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机器人总动员

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机器人总动员

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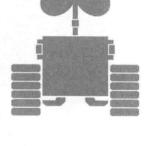
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Prologue

In the vast regions of outer space, beyond the twinkling lights of a million stars, a murky^①, smogcovered Earth floats lonely and silent. The deepest oceans are all but dried and gone. What had once been blue sky is now a dust-choked brown that can still look almost golden when sunlight filters through it.

Beneath the thick atmosphere that surrounds the planet, mountains still rise up through the haze², and once-great cities filled with vacant, crumbling³ buildings share the landscape⁴ with towers of trash,



序言

在浩瀚的外太空中,在上百万颗闪闪发亮的星球的另一边,阴暗的地球笼罩在一团烟雾中,在孤单单、静悄悄地漂浮着。地球上最深的海洋都已干涸,不复存在。曾经蔚蓝的天空,而今被灰尘遮蔽,变成褐色,只有在阳光穿透它时,看上去才接近金色。

厚厚的大气层包裹着地球。在大气层下面,群山依旧挺拔,却是耸立在雾霾之上。曾经繁华的大城市空无一人,到处都是破损坍塌的大楼。风景中还有一座座高耸的垃圾堆——垃圾被压

001

① murky adj. 昏暗的,阴暗的 ② haze n. (烟尘等的)雾霭,烟雾 ③ crumbling adj. 坍塌的,损坏的 ④ landscape n. 风景,景色

neatly cubed and stacked as far as the eye can see. Only one thing moves along this bleak twenty-ninth-century skyline.

Day in and day out, for more than seven hundred years, he has worked to clean up the mess left by humankind. The scouring sands that sweep along the avenues seldom deter² him as he thrusts³ his shovel-like hands into the heaps of trash and scoops⁴ it into the compacting unit in his chest. Once full, he closes the squeaky doors of his front panel, shakes a little, and produces yet another perfect cube ready to be stacked.

This is his directive⁽⁵⁾.

It is what he has been programmed to do.

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成一个个方块,整整齐齐地摞成高塔,一望无际。二十九世纪荒凉的地平线上只有一个物体在移动。

七百多年来,他日复一日地清理着人类遗留下的垃圾。粗糙的沙土横扫过街道,却没能阻挡他的工作。他将铁铲形的双手插入垃圾堆中,再将垃圾揽到他胸部的压缩部件内。等压缩部件满了,他就关上胸前面板上嘎吱作响的门,微微摇晃,将垃圾压缩成一个完美的方块,只等着被摞起来。

这是他的指令。

他的程序设定就是做这些。

① bleak adj. 无遮掩的,荒凉的 ② deter v. 制止,阻止 ③ thrust v. 插,插入

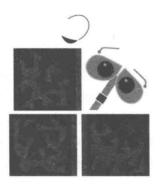
④ scoop v. 掘 ⑤ directive n. 指令

His name is WALL•E^①: Waste Allocation Load Lifter, Earth class.

He is a robot.

He is dented², dirty, and rusted³ ...

And he is about to change the entire world.



003

他的名字叫作"瓦力",是一台地球垃圾分装装置。 他是一个机器人。 他浑身遍布凹痕、污垢和锈迹…… 他将要改变整个世界。

① WALL-E是Waste Allocation Load Lifter, Earth的首字母缩写,辅音和元音的组合可以按照发音规则读作一个单词,在此音译为"瓦力"。② dented *adj.* 有凹痕的③ rusted *adj.* 生锈的

Chapter I

"Chirrrp!" A little cockroach¹ jumped happily onto WALL•E's shoulder. As the toxic winds began to pick up speed, WALL•E and his only companion motored bouncily² toward home. WALL•E's treads were wearing thin, and the cockroach held on bravely as they crossed the rough terrain³.

Over miles of desolate[®] waste, WALL•E saw buildings and highways and rolled across the remains of broken bridges. Everything was branded with the same logo: BUY-N-LARGE. BnL had its stamp on everything. The mega-superstore

004



第Ⅰ章

"吱吱——"一只小蟑螂快乐地跳上瓦力的肩膀。携带有毒物质的风加速了,瓦力载着他唯一的伙伴,颠簸着朝家驶去。瓦力的履带越磨越薄,他们穿越这个崎岖的地带时小蟑螂勇敢地抓紧他。

隔着几英里荒芜的垃圾堆,瓦力看见了一排排大楼和一条条 公路。他慢慢行驶过残存的断损桥梁。所有物品都打着同样的 商标:大卖场。大卖场在任何事物上都打上了它的印记。这家

① cockroach *n.* 蟑螂 ② bouncily *adv.* 跳跃地,颠簸地 ③ terrain *n.* 地面,地带 ④ desolate *adj.* 荒凉的,无人烟的

had once overseen^① almost all operations on the planet.

As WALL•E hurried onward, he rolled over an old newspaper. TOO MUCH TRASH! EARTH COVERED! BNL CEO[®] DECLARES GLOBAL EMERGENCY! the headline proclaimed. WALL•E did not notice.

He passed a salvage yard[®] full of other rusted WALL•E units, shut down long ago. The cockroach watched eagerly as WALL•E stopped to examine something of interest on one of the old units—its treads.

The treads were thick bands of rubber, built to protect the WALL•E units' metallic wheels like



巨型超市曾经几乎掌管着这个星球上所有的业务。

当瓦力向前赶路的时候,他的履带压过一张旧报纸,上面的标题写着:"垃圾太多!地球已被覆盖!大卖场首席执行官宣称全球告急!"瓦力没有留意。

他路过一个早就关闭了的废品回收场,里面满是其他生锈的 地球垃圾分装装置。蟑螂关切地看着瓦力停下来检视其中一个 旧装置上某个让他感兴趣的东西——它的履带。

这些履带由厚橡胶带制成,就像巨型轮胎一样,用于保护地 球垃圾分装装置的金属轮子。这具旧装置的履带状态要比瓦力

① oversee v. 管理 ② CEO chief executive officer 的缩写, 首席执行官

③ salvage yard (废旧机器、旧车等拆售的)废品回收场

giant tires. This old unit's treads were in much better shape than WALL•E's.

WALL•E quickly switched his old pair for the newer ones as the cockroach chirped^① and jumped excitedly. Then, moving on, WALL•E felt the cockroach settling happily on his shoulder, enjoying the new, smoother ride.

WALL•E rolled past a BnL billboard, activating[®] its holo-graphic[®] message as he moved. The image buzzed[®] to life. Several loudspeakers began broadcasting the chipper voice of a human announcer, recorded centuries ago.

"Too much garbage in your face?

006



的好得多。

伴随着蟑螂的吱吱声与兴奋的跳跃,瓦力快速地将自己的旧履带换成了较新的那对。然后,瓦力继续前行时,感觉到蟑螂愉快地歇在他肩上,享受这段更平稳的新旅程。

瓦力从一块大卖场广告牌前驶过,他的移动触发了它所储存的全息影像信息。几个扬声器开始播放几个世纪前录制的一位人类播音员爽朗的话音,生动的影像伴着这阵热闹浮现。

"垃圾太多,束手无策?

① chirp v. 吱吱地叫 ② activate v. 使……活动 ③ holo-graphic adj. 全息影像的 ④ buzz v. 充满嘈杂的 (谈话、活动)声

There's plenty of space out in space! BnL star liners leaving each day.

We'll clean up the mess while you're away!"

WALL•E headed across a bumpy freeway over-pass¹, activating another ancient billboard. Through the smoggy haze, the image of a sparkling BnL star liner flashed onto the screen. Its happy passengers appeared to be enjoying all the amenities² of a luxury cruise ship.

"The jewel of the BnL fleet: The *Axiom*!" the announcer's voice boomed³. "Spend your five-year cruise in style ..." But the people had been gone from Earth far longer than five years.



- "在太空中还有充足的空间!
- "大卖场星际航班每日出航。
- "我们将在您离开期间,把垃圾清理干净!"

瓦力沿着一条颠簸的高架快速公路行驶,激活了另一块古老的广告牌。一艘闪闪发光的大卖场星际飞船的影像穿过浓浓的雾霾闪现在屏幕上,船上的乘客们正在愉快地享受着豪华邮轮上的各种便利设施。

"大卖场舰队中的珍宝:'功理'号!"播音员低沉的声音响起,"享受五年的太空奢华之旅……"但这些人离开地球的时间

① over-pass n. 天桥 ② amenity n. 便利设施 ③ boom v. 以低沉而有回响的声音 发出

"The *Axiom*!" the voice exclaimed proudly. "Putting the 'star' in 'executive star liner."

The wind was starting to howl^① now. WALL•E squinted^② and turned on a set of tiny windshield wipers to clean the lenses of his eyes. Looking across a bay that had dried up long ago, he saw a battered old BnL truck. WALL•E's spirits rose.

008



已经远远不止五年。

"'功理'号!"播音员骄傲地大声说道,"高级星际航空公司 的星级航班。"

此时风开始咆哮。瓦力眯起眼睛,打开一对微型雨刮器来清洁他作为眼睛的镜头。他向一片早已干涸的海湾的另一侧望去,看见一辆破旧的大卖场旧货车。瓦力的情绪变得高昂起来。

① howl v. n. 嚎叫, 咆哮; 哀嚎 ② squint v. 瞇着眼睛看

Chapter 2

WALL•E picked up his pace as he headed toward his truck. He scurried^① up and pulled a lever on the truck's side. Slowly the back began to come down, and WALL•E happily sped up the ramp and into the trailer^②. Home!

The wind whipped the truck as WALL•E peeled his new rubber treads from his wheels. He would put them on again in the morning before returning to work. But now it was time to relax. He removed a battered BnL cooler from his back. It was his collection box, and he was ready to begin



第2章

瓦力加快速度向着他的货车驶去。他匆匆赶过去,拉动货车一侧的拉杆。货车尾部的车厢门慢慢降下来,瓦力开心地加速驶上坡道,进入车厢。到家了!

瓦力将他的新橡胶履带从轮子上剥了下来,而外面狂风正抽打着货车。他会在早上回去工作之前再戴上这对履带,但是现在是休息的时间。他从背部取下一台破破烂烂的大卖场冷藏箱。这是他的百宝箱,接下来他准备开始他每晚的例行活动——整理

009

① scurry v. 碎步疾跑 ② trailer n. 拖车, 挂车

the nightly ritual of going through^① the treasures he had found in the trash during the day.

But first, WALL•E went to an old television set and turned on his favorite video: *Hello*, *Dolly!* He always played it when he arrived home. After watching the video for a minute, he turned back to press a button that activated the rotating racks of shelves where he neatly stored his treasures. The day had yielded² some very special finds: a few old toys and utensils³ (all of which made WALL•E curious, since he didn't know what they were) and a lighter.

As he listened to the background music from the video, WALL•E perked up[®]. He moved among his many treasures, stopping often in front of the

OIO



他白天在垃圾堆里找到的珍宝。

但是在那之前,瓦力走到一台旧电视机前,打开了他最喜爱的录像节目《你好,多莉!》。他总是一回家就播放它。看了一分钟录像后,他转身按下一个按钮,启动了一个旋转储物架。储物架的搁板上整整齐齐地摆放着他的宝贝们。今天他发现了一些非常特别的东西:几个旧玩具和厨房用具(他不知道它们是什么,所以对它们非常好奇),还有一个打火机。

听着录像带的背景音乐,瓦力感到活力充沛。他在众多的宝 贝间移动,经常停在电视机前看着屏幕上闪过的模糊影像。演员

① go through 翻找,整理 ② yield v. 产生(收益、效益等) ③ utensil n. 器 皿,厨房用具 ④ perk up(使)振奋,(使)活跃,(使)快活

fuzzy[®] images scrolling across his television screen. The actors were singing and dancing to the song WALL•E had been humming all day. He paused, waiting for the next part. When it came, he hit the Record button on his chest and moved closer. WALL•E could see that the actors were not dancing now. They were walking together and looking into each other's eyes. Then they took each other's hands.

WALL•E tilted[®] his head, his large eyes gazing[®] tenderly at the screen. He interlocked[®] his own two robotic hands. And for a moment the lonely robot wondered what it would be like to hold someone else's hand.

Later that night, when the storm had ended,



们起舞歌唱,伴奏的正是瓦力一整天都在哼着的那首曲子。他停了下来,等着播放下一部分。等开始放下个部分的时候,他按下胸前的"录音键",并靠近电视机。瓦力能看见演员们现在不跳舞了。他们一起走着,互相注视着对方的眼睛。然后,他们握住了对方的手。

瓦力歪了歪脑袋,他的大眼睛温柔地盯着电视屏幕。他将自己的两只机械手交握在一起。这个孤独的机器人疑惑了好一会儿:握住别人的手会是什么感觉?

那晚深夜,暴风雨停歇了,瓦力慢慢驶到货车外,将他的百

① fuzzy adj. 模糊的 ② tilt v. 倾斜 ③ gaze v. 凝视; 注视; 盯着 ④ interlock v. (使)相互扣住

012

WALL•E rolled outside and turned over his collection box to clean it out. He pressed the Play button on his chest and listened to the song again. Although the little robot wasn't programmed to understand romance, it was romance that pulsed through his circuits. It was this same strange impulse that made WALL•E gaze up at the few stars visible through the polluted haze and wish for someone to share his world.

Suddenly, WALL•E's internal systems gave him a warning sign. The wind was picking up again. WALL•E checked the horizon. A massive sandstorm was approaching across the dried-up bay.

WALL · E swiftly headed back into the truck.



宝箱倒过来清理干净。他按下胸前的"播放"键,重听那首歌。 虽然这个小机器人的程序设定中没有对爱情的理解,他的线路 中却搏动着浪漫的冲动。正是这种奇怪的冲动使瓦力抬头凝视 着浓浓雾霾中仅仅可见的几颗星星,希望有人能和他共享他的 世界。

突然,瓦力的内部系统发出了一个警告信号。风又加速了。 瓦力看向地平线,发现一场超强的沙暴正从干涸的海湾那里向他 袭来。

瓦力迅速驶向货车。他很熟悉遇上沙暴可能面临的种种

① pulse v. 跳动,搏动

He was familiar with the dangers of being caught in a sandstorm—air so clogged^① with dirt and debris^② that he wouldn't be able to see; whipping winds that would fill every crevice^③ in his robotic joints with sand; and, of course, the chance of being buried. This time he was lucky: he was close to the safety of his truck.

A blinding wave of sand roared closer as WALL•E entered the truck and began to raise its door. He stopped for a moment, remembering, and then turned and made a robotic noise—like a whistle—to call for his cockroach. The door shut just as the storm hit, with both master and pet safe inside their little home.



危险——空气中满是灰尘和碎片,他会看不见,狂风会抽打着他,使他机械关节的各个缝隙里都填满沙子,当然,还有被深埋的可能性。这一次他很幸运,因为他离他的货车不远,那里很安全。

在瓦力进入货车开始升起车厢门的时候,一阵让人睁不开眼睛的风沙咆哮着向他越靠越近。他停顿了一下,想起了一件事,然后转身发出类似口哨的机械声音来召唤他的蟑螂。沙暴眼看要袭来,车门恰好关闭,主人和他的宠物进入了他们安全的小家。

① clog v. (使) 阻塞,堵塞 ② debris 残骸,碎片 ③ crevice n. (尤指岩石中的) 裂缝,裂隙 ④ roar v. 咆哮

WALL•E unwrapped a BnL sponge^① cake and set it on a shelf. Still moist from the preservatives^② that had kept it intact^③ for centuries, the little cake made a comfy^④ cockroach bed.

WALL•E collapsed^⑤ into a box shape and backed into an empty shelf. Rocking the shelf back and forth like a cradle, he closed his eyes and shut down for the night. Outside, the full force of the storm raged^⑥ across the terrain.

014



瓦力打开一块大卖场的海绵蛋糕,将它放在一块搁板上。蛋 糕里的防腐剂使其几百年来都没有腐坏,还保持着湿润。这一小 块蛋糕成了蟑螂舒适的床铺。

瓦力收缩成盒子形状,后退到一块空搁板上。他让搁板像摇 篮一样前后晃动,然后闭上眼睛,关闭电源过夜。车厢外,沙暴威 力十足,在这片土地上肆虐。

① sponge n. 海绵,海绵状物 ② preservative n. 防腐剂 ③ intact adj. 原封未动的;未改变的 ④ comfy adj. 舒服的,舒适的 ⑤ collapse v. 折叠,套缩 ⑥ rage v. 猛烈地继续