table so as to break the shell a little. After that there was no trouble in making it stand upright.

“Gentlemen,” said he, “what is easier than to do this which you said was impossible? It is the simplest thing in the world. Anybody can do it — after he has been shown how.”





听他讲述航行的经过。一个普通人受到如此尊敬，这是前所未有的。

但是有些人妒忌这位发现者，当别的人正在称赞哥伦布时，他们却吹毛求疵。“这个哥伦布是谁？”他们问道，“他做了些什么事？他不就是个意大利来的穷领航员吗？难道别的海员就不能像他那样横渡海洋吗？”

一天，哥伦布出席一位西班牙绅士为他举行的宴会，有几个这种人在座。他们都是些骄傲狂妄的家伙，很快就开始设法为难哥伦布。

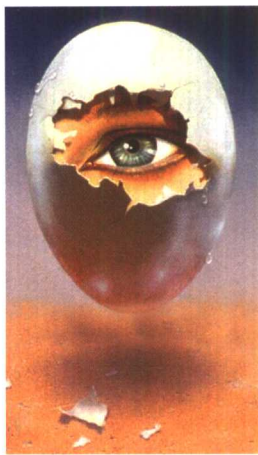
“你在海对岸发现了新奇的大陆，”他们说，“可那有什么了不起的？我们真不明白，为什么人们对这件事谈个没完没了。任何人都能像你那样横渡那海洋，任何人都能沿着那边的岛屿航行。这是世界上最简单的事。”

哥伦布没有回答，但过了一会儿，他从盘子里拿起一个鸡蛋，向在场的客人说，“先生们，你们当中有谁能把这个鸡蛋竖起来？”

席上那些人挨个试了试。鸡蛋传了个圈回来，没有一个人能做到。他们都说，这不可能办得到。

于是哥伦布拿起鸡蛋，把较小的那端在桌上轻轻地一磕，把蛋壳磕破了一点。这样一来，轻易就把鸡蛋竖起来了。

“先生们，”他说，“还有比这个更容易做的事吗？而你们却说不可能。这可是世界上最简单的事，人人都能做到，不过得在有人告诉他应该怎样做之后才行。”



哥伦布磕破的不只是一层薄薄的鸡蛋壳，而是阻挡人们放眼未来的重重障碍。



海洋隔绝了大陆，阻碍了人类的交往与沟通——尤其是在哥伦布发现新大陆以前。然而，海洋也给人类留下了探索与发现的广阔空间。





Thirty Famous Stories Retold



“UPON A PEAK IN DARIEN”

FIRST STORY

After Columbus had shown the way to America a great many Spaniards came over. They came to Haiti and Cuba and Porto Rico and the smaller islands near them. Like Columbus they believed that these lands were near the eastern coast of Asia. They believed that they were a part of India, and therefore spoke of them as the Indies. Afterwards, when their mistake became known, these islands were named the West Indies and the true islands of India were called the East Indies.

Far to the southwest of Cuba, Columbus had discovered a long coast which he named Darien. It was the neck of land which we call the Isthmus of Panama, but he supposed that it was a part of the mainland of Asia. A few years later some Spanish sailors visited Darien and carried word back to Haiti that there was gold there. Now at that time a Spaniard would go to the end of the world for gold, and therefore this news caused great excitement among the young men who had come across the ocean for the purpose of adventure.

“To Darien! To Darien!” was the cry, and soon a company was formed and two ships were made ready to sail to that land of promise.

The voyage was a delightful one from the start. The sea was calm, the wind was fair, and the vessels sped swiftly on their way.

巴尔沃亚像。巴尔沃亚是一位勇敢、正直的探险家，是第一位看到太平洋的欧洲人。





“矗立在达连的山巅”

哥伦布公开了去美洲的路径以后，很多西班牙人慕名探访这条路线。他们去了海地、古巴、波多黎各及其附近的一些小岛。与哥伦布一样，这些人认为这些岛屿靠近亚洲东海岸，是印度的一部分，因此把它们叫做印度群岛。后来，人们意识到这是个错误，就把这些岛屿叫做西印度群岛，而真正的印度群岛被称做东印度群岛。

在离古巴西南部很远的地方，哥伦布发现了一个狭长的海岸，他把它叫做达连湾。这是美洲大陆的瓶颈之地，我们称之为巴拿马地峡。但是哥伦布却以为它是亚洲大陆的一部分。几年以后，一些西班牙水手访问了达连湾，一回到海地他们就说那里有金子。很快一个西班牙人就计划到世界的尽头去寻找金子。这个消息让那些漂洋过海去远征探险的青年们兴奋不已。

“到达连湾去！到达连湾去！”他们叫嚷着。为此很快组成了一支航行队伍，两艘船整装待发就要驶向那块充满希望的陆地。

开始的航程是令人愉快的。海水平静、海风柔顺，



巴尔沃亚 (Vasco Núñez de Balboa 1475-1517) 西班牙著名探险家，曾到中美洲探险，是第一位发现太平洋的欧洲人。至今，巴拿马一带仍有多处以Balboa命名的地方。





Thirty Famous Stories Retold



早期的探险者与殖民者。



Soon the pleasant shores and green mountains of Haiti were lost to view. Only little rocky islets could be seen. The ship was heading straight into the Caribbean Sea.

Then, what was the surprise of the crew of the larger ship to hear strange rapping in the hold! A voice also was heard, like that of some one calling for help. What could it mean? The sailors could not see any one, and yet the sounds could not be mistaken.

“Please help me out!” The voice seemed to come from among some barrels in which provisions were stored.

“A man is in one of the barrels,” said the captain.

Soon the barrel was found and opened. Out of it leaped a young man, richly clad in a velvet cloak and a silk doublet embroidered with gold. He was a handsome fellow. His eyes were keen and bright, and his face had a determined look, like that of one who is used to having his own way about things. At his side hung a long sword, and in his belt was a dagger.

Several of the men knew him; and so he did not need to say that his name was Vasco Núñez de Balboa. They knew that he was a dashing adventurer, always doing and daring, and always borrowing and spending money. But why was he in the barrel?

“The truth of the matter is this,” he said, “I am in debt to almost everybody in Haiti. The officers were looking for me and would have taken me to prison. So I persuaded one of my friends to put me in a barrel and send me on board with the salt beef. And now here I am, bound with the rest of you for the rich coast of Darien.”

The captain was very angry. He threatened to put Balboa ashore on one of the rocky islets. “Shame! shame!” cried the rest of the party. “Let him go with us. He will be a great help.” And so the captain grew kinder and agreed to take him.

Balboa’s manners were so pleasant, and he proved to be so able and brave, that soon nearly all on the ship looked up to him as their leader. When they reached Darien and began to seek for a good place to settle, Balboa gave them much help. He had been on the coast before, and he guided them to a safe harbor.

The captain proved to be so overbearing that the men at last



船轻快地行驶在海面上，海地舒适的沙滩和葱郁的山脉很快就消失在眼前，只是偶尔可见几座岩石小岛。船径直驶向加勒比海。

不久，大船上的船员惊奇地听到货舱里传来了奇怪的敲打声，同时他们还听到一个人的声音，好像是在求救。这是怎么回事？水手们没看见有人，但是声音却不是错觉。

“请救我出来！”声音似乎是从一些大储藏物品的桶里传出的。

“有一个人在桶里”，船长说。

很快大家就找到了这只桶并且打开了它。从桶里跳出了一个青年，华丽的天鹅绒外套里面穿着一件丝制的金边紧身衣。他是个帅小伙。目光炯炯有神，明亮清澈，脸上露出坚定的表情，像是一个习惯用自己的方式去做事的人。身上挂着一把长剑，皮带上佩着一把匕首。

有几个人认识他，因此他不用自报家门叫巴斯科·努内·德·巴尔沃亚。船员们知道他是一个闯劲十足的探险家，经常做一些胆大妄为的事情，并常为此花光借来的钱。但是为什么他会在木桶里呢？

“事情是这样的，”他说，“我欠了几乎每一个海地人的债。地方官到处找我，还差点把我送进监狱。我说服了一个朋友把我放进木桶，和装腌牛肉干的桶一起拉到了船上，因此，现在我就和你们一起在富饶的达连湾航行了。”

船长非常生气，他恫吓说要把巴尔沃亚扔在满是石头的孤岛上。“太可惜了！太可惜了！”众人齐说道，“让他和我们一起走吧，他对我们会很有帮助的。”于是船长变得和善了一些，同意带上他一起走。

巴尔沃亚的性格很惹人喜欢，他证明了自己很有能力、很勇敢，不久船上的所有人就都很尊敬他了，并且把他看成是领导。在他们到达达连湾海岸开始寻找最佳停泊点的时候，巴尔沃亚给了他们很多帮助。在此之前，巴尔沃亚曾经来过



晚霞中的大西洋景色。



探险家与殖民者通常也会把本土的一些物种带到新的陆地去。



Thirty Famous Stories Retold



位于中美洲地峡的达连湾。

refused to obey him. They chose Balboa to be their commander, and the captain was glad to go back to Haiti in one of the ships.

Balboa made a treaty with a powerful Indian chief who lived in a grand house and ruled all the country around. He married the chief's daughter; and at the wedding feast the chief gave the Spaniards a great quantity of gold and many slaves.

The Indians did not care much for gold. They did not know that it was worth anything. When they saw the Spaniards molding it into bars and quarreling over it, they were astonished. "If you think so much of that yellow stuff," they said, "why don't you go where there is plenty of it?" And then they told Balboa that far to the south, on the other side of the mountains, there was a great sea, and on the shores of the sea there lived a people who had so much gold that they used it to make cups and bowls and even pans and kettles.

Balboa made up his mind to go at once in search of that sea. With two hundred men and a pack of bloodhounds, to chase unfriendly Indians, he set off toward the mountains. The distance was not great, but the country was very rough, the forest was almost impassable, and the party had to move slowly. After many days they came to the highest ridge of the mountains. Balboa climbed to the top of the loftiest peak and looked around. South and west of him he beheld a great sea. It was so near that it seemed almost at his feet; and it stretched away and away into the distance until it seemed to meet the blue sky.

No white man had ever beheld that sea before; none had even so much as heard of it. The Spaniards afterwards called it the South Sea, because in going to it across the isthmus it seemed to lie south of the land; but we know it as the largest of all the oceans, the mighty Pacific.

From that peak in Darien, Balboa, looked down with mingled feeling of awe and exultation.

*With eagle eyes
He stared at the Pacific — and all his men*



鼓满风帆的航船在航行中。





这里，于是他指引船员们找到了一个安全的港湾。

原来的船长过分压制船员，最后船员们拒绝听他的指挥，他们推选巴尔沃亚作他们的指挥官，原来的船长也乐意地乘另外的船回海地了。

巴尔沃亚同一个颇有势力的印第安首领签订了协定，这个印第安首领住在一个大房子里，管辖着周围所有的村庄。巴尔沃亚同首领的女儿结了婚，在婚宴上首领给了这些西班牙人大量的黄金和奴隶。

印第安人并不看重黄金，他们不知道黄金的价值。当他们看到这些西班牙人小心翼翼地把金子放到坛子里，并为此争吵的时候感到很惊奇。“如果你们很喜欢这些黄色的东西，”他们说，“为什么你们不到盛产这些东西的地方去呢？”于是他们告诉巴尔沃亚在很远的南方，山的另一边，大海的岸边住着一群人，他们有很多金子，并常常用这些金子来做杯、碗、盘、壶一类的东西。

巴尔沃亚决定立刻去寻找他们所说的大海。他带上两百多人和一条猎犬，追寻着不友善的印第安人的足迹，向着大山进发。距离并不远，但是山路非常难走，森林几乎难以通过，他们不得不走得很慢。几天以后，他们到了大山的最高峰。巴尔沃亚登上了山颠向四周看，他的西南方就是大海，看上去非常近，几乎就在他的脚下。大海向遥远的地方延伸，似乎与蓝天相接。

在巴尔沃亚之前还没有一个白人看见过这片海，甚至没有人听说过。西班牙人后来把它叫做南海，因为在去那里的路上要经过地峡，它似乎就位于大陆的南端。但是我们知道它是所有海洋中最大的一个——浩瀚的太平洋。

在达连湾的山颠上，巴尔沃亚怀着既敬畏又喜悦的心情向下望去。

他鹰一般的眼睛凝视着太平洋
随从们相互对望



与波涛汹涌的大西洋相比，太平洋海不扬波，显得格外平静。