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故事会 全集

王忠智 戴卫平◎主编

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每天读点英文



故事会 全集

精华版

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P R E F A C E

阅读是一段开启心智的历程，阅读是一种与书籍对话的方式，阅读是一盏点亮灵魂的明灯。只要认真去阅读，用心去体会，就会从书籍中获取丰富的知识，获得源源不绝的力量。本书作者挑选了读者最喜爱、对读者最有益的精华故事，编译了《每天读点英文故事会全集》（精华版）一书。这里面的故事是富含理想和追求的华美乐章，是滋润读者心田的雨露和甘泉，是提高道德修养、文化品位的最佳英文读物。本书故事种类较多，包括真实故事、励志故事、名人故事、哲理故事、寓言故事、离奇故事、惊险故事、动人故事等近150篇英文经典故事。所选故事皆为英文原版，选材范围广泛，并配以准确流畅的中文译文，以帮助读者更好地理解原文。

本书所选英文故事，语言通俗易懂，难易适中，比较适合中学生、大学生及广大英语爱好者阅读。为了便于读者阅读，除配以准确流畅的中文译文之外，编者还对原文故事中的较难词汇加以注释，以便于读者更好地阅读原文故事。本书所选故事均经认真筛选，既考虑到知识性、趣味性，又考虑到思想性、教育性。广大读者在轻松阅读英文故事时，不仅可以学到原汁原味的英语语言知识，扩大英语词汇量，提高英语阅读能力，从而达到提高英语水平之目的，还可以从中获取多方面的文化营养，了解名人之轶事，学习处事之道理，感悟人生之意义，透视世态之人情，

陶冶高尚之情操，提高思想之境界，使自己的精神生活更加丰富。

本书精选《每天读点英文故事会全集》中极具可读性和知识性的内容，并以32开本形式呈现给广大读者。改版升级后的图书内容更加精练，外观更加唯美，开本更加便携，值得阅读和收藏。

参与本书编写与翻译的王忠智副教授、张希永副教授、刘葆讲师、郑世高讲师、逯义峰讲师、戴卫平教授均是在高等院校外语学院任翻译课程教学多年、翻译经验丰富的教师。中文译文经过译者仔细斟酌，反复推敲，力求既考虑英文故事的不同素材，亦考虑中文表达的不同风格，做到忠实、准确、通顺、流畅。读者在体味原汁原味英文的同时，亦可品味中文译文的精美、简练和丰富多彩。由于编译时间及编译者知识水平有限，书中难免出现些许纰漏，望诸位同仁及读者给予批评指正，不吝赐教，我们不胜感激。

本书编委会



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第一章 真实故事

危急关头

At the Critical Moment

蕾娜会友后，晚上独自驱车回家。由于雨天路滑，突遭车祸，躺在电线之中身受重伤。这时险象环生，电线，火花，爆炸。蕾娜危在旦夕。

Rena, 23, had spent the evening with a friend and the time had flown. As she peered at the dark, rain slicked highway on her way to her home, her cheer faded. I can hardly see! She worried. Just a few miles more, she told herself.

But as her Firebird splashed through a **puddle**, she felt the wheels lose their grip on the road and her heart **lurched**. A **utility** pole in front of her car was getting bigger and bigger. I'm headed straight for it! Rena gasped as the car **hurtled** forward.

Crash! As the sound sent terror shooting through her, Rena felt the force tear her from the seat. Suddenly, she was on her back on the wet pavement. She felt a **searing** pain in her **abdomen**. I went through the **windshield** but I'm alive! She realized.

Then she heard a sharp crack, looked up and **shuddered**. The utility pole had broken in half and was plunging toward her! Please, let it be over quickly! She prayed, **squeezing** her eyes shut...

But there was only a ground shaking thud as the pole landed three feet from her head. She heard an angry hiss and forced herself to open her eyes. The

puddle *n.* 水坑

lurch *v.* 猛地一跳

utility *n.* 公用事业（如煤气、电力等）

hurtle *v.* 猛冲

searing *a.* 灼痛的

abdomen *n.* 腹部

windshield *n.* 挡风玻璃

shudder *v.* 打颤

squeeze *v.* 用力挤压

broken pole had torn down electrical wires and they were **dangling** just inches away from her, trapping her in between them!

An electric current... water... if those cables touch me, I'm dead!

Less than a mile away, New York State highway officer Juan Diaz saw a flash in the sky followed by a loud crack. Lightning must have hit, he thought, turning his **cruiser** around. Better check it out. A few minutes later, he was staring at Rena's **crumpled** car. I've got to help this young woman! He thought as he radioed for backup. I hope I'm not too late.

Are those footsteps? Rena thought, hope rising as she lay there. Through the **cocoon** of wires, she saw a blue uniform. "Please help me!" she cried weakly. "Don't move!" Diaz shouted, "I'm going to get you out!" But how? He worried. One wrong move and...

Suddenly, the base of the utility pole burst into flames! Diaz looked up at the **transformer** atop the pole and felt a chill of fear. He knew it carried thousands of **volts**. When the fire reached it, it would erupt in wild flames.

He thought of his wife and five-year-old son at home. But I can't leave her here, he thought.

In a flash he swallowed his fear and stepped toward Rena. As he did, the powerful current stung his feet. But he didn't stop. "How badly are you hurt?" he asked. "Can you move?"

Move? Rena thought, frozen with terror. "I can't!" she cried.

At that moment, one of the wires jumped, leaving a three-foot opening in the cables around Rena. Maybe I can drag her through there, Diaz thought. It's the only chance we have.

Dazed with fear, Rena watched as Diaz stepped through the **maze** of wires. Cables hissed inches from his feet—but, Diaz just kept on walking, four steps, then five... finally he was by her side.

“Don't worry,” he said gently, “We'll make it.” But the flames had nearly reached the transformer. It's going to blow any second! He thought.

“I have to turn you around to grab your feet,” he told Rena.

Diaz grabbed Rena's ankles, then dragged her through the narrow opening in the **tangle** of wires.

“We're almost there,” he said over and over. The sureness of his voice checked Rena's terror.

Suddenly, Diaz **scooped** her up in his arms and ran 20 feet more, taking shelter behind the patrol car. “We did it!” he shouted. Just then the transformer exploded, **engulfing** the area in flames. Shutting their eyes against the blinding light, both realized: we didn't have a second to spare.

“You saved my life.” Rena whispered with tears in her eyes, “Thank you.”

Moments later, Rena was rushed to the hospital, where she was treated for a broken collarbone and a **concussion**, but she recovered in time to see officer Diaz receive a police award for his bravery.

“I'm just glad I was able to help her.” he says. But Rena is forever grateful to her hero in blue.

23岁的雷娜刚刚和朋友待了一个晚上，时间过得真快啊。回家的路上，她瞥了一眼漆黑的夜晚，雨水使路面又湿又滑，她有点惊慌失色。我几乎什么也看不见。她担心起来。还有几英里就到家了，她心里想。

当她的火鸟牌车驶过一处水坑时，她觉得车轮在打滑——她的心猛地一跳。车前的电线杆越来越大。坏了，我正朝着电线杆撞去！当车急速朝前驶去时，雷娜发出一声惊叹。

砰！这声音使雷娜全身上下一阵恐惧，她觉得一股力量把她从座位上掀了起来。瞬间，她已经躺在了潮湿的人行道上。她觉得腹部一阵剧痛，她心里想，我是从挡风玻璃中被甩出来的，还好，我还活着。

这时，她听到一声尖利的咔吧声，抬头一看，立刻颤抖起来。原来电线杆已经折成了两半，正朝她砸下来！上帝啊，快让这一切结束吧！她闭上眼睛开始祈祷……

但是当电线杆倒在离她三英尺的地方时，地面发出了“咚”的一声。这时她听到令人恐惧的嘶嘶声，用力睁开双眼。原来，电线杆扯断了电线，就在离她仅仅几英寸处晃来晃去，把她困在了电线之间。

电流，水，如果碰到电线，我就死定了。

距此不到一英里的地方，纽约州高速路巡警胡安·迪亚兹看到了空中的闪电，接着就是剧烈的咔吧声。他想，闪电一定击中了什么，最好去检查一下，于是掉过巡逻车。几分钟后，他就发现了雷娜已经报废的小车。他一边用无线电请求支援，一边想：我一定要救这位年轻女士，但愿还来得及。

是不是脚步声？雷娜心里想，躺在那里一股希望从心中升起。穿过茧状的电线，雷娜看到了一身蓝色制服。“请救救我！”她声音微弱地喊道。“别动！”迪亚兹喊道，“我马上就把你弄出来！”但是怎么弄啊？他担起心来，错一步就有可能……

突然，电线杆底座着起火来！迪亚兹抬头看了看电线杆上方的变压器，感到阵阵恐惧。他知道电线有数

千伏电压。一旦火接触到变压器，就会燃起熊熊烈焰。

他想到了家里的妻子和五岁的儿子，但是，我不能不管她。

片刻间，他就把恐惧抛到了脑后，向雷娜跑去。强大的气流使他双脚刺痛，但他没有停下来。“你伤得怎样？”他问道，“能动吗？”

动？雷娜想，吓得身体都僵硬了。“我动不了啊！”她喊道。

这时，一根电线跳了起来，雷娜身边的电缆上立刻出现了一个三英尺的口子。也许我可以把她拽出来，迪亚兹想，这是唯一的机会了。

看着迪亚兹像走迷宫一样穿过电线，雷娜吓得目瞪口呆。脚下几英寸，电线发出咝咝的声音，但是，迪亚兹一直往前走，四步，五步……终于来到雷娜身边。

“别担心，”他轻轻地说，“我们会成功的。”但是，此时火就要烧到变压器了。变压器随时都会爆炸，他心里想。

“我得把你转过来抓住你的脚，”他告诉雷娜。

迪亚兹抓住雷娜的脚踝，然后把她从缠绕成一团的电线狭窄的空隙里拽了出来。

“我们就要脱险了，”他一遍又一遍地说，他沉着冷静的声音使雷娜没有了恐惧。

突然，迪亚兹抱起雷娜跑了二十多英尺，躲到巡逻车后面。“我们成功了。”他大喊起来。就在这时，变压器突然爆炸了，刚才的地方立刻被火海吞没。两人对着刺眼的火光闭上了眼睛，意识到：刚才真是千钧一发啊。

“你救了我的命，”雷娜眼含泪水小声说，“谢谢你。”

过了一会儿，人们把雷娜送到了医院，她需要在那里治疗锁骨骨折和脑震荡，但是她康复得很快并及时赶上了看迪亚兹因其英勇行为接受警局嘉奖。

“我很高兴当时能帮她。”他说。但雷娜对这位身穿蓝色制服的英雄永远感激不尽。

（张希永 翻译；戴卫平 校改）