

英汉对照

英汉经典阅读系列



传记卷

Biographies

应爱萍 编译



9.4:111

上海科技教育出版社



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传记卷

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出版/上海科技教育出版社

(上海市冠生园路393号 邮政编码200235)

发行/上海科技教育出版社

网址/www.sste.com

经销/各地新华书店

印刷/常熟市华顺印刷有限公司

开本/787 × 960 1/32

印张/7

字数/105 000

版次/2002年10月第1版

印次/2002年10月第1次印刷

印数/1 - 5 000

书号/ISBN 7 - 5428 - 2970 - X/G · 1868

定价/12.80元



序 言

“英汉经典阅读系列”是专门为有一定英语基础的大中学生,以及广大英语爱好者编译的一套英汉对照丛书。丛书共分六册,包括散文卷、短篇小说卷、神话传说卷、童话卷、笑话卷和传记卷。因所选作品均系经典名作,所以丛书极具阅读和收藏价值;又因丛书以体裁分门别类,所以针对性也很强,读者既可按自身喜好选读,也可纵览全貌,获得整体印象。可以说,丛书的经典性从客观上保证了丛书的权威性和高品位,而名家的生花妙笔带来的思想上的启迪和艺术上的陶冶则是不言而喻的。作为一套英汉对照读物,作品难易程度适中,且每篇作品都前有相关导读,后有针对重点词汇、词组的实力测试及答案,以帮助读者举一反三,更好地理解作品,拓展知识面。

本书为丛书中的传记卷。富兰克林、夏洛蒂、甘地、歌德、居里夫人等这些名字不仅为全



世界人民所熟知,而且还为人们所景仰,因为他们在政治、文学、科学等领域为人类作出了杰出的贡献。但是,对大多数名人的生平和经历,普通读者却不一定有很多了解。因此,为了使大家了解一些名人背后的故事和他们的经历,并提高英语阅读水平,我们编译了本书。

由于世界上国家众多,各个领域出现的名人名家也不胜枚举,不可能在这一册书中一一涵盖,而本书的读者对象是中国的英语学习者,因此在编选时尽可能做到:第一,在年代跨度上,偏重于现代而又不偏废近代;第二,尽量选取在社会不同领域出现的代表人物;第三,为保证传记的真实性和可靠性,入选内容均选自名人自传,或其家属及知名作家为其所撰写的传记。

由于本书篇幅所限,入选内容均为节选,节选时遵循以下原则:内容能塑造人物的性格特征,反映人物的内心世界。节选内容包括人物的成长经历、社会活动、个人观点、恋爱婚姻等等。具体说来,有威廉·福克纳的童年经历、徐悲鸿对艺术的执着追求、甘地的不为金钱所动、马丁·路德·金领导的民权运动、居里夫妇



的相遇等。

每篇传记除有中英文对照外,还配有“阅读视窗”、“词汇加油站”、“实力测试”等板块,以帮助读者了解所介绍人物的生平事略、扩大词汇量、测试学习英语的效果。

由于编译者水平有限,书中疏漏或错误之处在所难免,敬请读者批评指正。

编译者

2002年8月



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Guide for Reading

马丁·路德·金(1929~1968),美国黑人民权运动领袖。其父是埃比尼泽洗礼堂的牧师,他教导孩子们要尊重所有的人,这种美德后来成为马丁·路德·金生活中的重要组成部分。1954年他获得哲学博士学位并成为一名牧师。他从1955年12月1月起开始参与民权运动,1957年当选南方基督教领袖会议主席。翌年在南方发动黑人争取公民权利。1963年在华盛顿组织集会,反对种族歧视,要求法律面前全体公民一律平等。次年迫使总统约翰逊签署民权法案。主张非暴力主义,多次被捕。1968年3月组织“贫民进军”,4月途经田纳西州孟菲斯市时,被种族主义分子枪杀。

本文选自马丁·路德·金的传记,节选部分叙述了两个片段,第一是马丁遭到一名精神病患者袭击后一个15岁的孩子给他的来信;第二是为纪念美国废除奴隶制一百周年,人们于1963年8月28日在华盛顿中心集会,马丁发表了著名的演说《我有一个梦想》。时至今日,这个讲演感动了许多美国人。尽管马丁·路德·金年仅39岁就遇刺身亡,但他的精神迄今备受推崇,在美国历史上享有很高的地位。

It was when King was autographing the book, that a middle-aged black woman came up to him and asked, "Are you Martin Luther King?"

"Yes, I am."

An ordinary, polite exchange of words, yet this time it was different. The woman let out a cry and plunged a razor-sharp letter opener into his chest. She was a homeless *vagrant*^① who had spent years in and out of mental hospitals.

Dr. King was rushed to the hospital, and after a long, long wait, the knife was surgically removed. Mercifully, he had obeyed the nurses and kept absolutely still, despite the pain and shock, for the tip of the knife was a fraction of an inch from a major artery. The surgeon later said that one sneeze would have killed him.

The incident was reported in the newspapers and King was particularly pleased to read a letter written to him by a fifteen-year-old girl.

"Dear Dr. King,

I am a ninth grade student at the White Plains High School. While it shouldn't matter, I would like to mention that I am a white girl. I read in the paper of your misfortune and your



次，金亲笔为自己的书签名时，一位中年黑人妇女走上前来问道：“你是马丁·路德·金吗？”

“我正是。”

这本是一种普通而又客气的交谈，但这一次情形却不同了。那妇人大叫一声，猛地将一把锋利的开信刀插进了金的胸部。她是个无家可归的流浪者，多年来在精神病院进进出出好几回了。

金立即被送至医院。手术做了好久才取出那把刀。尽管伤口疼痛并受到惊吓，但万幸的是，当时他还是听从护士的话绝对保持静卧，因为刀尖离主动脉只差了一点点。事后，外科医生说哪怕是打一个喷嚏也能要了他的命。

这一事件上了报纸。金读到一封一个15岁的女孩写给他的信时尤为高兴。

“尊敬的金博士，

我是怀特普雷中学九年级的学生。虽然这无关紧要，我还是想告诉您我是一个白人姑娘。我从报纸上得知了您遭遇的不幸和为之所遭受的





suffering, and I read that if you had sneezed, you would have died.

I'm simply writing to say that I'm so happy you didn't sneeze."

Such signs of affection and friendship made it possible to go on—that, and the love and understanding of Coretta^② and the family that meant so much to him.

...

After the hard-won Birmingham campaign, a march on Washington was organized. It took place on August 28, 1963 and commemorated the one-hundredth anniversary of the abolition^③ of slavery in the States.

Martin Luther King hoped that 100,000 people would gather in the heart of Washington. But the television reports that morning had spoken of a crowd of only 25,000. If too few people came, no one would believe in the importance of campaign for civil rights.

When he and Coretta were driven to where the marchers were gathering, their hearts stopped for a moment. They could see the crowd before them. The whole scene was alive with people, black and white, moving together. Not 25,000 but 250,000 people—and not a single sign of violence.

Martin Luther King left the car and joined the



痛苦,还知道当时即使您打个喷嚏也会死掉的。

我只想写信告诉您,我很高兴您那时没有打喷嚏。”

这些关爱和友谊的表示,以及对金来说非常重要的克莉塔及家人的爱和理解,都使他得以继续前进。

……

在艰难地取得伯明翰斗争的胜利后,他又开始组织在华盛顿的一次示威游行。1963年8月28日,为纪念美国废除奴隶制一百周年的游行开始了。

马丁·路德·金本来希望能有十万人聚集到华盛顿中心。但电视报道称那天早上只来了两万五千人。如果来的人太少,就没有人会相信民权斗争的重要性。

当马丁和克莉塔驱车抵达游行的聚集点时,吃惊得似乎心跳都停了一会儿。他们看见了面前的人群。到处是人,黑人和白人一起前进。不是两万五千人,而是二十五万人——没有一丝暴力的迹象。

马丁·路德·金下了车加入到人群当中。



crowd as it moved over the grass to the Lincoln Memorial, singing "We Shall Overcome", carrying posters that spoke of their cause.

"We seek the freedom in 1963 promised in 1863."

"A century-old debt to pay."

Many important men spoke to the crowds that day as they stood before the great white pillars of the Lincoln Memorial. It looked as if the huge, seated figure of Abraham Lincoln, that advocator of freedom, listened to them.

Martin Luther King was 34, still a young man, but to that vast assembly he was the figure that stood for all they believed.

He had planned his speech carefully. So much depended on his finding the right words, the words to meet the moment, the words to change people's minds, the words to change people's hearts.

He began by speaking of the promise of equality as a bad debt that the government had yet to settle, a promise of payment that had led to nothing.

The crowd hung on his words. He could feel their unity, their support. As he went on they applauded and called out in agreement. He knew that he was speaking with their voice—speaking for them as well as to them.

Lifted on the wave of their response, he put



这时，人群正穿过草地走向林肯纪念堂，高声唱着

“我们将会胜利”，手里拿着宣传他们事业的标语。

“我们在1963年寻求1863年许诺的自由。”

“偿还一个世纪的债。”

那天，有许多重要人物站在林肯纪念堂前巨大的白色石柱下向人群发表演说。自由的倡导者——亚伯拉罕·林肯巨大的坐像也仿佛在那儿倾听着。

那时，马丁·路德·金34岁，还很年轻。但对参加盛大集会的群众而言，他是为了他们的信念而站出来说话的人。

他认真地准备了这次演讲。成功与否取决于他是否能找到合适的词句，词句是否适合这一时刻，是否能改变人们的观念，是否能改变人们的心灵。

他首先谈到政府曾许诺并必须清偿的孽债——平等，这本应兑现的承诺至今毫无结果。

人群专注地听着。马丁能感受到他们的团结，他们的支持。马丁接着往下说时，人群不约而同地爆发出阵阵掌声和欢呼声。他知道自己道出了他们的心声——既对他们演讲又为他们演讲。

受到人群积极响应的鼓舞，马丁撇开讲稿



aside the notes for his speech and spoke from his heart. And from his heart came the greatest speech of the civil rights movement, the speech that has become a part of history.

“I say to you today, my friends, that in spite of the difficulties and frustrations of the moment I still have a dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: ‘We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.’

“I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave-owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

“I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi will be transformed into an oasis^④ of freedom and justice.

“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.”

The vast crowd understood. This was no ordinary speech—this was a message that reached out to all people, of every belief and background.

“This will be the day when all of God’s children will be able to sing with new meaning ‘My country ’tis of thee let freedom ring.’



说出了自己的心声，发自内心地做了民权运动中最伟大的演讲。这次演讲已经成为历史的一部分。

“朋友们，今天我想告诉你们，虽然目前面临重重困难和挫折，我仍然有一个梦想。我梦想有一天这个国家重新站起来，将信条的真谛付诸实践：‘我们认为这些真理不言而喻：人人生而平等。’

“我梦想，有一天在佐治亚州的红色山岗上，昔日奴隶的儿子和昔日奴隶主的儿子能像亲兄弟一样同席而坐。

“我梦想，有一天即使是密西西比州，也会成为自由和正义的绿洲。

“我梦想，有一天我的四个孩子能生活在一个不以肤色，而是以其品格优劣来判别人的国家。”

所有的人都理解马丁所说的。这决非一次普通的演讲，它发出信息的接受者是所有的人——无论其信仰和背景是什么。

“这一天到来时，所有上帝的孩子都能以全新的涵义唱出：‘我的祖国，让自由之声响起。’





“And if American is to be a great nation, this must become true. So let freedom ring from the *prodigious*^⑤ hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. But not only that. Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi...

“When we let freedom ring from every town and every *hamlet*^⑥, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of that old Negro spiritual, ‘Free at last! Free at last! Thank God almighty, we are free at last.’”

The crowd roared in response as he finished. He had given voice to the longing of all those involved in the civil rights movement for the unity of black and white Americans, the unification of the nation.

On that day, many newspapers reported that King had become the unofficial “President of Black America”. He was now the acknowledged leader of the civil rights movement, a man trusted and loved by his followers and respected by people everywhere. It had been a great day in his life and the history of the United States.