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世界经典散文集

The World Classic Essays

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[美]Lynn Fulton 主编

刘慧 译

麦格希 中英双语阅读文库



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前言

英语思想家培根说过：阅读使人深刻。阅读的真正目的是获取信息，开阔视野和陶冶情操。从语言学习的角度来说，学习语言若没有大量阅读就如隔靴搔痒，因为阅读中的语言是最丰富、最灵活、最具表现力、最符合生活情景的，同时读物中的情节、故事引人入胜，进而能充分调动读者的阅读兴趣，培养读者的文学修养，至此，语言的学习水到渠成。

“麦格希中英双语阅读文库”在世界范围内选材，涉及科普、社会文化、文学名著、传奇故事、成长励志等多个系列，充分满足英语学习者课外阅读之所需，在阅读中学习英语、提高能力。

◎难度适中

本套图书充分照顾读者的英语学习阶段和水平，从读者的阅读兴趣出发，以难易适中的英语语言为立足点，选材精心、编排合理。

◎精品荟萃

本套图书注重经典阅读与实用阅读并举。既包含国内外脍炙人口、耳熟能详的美文，又包含科普、人文、故事、励志类等多学科的精彩文章。

◎功能实用

本套图书充分体现了双语阅读的功能和优势，充分考虑到读者课外阅读的方便，超出核心词表的词汇均出现在使其意义明显的语境之中，并标注释义。

鉴于编者水平有限，凡不周之处，谬误之处，皆欢迎批评指正。

我们真心地希望本套图书承载的文化知识和英语阅读的策略对提高读者的英语著作欣赏水平和英语运用能力有所裨益。

丛书编委会

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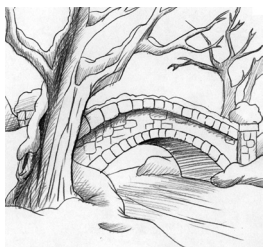
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1

January Wind

— Hal Borland

The January wind has a hundred voices. It can scream, it can bellow, it can whisper, and it can sing a *lullaby*. It can roar through the leafless oaks and shout down the hillside, and it can murmur in the white pines rooted among the *granite ledges* where *lichen* makes strange hieroglyphics. It can



冬 风 破

——[美] 哈尔·伯兰德

一月的风有着上百种声音。它时而尖叫，时而咆哮，时而低语，时而轻吟。有时它穿过萧索的橡树，一路呼啸掠过山岗，在布满地衣的岩石上，与白雪覆盖的松树窃窃私语。而有时它又吹着口哨钻进烟囱，与壁炉里的火共舞。若是在阳光灿烂的日子，它会停下脚步，躲进角落，低声许下春与紫罗兰的承诺。在冰冷孤寂的夜晚，它会沙沙地敲过

lullaby *n.* 摇篮曲；催眠曲
ledge *n.* 岩架

granite *n.* 花岗岩；花岗石
lichen *n.* 地衣

whistle down a chimney and set the hearth-flames to dancing. On a sunny day it can pause in a sheltered spot and breathe a promise of spring and violets. In the cold of a lonely night it can *rattle* the *sash* and stay there muttering of ice and snowbanks and deep-frozen pond.

Sometimes the January wind seems to come from the farthest star in the outer darkness, so remote and so *impersonal* is its voice. That is the wind of a January dawn, in the half-light that trembles between day and night. It is a wind that merely quivers the trees, its force sensed but not seen, a force that might almost hold back the day if it were so directed. Then the east brightens, and the wind relaxes—the stars, its source, grown *dim*.

And sometimes the January wind is so intimate that you know it came only from the next hill, a little wind that plays with leaves and

格窗，描述外面的冰天雪地，还有冰冻的池塘。

有的时候，一月的风似乎从那无际幽暗中最远的那颗星上飞来，那声音，是如此遥远、如此冷漠。这是一月黎明的风，在暗夜与白天交错的微光中怒吼着。这是让树木也随之颤抖的风。它的力量，虽然看不见但却感觉得到。那是一股可以阻止时间前进的力量。接着东方渐明，风渐渐地弱了下去，而被看做风的源头的那颗远星在渐亮的天色中缓缓隐去。

然而有的时候，那一月的风是如此得亲近，仿佛就来自附近的那座小山。微风轻拂，抚弄青青嫩叶，追逐袅袅炊烟；风声轻扬，宛若撅着嘴的小男

rattle *v.* (使) 发出格格的声音

impersonal *adj.* 不受个人情感影响的；冷淡的

sash *n.* 窗扇

dim *adj.* 模糊的；看不清楚的

puffs at chimney smoke and whistles like a little boy with *puckered* lips. It makes the little *cedar* trees quiver, as with delight. It shadow-boxes with the weather vane. It *tweaks* an ear, and whispers laughing words about *crocuses* and daffodils, and nips the nose and dances off.

But you never know, until you hear its voice, which wind is here today.

Or, more important, which will be here tomorrow.

孩儿吹着口哨。它让雪松欣然起舞，它捉弄着可怜的风向标，让它不停地旋转，偶尔还拉住行人的耳朵，诉说关于番红花和黄水仙的有趣故事，然后捏一捏他的鼻子，蹦跳着远去。

但是你若不曾听到它的声响，就不会知道，今天吹着的风，是凛冽冷漠的还是温和亲近的。

或者，更重要的是，明天会吹什么风。

pucker *v.* 撮起

tweak *v.* 拧；捏；扭

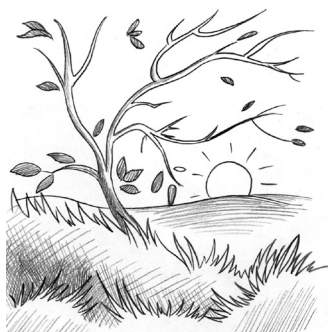
cedar *n.* 雪松

crocus *n.* 番红花

Morning Light

—Charles Dickens

The town was glad with morning light; places that had shown ugly and *distrustful* all night long, now wore a smile; and sparking *sunbeams* dancing on *chamber* windows, and twinkling through blind and curtain before sleepers' eyes, shed light even into dreams, and chased away the shadows of the night. Birds



曙光普照

—— [英] 查尔斯·狄更斯

大为晨曦，整个镇子都欢乐起来。夜里丑陋可疑的地方也都泛起了笑容。闪烁的日光在卧室的窗子上跳跃，透过窗帘与帐幔闪耀在眠者的眼睛上，照耀进他们的梦里，赶走夜的幽暗。暖房里的小鸟儿，虽然在幽暗中被关得紧紧的，也感觉到了清晨的来临，于是在小小的笼子里不安分起来；有着晶晶亮眼睛的小老鼠爬回洞里，怯生生地缩在

distrustful *adj.* 不信任的；怀疑的；可疑的
chamber *n.* 房间

sunbeam *n.* 阳光光束；快乐的人

in hot rooms, covered up closed and dark, felt it was morning, and chafed and grew restless in their little cells; bright-eyed mice crept back to their tiny homes and nestled timidly together; the sleek house-cat, forgetful of her prey, sat winking at the rays of sun starting through *keyhole* and *cranny* in the door, and longed for her stealthy run and warm sleek bask outside. The nobler beasts confined in dens stood motionless behind their bars, and gazed on fluttering boughs and sunshine peeping through some little window, with eyes in which old forests gleamed—then trod impatiently the track their prisoned feet had worn—and stopped and gazed again. Men in their dungeons stretched their cramp cold limbs and cursed the stone that no bright sky could warm. The flowers that sleep by night, opened their gentle eyes and turned them to the day. The light, creation's mind, was everywhere, and all things owned its power.

一起；滑溜溜的家猫早把猎物抛在脑后，在阳光下眯着眼睛，望着从钥匙孔和门缝中射进来的光，渴望着溜到外面去。马厩里高贵的生物，静静地立在木栏后面，一动不动，凝视着摇晃的树与小窗子透进来的阳光，眼中仿佛藏着一片老树林，继而不耐烦地践踏着它们自己踏出来的蹄窝，然后又安静下来凝视。牢狱里的人们伸展着冰冷的四肢，咒骂这身下连晴朗的天气也暖不过来的石头。夜里的睡花张开了温柔的眼睛，抬起头来望着白昼。每一个角落都洒满了光亮，那是造物主的光辉，万事万物都拥有了它的力量。

keyhole n. 锁眼；钥匙孔

cranny n. 裂缝；缝隙

August

—Charles Dickens

There is no month in the whole year, in which nature wears a more beautiful appearance than in the month of August.

Spring has many beauties, and May is a fresh and blooming month, but the *charms* of this time of year are enhanced by their contrast with the winter season. August has no such advantage. It comes



八月之美

—— [英]查尔斯·狄更斯

年之中，大自然最美的月份莫过于八月了。

春天固然有许多动人之处，五月也确是明媚清新，繁花似锦的月份，但其魅力却是通过与冬天的对比而凸显出来的。八月可没有这样的优势。它来时我们记得的只有晴天、绿野与香花。而冰雪与寒风早已从我们的记忆中完全褪去，如同它们从地球上消失那样了无声息。呵！八月，

charm n. 魅力；吸引力

when we remember nothing but clear skies, green fields, and sweet—smelling flowers—when the recollection of snow, and ice, and *bleak* winds, has faded from our minds as completely as they have disappeared from the earth—and yet what a pleasant time it is!

Orchards and cornfields ring with the *hum* of labours; trees bend beneath the thick *clusters* of rich fruit which bow their branches to the ground; and the corn, piled in graceful sheaves, or waving in every light breath that sweeps above it, as if it wooed the sickle, tinges the landscape with a golden hue.

A mellow softness appears to hang over the whole earth; the influence of the season seems to extend itself to the very wagon, whose slow motion across the well-reaped field, is perceptible only to the eye, but strikes with no harsh sound upon the ear.

多可爱的季节！

果园与谷地里回荡着忙碌劳作的声响。结着硕果的枝条像是要垂到了地面。而谷子呢，有的被整整齐齐地堆着，有的正迎风招展，仿佛在向镰刀求爱。它们为这田野染上了金色的光晕。

一种温柔丰美的气息笼罩着大地。就连马车都仿佛受到了感染。秋收完毕的田野，一辆马车缓慢而行，听不到任何忙碌喧嚣，而我们的眼睛却领略了安静之美。

bleak *adj.* 阴冷的；阴郁的；凄凉的

hum *n.* 嗡嗡声

orchard *n.* (通常指围起来的) 果园

cluster *n.* (果实、花等的) 串；簇

Night

—Nathaniel Hawthorne

Night has fallen over the country. Through the trees rises the red moon and the stars are scarcely seen. In the vast shadow of night the coolness and the dews descend. I sit at the open window to enjoy them; and hear only the voice of the summer wind. Like black *hulks*, the shadows of the great trees ride at *anchor* on the *billowy* sea of grass. I



夜幕降临

—— [美]纳撒尼尔·霍桑

夜幕已经降临，笼罩着山村。树林后面冉冉升起一轮红月，几乎看不到星星。夜色苍茫，寒气与露水渐渐地降下来。我坐在窗前欣赏着这夜景，窗户开着，耳边只听到那夏的风声。大树的阴影落在茫茫草地上，就像黑色的大船停泊在波浪起伏的海上。虽然我看不到红色和蓝色的花儿，但我知道它们就在那儿。远处的草地上，银色的查尔斯河闪

hulk *n.* 笨重的大船

billowy *adj.* 巨浪似的；汹涌的

anchor *n.* 锚

cannot see the red and blue flowers, but I know that they are there. Far away in the meadow gleams the silver Charles. The *tramp* of horses' *hoofs* sounds from the wooden bridge. Then all is still save the continuous wind of the summer night. Sometimes I know not if it be the wind or the sound of the neighboring sea. The village clock strikes; and I feel that I am not alone.

How different it is in the city! It is late, and the crowd is gone. You step out upon the balcony, and lie in the very *bosom* of the cool, dewy night as if you folded her *garments* about you. Beneath lies the public walk with trees, like a fathomless, black gulf, into whose silent darkness the spirit plunges, and float away with some beloved spirit clasped in its embrace. The lamps are still burning up and down the long street. People go by with grotesque shadows, now foreshortened, and now lengthening away into the darkness and

闪发光。马蹄声踢踢踏踏地从木桥那边传来。接着，万物俱寂，只留下夏夜不绝的风声。有时，我丝毫辨不出那究竟是风声，还是近处的海声。这个时候，村子里的钟敲起来了，于是我觉得并不孤单。

城市的夜晚是多么得不同啊！夜深人散。走上阳台，躺在清凉、露水浸润的夜幕中，仿佛是将这夜色作为外衣裹住了身体。阳台下面的林荫人行道，像一条深不可测的黑色海湾，飘忽的精灵就投入了这静默的黑暗之中，然后拥抱着某个所爱的精灵随波而去。长长的大街上，街灯依然亮着。人们从灯下走过，拖着各种各样奇形怪状的影子，影子时而缩短，时而伸长。一会儿的工夫，就消失在了黑暗中，但当行人走过路灯的一刹

tramp *n.* 脚步声

bosom *n.* 胸怀；内心

hoof *n.* (兽的)蹄；马蹄

garment *n.* 衣服