



The Story of

英汉对照插图版

M a n k i n d

人类的故事

(美) 房龙 著 高源 译



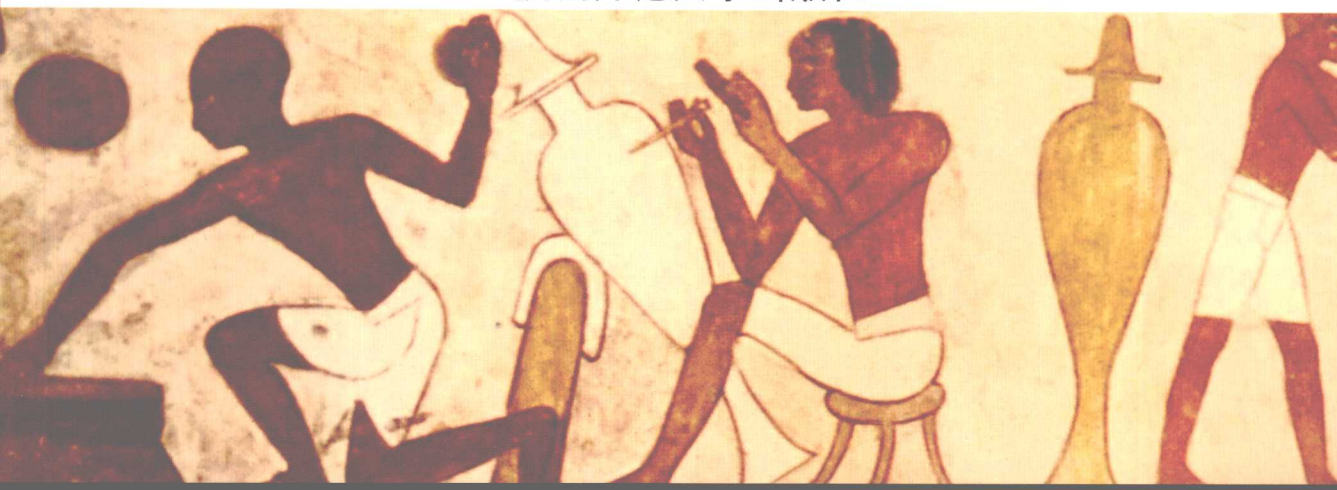
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罗马帝国 文艺复兴 蒸汽时代

电气时代

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陕西师范大学出版社



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Foreword

For Hansje and Willem:

WHEN I was twelve or thirteen years old, an uncle of mine who gave me my love for books and pictures promised to take me upon a memorable expedition. I was to go with him to the top of the tower of Old Saint Lawrence in Rotterdam.

And so, one fine day, a sexton with a key as large as that of Saint Peter opened a mysterious door. "Ring the bell," he said, "when you come back and want to get out," and with a great grinding of rusty old hinges he separated us from the noise of the busy street and locked us into a world of new and strange experiences.

For the first time in my life I was confronted by the phenomenon of audible silence. When we had climbed the first flight of stairs, I added another discovery to my limited knowledge of natural phenomena—that of tangible darkness. A match showed us where the upward road continued. We went to the next floor and then to the next and the next until I had lost count and then there came still another floor, and suddenly we had plenty of light. This floor was on an even height with the roof of the church, and it was used as a storeroom. Covered with many inches of dust, there lay the abandoned symbols of a venerable faith which had been discarded by the good people of the city many years ago. That which had meant life and death to our ancestors was here reduced to junk and rubbish. The industrious rat had built his nest among the carved images and the ever watchful spider had opened up shop between the outspread arms of a kindly saint.

The next floor showed us from where we had derived our light. Enormous open windows with heavy iron bars made the high and barren room the roosting place of hundreds of pigeons. The wind blew through the iron bars and the air was filled with a

前言

汉斯，威廉：

我十二岁或是十三岁的时候，我的叔叔使我对书籍和绘画产生了兴趣，他还答应我要带我进行一次难忘的探险。于是，我和他一起来到了鹿特丹古圣劳伦斯塔楼的顶端。

一个晴朗的日子里，教堂看门人拿了一把大钥匙，就像圣彼得的钥匙一样大，打开了神秘的大门。“当你们回来，要出来的时候，”他说，“按一下门铃。”随着生锈的铁链发出的吱吱呀呀的声音，他把我们同热闹繁忙的街道分隔开来，把我们锁进了一个充满神奇冒险的新世界。

我有生以来第一次感受到可以听得见的寂静。当我们爬上了第一层楼梯之后，我有限的自然知识里又增加了一个发现——可以触摸的黑暗。我们点亮了一根火柴，照着向上的路。我们爬了一层又一层，直到我自己也数不清了，这时又上了一层，突然有了阳光的照射。这一层是储藏室，和教堂的屋顶处在同一高度。这里积满了厚厚的灰尘，摆放着多年前被市民们遗弃的神像。那些神像对我们的祖先来说，曾经意味着生命和死亡，现在却被扔进了垃圾堆。雕像上，忙碌的老鼠筑起了自己的窝，圣人们伸展的手臂间，还有警惕的蜘蛛编织的网。

接下来的一层楼告诉了我们光线射进来的方向。安着沉重铁条的巨大窗户把这个荒芜的房屋变成了上百只鸽子的栖息地。风吹过铁窗，空气中还弥漫着神秘但是令人愉悦

weird and pleasing music. It was the noise of the town below us, but a noise which had been purified and cleansed by the distance. The rumbling of heavy carts and the clinking of horses' hoofs, the winding of cranes and pulleys, the hissing sound of the patient steam which had been set to do the work of man in a thousand different ways—they had all been blended into a softly rustling whisper which provided a beautiful background for the trembling cooing of the pigeons.

Here the stairs came to an end and the ladders began. And after the first ladder (a slippery old thing which made one feel his way with a cautious foot) there was a new and even greater wonder, the town-clock. I saw the heart of time. I could hear the heavy pulse beats of the rapid seconds—one—two—three—up to sixty. Then a sudden quivering noise when all the wheels seemed to stop and another minute had been chopped off eternity. Without pause it began again—one—two—three—until at last after a warning rumble and the scraping of many wheels a thunderous voice, high above us, told the world that it was the hour of noon.

On the next floor were the bells. The nice little bells and their terrible sisters. In the centre the big bell, which made me turn stiff with fright when I heard it in the middle of the night telling a story of fire or flood. In solitary grandeur it seemed to reflect upon those six hundred years during which it had shared the joys and the sorrows of the good people of Rotterdam. Around it, neatly arranged like the blue jars in an old-fashioned apothecary shop, hung the little fellows, who twice each week played a merry tune for the benefit of the country-folk who had come to market to buy and sell and hear what the big world had been doing. But in a corner—all alone and shunned by the others—a big black bell, silent and stern, the bell of death.

Then darkness once more and other ladders, steeper and even more dangerous than those we had climbed before, and suddenly the fresh air of the wide heavens. We had reached the highest gallery. Above us the sky. Below us the city—a little toy-town,

的音乐。我们脚下是城市的喧闹声，但是已经经过了空间的净化与洗涤。沉重的手推车发出的吱呀声，马蹄的叮当声，起重机和滑轮缠绕的声音，还有以不同方式为人类工作的蒸气机发出的咝咝声——所有的这些都化成了温柔的细语，为鸽子咕咕的叫声配合成美妙的背景。

楼梯到这里就没有了，再往上就是木质梯子。爬上第一个木梯之后（木梯年代久远而且光滑，我们不得不小心翼翼注意自己的脚下），眼前是一个全新的、更为美丽的景象，那是城市的大钟。我看到了时间的中心。我可以听见每一秒钟过去的时候，那沉重的搏动——一秒、两秒、三秒，一直到六十秒。然后是一声突然的震颤，所有的齿轮似乎都停滞了，永恒的时间里有过了一分钟。没有任何停顿，它又开始运转了，一、二、三，直到最后，许多的齿轮的摩擦发出一声雷鸣一样的警报，就在我们的头顶，告诉这个世界，现在已经是正午了。

上边一层楼都是钟。那些漂亮的小钟和它们并不漂亮的兄弟姐妹。中间的那口大钟，半夜会发出水灾或者火灾的警报，我听到它的响声，就会吓得呆住。它带着一种特有的庄严，似乎蕴涵着六百年来它同鹿特丹人民一起度过的幸福与悲伤。在它四周，整齐地摆放着一些小钟，就像是古代药房里挂着的小瓶子一样。有些乡下人会到集市上做买卖，顺便打听一些大世界里发生的事情，那么这些小钟就会每周两次为他们演奏快乐的乐曲。但是在角落里，孤独地摆放着一口大黑钟，沉静而肃穆，那就是丧钟。

然后又一次进入了黑暗，再往上爬的那层木梯，比我们所爬过的都要陡峭，上去之后，便豁然开朗，眼前是清新的空气和辽阔的天空，我们已经到达了最顶层了。我们头顶上就是天空。脚下是城市——一个玩具一

where busy ants were hastily crawling hither and thither, each one intent upon his or her particular business, and beyond the jumble of stones, the wide greenness of the open country.

It was my first glimpse of the big world.

Since then, whenever I have had the opportunity, I have gone to the top of the tower and enjoyed myself. It was hard work, but it repaid in full the mere physical exertion of climbing a few stairs.

Besides, I knew what my reward would be. I would see the land and the sky, and I would listen to the stories of my kind friend the watchman, who lived in a small shack, built in a sheltered corner of the gallery. He looked after the clock and was a father to the bells, and he warned of fires, but he enjoyed many free hours and then he smoked a pipe and thought his own peaceful thoughts. He had gone to school almost fifty years before and he had rarely read a book, but he had lived on the top of his tower for so many years that he had absorbed the wisdom of that wide world which surrounded him on all sides.

History he knew well, for it was a living thing with him. "There," he would say, pointing to a bend of the river, "there, my boy, do you see those trees? That is where the Prince of Orange cut the dikes to drown the land and save Leyden." Or he would tell me the tale of the old Meuse, until the broad river ceased to be a convenient harbour and became a wonderful highroad, carrying the ships of De Ruyter and Tromp upon that famous last voyage, when they gave their lives that the sea might be free to all.

Then there were the little villages, clustering around the protecting church which once, many years ago, had been the home of their Patron Saints. In the distance we could see the leaning tower of Delft. Within sight of its high arches, William the Silent had been murdered and there Grotius had learned to construe his first Latin sentences. And still further away, the long low body of the church of Gouda, the early home of the man whose wit had proved mightier than the armies of many an emperor, the charity-boy whom the world came to know as Erasmus.

Finally the silver line of the endless sea and as

样的小城市，繁忙的小蚂蚁到处爬来爬去，每个人都在忙着自己的事情，乱石的远处，便是乡间的广阔田野。

这是我第一次看到整个世界。

从那以后，只要有机会，我就会爬到塔楼顶端眺望。虽然这爬上去很难，但是爬楼所付出的体力还是值得的。

而且，我还知道我所得到的的是什么。我可以看到大地和天空，我可以从看门人那里听到很多故事，他住在塔楼角落的一间小屋里。他看护那些时钟，似乎就是它们的父亲，他也负责火警，但是多数时间他是空闲的，于是，他会点燃烟斗，安静地思考。五十年前，他曾经上过学，但是，他几乎从来没有读过书，不过，他在塔楼的顶端生活了这么多年，已经从四周的广阔世界里吸收了丰富的智慧。

他非常了解历史，对他来说，历史就是活生生的事件。“那里，”他指着河流的弯道说，“孩子，你看到那些树了吗？那就是奥兰治王子掘开堤坝，淹没城市，拯救莱顿城的地方。”或者他会告诉我有关古老的默兹河的故事，宽阔的河流是如何从便利的港口变成平坦的大道，勒伊特和特龙普的船队就是从这里结束了他们著名的最后航行，当时，为了将大海变成所有人的自由海，他们献出了自己的生命。

然后，就是一些小村落。它们位于教堂的四周，在许多年前，教堂曾经是它们的守护者。在远处，我们可以看到代尔夫特斜塔。在它高高的塔顶的注视下，沉默者威廉被害，格劳休斯曾经在那里学习过第一个拉丁句子。再往远处看，就是豪大大教堂那低矮的身影，那里曾经住着一个人，他的智慧比许多国王的军队都要强大，这个孤儿就是后来世人熟悉的伊拉斯谟。

最后银色的轮廓就是无边的海洋，同我

a contrast, immediately below us, the patchwork of roofs and chimneys and houses and gardens and hospitals and schools and railways, which we called our home. But the tower showed us the old home in a new light. The confused commotion of the streets and the market-place, of the factories and the workshop, became the well-ordered expression of human energy and purpose. Best of all, the wide view of the glorious past, which surrounded us on all sides, gave us new courage to face the problems of the future when we had gone back to our daily tasks.

History is the mighty Tower of Experience, which Time has built amidst the endless fields of bygone ages. It is no easy task to reach the top of this ancient structure and get the benefit of the full view. There is no elevator, but young feet are strong and it can be done.

Here I give you the key that will open the door.

When you return, you too will understand the reason for my enthusiasm.

HENDRIK WILLEM VAN LOON.

们脚下的景色形成鲜明的对比，那是我们称之为家的地方，有房顶、烟囱、房屋、花园、医院、学校和铁路。但是，塔楼向我们展示了旧家园的新面貌。街道、市场、工场和作坊组成的混乱画面，变成了人类精力和目标的完美表达。最重要的是，过去的辉煌仍然围绕在我们身边，使我们在回归日常工作的时候，有全新的勇气来面对未来的挑战。

历史就是一座威严的经验之塔，是时间在过去的岁月之间建造起来的。想要爬上这座古老建筑的顶楼，看到世界的全景，并不是一件简单的事情。这里没有电梯，但是年轻的脚步十分强壮，可以到达塔顶。

现在我就把钥匙给你，去打开那扇门。

当你回来的时候，你就会明白我如此热情的原因了。

亨德里克·威廉·房龙

History is the mighty Tower of Experience, which Time has built amidst the endless fields of bygone ages. It is no easy task to reach the top of this ancient structure and get the benefit of the full view. There is no elevator, but young feet are strong and it can be done. Here I give you the key that will open the door. When you return, you too will understand the reason for my enthusiasm.

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	但是土耳其人攻陷了耶路撒冷，褻渎了圣地，严重影响了东西方的贸易，已往所有的争吵都被忘记了，欧洲开始了十字军东征	
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	<i>Why the People of the Middle Ages Said That "City Air Is Free Air"</i>	
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	为什么中世纪的人们会这样说：“城市的空气是自由的空气。”	
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mains of the Older and More Agreeable Civilisation of Rome and Greece and They Were So Proud of Their Achievements That They Spoke of A Renaissance or Re-birth of Civilisation

文艺复兴

人们再一次只是为活着而高兴，他们努力想挽救古老的、令人快乐的希腊罗马文明的遗迹，他们对自己的成就非常自豪，他们称之为文艺复兴或者文明的再生

40 THE AGE OF EXPRESSION 166

The People Began to Feel the Need of Giving Expression to Their Newly Discovered Joy of Living. They Expressed Their Happiness in Poetry and in Sculpture and in Architecture and in Painting and in the Books They Printed

表现的时代

人们开始意识到，他们有必要表达自己新发现的生活的快乐。他们用诗歌、雕像、建筑、绘画和他们印刷的书籍来表达他们的快乐

41 THE GREAT DISCOVERIES 171

But Now That People Had Broken Through the Bonds of Their Narrow Mediaeval Limitations, They Had to Have More Room for Their Wanderings. The European World Had Grown Too Small for Their Ambitions. It Was the Time of the Great Voyages of Discovery

地理大发现

既然人们已经打破了中世纪狭隘的束缚，他们就需要更大的空间去漫游世界。欧洲的世界太小了，无法满足人们的野心，于是，人们开始了伟大的发现之旅

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佛陀与孔子

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宗教改革

人类的进程可以形象地比喻为一个巨大的钟摆，总是前后摆动着。文艺复兴时期，人们淡漠宗教，热爱艺术和文学；在随后的宗教改革中，人们却淡漠文学与艺术，而热衷于宗教了

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另一方面，在法国，“君权神授”空前的继续下去，统治者的野心在新发明的“权力平衡”的法则面前才有所收敛

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俄罗斯的崛起

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俄罗斯对瑞典

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The End of the Eighteenth Century Europe Heard Strange Reports of Something Which had Happened in the Wilderness; of the North American Continent. The Descendants of the Men Who Had Punished King Charles for His Insistence Upon His "Divine Rights" Added a New Chapter to the Old Story of the Struggle for Self-Government

美国独立战争

18世纪末，欧洲听说一个奇怪的消息，说是北美大陆的荒野上出了一些事情。曾经因为国王查理坚持“君权神授”而惩罚了他的清教徒的后裔，为争取自治的古老故事又增加了一个新的篇章

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The Great French Revolution Proclaims the Principles of Liberty, Fraternity and Equality unto All the People of the Earth

法国大革命

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54 THE HOLY ALLIANCE 281

As Soon as Napoleon Had Been Sent to St. Helena the Rulers Who so Often had Been Defeated by the Hated "Corsican" Met at Vienna and Third to Undo the Many Changes That Had Been Brought About by the French Revolution

神圣同盟

拿破仑一被送到圣赫勒纳岛，那些经常被这个可恨的“科西嘉人”打败的统治者们在维也纳会

暗，想要废除法国大革命带来的多项变革

55 THE GREAT REACTION 291

They Tried to Assure the World an Era of Undisturbed Peace by Suppressing all New Ideas. They Made the Police-Spy the Highest Functionary in the State and Soon the Prisons of All Countries Were Filled With Those Who Claimed That People Have the Right to Govern Themselves as They See Fit

大反动

他们试图通过压制所有的新思想，来保证世界上有一个不受干扰的和平时代。他们让便衣警察成为国家最高权力机构，不久，各国监狱里便关押了许多要求人民自治的人

56 NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE 298

The Love of National Independence, However Was too Strong to be Destroyed in This Way. The South Americans Were the First to Rebel Against the Reactionary Measures of the Congress of Vienna, Greece and Belgium and Spain and a Large Number of Other Countries of the European Continent Followed Suit and the Nineteenth Century Was Filled With the Rumour of Many Wars of Independence

民族独立

然而，人们对民族独立的感情是如此强烈，这样的方法根本无法压制。南美人民第一个起来反抗维也纳会议的反动政策，希腊、比利时、西班牙还有其他许多国家纷纷效仿。19世纪到处都是关于战争和独立的传言

57 THE AGE OF THE ENGINE 316

But While the People of Europe Were Fighting for Their National Independence, the World in Which They Lived Had Been Entirely Changed by a Series of Inventions, Which Had Made the Clumsy Old Steam Engine of the 18th Century the Most Faithful and Efficient Slave of Man

机器时代

当欧洲人民在为自己的民族独立而战的时候，一系列发明已经改变了他们所生活的世界，18世纪古老笨重的蒸气机，成了人类最忠诚、最高效的奴隶

58 THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION 324

But the New Engines Were Very Expensive and Only People of Wealth Could Afford Them. The Old Carpenter of Shoemaker Who Had Been His Own Master in His Little Workshop Was Obligated to Hire Himself out to the Owners of the Big Mechanical Tools, and While he Made More Money than Before, He Lost His Former Independence and He Did Not Like That

社会革命

但是由于新的机械都十分昂贵，只有富人可以买得起。原来的木匠和鞋匠以前都是自己小作坊的主人，现在他们却不得不为拥有大机器的人做工，虽然这样可以让他们赚得比以前多，但是他们也因此丧失了以前的独立地位，他们并不喜欢这样

59 EMANCIPATION 329

The General Introduction of Machinery Did not Bring About the Era of Happiness and Prosperity Which Had Been Predicted by the Generation Which Saw the Stage Coach Replaced by the Railroad. Several Remedies Were Suggested but None of These Quite Solved the Problem

解放

亲眼目睹了铁路取代马车的人们预言了幸福繁荣的美好时代，但机器的普遍采用并没有带来这样的时代，有人提出了一些解决措施，但是都没有解决问题

60 THE AGE OF SCIENCE 335

But the World Had Undergone Another Change Which Was of Greater Importance than Either the Political or the Industrial Revolutions. After Generations of Oppression and Persecution, the Scientist Had at Last Gained

科学的时代

但是，世界上也发生了一场比政治革命和工业革命都更具重要性的变化。经过几百年的压迫和迫害之后，科学家们终于获得了行动自由，现在，他们正在努力发现主宰世界的基本规律

61 ART 340

A Chapter of Art

艺术

艺术的一章

62 COLONIAL EXPANSION AND WAR 352

A Chapter Which Ought to Give You a Great Deal of Political Information about the Last Fifty Years, but Which Really Contains Several Explanations and A Few Apologies

殖民扩张与战争

本来这一章将要给你讲述最近五十年中的政治信息，但实际上它所包含的是几点辩解和几句道歉

63 A NEW WORLD 361

The Great War Which Was Really the Struggle for a New and Better World

新世界

第一次世界大战实际上是一场争取更美好的新世界的斗争

64 AS IT EVEN SHALL BE 369

颠扑不破的真理

CONCERNING THE PICTURES OF THIS BOOK AND A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE BIBLIOGRAPHY 376

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孩子们需要读的历史书



1 THE SETTING OF THE STAGE

舞台的布景

WE live under the shadow of a gigantic question mark.

Who are we?

Where do we come from?

Whither are we bound?

Slowly, but with persistent courage, we have been pushing this question mark further and further towards that distant line, beyond the horizon, where we hope to find our answer.

We have not gone very far.

We still know very little but we have reached the point where (with a fair degree of accuracy) we can guess at many things.

In this chapter I shall tell you how (according to our best belief) the stage was set for the first appearance of man.

If we represent the time during which it has been possible for animal life to exist upon our planet by a line of this length, then

我们生活在一个巨大的问号的阴影之下。

我们是谁？

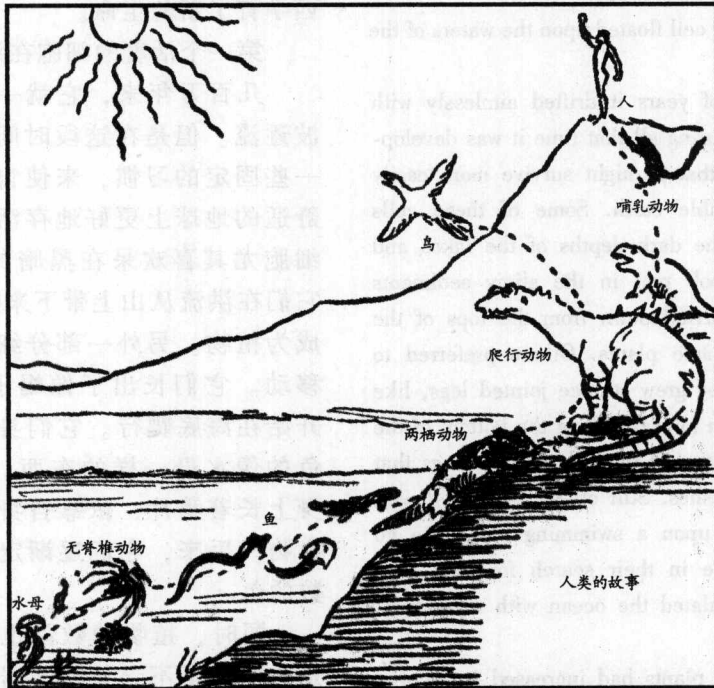
我们从哪里来的？

我们要到哪里去？

渐渐地，我们带着坚韧的勇气，把这个问号一步一步地推向那遥远地终点，推向地平线之外。在那里，也许我们可以找到答案。

我们还未走远。

我们知道的仍然很少，但是我们已经到达了一个我们可以猜测很多东西的地方，而且这种猜测是具有一定的精确性的。



人类的出现

在这一章里，我将根据我们最强的信念向诸位介绍，为了第一个人类的出现，历史是怎样搭建这个舞台的。

如果我们以这样长的一条线来代表动物在这个星球

the tiny line just below indicates the age during which man (or a creature more or less resembling man) has lived upon this earth.

Man was the last to come but the first to use his brain for the purpose of conquering the forces of nature. That is the reason why we are going to study him, rather than cats or dogs or horses or any of the other animals, who, all in their own way, have a very interesting historical development behind them.

In the beginning, the planet upon which we live was (as far as we now know) a large ball of flaming matter, a tiny cloud of smoke in the endless ocean of space. Gradually, in the course of millions of years, the surface burned itself out, and was covered with a thin layer of rocks. Upon these lifeless rocks the rain descended in endless torrents, wearing out the hard granite and carrying the dust to the valleys that lay hidden between the high cliffs of the steaming earth.

Finally the hour came when the sun broke through the clouds and saw how this little planet was covered with a few small puddles which were to develop into the mighty oceans of the eastern and western hemispheres.

Then one day the great wonder happened. What had been dead, gave birth to life.

The first living cell floated upon the waters of the sea.

For millions of years it drifted aimlessly with the currents. But during all that time it was developing certain habits that it might survive more easily upon the inhospitable earth. Some of these cells were happiest in the dark depths of the lakes and the pools. They took root in the slimy sediments which had been carried down from the tops of the hills and they became plants. Others preferred to move about and they grew strange jointed legs, like scorpions and began to crawl along the bottom of the sea amidst the plants and the pale green things that looked like jelly-fishes. Still others (covered with scales) depended upon a swimming motion to go from place to place in their search for food, and gradually they populated the ocean with myriads of fishes.

Meanwhile the plants had increased in number and they had to search for new dwelling places. There

上生存的时间，那么下边的这条短线就是表示人类（或者是或多或少类似于人类的生物）在地球上生存的时间。

人类是最晚到来的，却是最早能用脑子思考如何征服自然力量的，这就是我们为什么研究的是人类，而不是猪、狗、马或是其他什么动物。尽管那些动物用它们自己的方法来说，都有一段有趣的历史发展进程。

最初，我们居住的星球（据我们所知），是一个巨大的燃烧的火球，无垠的空气中是小小的烟云。渐渐地，经过数百万年之后，星球的表面发生了爆炸，覆盖上了一层薄薄的岩石层。雨水如无尽的洪流一样落在这些毫无生命的岩石上，磨蚀了坚硬的花岗岩，并把碎石尘屑带入了藏在冒着热气的高崖间的峡谷里。

最后的时刻到了，太阳破云而出，看着这个可爱的星球上的那些小小的水坑，而就是这些水坑，以后将会成为东西半球的巨大海洋。

然后某一天，奇迹出现了。死去的东西孕育了新的生命。

第一个活着的细胞在海水中漂浮着。

几百万年来，它就一直毫无目的地随波逐流。但是在这段时间内，它也养成了一些固定的习惯，来使自己能够在这并不舒适的地球上更好地存活下来。其中一些细胞尤其喜欢呆在黑暗的湖底和池塘底。它们在洪流从山上带下来的粘土中扎下根，成为植物。另外一部分细胞则更喜欢四处移动。它们长出了像蝎子一样奇怪的腿，开始在海底爬行。它们身边是植物和白绿色的像水母一样的东西。还有一些生物，身上长着鳞片，依靠自身的游动四处寻找食物。后来，它们逐渐定居海洋，成为无数的鱼。

同时，植物的数量也在不断增加。于是它们不得不寻找新的居住地，而在海底已经没有更多的空间了。它们不情愿地离