

伊索寓言

[古希腊] 伊索 著

林维 译

双语对照 理趣悠长
西方寓言文学的经典范本
令人受益一生的智慧源泉

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驴子和战马

The Ass and the Charger

驴子看到马的饲料精美，即使不劳动也能得到无微不至的照顾，因此非常羡慕他。同时不由得为自己的不幸命运而痛哭流涕。战争爆发了，全副武装的士兵骑上了马背，驱使他在战场上拼杀。一次，战马受到袭击，遍体鳞伤，倒地而亡。驴子得知这一切后，改变了原来的想法，开始对战马起了恻隐之心。

满足于自己现在的位置。

An Ass congratulated a Horse on being so ungrudgingly and carefully provided for, while he himself had scarcely enough to eat and not even that without hard work. But when war broke out, a heavily armed soldier mounted the Horse, and riding him to the charge, rushed into the very midst of the enemy. The Horse was wounded and fell dead on the battlefield. Then the Ass, seeing all these things, changed his mind, and commiserated the Horse.

Be content with your station.

驴子、公鸡和狮子

The Ass, the Cock, and the Lion

牲口棚里住着一头驴子和一只公鸡。一天，有一头饥肠辘辘的狮子悄悄地靠近这里，想把驴子吃掉。在这危急时刻，公鸡大声啼叫起来，狮子（据说狮子非常害怕公鸡的啼鸣声）顿时吓得趴在地上，随后拔腿就跑。驴子以为狮子是怕了自己才逃跑的，就毫不犹豫地追赶狮子。当他们跑了很远的时候，狮子转过身把自以为是驴子吃掉了。

盲目自信通常会自取灭亡。

An Ass and a Cock were in a straw-yard together. When a Lion, desperate from hunger, approached the spot. He was about to spring upon the Ass, when the Cock (to the sound of whose voice the Lion, it is said, has a singular aversion) crowed loudly, and the Lion fled away as fast as he could. The Ass, observing his trepidation at the mere crowing of a Cock summoned courage to attack him, and galloped after him for that purpose. He had run no long distance, when the Lion, turning about, seized him and tore him to pieces.

False confidence often leads into danger.

驴子与蚱蜢

The Ass and the Grasshopper

一只蝉在唱歌，他那悦耳悠扬的声音令驴子非常着迷。于是，驴子就向蝉请教：“你们究竟吃了什么，能唱出如此动听的歌声？”蝉回答道：“露水。”从此之后，驴子就每天只喝露水，最终悲惨地饿死了。

如果我们执意追求非分之物，最终不仅两手空空，而且会招揽灾祸。

An Ass having heard some Grasshoppers chirping, was highly enchanted; and, desiring to possess the same charms of melody, demanded what sort of food they lived on to give them such beautiful voices. They replied, “The dew.” The Ass resolved that he would live only upon dew, and in a short time died of hunger.

Even a fool is wise—when it is too late.

贪玩的驴子

The Playful Ass

一头驴子爬到屋顶上，活蹦乱跳，踏坏了很多砖瓦。愤怒的主人出来把驴子赶下来，用木棍狠狠地把他教训了一顿。驴子委屈地说：“为什么昨天猴子在房顶上四处乱跑，你却开怀大笑，而今天却这样

责打我呢？”

谨慎选择自己学习的榜样。

An Ass climbed up to the roof of a building, and frisking about there, broke in the tiling. The owner went up after him and quickly drove him down, beating him severely with a thick wooden cudgel. The Ass said, “Why, I saw the Monkey do this very thing yesterday, and you all laughed heartily, as if it afforded you very great amusement.”

People that live by example need to look closely at the example they are following.

驮着雕像的驴子

The Ass carrying the Image

一头驴子驮着一尊木质的雕像走在大都市的街道上。这尊雕像将要被安放在寺庙中。路旁的行人看到雕像纷纷跪地膜拜。自以为是的驴子认为人们是在向自己表达敬意，就扬扬得意起来，不再往前走。气愤的赶驴人，一边拿着鞭子狠狠地抽打驴子，一边教训他：“你这个傻瓜，难道真的认为人们会愚蠢到向一头驴子膜拜的地步吗？”

依靠别人的功劳炫耀自己是不明智的举动。

An Ass once carried through the streets of a city a famous wooden Image, to be placed in one of its Temples. As he passed along, the crowd made lowly prostration before the Image. The Ass, thinking that they bowed their heads in token of respect for himself, bristled up with pride, gave himself airs, and refused to move another step. The driver, seeing him thus stop, laid his whip lustily about his shoulders and said, “Oh you perverse dull-head! It is not yet come to this, that men pay worship to an Ass.”

They are not wise who give to themselves the credit due to others.

驴子、狐狸和狮子

The Ass, the Fox, and the Lion

为了各自的安全，驴子和狐狸决定和平相处。有一天，他们一起去森林里打猎，不料，还没走多远，就遇到了一头狮子。狐狸见情况危急，连忙跑到狮子面前表示只要狮子保证他的安全，他就设法诱骗驴子上当。狮子答应了。于是，狐狸把驴子骗入了陷阱。狮子见驴子已经无法逃脱，就立刻把狐狸吃了，然后再悠闲地享用驴子。

千万不要轻信你的敌人。

The Ass and the Fox, having entered into partnership together for their mutual protection, went out into the forest to hunt. They had not proceeded far when they met a Lion. The Fox, seeing imminent danger, approached the Lion and promised to contrive for him the capture of the Ass if the Lion would pledge his word not to harm the Fox. Then, upon assuring the Ass that he would not be injured, the Fox led him to a deep pit and arranged that he should fall into it. The Lion, seeing that the Ass was secured, immediately clutched the Fox, and attacked the Ass at his leisure.

Never trust your enemy.

野驴和狮子

The Wild Ass and the Lion

为了能够更轻易地获取食物，狮子和野驴结成同盟去打猎。狮子力气大，驴子速度快，他们相辅相成。当他们猎取到足够多的猎物后，狮子按需要把食物分成了三份。“这第一份嘛，”狮子说，“理所当然归我所有，因为我是‘百兽之王’；第二份也应该是我的，因为全靠了我才能得到这么多食物；至于第三份，如果你不尽快离开这里的话，相信我，你会付出很大的代价。”

弱肉强食，适者生存。

A Wild Ass and a Lion entered into an alliance so that they might capture the beasts of the forest with greater ease. The Lion agreed to assist the Wild Ass with his strength, while the Wild Ass gave the Lion the benefit of his greater speed. When they had taken as many beasts as their necessities required, the Lion undertook to distribute the prey, and for this purpose divided it into three shares. "I will take the first share," he said, "because I am King; and the second share, as a partner with you in the chase; and the third share (believe me) will be a source of great evil to you, unless you willingly resign it to me, and set off as fast as you can."

Might makes right.

披着狮子皮的驴子

The Ass in the Lion's Skin

一头驴子，偶然间找到一张狮子皮，就披上它在森林里四处闲逛，看到那些被他吓得惊慌逃窜的无知的小动物们，驴子就哈哈大笑起来。最后，他遇到了一只狐狸，也想吓唬他一下，但是狐狸一下子就听出了驴子的声音，就对他说：“请相信，如果我不是听出了你的声音，我真会被你吓坏的！”

漂亮的外衣可以包装傻瓜，但蠢话总会露出马脚。

An Ass, having put on the Lion's skin, roamed about in the forest and amused himself by frightening all the foolish animals he met in his wanderings. At last coming upon a Fox, he tried to frighten him also, but the Fox no sooner heard the sound of his than he exclaimed, "I might possibly have been frightened myself, if I had not heard your bray."

Fine clothes may disguise, but silly words will disclose a fool.

驴子和老牧人

The Ass and the Old Shepherd

一位老牧人看着驴子在牧场里吃草。突然他听到了敌军喧哗的声音，就马上招呼驴子和他一起逃跑，以免沦为俘虏。谁知驴子懒洋洋地说：“敌人占领这个地方以后，难道我就会负担双倍的东西吗？”“不是这样的。”老牧人说。接着驴子又说道：“既然我的负担和原来一样，那么给谁服务又有什么差别呢？”

在国家政权变更的时候，穷人改变的只是主人的名字。

A Shepherd, watching his Ass feeding in a meadow, was alarmed all of a sudden by the cries of the enemy. He appealed to the Ass to fly with him, lest they should both be captured, but the animal lazily replied, "Why should I, pray? Do you think it likely the conqueror will place on me two sets of panniers?" "No," rejoined the Shepherd. "Then," said the Ass, "as long as I carry the panniers, what matters it to me whom I serve?"

In a change of government the poor change nothing beyond the name of their master.

驴子和他的影子

The Ass and His Shadow

行人雇了一头驴子去一个很远的地方。天气热极了，太阳热辣辣地照在人身上，行人决定停下来休息。他很快就发现驴子的影子是个凉快的地方。可是，驴子在地上的影子只能站一个人，因此行人和驴子的主人就因谁有权利占有驴子影子的问题而大肆争吵起来。后来，争吵演变为打斗。就在双方大打出手的时候，驴子乘机挣脱缰绳逃走了。

猴子捞月一场空。

A Traveler hired an Ass to convey him to a distant place. The day being intensely hot, and the sun shining in its strength, the Traveler stopped to rest, and sought shelter from the heat under the Shadow of the Ass. As this afforded only protection for one, and as the Traveler and the owner of the Ass both claimed it, a violent dispute arose between them as to which of them had the right to the Shadow. The owner maintained that he had let the Ass only, and not his Shadow. The Traveler asserted that he had, with the hire of the Ass, hired his Shadow also. The quarrel proceeded from words to blows, and while the men fought, the Ass galloped off.

In quarreling about the shadow we often lose the substance.

骡子

The Mule

一头刚刚饱餐一顿又无所事事的骡子扬扬得意地奔跑起来，还自言自语：“我的父亲一定是一匹高大、勇敢的马，作为他的儿子我遗传了他的速度和品行。”到了第二天，干了一天活的骡子早已筋疲力尽。他闷闷不乐地说：“我想我搞错了，我的父亲很有可能是一头驴子。”

A Mule, frolicsome from lack of work and from too much corn, galloped about in a very extravagant manner, and said to himself, “My father surely was a high-mettled racer, and I am his own child in speed and spirit.” On the next day, being driven a long journey, and feeling very wearied, he exclaimed in a disconsolate tone, “I must have made a mistake; my father, after all, could have been only an ass.”

驴子和赶驴人

The Ass and His Driver

一个人赶着一头驴子在崎岖的山路上行进。可是没走多远，驴子就向悬崖的方向飞奔而去。眼看驴子就要掉下去，赶驴人急忙拉着驴子的

尾巴。但是固执的驴子并不理会他，坚持要往前冲。无可奈何的赶驴人只好放手，对他说：“随你吧，你会为自己的选择付出代价的。”

那些顽固不化的总是坚持自己的道路。

An Ass, being driven along a high road, suddenly started off and bolted to the brink of a deep precipice. While he was in the act of throwing himself over, his Driver seized him by the tail, endeavoring to pull him back. When the Ass persisted in his effort, the man let him go and said, "Conquer, but conquer to your cost."

A willful beast must go his own way.

盐商和他的驴子

The Salt Merchant and His Ass

一个小贩赶着他的驴子去海边买盐。要跨过小溪的时候，驴子不小心迈错了步子，摔倒在河里。由于河水溶化了一部分盐，因此驴子感到轻松多了。发现了这一点的驴子暗自高兴。又一次，他假装跌倒，背上的负担果然减轻了不少。小贩明白了他的小计谋后决心给他一个教训。他们再次出发去海边，可是这次小贩买的是遇水膨胀的海绵，而不是会溶化的盐。到了小溪边，自作聪明的驴子故技重施。结果，背上的海绵浸了水，重量是原来的两倍，可怜的驴子只能自食苦果。

一个人不可能永远被蒙在鼓里。

A Peddler drove his Ass to the seashore to buy salt. His road home lay across a stream into which his Ass, making a false step, fell by accident and rose up again with his load considerably lighter, as the water melted the sack. The Peddler retraced his steps and refilled his panniers with a larger quantity of salt than before.

When he came again to the stream, the Ass fell down on purpose in the same spot, and, regaining his feet with the weight of his load much diminished, brayed triumphantly as if he had obtained what he desired.

The Peddler saw through his trick and drove him for the third time to the coast, where he bought a cargo of sponges instead of salt. The Ass, again playing the fool, fell down on purpose when he reached the stream, but the sponges became swollen

with water, greatly increasing his load. And thus his trick recoiled on him, for he now carried on his back a double burden.

You can fool someone only so many times.

骡子和强盗

The Mules and the Robbers

两头骡子驮着满满的货物长途跋涉，其中一个驮着满包的金银珠宝，另一匹驮着满包的谷物。驮着珠宝的骡子高傲地昂着头，不断晃动自己的铃铛，不断发出清脆的声音。他趾高气扬地走在前面，似乎自己也因为身上的财物而身价百倍。而另外一头骡子则很安静地走在后面。突然，一群强盗从路边隐蔽的树林里冲出来。他们凶狠地用短刀将骡子刺倒，把财宝抢劫一空。而那驮着谷物的骡子丝毫没有引起强盗的注意。受伤的骡子向他的同伴哭诉他的不幸。驮着谷物的骡子说：“我很庆幸强盗没有注意到我，我的货物没有一点儿损失，我自己也没有受伤。”

财富并不值得夸耀，反而倒是要小心那些觊觎财富的人。

Two Mules well-laden with packs were trudging along. One carried panniers filled with money, the other sacks weighted with grain. The Mule carrying the treasure walked with head erect, as if conscious of the value of his burden, and tossed up and down the clear-toned bells fastened to his neck. His companion followed with quiet and easy step. All of a sudden Robbers rushed upon them from their hiding-places, and in the scuffle with their owners, wounded with a sword the Mule carrying the treasure, which they greedily seized while taking no notice of the grain. The Mule which had been robbed and wounded bewailed his misfortunes. The other replied, "I am indeed glad that I was thought so little of, for I have lost nothing, nor am I hurt with any wound."

Flaunt wealth and thieves will know you have wealth.

驴子和骡子

The Ass and the Mule

赶牲口的人让驴子和骡子驮上货物出发了。在路面平坦的时候，驴子感觉很轻松。当他们走到崎岖的山路时，驴子已经累得筋疲力尽，于是恳求骡子能够帮他分担一部分货物，这样他可以把剩余部分驮到目的地。可是，倔犟的骡子根本不理睬同伴的请求。结果，不堪重负的驴子从山上滚落摔死了。赶牲口的人没有办法，只好把驴子那部分货物也放到了骡子身上，另外，把驴皮也放了上去。承受着过重负担的骡子，嘴里嘀咕道：“我真是自作自受啊！如果我答应了驴子的请求，帮他驮一小部分的话，我现在就用不着背负双倍的货物了。”

一盎司的拒绝相当于一磅的残忍。

A Muleteer set forth on a journey, driving before him an Ass and a Mule, both well laden. The Ass, as long as he traveled along the plain, carried his load with ease, but when he began to ascend the steep path of the mountain, felt his load to be more than he could bear. He entreated his companion to relieve him of a small portion, that he might carry home the rest; but the Mule paid no attention to the request. The Ass shortly afterwards fell down dead under his burden. Not knowing what else to do in so wild a region, the Muleteer placed upon the Mule the load carried by the Ass in addition to his own, and at the top of all placed the hide of the Ass, after he had skinned him. The Mule, groaning beneath his heavy burden, said to himself, "I am treated according to my deserts. If I had only been willing to assist the Ass a little in his need, I should not now be bearing, together with his burden, himself as well."

A ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cruel.