



中学生英语课外读物

鹦鹉的秘密

THE PARROT'S SECRET

广东人民出版社

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鸚 鵡 的 秘 密

(外一篇)

Irene Tamony 等著

李洁芳 区克力 译注

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广东省教育厅教材编写组

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内 容 介 绍

1.《鸚鵡的秘密》

一个名叫弗朗克的少年在暑假期间到一家小动物店帮工。他在那里发现了一只鸚鵡的秘密，结果协助警署破获了一桩离奇的案件。本篇情节生动有趣，人物性格鲜明。

2.《奇异的鲸》

这是一篇科技小品，介绍了鲸的习性和生活。初中英语课本第五册有一篇课文是《Whales—Giant of the Sea》（《海洋的巨物——鲸》）。同学们要想得到更多有关鲸的知识，可以从这篇短文中获悉一些。

前 言

全日制十年制《中小学英语教学大纲》(试行草案)指出:
“为了培养学生阅读和自学英语的能力,单纯通过课文教学是难以达到的,还必须指导学生在课外阅读相当数量的读物。”
“学生要尽可能多地阅读浅易的原著或经过改写的原著。”

为了达到上述的教学目的,我们从今年起,计划逐年编译一些适合中学各个年级学生阅读的英语课外读物,来逐步提高各个年级学生的阅读、理解英语原著的能力。

我们编译这套英语课外读物的原则是:

(1) 所选原著或改写本思想内容健康,有一定的教育意义。

(2) 原著或改写本文字浅显易懂,生动有趣;译文力求通晓流畅,便于对照;注解做到简明扼要,容易理解;所附练习,有助于理解原文和巩固阅读效果。(低年级读物没有汉译部分。)

(3) 编排力求图文并茂,能够引起阅读的兴趣。

本册译注者为广东教育学院李洁芳、区克力两位同志。
我厅教材编写组赵清华、关庆宁两位同志参加了审稿工作。

这套英语课外读物的编纂是我们初次尝试,难免有缺点错误。欢迎读者指正。

广东省教育厅教材编写组

1983年3月

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The Parrot's Secret

鸚鵡的秘密

(美) Irene Tamony 著

李洁芳 译注

Main Characters

主要人物



Frank
弗朗克



Mrs. Noah
诺亚太太



Pedro
彼得罗



Pearl diver
采珠潜水员



Sailor
水手



“我要找一个人来看住我的鸚鵡彼得罗。”

1. Mrs. Noah's Ark⁽¹⁾

Frank Sanders showed a newspaper to his friend Barney Dodd. "What do you think, Barney? They need help at a place called Noah's Ark. And I need summer work so that I can save money."

Barney laughed. "All right, you may try," he said.

"I'd better see about that work," Frank said, "I'll phone you tonight and let you know how I come out."

Frank stopped at the address⁽²⁾ given in the paper. He stared at the place. "It's a pet shop⁽³⁾," he cried. He left his bicycle outside and walked into the shop.

In the back of the store a bell rang. A fat lady in a brown apron⁽⁴⁾ hurried out. Her quick steps showed that she never had enough time.

"Yes? What can I do for you?" She asked.

Frank held out the newspaper. "It says that here you need someone to help in the store. I am Frank Sanders." He tried to look taller than he was.

一、诺亚太太的方舟

弗朗克·散达斯把一张报纸递给他的朋友巴利·多得看。“你看怎么样？巴利，一间叫诺亚方舟的店铺要雇工。我正想在暑期找点活干，好积点钱。”

巴利笑起来。“很好，我想你可以去试一试。”他说。

“我还是去问一下，”弗朗克说，“今晚打电话把结果告诉你。”

弗朗克按报上的地址找到那个地方。他停下来，盯着那招牌。“原来是个小动物店。”他把自行车停放在屋外，走进店里。

店内一阵铃声。一位系着褐色围裙的胖太太跑了出来。她急匆匆的脚步表明，她是个非常忙碌的人。

“你要什么？”她问。

弗朗克打开报纸说：“报上说你的店铺要人帮忙。我叫弗朗克·散达斯。”他把身子挺直，想显得比他本人实际还要高一些。

(1) Noah's Ark 据圣经《创世纪》记载：诺亚为亚当之后裔。当太古洪水泛滥时，人类尽灭，诺亚得上帝的指示刻木为舟，率领家属和每类动物各一对在方舟上避难得以生存下来，诺亚和他的妻子便成为人类的祖先。

(2) address *n.* 通讯处；地址

(3) pet shop *n.* 出售小动物供人玩赏的店子

(4) brown apron

brown *adj.* 褐色的，棕色的

apron *n.* 围裙

"I am Mrs. Noah," she said. "Yes, I do need help." The fat woman looked Frank over for a moment without speaking.

At the same time, Frank stared around the noisy store. Dogs barked, kittens mewed⁽¹⁾, squirrels chattered⁽²⁾, monkeys jabbered⁽³⁾. But a big green-yellow-and-blue parrot⁽⁴⁾ made the most noise.

"Ahoy, ahoy, ahoy," he screeched⁽⁵⁾ in a loud voice.

"I need a helper," the fat woman repeated. "But you're short and thin. I need a big helper, a sort of policeman."

Frank's mouth fell open.⁽⁶⁾

"A policeman?" he asked.

"I want someone to watch Pedro, my parrot," the woman explained. "He's worth⁽⁷⁾ a lot to me. He brings in business.⁽⁸⁾ Many people come in to hear him talk. Then they stay to buy things."

“我是诺亚太太，”她说，“我是想请个帮工。”她默默地把弗朗克从头到脚打量了一会儿。此时，弗朗克环视了一下这闹哄哄的店铺。小狗在吠，小猫在叫，松鼠在吱吱喳喳地吵着，猴子在喃喃自语。一只长着青黄蓝三色羽毛的大鹦鹉吵得最凶。

“啊嘿，啊嘿，啊嘿，”它高声地尖叫着。

“我是要找个助手，”胖太太说，“但是你又矮又瘦。我要的是个身材高大的，象个警察那样。”

“警察！”弗朗克惊奇得张开了嘴巴。

“我要找一个人来看住我的鹦鹉彼得罗，”她解释说，“它对我很有价值，给我招徕顾客。许多人进店里听它讲话，然后停下来买点东西。”

(1) kitten *n.* 年幼的猫

mew *v.* 猫叫

(2) squirrel *n.* 松鼠

chatter *v.* (松鼠等)鸣声

(3) jabber *v.* 猴子叫声

(4) parrot *n.* 鹦鹉

(5) screech *v.* 尖叫

在英语中，各种动物叫声多有固定动词与之搭配。

(6) fell open 惊异地张开

(7) be worth *prep.* 价值

(8) bring in business 招徕顾客

"Oh, I'm strong," Frank said. "But why does Pedro need a policeman?"

"A strange little man has come in my shop lately," Mrs. Noah said, "He always goes to Pedro's cage. What's more⁽¹⁾, he talks to Pedro as if he knew the parrot. I told him Pedro is not for sale."

Mrs. Noah sighed, "Maybe it has something to do with⁽²⁾ the carved box."

Frank became more and more interested. He wanted to ask many questions, but Mrs. Noah rushed from one side of the store to the other⁽³⁾.

Frank walked over to Pedro. "Ahoy, ahoy, Pedro. I'm Frank," he said.

The parrot tipped his green head toward Frank. He flapped his green and yellow wings and said, "Ahoy, Frank! Ahoy, Frank!"

(1) What's more 更有甚者 (更令人担心的是)

(2) has something to do with ... 与……有关

(3) rushed ... to the other 在店里奔来奔去

“你放心，我有力气，”弗兰克说，“可是，为什么彼得罗要警察来看守呢？”

诺亚太太回答：“这几天有个奇怪的矮个子常到店里来。他总是一进来就走到彼得罗的笼子旁。更令人担心的是，他好象认识彼得罗，老跟它说话。我告诉他了，彼得罗是不卖的。”

诺亚太太叹了一口气。“可能跟那雕盒花子有关系。”

弗兰克越来越感兴趣了。他有许多问题要问，但是诺亚太太在店里忙碌地奔来奔去，没工夫跟他说话。

弗兰克走近彼得罗，对它说，“啊嗨，啊嗨，彼得罗，我是弗兰克。”

那鹦鹉把绿色的头向弗兰克凑过来，拍打着黄绿相间的翅膀喊叫，“啊嗨，弗兰克，啊嗨，弗兰克！”



"Well, I never⁽¹⁾!" cried Mrs. Noah rushing over to Frank. "I never have seen Pedro take to anyone⁽²⁾ like that before. Do you like animals, Frank?"

"Yes, ma'am. But we live in an apartment⁽³⁾, and I can't have pets⁽⁴⁾."

"Well, I think I'll give you a try at the job⁽⁵⁾," Mrs. Noah said. "I want to check on your school⁽⁶⁾, though, if you don't mind."

"Of course not," Frank said and gave her the name and phone number of his school principal⁽⁷⁾.

Pedro leaned away over toward Frank as if he had a secret to tell.

"It's in the box! It's in the box!" said the parrot.

"And you are on a chain," Frank said with a laugh.

When Mrs. Noah called him, Frank ran to the rear of the store.

Mrs. Noah's fat face was all smiles⁽⁸⁾. "Mr. Redding from your school said some nice things about you⁽⁹⁾. You may start work now, if you like."

“哎呀，”诺亚太太惊叫着跑过来，“我还没见过彼得罗那么喜欢一个陌生人哩，弗朗克，你喜欢动物吗？”

“喜欢，太太。可是我们家住在公寓里，不能养小动物。”

“好吧，我看可以让你先干一下试试看，”诺亚太太说，“不过，如果你不介意，我还想向你们学校了解一下你的情况。”

“当然不介意。”弗朗克说，他把校长的姓名和电话号码告诉她。

彼得罗向弗朗克凑过来，好象有什么秘密要告诉他。

“它在盒子里，在盒子里。”它叫着。

“你呢，你给链子锁着。”弗朗克取笑它。

这时诺亚太太在里屋叫弗朗克。他跑进去。诺亚太太的胖脸堆满笑容。“你们学校的列丁先生对你评价很好。你愿意的话，可以开始工作了。”

[1] Well, I never! 此句是重复句，加强赞赏的语气

[2] take to anyone 喜欢某人

[3] apartment (美) 公寓，等于英国的 flat

[4] pet 指供玩赏的小动物

[5] a try at the job 试工

[6] check on 调查

[7] principal 校长

[8] was all smile 堆满笑容

[9] said some nice things 给予好评