

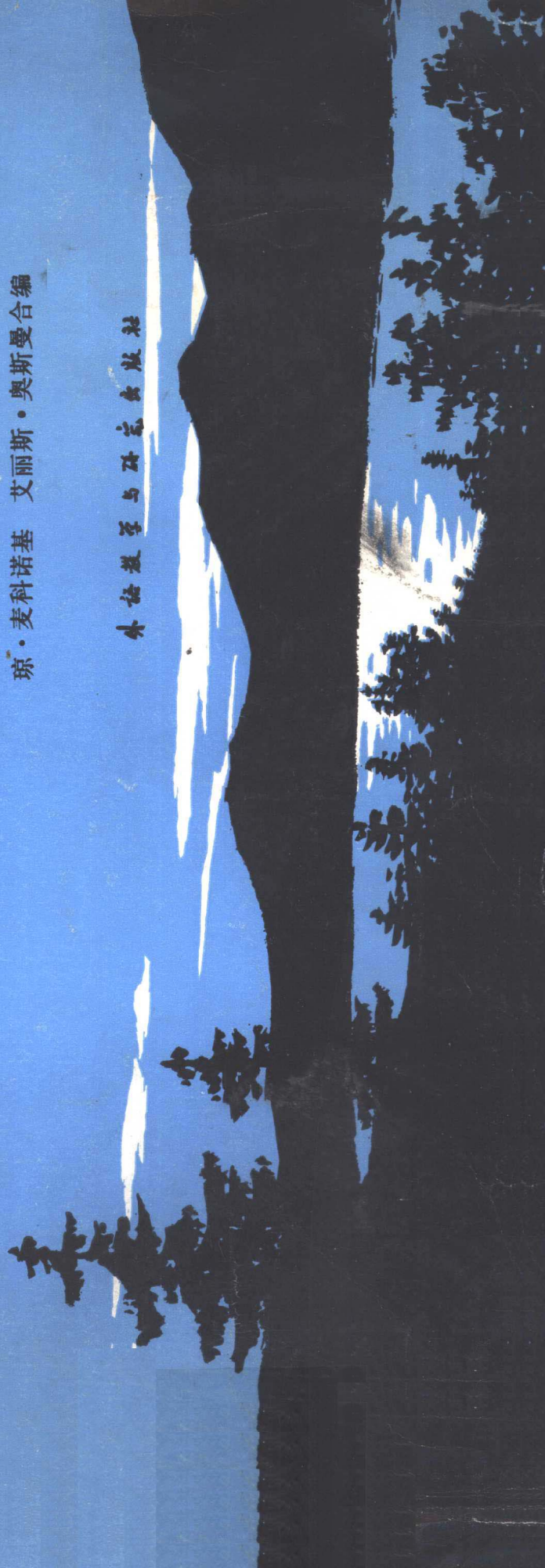
AMERICAN FOLKSONGS

美国民歌选集

(英 汉 对 照)

琼·麦科诺基 艾丽斯·奥斯曼合编

外语教学与研究出版社



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American Folksongs
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这本民歌选集收集了美国民间流传最广的二十八首民歌。这些民歌调曲优美，音乐节奏明快，歌词亲切感人、浅显易懂、富于幽默感，因此为美国人民和英语国家人民所喜闻乐见。有些歌曲也早为我国人民所熟悉。

每首歌曲均有背景介绍，读者可以通过《美国民歌选集》这个侧面，了解美国人民在过去二百年历史中，特别是在美国建国前后以及她在资本主义上升时期，所经历的战斗生活和遭受的挫折，尤其是美国黑人受奴役、受欺凌的悲惨境况。这些都是美国人民为摆脱压迫、争取自由的生动画卷。歌曲中还表现了男女的真挚爱情和健康的情操，以及人民怀念乡土的心声。但也有一些歌曲反映那里的人们受宗教迷信的束缚，把希望寄托在“上帝”身上。这说明他们还没有摆脱宿命论这个精神枷锁。所有这些，都有助于我们了解美国人民的风俗习惯、思想感情和认识问题的方法。我们相信读者一定会用辩证唯物主义和历史唯物主义的立场、观点和方法进行分析，得出正确结论的。

根据原编者对每首歌曲所提出的单词和短语以及解释，我们作了译注，目的是帮助初学英语的读者进一步了解歌曲内容。由于这些民歌的历史悠久，又在人民中广泛流传，一些词句比较陈旧或不符合现代英语规范，在原编者所作注释的基础上，我们另加了一些注释，供读者参考。

在翻译这本《美国民歌选集》时，我们得到《中国文学》杂志社已故中国籍加拿大专家杜丽（Dorise Nielsen Judy）同志的指导和帮助，也得到一些美国朋友的帮助。这里谨向敬爱的杜丽同志致以深切的哀思，向那些美国朋友表示衷心的感谢。沈鹤霄同志将原歌曲的五线谱改写成简谱并为二十八首歌曲配歌。这里向他表示诚挚的谢意。

由于我们水平不高，在译注方面一定存在不妥之处，欢迎读者指正，以便再版时修正。

译者

一九八一年五月

关于歌词的说明

在译配美国民歌二十八首时，我们考虑到以下四个方面的问题，

一、歌词的译配基本上尊重原意，但由于音乐和翻译后歌词之间存在的差别，为了使中国同志们更好地歌唱，我们参照原意采取部分意译的办法，作了些修饰和改动。如要进一步了解某些段落的原意，请参考注释或说明。

二、欧美国家歌曲，尤其是美国黑人歌曲，调子定得比较低，今按照我国人民的音域，对原有的调子作了调整。

三、在不影响主要内容的情况下，我们对歌词中个别词意近似

或重复的地方作了一些删节。

四、歌曲的合唱部分都已标明。如有两个声部或独唱声部，则用括弧括出，表示可唱可不唱。

此外，在演唱这些歌曲时，为了更好地抒发感情，可根据不同特点，分别采取合唱、二部合唱，领唱与合唱结合，或男女混声唱、轮唱等形式。练习和演唱时可以用吉他、手风琴等乐器伴奏，也可用口哨伴奏。

配歌者

一九八一年五月

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(44)

(46)

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(58)

(60)

(63)

(66)

1=D $\frac{2}{4}$ 轻松愉快地

年轻的比利

传统民歌

Billy Boy

(Mother) 1. Oh, — (妈妈) 哦	<u>3 4</u> 5 <u>5 5</u> <u>i</u> <u>3 4</u> 5 <u>5 6</u> 5 <u>3 4</u> 5 <u>5 5</u>	where ask you to come in, Bil - ly Boy, Oh, — 年轻的比利, 比利, 请你到家里做客	where have you been, Bil - ly Boy, Oh, — ask you to come in, there's a wife, she's the in, there's a
2. Did she ask you to come in, Bil - ly Boy, Did she (妈妈) 哦 年轻的比利, 比利, 请你到家里做客	<u>3 3</u> <u>3 3</u> <u>3 2</u> <u>2</u> 0 <u>2 3</u> <u>4 4</u> <u>4 4</u> <u>4 4</u> <u>4 4</u> <u>4 4</u> <u>4 4</u>	been, charming in charming where I have been to seek a 你到 哪里 请你在 寻找 爱 进去	ask you to come in, there's a wife, she's the in, there's a
joy— dim-ple 使我有个	<u>3 2</u> <u>3 4</u> 5 <u>i 6</u> 5 <u>3 5</u> <u>5 4</u> <u>2 7</u> <u>2 1</u> <u>1</u>	of my life, She's a } in her chin, She's a } 幸 福, 她真 轻, 不开 不开 小酒 窝, 她真 轻, 不开 不开	mo-ther. ——— 妈妈。 妈妈。

3. Can she bake a cherry pie, Billy Boy, Billy Boy,

Can she bake a cherry pie, charming Billy?

She can bake a cherry pie, quick as you can
wink an eye,

She's a young thing and cannot leave her mother.

年轻的比利, 她会做樱桃饼吗?

可爱的比利, 她会做樱桃饼吗?

你一眨眼, 她就能烤好一张樱桃饼。

她真年轻, 还离不开妈妈。

4. Can she make a feather bed, Billy Boy, Billy Boy,

Can she make a feather bed, charming Billy?

She can make a feather bed, while a-standing on
her head,

She's a young thing and cannot leave her mother.

年轻的比利, 她会做鸭绒褥子吗?

可爱的比利, 她会做鸭绒褥子吗?

她双手一倒立, 就能把褥子做好。

她真年轻, 还离不开妈妈。

5. How tall is she, Billy Boy, Billy Boy,

How tall is she, charming Billy?

She is tall as any pine, and as straight as a
pumpkin vine,

She's a young thing and cannot leave her mother.

年轻的比利, 她长得有多高?

可爱的比利, 她长得有多高?

她和松树一样高, 她象瓜藤一样直。

她真年轻, 还离不开妈妈。

6. How old is she, Billy Boy, Billy Boy,

How old is she, charming Billy?

She is sixty times eleven, twenty-eight and forty-
seven,

She's a young 'thing and cannot leave her mother!

年轻的比利, 她年纪有多大?

可爱的比利, 她年纪有多大?

她的年龄算不清, 但她美丽又漂亮。

她真年轻, 还离不开妈妈。

Songs of Youth and Love 青春和爱情歌曲

Billy Boy 年轻的比利

The first European settlers in America arrived in the early 1600s. Most of them were English speaking. They brought their language, their customs and their skills. They also brought their songs. *Billy Boy* is one of these songs.

In the New World, as in the Old World, a woman's work was essential for her family's survival. For the first two hundred years of American life, almost everything that the family ate or wore was produced at home. Women helped to plow the fields, plant seeds and pick crops. They made wheat or corn into flour and made the flour into bread. Women made their own cloth and made the cloth into shirts and trousers and dresses. A girl who learned to cook and sew well became a valuable wife.

In this song, Billy's mother questions him about the girl he plans to marry. Like a mother in any country, she wants her son to find a wife who is polite ("Did she ask you to come in?"), attractive ("How tall is she?"), skillful at housekeeping ("Can she bake a cherry pie?"), and can make a feather bed? ("Can she make a feather bed?"). In answering his mother, Billy exaggerates all the qualities of the girl he wants to marry; he is joking in a good-natured way.

Words and Expressions 单词和短语

Billy: 比利。Billy 是 Bill (比尔) 的爱称, 也是 William (威廉) 的绰号。young thing, 真年轻。歌词中用 thing 而没有用 girl 或 woman, 说明 Billy 的未婚妻是一位天真活泼的姑娘。
quick as you can wink an eye (= as quick as a wink); 一眨眼, 一眨眼的。

最早的欧洲移民于十七世纪初叶来到美洲。他们当中的多数人是说英语的, 他们把自己的语言、风俗习惯和各种技能带到了美洲。他们也把自己的歌曲带到这里, 《年轻的比利》就是其中的一首。

在美洲同在欧洲一样, 妇女的劳动是保证家庭生活所必须有的。在最初到这里生活的二百年里, 人们所需要的一切东西, 如吃的、穿的, 几乎都由家庭生产。妇女们要帮着耕地、播种和收割庄稼。她们把麦子和玉米磨成面, 把面粉做成面包。妇女们自己织布, 把布缝制成男女服装。那时的女孩子只有学会做饭、缝衣服, 才能成为好妻子。

在这首歌里, 比利的妈妈问她的儿子, 他要娶的姑娘怎么样。比利的妈妈跟所有的妈妈一样, 希望儿子找到一个殷勤 ("她请你到家作客吗?")、漂亮 ("她多高?")、能做家务 ("会烤樱桃饼吗? 会做羽绒褥子吗?") 和年轻 ("多大年龄?") 的妻子。比利在回答妈妈这些问题时, 极力夸大他要娶的那位姑娘的才能, 并用诙谐的口吻和他妈妈开玩笑。

a-standing on her head (= to be standing on one's head); 双手倒立。在老式的英语里, 表示现在进行时要在动词前加上前缀 a-。Sixty times eleven, twenty-eight and forty-seven; 十一乘六十, 加上二十八, 再加四十七。为便于歌唱, 译文译为 "她的年龄算不清", 又加了 "她美丽又漂亮"。

You Are My Sunshine

1=F 4/4 活泼、轻快

吉查尔·米·戴维·斯尔
词曲

5	1	2	3	-	3	-	0	3	#	2	3	1	-	1	-	0	1	2	3
1. You	are	my	sun	-	shine,			my	on -	ly	sun	-	shine,			You	make	me	
2. The	o -	ther	night,		dear,			as	I	lay	slee	-	ping,			I	dreamt	I	
你	是	我的	阳		光,			唯	一	的	阳		光,			你	使	我	
在	那	天	晚		上,			我	正	在	安		睡,			我	梦	见	

4	-	6	-	0	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	3	2	3	4	-	6	-
ha	-	ppy	-		when	skies	are	gray.							know,		dear,	
held		you		in		my		arms.							When I a -		woke, dear,	
幸		福,			谁	知道	阴	天。							你 不 知 道		啊!	
我把		你			接	在	怀	中。							我 醒 来,			

0	6	5	4	3	-	1	-	0	0	1	2	3	-	-	-	4	2	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	0	0	
How much I love you; Please don't take my sun - shine a - way.																											
I was mis - ta ken; So I hung my head and I cried.																											
我 多 么 是 爱 你, 请 我 不 不 要 禁 把 低 阳 头 带 哭 走。																											
原 来 是 做 梦,																											

You Are My Sunshine 你是我的阳光

Although it sounds like a folksong from the 1800s, *You Are My Sunshine* is actually a Tin Pan Alley success of 1940. Have you ever heard the term *Tin Pan Alley*? It originated around 1925. It was used through the 1950s to refer to the American popular music industry, which centered on Seventh Avenue between 48th and 52nd Streets in New York City during that period. The implication was that music in those days sounded like people hitting tin pans together.

You Are My Sunshine was written by Jimmie Davis, a former governor of Louisiana and amateur country music singer, with the collaboration of Charles Mitchell. Theirs is one of many popular songs that relate emotions to weather. Two more about sunshine and happiness are *On the Sunny Side of the Street* by Jimmy McHugh and Dorothy Fields and *You Are the Sunshine of My Life* by Stevie Wonder. Rain is associated with sadness in *Stormy Weather* by Harold Arlen and *Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head* by Hal David and Burt Bacharach.

Do you know any other "weather" songs—in English or another language?

when skies are gray, 天气阴沉时。gray skies (阴暗的天气) 体现出忧愁和悲伤。而 blue skies (蔚蓝的天空) 象征着快乐和幸福。gray = grey. the other night, 那个夜晚。即 several nights ago.

《你是我的阳光》听起来象十九世纪的民歌，实际上这是一九四〇年的一首很成功的流行歌曲。你听说过“马口铁平锅小巷”这个词儿吗？它首先出现在一九二五年前后。在五十年代，这个词儿就用来专指集中于纽约第七大街的四十八街和五十二街之间的美国流行音乐行业，这就是说，那个时期的音乐就象大家一起敲马口铁平底锅差不多。

《你是我的阳光》是由吉米·戴维斯和查尔斯·米切尔合作谱曲填词的。戴维斯曾任路易斯安那那州州长，也是一位业余民歌手。这首歌和其它许多流行歌曲一样，把感情寄托在天气上。还有两首描写阳光和幸福的歌曲，一首是吉米·麦休和桃乐赛·菲尔兹合编的《街道朝阳的那面》；另一首是斯蒂维·旺德所作的《你是我生命的阳光》。下雨往往和悲伤联系在一起，哈罗德·阿伦所作的《暴风雨天气》和哈尔·戴维斯与伯特·巴卡拉克所作《雨点一直落在我的头上》就是这样的。

你还知道哪些用英语或其它语言描写“天气”的歌曲吗？

Words and Expressions 单词和短语

dreamt, 梦见。dreamt 是 dream 的过去式和过去分词，有些美国人写作 dreamed.
hang my head, 低下头来(此处表示失望)。

A Bicycle Built for Two

1=G $\frac{3}{4}$ 华尔兹速度

哈里·戴克
加里·加布里埃

词曲
改词

两人骑的自行车

5 - - -	3 - - -	1 - - -	5 - - -	6 7 1	6 - 1	5 - - -	5 - - -
(Patrick) 1. Dai	sy,	Dai	sy,	give me your	an - swer,	do.	
(Daisy) 2. Pa	trick,	Pa	trick,	here is your	an - swer	true!	
(帕特里克)	西,	戴	西,	请	回答	我。	
(戴西)	特里克,	帕	特里克,	我	回答	你!	

2 - - -	5 - - -	3 - - -	1 - - -	6 7 1	2 - 3	2 - - -	2 - 3
I'm	half	cray	zy	all for the	love of	you.	It
I	know	that	trick,	and it will	ne ver	do.	If
我	爱	你	呀,	衷 心	爱 的	你。	但 你
我	很	清	楚,	你		领。	

4 3 2	5 - 3	2 1 - 1	3 - 2	3 - 1	6 5 - 5	5 - 5
won't be a	sty - lish	mar-riage,	I	can't a - fford	a car-riage.	But
you can't a - fford	a	car-riage,	Then	be no	mar-riage,	For
没 有 时 髦 不	的 起	婚 礼,	我 那	起 不	马 车。	当 因
如 果 买		马 车,			结 婚。	

1 - 3	2 0 5	1 - 3	2 0 3 4	5 3 1	2 - 5	1 - - -	1 0 0
you'll look	sweet u-	pon the	Of a	bi - cy - cle	built for	two!	
I in - sist	I	won't be	On a	bi - cy - cle	built for	two!	
你 为	在 人	行 在	你 不 能	更 得 你	加 亲	美 丽。	
						吻。	

A Bicycle Built for Two 两人骑的自行车

The first American bicycle was manufactured in 1877—fifteen years before Henry Ford built his first automobile. As bicycles became safer and more comfortable, people began talking about them as a replacement for the horse. "After all," they said, "a bicycle is much smaller and cleaner than a horse. And a bicycle is certainly cheaper to take care of." In the early 1890s—the "Gay Nineties"—bicycle riding became a national fad, and soon one out of every seven Americans owned a bicycle. People even took bicycle-riding lessons at special schools. (There were nearly 100 of these schools in New York City alone.)

When Harry Dacre, a songwriter from London, moved to New York in 1891, he had to pay customs duty (tax) on his English bicycle. That made him angry. "Well," said a friend, "you're lucky it wasn't a bicycle built for two. You would have had to pay even more duty." Dacre thought about the idea, and the next year he wrote a waltz about an imaginary romantic problem with a bicycle built for two. No American publisher was interested in the song; however, it was an immediate success in London and was soon re-exported to America.

The bicycle craze was over by 1899. But people have continued to sing about Daisy and have even added to the story. Daisy's answer to Patrick was written by an American teacher, Gary Gabriel, during a seminar for teachers of English in Yugoslavia in 1972. And in the 1970s, bicycles once again became fashionable for adult riders in the United States!

Words and Expressions 单词和短语

half crazy, 狂热的, 着迷的; 迷恋的。歌词中 I'm half crazy all for the love of you 是“我衷心地爱你”的意思, 相当于 to be crazy for sb. or sth. 这是一八五〇年左右的俚语, 可译为“迷恋某人或某事”, 现在一般说: to be in love with sb. 或 to be very enthusiastic over that person or thing.

一八七七年美国制造了第一辆自行车, 这比亨利·福特造的第一辆汽车早十五年。由于自行车既安全, 又舒适, 人们开始议论用自行车代替马的问题。

他们说:“自行车毕竟比马要小得多, 也比马干净, 而且保养一辆自行车要比照料一匹马便宜。”到了十九世纪九十年代, 即“全盛的九十年代”初, 全美国都兴骑自行车。很快, 在每七个美国人中就有一辆自行车, 那时人们还到专门教骑自行车的学校去学骑车。(仅纽约一地就差不多有一百所这样的学校。)

一八九一年歌曲作家哈里·戴克从伦敦迁居纽约时, 不得不为自己的英国自行车上关税, 这使他很恼火。一位朋友说:“唉, 幸亏不是一辆两人骑的自行车, 否则你要付更多的税。”戴克考虑了这个说法, 第二年他就用华尔兹的曲调谱写了一首富有浪漫色彩的歌曲——《两人骑的自行车》, 但没有一家美国出版商对这首歌感兴趣。然而这首歌在伦敦却立即获得成功, 而且很快地又传回美国。

到一八九九年, 自行车热过去了, 但人们继续歌唱戴西, 而且还为这首歌补充了新词。这里戴西对帕特里克的答话是美国教师加里·加布里埃一九七二年在南斯拉夫参加英语教师讨论会时填写的新词, 因为七十年代骑自行车在美国成人中又兴起来。

stylish (=fashionable), 时髦; 还可作 in the latest style 解。
can't afford (=don't have enough money to pay for), 买不起。
that trick, 这里指十九世纪九十年代许多美国年轻小伙子善于骑自行车, 以

此向女友显示自己骑车的本领, 但戴西并不欣赏这种本领。

Go Tell Aunt Rhody

去告诉罗蒂阿姨

传统民歌

3	-	3	3	2	2	1	-	1	-	3	2	1	-
1. Go	tell	Aunt	been	罗蒂	抢救	Rho	- dy, -	阿姨,	The	sa	- ving,	灰	鹅,
2. one	she's	告诉	一直	去	她	Go	one	去	她	Aunt	been	罗蒂	抢救
5	-	5	5	4	4	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
Go	tell	Aunt	been	罗蒂	抢救	Rho	- dy	阿姨,	The	sa	- ving,	灰	鹅,
one	she's	告诉	一直	去	她	old	make	心	做	gray	goose	is	dead.
						2	1	1	2	2	2	3	bed.
							a	feather	死	了。			
							爱	的	灰	鹅	死	了。	
							一	床	鹅	绒	被		

3. She died in the millpond,
She died in the millpond,
She died in the millpond
A-standing on her head.
4. The old gander's weeping,
The old gander's weeping,
The old gander's weeping,
Because his wife is dead.
5. The goslings are mourning,
The goslings are mourning,
The goslings are mourning
Because their mother's dead.
6. She only had one feather,
She only had one feather,
She only had one feather,
A-sticking in her head.
- 小鹅们在哀悼,
小鹅们在哀悼,
小鹅们在哀悼,
因为鹅妈妈死了。
- 她留下一根羽毛,
她留下一根羽毛,
她留下一根羽毛,
插在她的头上。
- (重复第一段)

Go Tell Aunt Rhody 去告诉罗蒂阿姨

The melody comes from a one-act opera composed by Jean-Jacques Rousseau in 1750 for the amusement of King Louis XV of France. The English borrowed the tune, giving it new words and using it as a hymn to sing in church. English settlers in America made up still another set of words based on pioneer life.

In the American version, the song is about an old gray goose who died because she kept her head under water for too long. The death of a goose was a serious problem in eighteenth-century America because geese had many uses. If someone wanted to write a letter, he or she pulled a feather out of a goose's wing, sharpened the end of the feather and used it as a pen. Goose eggs provided food. And when an early American family had goose for Sunday dinner, they saved the soft under-feathers to fill a pillow or mattress.

However, the real purpose of this song isn't to mourn the death of a goose. The song is a lullaby—a song to put children to sleep. There are many more verses than are given here; a mother could keep on singing, making up new verses if necessary, until all her children were sound asleep. The song has honored many different aunts, among them Abbie, Mandy, Nancy and Tabby, as well as Aunt Rhody.

Rhody, 妇女名, Rhoda 的方言形式。

goose, 鹅。(复数为 geese)

gander, 公鹅; goslings, 小鹅。

the one she's been saving (=the goose that she has been saving),

她一直在养的那只鹅。

feather bed; 鹅(鸭)绒褥, 即 feather-filled mattress.

died, die (死) 的过去式。

这首民歌的曲调, 选自让·雅克·卢梭于一七五〇年为法国国王路易十五享乐而创作的一出独幕歌剧。英国人采用其曲调, 填写了新词, 作为教堂里唱的赞美歌。在美国的英国移民, 又根据先驱者的生活填写了新词。

在这首美国歌曲里, 描写一只老灰鹅, 它把头浸在水里, 为时过久, 因而死去。十八世纪时, 在美国, 鹅有多种用途, 死一只鹅就成了严重问题。一个人要写信, 他(或她)就从鹅翅膀上拔一根羽毛, 把一头削尖了当笔用。鹅蛋可以食用。最初到美国定居的家庭, 星期日进餐就宰只鹅, 然后把柔软的鹅毛保存下来, 塞在枕头或褥子里。

然而, 这首歌的本意不在于哀悼一只鹅死去, 而是一首哄孩子睡觉的摇篮曲。它的歌词比这里介绍的要多得多, 做妈妈的可以边唱边编新歌词, 直到孩子睡熟。不论是哪个阿姨, 是阿比、曼迪、南希, 还是泰比, 她们都跟罗蒂阿姨一样, 爱唱这首歌。

Words and Expressions 单词和短语

millpond, (为发动水车用的) 贮水池。

a-standing on her head, 她的头倒栽在水里。在现在分词前加上前缀 a-

表示现在进行时。现在只用于民歌里及北美洲阿巴拉契亚山的居民所说的英语里。

a-sticking in her head; 正插在头上。

mother's; mother is 的缩写形式。

Down in the Valley

1=G $\frac{3}{4}$ 梦幻地

传统民歌

在山谷里

5 1 2 | 3 - - | 1 - - | 0 0 3 | 3 2 1 | 2 - - | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 |

1. Down in the va - lley, The va - lley so low,
2. Hear the wind blow, Hear the wind blow,
在山谷里, 山谷是这样深,
啊, 我亲爱, 你听风在呼啸,

5 7 2 | 4 - 4 | 2 - - | 0 0 0 | 7 1 2 | 1 - - | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 |

Hang your head o - ver, Hear the wind blow.
Hang your head o - ver, Hear the wind blow.
低下你的头, 听风在呼啸。
低下你的头, 听风在呼啸。

3. Roses love sunshine, 玫瑰花爱阳光,
Violets love dew, 紫罗兰爱露水,
Angels in heaven 天上的安琪儿
Know I love you. 知道我爱你。
4. If you don't love me, 如果你不爱我,
Love whom you please, 你爱谁都可以,
Put your arms round me, 请拥抱我吧!
Give my heart ease. 让我放心。

5. Write me a letter, 给我写信吧!
Send it by mail, 快点寄来,
Send it in care of 寄到伯明翰监狱,
The Birmingham Jail. 让我快收到!
6. Birmingham Jail, love, 我亲爱的人啊,
Birmingham Jail, 给我写封信,
Send it in care of 寄到伯明翰监狱,
The Birmingham Jail. 安慰我的心。
(The first verse is repeated.) (重复第一段)

Down in the Valley 在山谷里

This song came out of the Kentucky mountains in the late 1700s. In many versions, a mountaineer is in jail in the lowlands—perhaps for making illegal whiskey. He is dreaming of his sweetheart; he wishes that they could be together again. Also, as Alan Lomax, the folksong collector, has remarked, a mountain man felt he couldn't breathe down in the valley away from the fresh, cool air of his mountain home.

Followers of the Kentucky pioneer Daniel Boone (1734-1820) carried the song with them and taught it to other pioneers moving north and west. The song became popular throughout the country and has remained so to the present day. It has even reversed the path of the *Aunt Rhody* melody, the German-American composer Kurt Weill used *Down in the Valley* as the title and major musical theme of an opera which he wrote in 1948.

violet, 紫罗兰。这种花开在背阴的地方。
dew, 露水。

Love whom you please, 你爱谁都行。一般说, You are free to love anyone you want to.

Give my heart ease, 让我放心。一般说: Put my heart at ease. Give

这首歌产生于十八世纪后期肯塔基山区。在多种改写过的歌词里, 都描写了一个山区人被关在低地监狱里的故事, 也许是因为非法酿造威士忌酒。这位山区人梦见情人, 希望能和她在一起。民歌搜集家艾伦·洛马克斯说, 山上的人离开山区故居新鲜、凉爽的空气, 感到在山谷里透不过气来。

丹尼尔·布恩 (1734—1820) 是开发肯塔基的先驱, 他的追随者把这首歌传播开来, 教给那些向西北部开拓的人唱, 从而使这首歌流行全国, 一直传到今天。美籍德国作曲家库尔特·韦尔在一九四八年借用了《在山谷里》的歌名, 并根据它的音乐主题改编成一出歌剧, 这和《罗蒂阿姨》一歌有着完全不同的风格。

Words and Expressions 单词和短语

my heart ease 是方言。

Birmingham Jail, 在伯明翰的监狱。即 the prison in Birmingham. 当时伯明翰有很多监狱。

love, 亲爱的 (人)。love 是名词, 和 dear 相同。