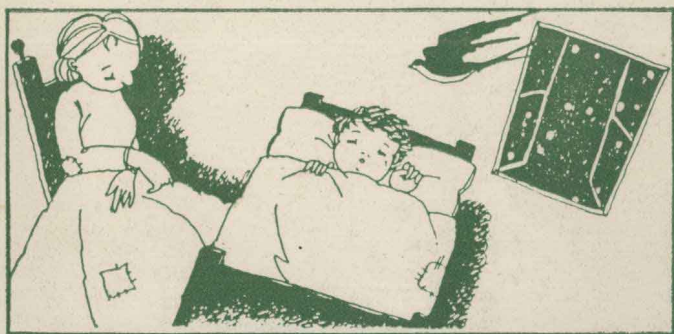


ENGLISH SIDE READERS FOR HIGH  
SCHOOLS AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

高中、高職英文輔助讀物

THE HAPPY PRINCE



快樂王子

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# THE HAPPY PRINCE

## 簡 介

奧斯卡·王爾德(Oscar Wilde, 1854-1900)生於愛爾蘭的首都都柏林；父親是醫師，母親是名作家。他本人畢業於都柏林與哈佛兩大學。王爾德深受評論家華爾德·裴特爾(Walter Pater, 1839-1894)的影響，參加眾所周知的「為藝術而藝術」的唯美主義運動。他發表了許多詩、評論、小說和劇本。他不僅在文壇為人所注目，而在社交圈中，倫敦的大街小巷，也都對這位傑出的作家耳熟能詳。然而，他晚年因訴訟纏身，而在巴黎某旅館中結束了生命。

從王爾德的作品與生活中，可以看出他外表很光輝燦爛的一面；但他內心對於純樸的那分至深至純的執着，和對於人類善良本性的神秘而又豐富的理解力，是他人格上不大為世人所知的另一面。此種潛力在本書的童話中充分的表現出來。本書於 1888 年發表，是 *The Happy Prince and Other Tales*（快樂王子與其他故事）五個短篇童話中的兩篇。*The Happy Prince*（快樂王子）以簡易流暢的文體寫成，敘述主人翁王子與燕子的淒慘遭遇：故事親切而又淒婉，深深扣住讀者的心絃。另一故事 *The Selfish Giant*（自私的巨人）描寫巨人和小孩，把人類純潔的愛情細緻地繪出，使讀者感到祥和安適。這些童話經常為眾多讀者所愛好，主要因為篇篇都很感人！現在我們更另加註解，使大家便於閱讀與研究，自然也將能倍增對英文故事的親切感。

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## THE HAPPY PRINCE

High above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince. He was covered all over with thin leaves of fine gold, for eyes he had two bright sapphires, and a large red ruby glowed on the handle of his sword.

He was very much admired indeed. 'He is as beautiful as a weathercock,' remarked one of the Town Councillors who wished to gain a reputation for having artistic tastes; 'only not quite so

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High above the city 市內的高空。 stood the statue 聳立一座雕像(倒裝句 = the statue stood)。 all over 全身。 thin leaves of fine gold 薄的純金片。 fine gold 是指純金而言。 sapphire ['sæfaɪr] 藍寶石。 ruby ['ruːbi] 紅寶石。 glowed 閃耀著。 was admired 被崇拜。 as beautiful as ~ 像~一般漂亮。 Town Councillor ['kaʊnslə, 'kaʊnslə] 市議員。 to gain a reputation for having artistic tastes 獲得具有藝術欣賞力的聲譽。 only not quite so useful 祇是不太實用吧了！

useful.' He feared lest people should think him unpractical. He really was not unpractical.

'Why can't you be like the Happy Prince?' asked a sensible mother of her little boy who was crying for the moon. 'The Happy Prince never dreams of crying for anything.'

'I am glad there is some one in the world who is quite happy,' muttered a disappointed man, gazing at the wonderful statue.

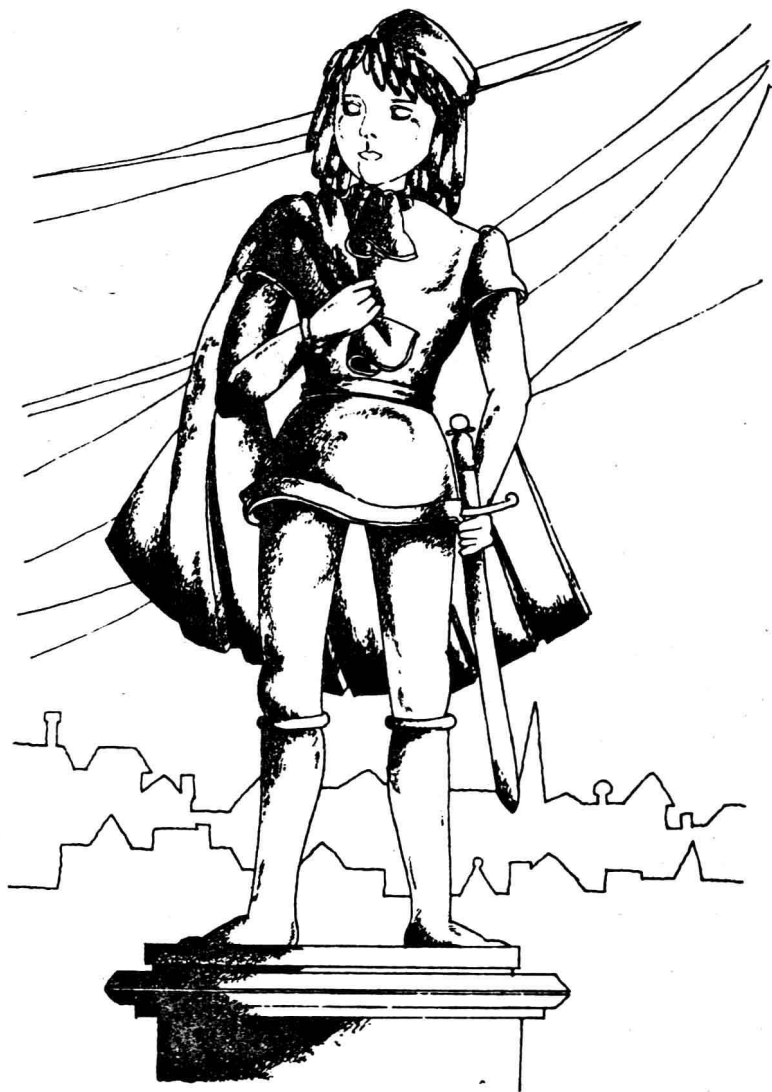
'He looks just like an angel,' said the Charity Children as they came out of the cathedral in their bright red cloaks and their clean white pinafores.

'How do you know?' said the Mathematical Master, 'you have never seen one.'

'Ah! but we have, in our dreams,' answered the children. The Mathematical Master looked very severe. He did not approve of children dreaming.

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lest people should think him unpractical 以免人們認為他不切實際。  
 sensible 明智的。 cry for the moon 為想得到月亮而哭泣。 never  
 dreams of ~ 永不夢想~ mutter 喃喃自語。 gazing at ~ 凝視著。  
 Charity Children 慈善學校的學生。 cathedral [kə'tʃɪdrəl] 大教堂。  
 pinafore ('pɪnə,for) 小孩子的圍裙。 Mathematical Master 數學老  
 師。 one = an angel 天使。 looked very severe 看起來非常嚴肅。  
 He did not approve of children dreaming. 他不贊成小孩子們夢想。



One night there flew over the city a little Swallow. His friends had gone away to Egypt six weeks before. He had stayed behind, for he was in love with the most beautiful Reed. He



6 had met her early in the spring as he was flying down the river after a big yellow moth. He had been so attracted by her slender waist that he had stopped to talk to her.

10 'Shall I love you?' said the Swallow who liked to come to the point at once. The Reed made him a low bow. So he flew round and round her, touching the water with his wings, and making little silver waves. This was his courtship, and

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there flew over the city a little Swallow = a little Swallow flew over the city 一隻小燕子飛過城市上空 (此句子的構造是 there + 動詞 + 主詞。參較: There came to the village a stranger. 有一個陌生人來到了村莊)。was in love with ~ 與~相戀。Reed 蘆葦(植物)。after ~ 追蹤~ He had been so attracted by her slender waist that he had stopped to talk to her. 他被她纖細的腰肢所吸引, 因而停下來和她說話 (動詞用過去完成式)。Shall I love you? 我可以愛你嗎? (徵求對方的意向) come to the point 說及要點。made him a low bow [bau] 對他很客氣的鞠躬行禮。making silver waves 激起銀色的波浪。courtship ['kort·ʃɪp] 求愛的表現。



it lasted all through the summer.

'It is a foolish affair,' sang the other Swallows. 'She has no money, and far too many relations.' Indeed the river was quite full of Reeds. Then, when the autumn came they all 5  
flew away.

After they had gone he felt lonely. He began to tire of his lady-love. 'She has no conversation,' he said. 'I am afraid that she is a coquette. She is always flirting with the wind.' And certainly, whenever the wind blew, the Reed made the most graceful bows. 'I admit that she is domestic,' he continued. 'But I love travelling, and my wife consequently, should love travelling also.' 10  
15

'Will you come away with me?' he said finally to her. The Reed shook her head. She loved her home.

'You have been playing with me,' he cried. 'I am off to the Pyramids. Good-bye!' and he flew 20

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a foolish affair 愚蠢的戀愛行爲。 far too many relations 過多的親戚。  
to tire of his lady-love 對他的受人感到厭倦。 has no conversation 不說話。  
coquette [ko'kɛt] 賣弄風情的女孩子。 flirt 調情。 domestic 家庭的。  
continue [kən'tɪnju] 繼續(說)。 consequently ['kɒnsə-  
,kwɛntli] 因此。 You have been playing with me. 你玩弄我。 I am  
off to the Pyramids ['pɪrəˌmɪdz]. 我將飛往金字塔去。(=I will set off ~.)

away.

All day long he flew, and at night-time he arrived at the city. 'Where shall I put up?' he said: 'I hope the town has made preparations.'

5 Then he saw the statue on the tall column.

'I will put up there,' he cried. 'It is a fine position, with plenty of fresh air.' So he alighted just between the feet of the Happy Prince.

10 'I have a golden bedroom,' he said softly to himself as he looked round, and he prepared to go to sleep; but just as he was putting his head under his wing a large drop of water fell on him. 'What a curious thing!' he cried.

15 'There is not a single cloud in the sky, the stars are quite clear and bright, and yet it is raining. The weather in the north of Europe is really terrible. The Reed used to like the rain, but that was merely her selfishness.'

Then another drop fell.

20 'What is the use of a statue if it cannot keep

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put up 投宿。 has made preparations 已準備好。 a fine position  
 非常好的一個位置。 with plenty of fresh air 有充足的新鮮空氣。  
 alight 降落；下來。 go to sleep 入睡。 curious ['kjuəriəs, 'kɪʊri-]  
 奇怪的。(=strange) terrible ['terəbl] 可怕。 What is the use of  
 a statue if it cannot keep the rain off? 連避雨都不能，這座雕像有什麼  
 用處呢？（反問句。“有什麼用處呢？”表示一點用也沒有。）

the rain off?' he said: 'I must look for a good chimney-pot,' and he determined to fly away.

But before he had opened his wings, a third drop fell, and he looked up, and saw—Ah! what did he see?

The eyes of the Happy Prince were filled with tears, and tears were running down his golden cheeks. His face was so beautiful in the moonlight that the little Swallow was filled with pity.

'Who are you?' he said.

'I am the Happy Prince.'

'Why are you weeping then?' asked the Swallow; 'you have made me very wet.'

'When I was alive and had a human heart,' answered the statue, 'I did not know what tears were. I lived in the Palace of Sans-Souci, where sorrow is not allowed to enter. In the daytime I played with my companions in the garden, and in the evening I led the dance in the Great

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chimney-pot 煙囪頂管。 determine [dɪ'tɜːmɪn] 決心。 a third drop 第三滴水滴。 were filled with tears 充滿淚水。 in the moonlight 在月光下。 pity 憐憫。 you have made me very wet 你使我弄得全濕了。 a human heart 人類的心靈。 the Palace of Sans-Souci [sɑːsu'si] (法國)無憂宮 (在 Prussia 之 Potsdam, 爲 Frederick the Great 所建)。 where sorrow is not allowed to enter 那兒不許悲傷進入。 companion [kəm'pænjən] 同伴。 led the dance 領先跳舞。



Hall. Round the garden ran a very high wall. I never cared to ask what lay beyond it. Everything about me was so beautiful. My courtiers called me the Happy Prince. Happy indeed  
 5 I was, if pleasure is happiness. So I lived, and so I died. And now that I am dead they have set me up here on high. I can see all the ugliness and all the misery of my city. Though my heart is made of lead yet I cannot choose but  
 10 weep.'

'What! is he not solid gold?' said the Swallow

Round the garden ran a very high wall. 庭園四周聳立非常高的圍牆(倒裝句 run=lie)。 I never cared to ask what lay beyond it. 我從不關心圍牆外有些什麼(lay 是 lie 的過去式)。courtier ['kɔrtɪə, 'kɔr-, -tjə] 朝臣。 So I lived, and so I died. 我這樣活著, 也這樣死了(意為: 我過著幸福的一生, 完成了天命)。 now that 現在(我)已。 here on high 在這高處。 all the ugliness 所有醜惡的事情。 the misery 悲慘的事情。 lead [led] 鉛。 I cannot choose but weep. 我無法不哭。(=I cannot help but weep.) solid gold 純金。

to himself. He was too polite to make any personal remarks out loud.

'Far away,' continued the statue in a low musical voice, 'far away in a little street there is a poor house. One of the windows is open, and through it I can see a woman seated at a table. Her face is thin and worn, and she has coarse, red hands, all pricked by the needle. She is a seamstress. She is sewing passion-flowers on a satin dress for the loveliest of the Queen's maids-of-honour to wear at the next Court-ball. In a bed in the corner of the room her little boy is lying ill. He has a fever, and is asking for oranges. His mother has nothing to give him but river water, so he is crying. Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow, will you not bring her the ruby out of my sword-hilt? My feet are fastened to this stone and I cannot move.'

too polite to make any personal remarks out loud 因為太有禮貌，所以沒有高聲說出自己想到的話。 in a low musical voice 以低沉的音樂般的聲音。 see a woman seated at a table 看見一個女人坐在桌子旁（此句構造是：感官動詞＋受詞＋過去分詞）。 thin and worn 瘦而憔悴。 coarse [kors, kors] 粗糙的。 all pricked by the needle 滿是針尖所刺的傷痕。 seamstress ['simstris, 'sem-] 女裁縫師。 passion-flower (植物) 西番蓮。 for ...to wear ~ 給~穿着~ maids-of-honour 宮女們。 Court-ball 宮廷舞會。 ask for ~ 央求~ nothing to give him but river water 除了河水以外，沒有其他東西可以給他。 sword [sord, sord]-hilt 劍柄。 are fastened to this stone 縛在這塊石上。

'I am waited for in Egypt,' said the Swallow. 'My friends are flying up and down the Nile, and talking to the large lotus-flowers. Soon they will go to sleep in the tomb of the great King. The King is there himself in his painted coffin. He is wrapped in yellow linen, and embalmed with spices. Round his neck is a chain of pale green jade, and his hands are like withered leaves.'

'Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow,' said the Prince, 'will you not stay with me for one night, and be my messenger? The boy is so thirsty, and the mother so sad.'

'I don't think I like boys,' answered the Swallow. 'Last summer, when I was staying on the river, there were two rude boys, the miller's sons. They were always throwing stones at me. They never hit me, of course; we swallows fly far too well for that. Besides, I come of a family fa-

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up and down the Nile 在尼羅河上下飛舞着。 lotus-flowers 蓮花。  
 tomb [tʊm] 墳墓。 coffin ['kɒfɪn] 棺材。 is embalmed [ɪm'bɑmd] with spices 以香料塗敷。 jade 翡翠。 withered ['wɪðəd] leaves 枯葉。  
 will you not stay with me for one night 你不能留下來陪我一晚嗎？ messenger 使者。 rude [rud] 粗暴的。 They were always throwing stones at me. 他們經常向我扔石頭。（此句構造是：進行式+always, 表示反復的動作）。 fly far too well for that 飛得很靈巧而不會被擊中。 I come of a family famous for its agility 我來自一個以敏捷聞名的家庭。

mous for its agility; but still, it was a mark of disrespect.'

But the Happy Prince looked so sad that the little Swallow was sorry. 'It is very cold here,' he said: 'but I will stay with you for one night, and be your messenger.'

'Thank you, little Swallow,' said the Prince.

So the Swallow picked out the great ruby from the Prince's sword, and flew away with it in his beak over the roofs of the town.

He passed by the cathedral tower, where the white marble angels were sculptured. He passed by the palace and heard the sound of dancing. A beautiful girl came out on the balcony with her lover. 'How wonderful the stars are,' he said to her. 'How wonderful is the power of love!'



beak 喙; 鳥嘴。 were sculptured ['skʌlptʃəd] 彫刻著。 How wonderful is the power of love! 愛的力量是多奇妙啊! (此句構造為動詞+主詞的感嘆句, 強調主詞)。

'I hope my dress will be ready in time for the State-ball,' she answered; 'I have ordered passion-flowers to be sewn on it; but the seamstresses are so lazy.'

He passed over the river, and saw the lanterns hanging to the masts of the ships. At last he came to the poor house and looked in. The boy was tossing feverishly on his bed. The mother had fallen asleep, she was so tired. In he went, and laid the great ruby on the table. Then he flew gently round the bed, fanning the boy's forehead with his wings. 'How cool I feel!' said the boy, 'I must be getting better;' and he sank into a delightful sleep.

Then the Swallow flew back to the Happy Prince. He told him what he had done. 'It is curious,' he remarked. 'I feel quite warm now, although it is so cold.'

'That is because you have done a good action,' said the Prince. And the little Swallow began

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in time for ~ 及時趕上 ~ passion-flowers to be sewn on it 把西番蓮 (的花樣)縫在上面。 toss feverishly 因發熱而輾轉難眠。 had fallen asleep 睡着了。 In he went 他飛進去 (倒裝句 = he went in)。 fore-head ['fɔrɪd, 'fɔrɪd, 'fɔr,həd] 額頭。 I must be getting better 我一定已好些了。 he sank into a delightful sleep 愉快地入睡了。 That is because ~ 那是因爲 ~ (That 指前句而言)。



to think, and then he fell asleep. Thinking always made him sleepy.

When day broke he flew down to the river and had a bath. 'What a remarkable thing!' said a Professor as he was passing over the bridge. 'A swallow in winter!' And he wrote a long letter about it to the local newspaper. Every one quoted it. It was full of so many words that they could not understand.

'To-night I go to Egypt,' said the Swallow, and he was in high spirits. He visited all the public monuments, and sat a long time on top of the church tower. Wherever he went the sparrows sang, and said to each other, 'What a distinguished stranger!' He enjoyed himself very much.

When the moon rose he flew back to the Happy Prince. 'Have you any orders for Egypt?' he cried; 'I am just starting.'

'Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow,' said the Prince, 'will you not stay with me one night longer?'

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Thinking always made him sleepy. 思考常令他昏昏欲睡。 day broke 天亮了。 remarkable 稀奇的。 Professor 大學教授。 local newspaper 當地的報社。 quoted it 引述它。 in high spirits 高興地；精神飽滿地。 public monuments 公共紀念碑。 What a distinguished stranger! 多麼高貴的客人啊！ enjoyed himself 自得其樂；揚揚自得。