

国内独家引进,全球热销上/册



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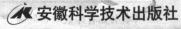
★安徽科学技术出版社
Health Communications, Inc.

心灵鸡汤

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CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE CHRIST 学院 SOUL H319.4/Y268 :40 2007

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Nancy Mitchell



Health Communications, Inc.

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[皖] 版贸登记号:20061201396

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

心灵鸡汤. 感恩:英文版/(美)坎费尔德(Canfield, J.) 编著. 一合肥:安徽科学技术出版社,2007.9 ISBN 978-7-5337-3905-8

I. 心 ··· Ⅱ. 坎··· Ⅲ. ①英语-语言读物②故事-作品集-美国-现代 Ⅳ. H319. 4: I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2007)第 145018 号

心灵鸡汤. 感恩:英文版 (美)坎费尔德(Canfield, J.) 编著

出版人:朱智润

责任编辑: 孙立凯

封面设计: 王国亮

出版发行:安徽科学技术出版社(合肥市政务文化新区圣泉路 1118 号 出版传媒广场,邮编:230071)

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经 销:新华书店

排 版:安徽事达科技贸易有限公司

印 刷: 合肥晓星印务有限责任公司

开 本: 889×1194 1/32

印 张:12

字 数:344千

版 次: 2007年10月第1版 2007年10月第1次印刷

印 数:8000

定 价: 24.00元

就英语读物而言,引进版较本土版,其优越性是不言而喻的。在 浩瀚的书海中,《心灵鸡汤》系列读物为何能成为图书市场上顶级的 品牌读物呢?

适读的语言是品牌的基本元素

《心灵鸡汤》中的语言均是当今美国人日常生活中最常用、最流行、最地道的话语。词汇鲜活、句式灵动。

语言难度不大:既无生僻的字词,也无复杂的语法结构,行文质朴简约、优美流畅,口语化特征较为明显。

每篇文章短小精悍,不会令读者望而生畏。

有趣的故事和感人的内涵是品牌的催化剂

各书均由当代美国人所写,反映现今美国的世相百态,内容极富时代感。

作者用平实的语言讲述发生在自己身边的故事,诉说他们对大 千世界的真切感受,内容极具真实性与亲和力。

内涵感人:通过平凡小事挖掘普通人的精神力量与人性之美, 字里行间洋溢着爱心、希望、鼓励、信念以及对生活的深刻感悟。

高质量的文本是品牌的坚固基石

各书的文章来自于全美各地的征稿。每本书从 5 000 多篇征稿中筛选出 200 篇优秀文章, 最终精选出 101 篇顶尖文章, 再经修改润色、精雕细琢后成书。可以说, 每篇文章都是优中选优的上乘之作。

《心灵鸡汤》的这些特质,无疑揭示了其为何能成为发行 40 多个国家和地区,总销量上亿册的全球超级畅销书! 作为英语读物中的闪亮品牌,我们相信广大读者既能在品尝原汁原味现代美语的同时,切实提高英语水平,又能从中感悟人生的真谛,重燃你搏击风雨、奋发向上的生命激情!

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthymeditate on these things. ©2003 KAGAYA / © Philippians 448



Acknowledgments

Chicken Soup for the Christian Soul has taken over two years to write, compile and edit. It continues to be a true labor of love and faith for all of us, and we would like to acknowledge the following people for their contributions, without which this book could never have been created:

Peter Vegso and Gary Seidler at Health Communications, for continually supporting us and giving their all to keep the *Chicken Soup* factory cooking. Thank you, Peter and Gary. We love you more than you'll ever know!

Our families, who continue to give us the space, love and support needed to produce such wonderful books. We especially appreciate your support when it looks like it will never come together, but with your belief and encouragement, it always does. You have been Chicken Soup for our Souls day after day!

Heather McNamara, who once again spent countless hours editing stories, searched endlessly on the Internet for authors and stories, and last but not least, kept us grounded and sane through the last days of editing the final manuscript.

Patty Hansen, who is always there with the answers when we can't find them. She also continues to find the "gems" and supports us along the way.

Marsha Donohoe and Sharon Linnéa, who read the entire manuscript, edited each and every story, rewrote several

pieces and gave us advice when we needed it. We appreciate both of you more than you will ever know.

Diana Chapman, whose support never ends, and who was not only the first reader to send in her feedback, but submitted many wonderful stories for inclusion as well. Whenever we need a certain kind of story in a rush, she is always there to help find the perfect one.

Taryn Phillips Quinn, the editor of Woman's World Magazine, for sending us great stories and for advising us on many issues we needed help with. Thanks, Taryn. You are a gem to work with.

Jonathan Moynes who served as our "human dictionary" in times of need while Nancy and Patty completed the project at home. Thanks Jonathan!

Joanne Duncalf, who sent us numerous great stories that she had collected from around the world, and who had seven of her friends read our final manuscript, while she continually traveled back and forth from the United States to Bosnia to keep her commitment to the children of Bosnia.

Christine Kimmich, who read the entire manuscript and contributed numerous Scripture passages and prayers for inclusion.

Kimberly Kirberger and Linda Mitchell, who read thousands of stories, searching for the "perfect 10's" to create the best book possible, and who continuously offered moral support whenever we needed it.

Leslie Forbes, the latest staff member to join the *Chicken Soup* family, who spent weeks reading, categorizing and evaluating stacks of stories. You are an outstanding addition to our group.

Veronica Romero, for continuously taking care of the day-to-day operations of The Canfield Training Group, so Jack, Patty and Nancy could stay focused on writing and



editing. We also appreciate Veronica's words of wisdom, just when we thought we were going to go crazy, reminding us that God never gives us anything we can't handle!

Rosalie Miller, who tended to the unanswered phone calls and day-to-day duties that we were unable to handle in the last months of the project.

Teresa Spohn, who managed Jack's and Patty's schedules and allowed them the time to write and edit!

Lisa Williams, for taking good care of Mark and their business, so he could be dedicated to the task of traveling the world and making people aware of our books; and for scheduling time for Mark so he could help finish this book.

Trudy Klefstad at Officeworks, who typed the first draft of the entire book in record time and with very few errors. Thanks a lot!

Anna Kanson, the manager of rights and permissions at *Guideposts*, who continually goes out of her way to help us create the best books possible by giving us invaluable guidance, sending us incredible stories and evaluating every story we send her.

Katherine Burns, the manager of rights and permissions at *Reader's Digest*, who generously gives us her time and provides us with the information needed to locate hard-to-find authors.

To our other coauthors—Patty Hansen, Diana von Welantz Wentworth, Barry Spilchuk, Marci Shimoff, Jennifer Reed Hawthorne, Martin Rutte, Maida Rogerson, Tim Clauss, Hanoch and Meladee McCarty, Marty Becker and Carol Kline—who continuously sent us stories for inclusion and gave us lots of moral support when we needed it.

Elinor Hall, who assisted in the production of *Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul*, for funneling stories our way when they were better suited for this book.

Larry and Linda Price, for running the Foundation for Self-Esteem and the Soup Kitchens for the Soul project with impeccability, so that we could focus all our energies on finishing this book.

Christine Belleris, Matthew Diener and Allison Janse, our editors at Health Communications, for their generous efforts in bringing this book to its high state of excellence.

Terry Burke, the vice president of sales and production at Health Communications, who is always available with words of encouragement.

To the over 7,000 Christians who submitted stories, poems and other pieces for consideration; you all know who you are. While most of the pieces were wonderful, they just didn't fit into the overall structure of this book. However, many will be used in future volumes of Chicken Soup for the Soul. We will be publishing such books as Chicken Soup for the Grieving Soul, Chicken Soup for the Parent's Soul, Chicken Soup for the Expectant Mother's Soul, Chicken Soup for the Kid's Soul, Chicken Soup for the Laughing Soul and Chicken Soup for the Country Soul, among others.

We also want to thank the following people who read the first rough draft of over 200 stories, helped us make the final selections and made invaluable comments on how to improve the book: Diane Aubery, Jeff Aubery, Susan Burhoe, Diana Chapman, Nancy Clark, Marsha Donohoe, Joanne Duncalf, Jo Elberg, Thales Finchum, Leslie Forbes, Beth Gates, Patty Hansen, Anna Kanson, Kimberly Kirberger, Carol Kline, Marianne Larned, Sharon Linnéa, Donna Loesch, Heather McNamara, Ernie Mendes, Rosalie Miller, Linda Mitchell, Monica Navarrette, Dorothy Nohnsin, Cindy Palajac, LuAnn Reicks, Veronica Romero, Catherine Valenti, Diana von Welanetz Wentworth, Rebecca Whitney, Martha Wigglesworth,



Maureen Wilcinski and Kelly Zimmerman.

And the following people who contributed in other important ways:

Randee Goldsmith, our product manager for *Chicken* Soup for the Soul, who continually supports the series with a high level of expertise. We love and appreciate you Randee!

Arielle Ford, our publicist, who continually thinks up new ways to market our *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series and gives us invaluable feedback. Kim Weiss and Ronni O'Brien at Health Communications, Inc., who keep us on radio and television so we can get the word out, and who constantly keep us motivated with words of encouragement and inspiration. Irene Xanthos and Lori Golden, for making sure our books reach the widest audience possible. Teri Miller Peluso, who is always available for our every need.

Because of the immensity of this project, we are sure we have left out the names of some people who helped us. For that we are sorry, but we are nonetheless grateful for the many hands that made this book possible. Thank you all for your vision, your caring, your commitment and your actions. We love you all.



Introduction

We feel truly blessed to have been able to create this book. It has been a true labor of love for us, and like all divinely inspired projects, it has given us back much more than we have put into it. From the moment it was conceived, we have felt the power of love flowing through us and the divine hand of God directing us in our every step. Right from the beginning we have been experiencing miracles—from opening the Bible to just the right Scripture we needed, to finding the nephew of a writer we couldn't locate on the Internet! Our most fervent hope is that you will receive as much from reading this book as we did in compiling, editing and writing it.

Since the original *Chicken Soup for the Soul* book was published in 1993,we have been collecting and editing stories for *Chicken Soup for the Christian Soul*. Readers like yourselves have sent us over 7,000 stories, all of which we have read and been touched by. The 101 stories that you have in your hands are the result of endless reading and rereading, looking for just those stories that would touch your soul at the deepest and most profound level. Once we had the book narrowed down to the best 200, we asked a panel of over 40 Christian friends to pick their favorite 101 stories. As a result, we believe we have selected stories that are universal in their appeal and compelling in their impact.





We believe these stories will deepen your Christian faith and expand your awareness of how to practice your Christian values in your day-to-day life—both at home, at work and in the community. These stories will open your heart so that you may experience and express more love in your life. They will deepen your compassion for others and inspire you to greater acts of charity and philanthropy. They will lead you to forgive others for their trespasses and yourself for your shortcomings. They will encourage you to stand up for what you believe in and to believe in what you stand for. And, perhaps most important, they will remind you that you are never alone or without hope no matter how challenging and painful your circumstances may be.

Read what some of our previous readers have said about how deeply they have been touched by the stories in the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books:

I received your third book while recovering from lupus in the hospital. I now have a better and more positive outlook on life.... Every story, in its own way, has taught me something.

Hong-Chau Tran, Age 21

I am successfully surviving fully blown AIDS. The prison chaplain loaned me your book Chicken Soup for the Soul, and I have to admit, I've never read anything quite so uplifting and enjoyable. The stories were real. They were inspirational.

Anonymous

One morning I woke up to find my face half



paralyzed with Bell's Palsy. The duration is usually three weeks to three months. Halfway through Chicken Soup for the Soul, my face began to regain motion. When I got voted "Best Smile" in Senior Class, I could not help but think of this book and the profound impact it had on my life.

Kyle Brown

My dad read stories from Chicken Soup for the Soul at the dinner table. After a few stories we laughed, we cried and were touched. That night my family became closer than ever.

Vanessa Sim,7th grade

I wanted to end my life at 14 years old. I've had that feeling for 10 years. Now—after reading your books—I promise myself to never feel that way again!

Anonymous

I am currently serving a four-year sentence. My dog-eared copy of Chicken Soup for the Soul has been making the rounds of my 121-man dorm. Without exception, these gang-banging, hard-nosed, tough guys are all moved, sometimes to tears, by one story or another.

Anonymous

So from our hearts to yours, we offer you *Chicken Soup* for the Christian Soul. As you read these stories, we pray that you experience the same love, inspiration, encouragement and comfort that they brought to us. We pray that your



heart be opened, your spiritual and emotional wounds be healed and your soul be overflowing with boundless joy! We send you our love, and we ask that God may bless you!

Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Patty Aubery and Nancy Mitchell



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