

英汉对照阅读丛书·书信篇

BABEL'S SERIES·LETTERS

我爱你

P.S. I LOVE YOU

妈妈信中的附言



(北京)

4: I

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Dedicated to my mother whose love, laughter, encouragement and values will always guide and inspire me.

Thanks, Mom. I love you.

H. J. B.

谨将此书献给母亲。您的爱、您的笑、您的鼓励及价值观将永远指导和激励我们。

谢谢妈妈。我爱你！

杰克逊·布朗

2007.10

序 言

过去的几年中，妈妈给我和妹妹写了好几百封信，而我們最珍爱的是每封信后的短小附言。

虽说这些附言只是寥寥几行，但妈妈用她敏锐的观察、轻松的幽默及充满爱的忠告给我们以鼓舞和灵感。她有时还用一些简笔画来表达想法，这些简笔画常能逗得我们发笑。

我们把妈妈的信保存起来，把我们最钟情的附言汇集成这本小册子。虽然它们写于四十多年前，但今天看来它们无不充满对人生的真知灼见及洞察力。

我希望你们能从中得到享受。也许它们能唤起你的回忆，回忆起你的爸爸、妈妈也曾给你写过同样充满智慧的话。

写到此，我想顺便告诉大家：我妈妈现在身体很棒，并且她仍将一如既往地写下去。

我可等不及她的下一封来信了。

杰克逊·布朗

Introduction

Over the years Mom has written my sister and me hundreds of letters. What we cherished most were the little P.S. notes she would write at the end of each one.

There, in just a few words, she would encourage and inspire us with keen observations, gentle humor and loving advice. Sometimes she would illustrate her thoughts with little drawings that always made us smile.

We saved the letters, and this little book is a collection of her P.S. messages that we love the most. Although some were written more than forty years ago, they still ring with truth and insight.

I hope you will enjoy reading them. Perhaps you will be reminded of similar words of wisdom written to you by your mother or father.

As I write this, I am happy to report that Mom is in excellent health and still writing.

I can't wait for her next letter.

H. J. B.

P.S. What you are becoming is more important than what you are accomplishing.

*I love you ,
Mom*

附言：成为一个什么样的人比成就一项什么事业更重要。

爱你的妈妈

P.S. I know this letter has been filled with advice—all unsolicited. Take what you want and throw the rest away. As George Bernard Shaw said,

“Advice is like kissing: it costs nothing and it's a pleasant thing to do.”

I love you,

Mom

附言：我知道这封信里满是对你的忠告，但我不强求你全盘接受。吸取你想要的，把其余的放在一边。这正如乔治·肖伯纳所说的：“忠告好比接吻，做起来轻松而又愉快。”

爱你的妈妈

P.S. I love this story about giving credit where credit is due:

A preacher comes up to a farmer in his field and remarks, "Mighty fine farm you and the Lord have made." "Yep," replies the farmer, "but you should have seen it when He had it all to Himself."

I love you,

Mom

附言：我喜欢下面这则故事，它告诉我们荣誉应给当之无愧的人：

一位牧师站在一块地里对开垦这块地的农夫赞扬道：“上帝与你拥有一块多好的土地啊！”农夫答道：“对，但您应该想到上帝独有这块地时是什么模样。”

爱你的妈妈

P.S. If there were no one to watch them
drive by, how many people would buy a
Mercedes?

*I love you ,
Mom*

附言：倘若没有人看到美西兹车从他们面
前开过的话，又有谁去买它呢？

爱你的妈妈

P . S . Dearest daughter, you don't have to prove yourself to me, your father or to anyone. If you have done your best, that's all that matters. Are you content and satisfied with your efforts? That's the only question to ask.

*I love you ,
Mom*

附言：亲爱的女儿，你不必向我、向父亲及其他任何人证明你自己，倘若你尽了自己的最大努力也就够了。你唯一需要问的问题是：我对自己的努力是否满意呢？

爱你的妈妈

P.S. Regarding your D in biology, let me only say that sometimes a good scare is worth more than good advice.

I love you,

Mom

附言：对生物考了个D分你要引起注意。我想说的只是：有时候一场惊吓比一个好的忠告更有价值。

爱你的妈妈

P.S. One of your father's clients sent him a lovely paperweight with this inscription:

People can be divided into three groups:

Those who make things happen.

Those who watch things happen.

Those who wonder what happened.

Congratulations on being the captain of the first group.

You have a very special father.

I love you,

Mom

附言：你父亲的一位经纪人送给他一个精致的压纸板，上面有这样的题字：

人可分为三种：

第一种是做事的人

第二种是看事的人

第三种是彷徨的人

值得祝贺的是我们是第一种人的头头。

你有一位非同寻常的父亲。

爱你的妈妈

P.S. You're learning that nothing worthwhile ever comes without hard work. As Grandfather Harper used to say,

"To enjoy the cider you must first peel the apple."



*I love you,
Mom*

附言：你知道不经过艰辛劳动而得到的东西一钱不值。正如哈帕爷爷过去常说的：“要享受苹果酒先得削苹果皮。”

爱你的妈妈

P.S. Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

I love you,

Mom

附言：二十年后你将会为自己没有去做某事而不是为自己曾做过某事而懊悔，因此你要把绳索扔掉，从一个安全的港口起锚，乘着劲风去探索、去寻梦、去开拓。

爱你的妈妈

P.S. An older gentleman in front of me at the check-out at Kroger's was wearing a hat with this inscription:

I bet he's a great granddad!



*I love you ,
Mom*

附言：在卡洛基商店付款处，一个站在我前面的老人戴着一顶帽子，帽子上有着这样的手写体字：如果早知道孙子这么可爱，我们应先要他们。

我敢说他肯定是位很好的爷爷！

爱你的妈妈

P.S. Life is teaching you some painful lessons. But it is from adversity that strength is born. You may have lost the inning, but I know you'll win the game.

I love you,

Mom

附言：生活会给你一些惨痛的教训，但力量源于逆境。生活如竞赛，你可能输掉了竞赛的第一局，但我知道你终究会赢。

爱你的妈妈

P.S. Your father defines an honest man as
someone you could play checkers with
over the telephone.

I love you ,

Mom

附言：你父亲为诚实人下的定义为：一个
你可以通过电话与之下国际象棋的人。

爱你的妈妈

P.S. Luck may bring you riches, but it will
never bring you wisdom.

*I love you ,
Mom*

附言：幸运可能给你带来财富，但不会给你智慧。

爱你的妈妈