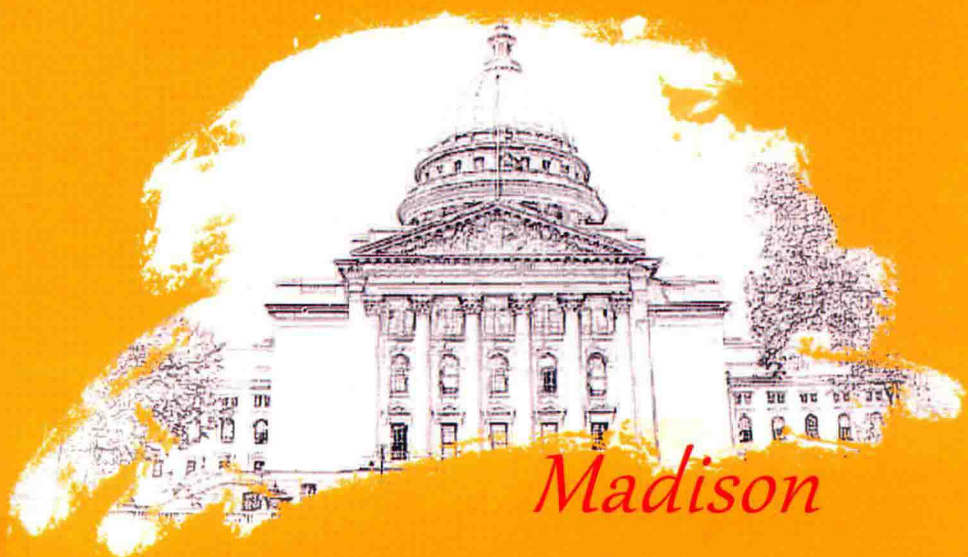


Madison Pictures
and
American Culture

麦迪逊图片
与美国文化



唐友军 著

本书图文并茂地介绍美国文化

旨在更好地实现中国文化的对外推介，并汲取不同文化的精华

 吉林大学出版社

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A Note from the Author

I am deeply grateful to Professor Stephen E. Lucas, Shandong Education Department, and leaders from Qingdao Binhai University. Thanks to them, I have been staying at Madison, the capital of Wisconsin, U.S.A., for almost a year. Besides the training and study, I walk the dog, ride a bicycle, keep running, go fishing and take thousands of pictures. I am completely impressed by the local culture. As to culture, there has not been a consensus about its definition. For me, culture may be a kind of wonderful feeling that can make you happy, excited or greatly inspired. Culture may be a good habit that can be your lifetime treasure. Culture may be a healthy life style that can guide you to own a bright future. Culture may be an idea that can always bring you hope and strength. Culture may be everything that has been diachronically proved to be good to human beings. If you have the similar feeling, or form a good habit, or lead a healthy life, or feel the positive energy after reading and studying the book, I would be delighted and relieved.

Madison is a small but very beautiful city with woods, lakes, rivers, lawns, clear and blue sky. It is not too cold in winter and not too hot in summer. The unparalleled environment results from the local people's good habit and their consciousness of environment protecting. Madison is a sports city. People enjoy all kinds of sports,

riding bicycle, running, walking, playing basketball, baseball, fishing, rowing etc. Madison is the paradise for the wildlife. You can see the ducks, squirrels, hares, turkeys, geese, badgers etc. almost every where. Madison is a good place for study. University of Wisconsin-Madison, a world top university, dominates the whole city. You can find the students studying here and there. Madison is a safe city. You need not worry about losing something. If you lose something, you can find it on the way back because the local people are likely to pick it up and put it aside at a prominent place. Once something happens, you will be informed as soon as possible. Most of the local people are very kind and offer help when you look worried. You can hear “How are you doing” “Have a good day!” every day. At Madison, you need not worry about being lost partly in that there are maps and route maps within your reach. At Madison you need not worry about being thirsty and hungry because at the entrance of each park you can see the free filtrated drinking water bridle and all kinds of fruits can be found easily in the parks or along the roads. Anyway there are numerous parks at Madison. Madison is also a city with low traffic accidents mainly because of the complete traffic signs and qualified drivers. At Madison, the pedestrians are always the top priority when crossing the roads. Of course, it is impossible for me to list all the shining points due to the limited space. But they may be mirrored through the pictures taken at Madison.

Madison is a small but typical city in America. She can be a mirror reflecting the American culture. To feel the full American culture, the author divided the textbook into fifteen chapters. Each

chapter, generally speaking, can be subdivided into four parts. The first part is called “ A General Survey”, which offers a general view of the relevant culture information. It can be regarded as an introduction to the related topic. The second part, the “Pictures Display” , lists numerous pictures, which can help the readers form a general view of the topic involved. The third part is “Highlight Pictures”, focusing on the shining points concerning the related topic with the aim at appealing to the readers so as to cause reflection. The fourth part, “Practice” , invites the readers’ cognitive experience through taking part of all kinds of activities in align with the topic in the forms of discussion, investigation, presentation, debate, negotiation, speech etc.

The author’s English proficiency and the limited time together with other factors considered, the book is always on the way to be corrected and improved. All the suggestions and comments as well as critique are greatly and always welcome.

Youjun Tang

Madison, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

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Chapter One Environment

A General Survey of Madison's Environment

Madison, the capital of Wisconsin, is a small but very beautiful city. It has been awarded as one of the world's best cities for living for many years mainly because of its unparalleled environment with woods, lakes, ponds, rivers, creeks, streams, parks, lawns everywhere. It is the heaven of wildlife. Squirrels, hares, ducks, geese, turkeys, badgers can be found easily. All of them live a free and happy life without worrying about the lack of food.

Madison is also called "Lake City" in that it has numerous lakes. The bigger ones include Lake Mendota, Lake Monona, Lake Kegonsa and Lake Waubesa. The lakes plus Yahara River, creeks, streams and the woods form a complete water system which can regulate the local climate. It is no doubt that people at Madison can enjoy the climate here. In Winter, it is not too cold though it often snows. In Summer, it is not too hot. The temperature range goes from seventeen degrees below zero to thirty-three degrees centigrade.

Thousands of types of trees can be found at Madison. Among them many trees have been growing for hundreds of years. Generally speaking, if you are walking outside, you can hardly feel thirsty and hungry because of the fruit trees within your reach. The common fruits include cherries, apples, peaches, pears, mulberries etc. In addition, each park equals a botanical garden where you can rest in

shade under trees, smell the flowers and listen to the birds chirping.

Madison enjoys a complete law of environmental protection and administrative regulations of environment. The local people have formed the habit of protecting their environment. They are not likely to drop litter. They value every plant. When they need the plants for decorating their home, they will go to the supermarket or arboretum for buying plants in pots instead of digging plants in the woods. If some trees growing are possible to destroy your house, you need apply before cutting. And you can not cut the trees by yourself. Besides, you will pay 2,000 dollars to have a tree cut.

At Madison, you can hardly find the cleaners. The tidy and clean Madison gives the credit to the local people including volunteers and all kinds of environmental associations and organizations. At weekend, the parents will pick up trash together with their kids. The volunteer groups and environmental associations or organizations hold activities regularly. The local government also appropriates funds for related environmental programs like Wellhead Protection Program, Waste Watchers Program, Rain Gardens Program etc.

Environment sustainability receives enough attention. Besides the long-term, medium-term and short-term sustainability plans of Madison, every single house has two garbage cans. The green one is used for the refuse, while the brown one is used for the recycled. At the stipulated time, the garbage truck will empty your garbage cans and carry the garbage away. Further more, there is a can for recycling the batteries at each park.

Pictures Display



Picture 1 Rainbow



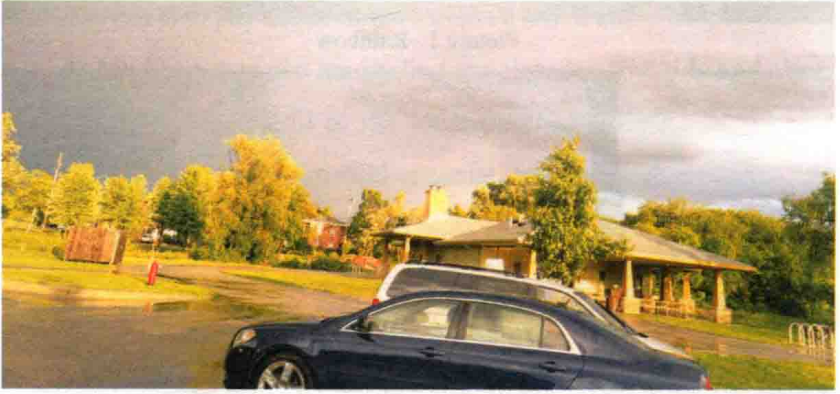
Picture 2 The Sunset



Picture 3 Fishing



Picture 4 The Early Spring of Madison



Picture 5 Madison in Summer



Picture 6 Madison in Autumn



Picture 7 Madison in Winter



Picture 8 Lake Mendota



Picture 9 Lake Monona



Picture 10 Lake Wingra



Picture 11 Lake Waubesa



Picture 12 The Yahara River



Picture 13 Wingra Creek



Picture 14 Tenny Park



Picture 15 Walner Park