

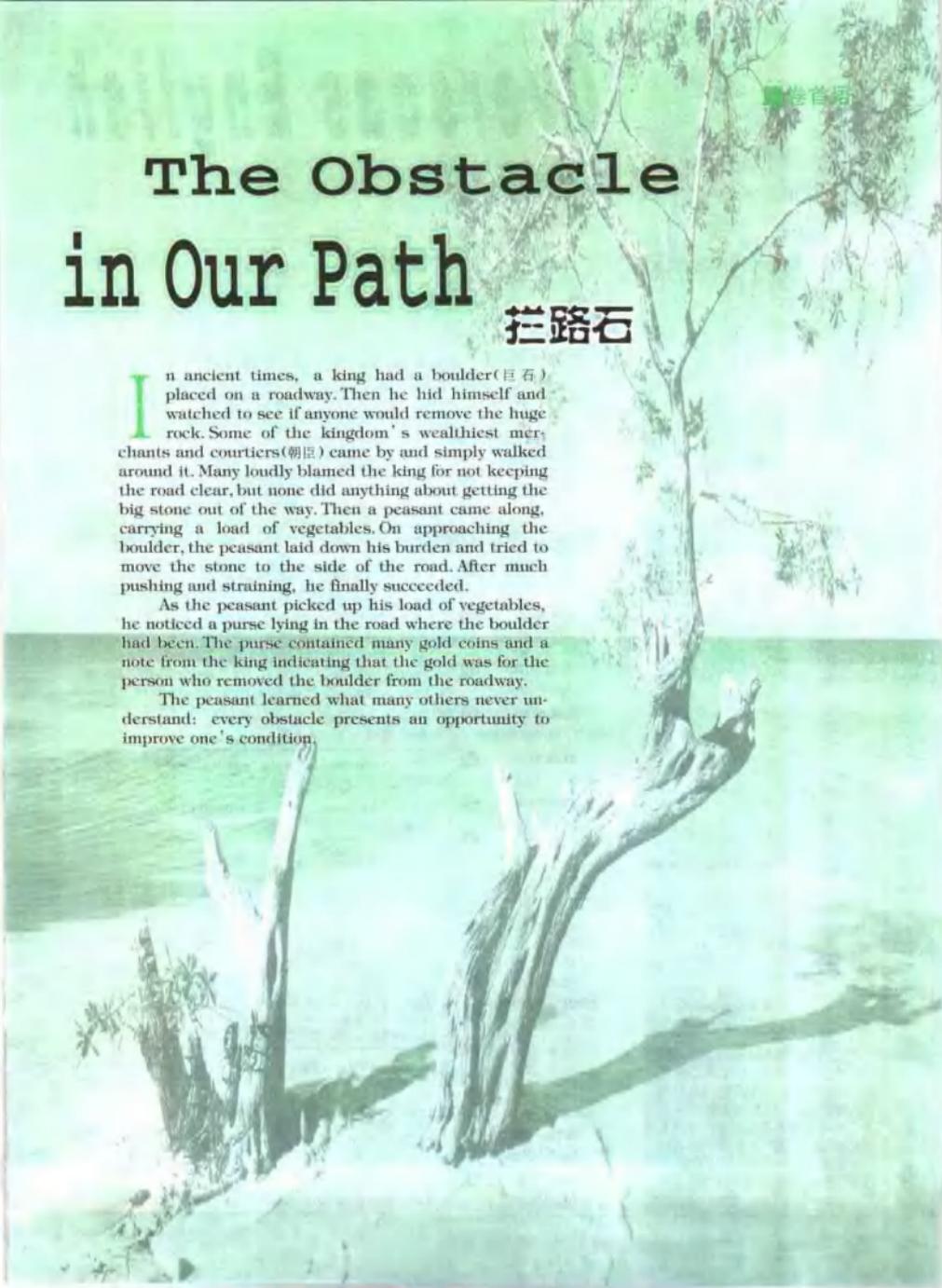
The Obstacle in Our Path

拦路石

In ancient times, a king had a boulder (巨石) placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the kingdom's wealthiest merchants and courtiers (朝臣) came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the king for not keeping the road clear, but none did anything about getting the big stone out of the way. Then a peasant came along, carrying a load of vegetables. On approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded.

As the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the king indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway.

The peasant learned what many others never understand: every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve one's condition.



Overseas English

海外英语

2002年4月
每月5日出版
(总第19期)

海外英语 OVERSEAS



主 办：安徽新闻出版局
方宜庆 社长、总编；唐广群 副社长、总编兼主编；范 源 副 总 编

丁佳道 教授 (北京外国语大学)
方宜庆 教授 硕士生导师
(中国科学技术大学外语系)
朱志瑜 教授 (香港理工大学中文及
双语言系)

许俊农 副教授 留英大众传媒硕士
(安徽教育学院)
伍耀光 教授 (广东外语外贸大学)
何刚强 教授 硕士生导师
(复旦大学外国语学院)

张柏然 教授 博士生导师
(南京大学外国语学院)
顾曰国 教授 博士生导师 副院长
(北京外国语大学网络教育
学院)

徐胜远 教授 硕士生导师
(上海交通大学外国语学院)
黄建华 教授 博士生导师 校长
(广东外语外贸大学)
曾崇元 副教授 兼英文系主任、比
较文学研究所所长
(台湾东吴大学英文系)
薄 冰 教授 (北京外国语大学)

特别声明：本刊从最新的外
报外刊和因特网上选编了一些精
彩的文章和图片。由于原作者地
址不详，有些甚至连姓名我们都
无法得知，所以无法直接向原
作者支付使用稿费。在此我们深
表歉意，并将稿酬存放在中国著
作权使用报酬转付中心安徽分
中心，敬请原作者直接联系领取。
(《海外英语》编辑部)

新闻频道 News Channel

本月视点
Hot Topic
专栏作家
Columnist

- Enron Scandal “安然”丑闻
- Saints and Poets 圣人与诗人

娱乐 Entertainment

星光灿烂
Brilliant Stars
体坛内外
The Sporting World
流行乐坛
Pop Singer
经典回放
Classic Movies

- The Coolest Hacker — Keanu Reeves
最酷的黑客——基努·李维斯
- Michael Owen 迈克尔·欧文
- Shania Twain 仙妮亚·唐恩
- 《四个婚礼和一个葬礼》对白欣赏

探索

Discovery (本栏目由上海外国语大学研究生部主持 主持人:冯庆华)

动物世界
Animal's World

- Scientists Find Strange Squid in Ocean Depths
科学家发现新的生物物种——大洋深处的怪鱿
- Moon Power Could Solve Energy Crunch
月能可以解决地球能量危机吗?

未来预览
A Glimpse of
the Future
地球家园
Our Planet

- Panda's Progress Harmed by Poaching and Habitat Loss
偷猎、居住地表失危及大熊猫保护计划
- Caffeine is Changing the World
咖啡因正在改变世界

健康新知
Health Information

科技前沿
Modern Science

- Quietly, Animal Cloning Speeds onward
动物克隆,悄无声息地快速前进

最新视角
New Approach

- Facing the Simple Facts of Life and Death
直面生与死
- Science Express 科技快讯

生活 Life

(本栏目由中国科学技术大学外语系主持 主持人:方宜庆)

心灵鸡汤
Chicken Soup
for the Soul
心灵驿站
Heart's Home

- Shrily 深爱着你
- Make a Wish 许个愿
- Roses for Yolande 献给佑兰的玫瑰
- Healing Power of Laughter 笑——治癌良药

人世间
Social View

教你一招
Useful Tips

一家之言
My View

- Will You Marry Me? 嫁给我,好吗?
- A Commonly Missing Secret about “The Edge”
成功交流术
- The Virtues of Growing Older 变老的好处

Overseas English

Money and Love 金钱与爱情

Chewing Gum 口香糖

Clean Water Campaign 净水运动

Human Transporter 人体运输机

UN Fishing Treaty 联合国捕鱼条约

Mad Cow Disease in Japan 日本疯牛病

学习频道

The Last Leaf 最后一片叶子

会员习作修改

Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death
不自由，毋宁死

Different Kinds of Movies 电影词汇

流利英语脱口出

成语教你用

最新网上流行英语词汇集萃

英语谚语中的双关语(PUN)

“语”有灵犀一点通

附赠：① MBA 入学考试样题

② 互动版块——有奖竞答

万花筒

最小的国家梵蒂冈

名言集萃：成功篇

“Time” in Americans' Eyes
美国人的时间观

April Fools' Day 愚人节

开心一刻

VOA & BBC

词语典故
Words and Their
Stories
科技报道
Science Report

Study Channel

名著导读
Introduction to
Classic Works

海外编辑
E-editor

演讲词
Speech
酷英语
Cool English

万象英语
Kaleidoscope
English

Kaleidoscope

海外之旅
Tour Overseas

小知识
Information

开心一刻
Humor
and Jokes

2001 年有奖征订揭晓

一等奖(6名)

- 汪 健 辽宁省大连市中山区南路110号,大连外国语学院北院招待所218信箱
- 郭望莹 黑龙江省牡丹江市师范学院 59*
- 张妮荣 重庆市计算机学院学生工作办公室
- 吕晓兵 浙江宁波甬兴新村55幢102室
- 宋金芳 上海岳阳路320号中国科学院生物化学与细胞生物学研究所
- 米学泳 江苏省苏州市苏州大学福照技术研究所

以上6名获奖者将获得我社从美国引进的全球畅销书——英文版《心灵鸡汤》一套(共12本,定价230.00元),请速与本刊联系,以便邮寄奖品。

二等奖(20名)

- 宋士良 山东烟台刘富祥路西188号
 - 阮映霞 云南楚雄姚安县一中
 - 张 旭 湖南省长沙县星沙镇107北路10号
 - 李 强 辽宁省大连市第三中学
 - 杨 勇 安徽省安庆市大观商城1-1-501
 - 梁 洁 湖北省武汉新世界制冷工业有限公司技术分公司
 - 何海英 广东中山市石岐怡华苑5-308
 - 赵夏雯 江西省兴县二中英语教研组
 - 乔少敏 江西省南昌市0630025-06信箱
 - 王 宏 陕西杨凌西北农林科技大学西林校区21*
 - 孙银峰 宁夏灵武市大泉中学
 - 周 熙 成都市锦江区光华南14号
 - 黄燕红 重庆市重庆工学院
 - 米国文 广西百色地区民族师范学院
 - 全 全 天津市河东区程林庄路55号天津市商业银行三环支行
 - 王海强 辽宁抚顺石油学院数理信息与计算科学系0102班
 - 兰兰英 广州市环市东路403号广州国际电子大厦1107
 - 张志梅 贵州省贵阳市中华南路203-12号12层发展部
 - 任 善 北京昌平区教师进修学校
 - 吴 敏 厦门市海沧埭脚社区公司公用部
- 以上20名获奖者将获得2003年全年的《海外英语》期刊,请获奖者速与本刊联系,以便发书寄送。
电话:0551-2846192
e-mail:hwyy@mail.hf.ah.cn
另有166名幸运奖得主将获得精美礼品一份。

编辑出版:《海外英语》编辑部

执行主编:刘柱贵

总发稿人:王 飞

责任编辑:何讯文 李瑞生 张楚武

美术编辑:王 艳

电脑制作:吴仁胜

封面设计:王国亮

刊号:ISSN 1009-5039

刊号:CN 34-1209/G4

邮发代号:26-166

订价:4.00元 零售价:4.80元

编辑部地址:合肥市跃进路1号新闻出版大厦

邮 编:230063

编辑部电话:(0551)2846192

传 真:(0551)2840176

E-mail:hwyy@mail.hf.ah.cn

期刊发行部电话:(0551)2818137-7081

发行总监:孙 立

杂志制版:安士达排版部(0551)2817511

为方便读者阅读,现将文章的难易程度标注如下:

3星:简单,生词量少,具有高中英语水平即可顺利阅读。

4星:中等难度,适合于大学一、二年级的非英语专业水平。

5星:难度较大,专业性较强,要求具有一定的理解及翻译能力,具有专业英语中高级水平。

Enron Scandal

“安然” 丑闻

在西方发达国家,经济与政治密不可分。政界与商界之间也有着千丝万缕的联系。近来轰动世界的“安然”丑闻向我们展示了美国政坛黑暗的一面。



United States. But in recent weeks the Houston-based energy trading company has come under fire for entering into business partnerships that presented possible conflicts of interest for several Enron executives (经理主管人员). The Securities (有价证券) and Exchange Commission has opened a formal investigation into those partnerships.

The federal government's involvement could create a quandary (进退两难) for President Bush, who raised nearly \$114,000 in PAC and individual contributions from Enron in 1999~2000, making the company one of his biggest donors. The Lays have contributed a total of almost \$883,000 to candidates and parties since 1989, of which 90 percent went to Republicans. They are by far the largest political contributors among Enron employees.

Lay is a longtime friend of the president and was one of Bush's top contributors during the presidential election and two gubernatorial campaigns in Texas. Lay, listed by the Bush and Cheney campaign as a Pioneer who raised at least \$100,000 for the election, reportedly has been one of the administration's closest advisors on energy policy since Bush took office.

Enron hopes to draw on close relationships with a number of elected officials for help during its current crisis. The company spent \$2.1 million lobbying Congress and the White House in 2000, an increase over the \$1.9 million it spent on lobbying in 1999. Enron has contributed to the campaign accounts of 71 current senators and 188 current members (43 percent) of the House.

Not surprisingly, the top recipients of Enron's contributions among current members of Congress are all from Texas. Sens. Kay Bailey Hutchison and Phil Gramm lead the list of Senate recipients since 1989. The seven biggest

The Fall of a Giant: Enron's Campaign Contributions and Lobbying 巨人的陨落:安然捐赠与游说的努力

Caught in a swarm of controversy over questionable business deals and faulty financial statements that have caused its stock price to plummet (暴跌), energy giant Enron announced this week that the company could be sold to rival (竞争对手) Dynegy, signaling the demise (转让) of one of the country's biggest political contributors—and one of the most generous donors to President Bush.

The announcement comes almost a year to the day after an election in which Enron contributed more than \$2.4 million in individual, PAC, and soft money contributions to federal candidates and parties, ranking it among the top 50 organizational donors in the 1999~2000 election cycle. The company's contribution total for the 2000 elections more than doubled its political donations in each of the two previous election cycles.

Enron has already contributed nearly \$173,000 to candidates and parties so far this year, almost 90 percent to Republicans. Since the 1989~1990 election cycle, Enron has made nearly \$5.8 million in campaign contributions, 73 percent to Republicans.

Earlier this year, Enron was one of the country's 10 largest companies and the leading energy broker in the





House beneficiaries of Enron's giving since 1989 are also from Texas. They are led by Democratic Rep. Ken Bentsen.

Enron's Reach in Congress “安然”在美国国会中的影响

As evidence of the reach of Enron's political tentacles continues to mount, the question in Washington may no longer be “Who had ties to Enron?” but “Who didn't?”

Campaign-finance figures show that in recent years, the Houston-based energy company poured money not only into the campaign coffers of George W. Bush but also into those of many members of Congress.

While more than two-thirds of the company's donations have gone to Republicans, a number of top Democrats have received Enron cash as well—a fact that could complicate the party's efforts to capitalize on the scandal in the 2002 elections.

So far, there's no indication that Enron called on any lawmakers to intervene(干涉,介入) on its behalf in the days leading up to the bankruptcy.

But there is some evidence that Enron's interests were served on a variety of other issues in the past—such as the White House's energy plan and its proposed repeal of the corporate alternative—minimum tax—both of which have passed the House.

While this may be well within the bounds(范围,限制) of the law, it's the appearance of undue(不适当的) influence that could ultimately prove damaging—a realization that has clearly struck lawmakers from both parties, many of whom are hastening to return Enron's donations.

As a result, analysts say the real impact of the probes may be less political than substantive—in that it may reinforce the push for campaign-finance reform.

“What's coming through as a result of Enron is not necessarily what the Democrats want,” says Larry Sabato, a political scientist. “The message that is coming through is that they are all bought.”

One challenge, some experts say, is that some of the people whose campaigns have benefitted from Enron's largesse are now tasked with investigating the floundering(发慌的; 挣扎的) giant and its Washington connections.

No fewer than eight congressional committees are already investigating the debacle(崩溃), with more likely to take up the issue in coming weeks. Insiders say the investigation will focus on federal oversight of energy trading markets, as well as accounting practices.

The company prospered—and then plunged—largely outside the view of federal regulators.

The probes will examine ties between Enron and the Bush administration, key legislators, and others. Some critics, for example, have questioned the actions of Wendy Gramm, the wife of Texas Sen. Phil Gramm (R),

one of the Senate's strongest advocates of deregulation. Mrs. Gramm, as chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, proposed a rule to exempt energy swaps from federal oversight.

The rule was subsequently adopted—after which she resigned to join Enron's board of directors. Enron has contributed \$233,000 to Senator Gramm's campaign since 1996, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, a nonpartisan(无党派) group that tracks money in politics.

Gramm isn't the only member of Congress with ties to the company. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, 71 sitting senators and 188 sitting members of the House have received money from Enron over the past 10 years, including Democrats as well as Republicans.

Democrat Charles Schumer of New York received more than \$21,000 during his campaign to defeat Sen. Al D'Amato. In his campaign, Mr. Schumer supported deregulating electricity as a way to lower consumer prices.

As a result, the Enron affair could create a renewed push for campaign-finance reform on the Hill. A measure to ban soft money contributions passed the Senate last summer, then stalled in the House. But it has been gaining momentum in recent weeks—and now needs only four signatures to force a vote in the House.

“Enron does help the cause of campaign finance,” says Rep. Christopher Shays (R) of Connecticut, one of the bill's cosponsors. “It shows that large corporate—treasury money has brought them access in the ways that large contributions always do.”

He concedes that large firms, inevitably, will have some access to government officials. “A company like Enron is going to have access by the fact of what it is and what it does. But in the end, there shouldn't be such vast sums of money going into the... process.”

And while the rules currently allow for such contributions, a number of lawmakers are nevertheless scrambling to return their Enron donations.

Two Democrats—Sen. Jean Carnahan and House minority leader Richard Gephardt, both of Missouri—have already promised to return \$1,000 contributions they received from the energy company, and the National Republican Congressional Committee is returning \$100,000.

President Bush has been opposed to campaign-finance reform, but some analysts say the Enron fallout may cause him to change his position. Less certain is Enron's impact on the 2002 congressional races. Most of the top recipients of Enron cash in the Senate are not up for reelection this year. All House members are.

And in the Senate race with the biggest links to Enron—the race to succeed Gramm in Texas—the effect could cut both ways.



Introduction to Enron

“安然”背景介绍

What is Enron? “安然”为何物?

Enron started life as a regional natural gas pipeline company, the result of a merger(合并) between Houston Natural Gas and InterNorth in 1985. Its chairman, Kenneth Lay, eventually transformed Enron into the world's largest energy trading company and America's seventh-biggest corporation. Enron filed for bankruptcy(破产) on December 2 last year in the biggest collapse in American history.

How did Enron become so successful? 安然为何如此成功?

Enron specialised in contracts to deliver natural gas, electric power and other energy products to industries and utilities at a future date. It also sold financial instruments designed to protect customers against sharp swings in energy prices. Enron was quick to exploit trading opportunities when deregulation in the late 1980s allowed users to buy gas or electricity from a number of producers. Soon it became a darling of Wall Street as analysts heaped praise on the company for its “innovative” approach in bringing hi-tech and complex finance to energy trading. Enron also cashed in on dot.com mania(狂热; 热潮) with Enrononline, a web-based trading service.

What precipitated its collapse? 是什么原因造成“安然”的崩溃?

The situation deteriorated(使恶化) dramatically in October 2001 when Enron had to set aside \$35m to reflect losses in two complex partnerships, which were set up in 1999 to move debt off its balance sheet and hide losses. It was also forced to knock \$1.2bn off shareholder(股东) equity at the time, a move that led to a crisis in investor confidence and a collapse in Enron's share price.

Why could the collapse become a political headache? 为何“安然”的倒闭带来政治风波?

It has emerged that Mr Lay had conversations with Paul O'Neil, the treasury secretary, and Donald Evans, the commerce secretary, just weeks before the company filed for bankruptcy. Mr Lay asked for help to stop a private credit rating agency from downgrading(下坡) Enron debt. Administration officials deny any intervention, but questions persist because of Enron's close connections with the Bush White House.

Who is investigating Enron? 谁在调查“安然”?

The US justice department has launched a criminal investigation and Mr Bush has ordered sweeping reviews of pension and financial disclosure rules. About a dozen congressional investigations are going on too. Many investors lost their shirts, and many of Enron's 19,000 employees lost their savings because they belonged to retirement plans based on Enron shares—yet top executives were able to sell their Enron holdings before the shares became worthless. In a red flag for financial investigators, Arthur Andersen, Enron's auditor and itself under investigation for possible misconduct(不正当的行为), has admitted to destroying a “significant” number of documents.

Will there be a rethink on deregulation? 会对违反规定重新思考吗?

Enron's collapse raises questions about the wisdom of letting market forces—in reality a handful of energy companies—manage prices. The bungled privatisation of California's electricity industry, which led to blackouts and powercuts last year, also called deregulation into question. At the very least, regulators will have to watch the energy markets more closely and insist on more transparent financial practices among energy trading companies.

What the Papers Say 大报评论

The Guardian makes rather more of the CBE awarded to Enron's Europe chairman, Ralph Hodge, in the 2001 New Year's honours list. It also questions Downing Street's insistence that Tony Blair had never met any Enron executives to discuss the restrictions on gas power stations, pointing out that a document obtained under the Freedom of Information Act in 1999 claimed Mr Blair had intervened personally to “water down” the moratorium.

The Mail is not going to let the story go without a fight. “The questions Labour must answer,” it splashes, before its reporter does it for them. Labour's connections with the accountancy firm Arthur Andersen, which audited Enron's account, are subjected to some scrutiny—as is Geoffrey Robinson, the Labour MP who, the paper says, is “no doubt grateful” to Andersen for

“shielding him” by refusing to hand over papers relating to a \$200,000 payment from Robert Maxwell.

The Telegraph is convinced that Enron's attempt to woo Labour began and ended with the end of the stricter gas controls policy. “Last year, for the first time since 1997, Labour received no money from Enron... Cynics might say Enron had got what it wanted from Labour.”

But *The Times* sees “nothing odd” in the decision. What is really seedy, he says, is the ability of companies to sponsor political events. As for Lord Wakeham, who has sat on Enron's board and audit committee, he should step down from his job as chairman of the press complaints commission until the extent of his knowledge about Enron's more questionable business practices is uncovered.



本刊特约专栏作家:乔安娜

Saints and Poets

圣人与诗人

by Joanna Beresford

Last year my father left his hearing aid in the hotel section of my yellow pages and I forgot to send it back to him for about two months, during which time he kept his hand cupped perpetually around his good ear and shouted, "What's that?" every time he saw someone's mouth moving. Reminds me of a story our preacher told about an old gal who lived in New Hampshire. One day she plucked the hearing aid from her ear and threw it in the trash. "I'm ninety four years old and I've heard enough," she said.

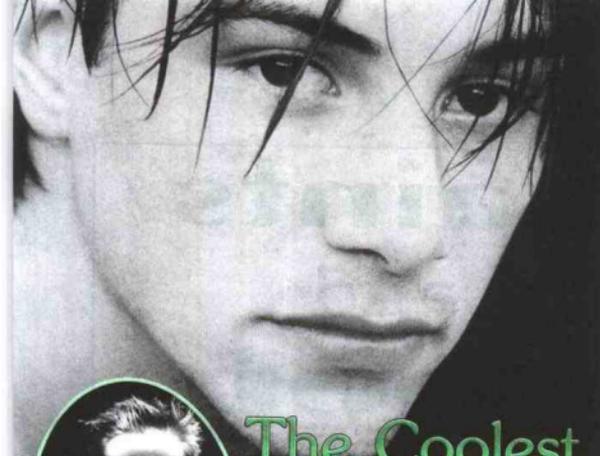
I don't know why it matters that she lived in New Hampshire, but the mere mention of the name brings to mind snow-capped picket fences in winter, a bower of roses in summer; farmers jawing at the country store in bib overalls on a Saturday morning; and of course, Grover's Corners, where Emily Webb married George Gibb, bore him a few children, then died and went to sit up in the cemetery on the hill with other friends and neighbors who had passed away. This last one's a play only, called "Our Town", but it touched me deeply when I was young and when it comes time to be grateful I often think of Emily.

After she dies Emily wants to go back and visit her old life, and the Stage Manager, who runs everything in the play, says she can go though the other dead people warn her that she'll be sorry. She decides to relive her twelfth birthday and when she gets there she's

filled with wonder and says she can't look at everything hard enough. Then she begins to panic because everybody is going about their morning business without realizing what it is to be alive. She begs them all to stop and look at one another, to think about how time is passing, but no one can hear her, so she asks the Stage Manager to take her back to her grave. But first she says goodbye to the world.

"Goodbye, Mama and Papa," she says. "Goodbye to clocks ticking, and Mama's sunflowers. And food and coffee. And new-ironed dresses and hot baths, and sleeping and waking up. Oh, earth, you're too wonderful for anybody to realize you." Through her tears she asks if anyone ever appreciates life while they live it, and the Stage Manager shakes his head. "Saints and poets, maybe — they do some."

I've always remembered that line. I think of my dad with his hand behind his ear, the old lady who threw her hearing aid away, and Mrs. Webb who was too busy cooking bacon to recognize that her daughter's life and death were both looming over her shoulder as she worked; we're not much different from them. This year as the turkey steamed on the table, Grandpa bounced the children on his knee, and I anticipated the joy of the coming holidays — I determined to be more like the saints and poets, to stay alert and alive, and to be grateful in every moment.



The Coolest Hacker

— Keanu Reeves

最酷的黑客——基努·李维斯



Keanu Charles Reeves was born September 2, 1964 in Beirut (贝鲁特), Lebanon (黎巴嫩), to Samuel Nowlin Reeves (half-Hawaiian, half-Chinese) and Patric Taylor (English). There was a move to Australia for a year where his first sister Kim was born in 1966. A second (half) sister, Karina, was born in 1976. Keanu (Key-ah-nu) means "cool breeze over the mountains" in Hawaiian (For those who wish to get technical, the translation is relative. Hawaiian is actually a picture language, and in many cases deals with concepts or ideas more than just specific words. "Keanu" — what a concept!)

After their divorce, Patric and Samuel went their separate ways: Patric and the two kids to New York City, and Samuel to Hawaii. Keanu visited his father in Hawaii on occasion (有时) until he was thirteen. That was the last time Keanu saw him. Samuel was sentenced in 1994 to ten years in prison for drug possession. He was paroled (假释) in mid-1996. They do not maintain contact with each other.

In New York, Patric met and married director Paul Aaron. They moved to Toronto, and took up Canadian citizenship (which Keanu still re-

tains), but split up (分裂) less than a year later. Keanu described himself as a "middle-class (中产阶级的) white boy. A bourgeois (平庸的), middle-class white boy with an absent father, a strong-willed mother, and two beautiful younger sisters."

Patric switched (转换) partners a few times more and moved as often. Her third husband was rock promoter Robert Miller (with whom she had Karina), and her fourth was Jack Bond, whom she divorced in 1994.

Keanu attended Jesse Ketchum Public School in Toronto from kindergarten (幼儿园) through the eighth grade, and attended four high schools (including De La Salle College and the Toronto School for the Performing Arts) before dropping out (放弃, 离去) completely at age 17.

Keanu took on lots of different jobs, including sharpening skates at an ice rink (室内溜冰场) shop (he's an avid hockey player), landscaping (园艺工作), and making pasta (意大利面食) (and managing the place to boot!). Then came some stage (舞台) work (most notably — and notoriously — *Wolfboy* in 1984, his professional stage debut)

and some bit(小) parts on TV. His motion picture debut was in *Dream To Believe* in Canada but it [reportedly] was the 1986 TV movie *Under the Influence* that earned him his SAG union card.

Keanu's first big feature film debut in a US film was in *Youngblood* in which he had a small part.

Keanu hit the road (开始流浪) for Hollywood in 1986 with \$3,000, an old Volvo(沃尔沃汽车), and his stepfather Paul Aaron's address. A few name changes followed as "Keanu" was considered by his manager to be too exotic(异国情调的). They settled on K. C. Reeves, but it was short-lived. Keanu it was, and Keanu it was going to be.

Keanu soon landed *River's Edge*, arguably(可论证的) one of his best roles ever. A string of movies followed as the troubled teen. His parts continued to grow, and then he started attracting the eye of more mainstream(主流) directors. He landed films like *Dangerous Liaisons*, *Bram Stoker's Dracula*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Little Buddha*.

But it was 1994's *Speed* that really made everyone stand up and notice. Perhaps not so much for Keanu's acting, but the fact that this was his first mega(百万)-hit, grossing(总的) nearly \$300 million at the box office(world-wide). Figures like that will catch the eye of any studio executive, and Keanu was soon reportedly being offered sums up to \$7 million for his services.

With *Johnny Mnemonic* and *A Walk in the Clouds* already in the can, those offers were put on hold or turned down so that Keanu could return to Canada and fulfill a dream of playing the title(剧名角色) role in *Hamlet* on stage. Reviews were mixed, but in general reviewers were kind and some were enthusiastic(热情的).

More films followed: *Feeling Minnesota*, *Chain Reaction* and *The Last Time I Committed Suicide*, which did moderately(适度地) at the box office.

Then it was off to Australia to film *The Matrix*. No one knew what to expect from this, and when it opened in the spring of 1999 it was a huge blockbuster(一鸣惊人者), and brought Keanu back front and center in the public eye and catapulted(突然把……捧出名) him into the top ranks of money earners with an asking salary of \$20 million per picture. In the summer of 1999 Keanu filmed *The Replacements*, and finished out the year with *The Watcher*. Both of those pictures were released in the year 2000.

In 2000, Keanu went on to film three more films, *The Gift*, *Sweet November*, and *Hardball*.

There are many more projects lining up for Keanu's attention, not the least of which is a commitment(许诺) to do two sequels(续集) to *The Matrix*, tentatively(暂时地) scheduled(预定的) to shoot(拍摄) back-to-back(紧接地) in the spring, summer and fall of 2001 for release in 2003.

How did Keanu get his big scar?

He has several. The most prominent(突出的) scar runs from chest to navel(肚脐) and is a result of the time he crashed his motorcycle(摩托车) into a mountain in 1987. This resulted in the loss of his spleen(脾). Since then, he has acquired several more.

What is Dogstar?

Dogstar is a "folk-punk" band that Keanu plays bass guitar in. The other two band members are *Rob Mailhouse* (drums), and *Bret Domrose* (guitar). They have three CD's out and occasionally tour.

Is Keanu involved with anyone?

Keanu doesn't talk about his personal life in interviews, so no one knows for sure. He has said that his career doesn't allow him time for a relationship.

Feature Film

2004: *The Matrix Revolutions* 黑客帝国 3

2003: *The Matrix Reloaded* 黑客帝国 2

2001: *Hardball* 棒球教练

Sweet November 甜蜜十一月

2000: *The Gift* 不速之礼

The Watcher 凶手正在看着你

The Replacements 替补队员

1999: *The Matrix* 黑客帝国

1997: *Devil's Advocate* 魔鬼代言人

The Last Time I Committed Suicide

我的最后一次自杀

1996: *Feeling Minnesota* 爱上明尼苏达

Chain Reaction 连锁反应

1995: *A Walk In The Clouds* 云中漫步

Johnny Mnemonic 捍卫机密

1994: *Speed* 生死时速

Even Cowgirls Get The Blues 牛仔女郎布鲁斯

1993: *Little Buddha* 小活佛

Freaked 怪物

Much Ado About Nothing 都是男人惹的祸

1992: *Barn Stoker's Dracula* 惊情四百年

1991: *Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey*

比尔和泰德再度历险

Point Break 爆破点

My Own Private Idaho 不羁的天空

1990: *Tune In Tomorrow* 明日恋曲

I Love You To Death 爱你到死

1989: *Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure*

比尔和泰德历险记

Parenthood 父母身份

1988: *The Prince Of Pennsylvania* 宾州王子

Dangerous Liaisons 危险关系

The Night Before 昨夜

Permanent Record 永久记录

1987: *River's Edge* 河畔

1986: *Youngblood* 铁血男儿

Flying 飞翔

1984: *The Prodigal* 浪子

1995: *Hamlet* 哈姆雷特

1985: *Romeo & Juliet* 罗密欧与朱丽叶

1984: *Wolfboy* 狼孩

供稿:梁双喜

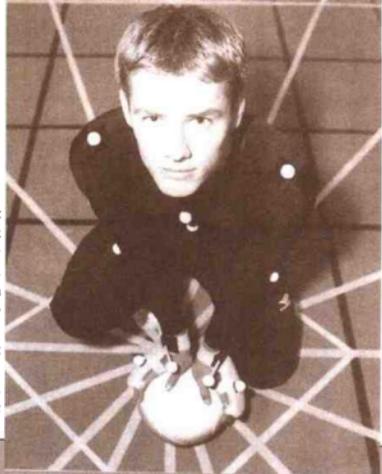
★★★★



Michael — "I feel that every time I get the ball at the moment I am going to score."

Michael Owen is 21. That fact needed checking yesterday and it quietly surprised in the way a familiar picture on the wall at home can suddenly take on a different look when moved or seen from a fresh angle. Owen is only 21, yet he is as established (确定的) a figure (象征) in the national psyche (精神, 灵魂) as the woman who was prime minister (首相) the day he was born. In Owen's case the familiarity has bred (引起) concern (关注).

Watching and listening to him talk at England's headquarters at Burnham Beeches, the question of Owen's age was tripping (轻快地走) through the mind. Here he was, just 21, talking like a man, never mind a footballer, who has experienced already most of what is to be thrown. It



Michael Owen

迈克尔·欧文



could have been Alan Shearer, a man a decade older.

We know Owen's story well. Aged 18, he became a truly global superstar with his famous slam (障碍滑雪) against Argentina in St Etienne. After that came ups and downs, fortune and fame, injuries and goals. He now has 30 caps and four winner's medals from Liverpool's last seven months of gathering cups. It is more than most players achieve in a career.

Yet there was an air of dissatisfaction (不满) about the tone of some of Owen's opinions about who he is and where he is in August 2001. "I wouldn't change a thing that has happened to me," he began, an understandable view, but he moved swiftly (很快地) on to the future. As swiftly as was possible.

"It was one of the best moments of my life so far but after it happened I just didn't want people to talk about it all the time. There was no need to specify (详细说明) what 'it' was. 'I was anxious that the World Cup wasn't the only thing I was known for. As much as it will always be with me I didn't want to be remembered for that alone. So, when you get a chance to do well with club and country, it's great."

Owen now feels he has that chance. All week long it has been a debate as to who will partner him in attack tomorrow, as opposed to whether he will play at all. That, as Owen acknowledged, is a marked (显著的) change from the last England-Germany encounter (遭遇战) when Owen went into the match having his first touch and ability to hold the ball up questioned by the man who was picking the team. "I wasn't exactly flavour of the month then, was I?" Owen asked

rhetorically (讲究修辞的). "Like any other striker, I go through patches. But I'm feeling very good at the moment."

The evidence is in the seven goals already this season, a line of fine form (状态) that Owen picked up from the end of last season when he scored seven in his last four league games plus two in the FA (英国足协) Cup final.

Possibly of greater relevance to tomorrow night is the goal Owen scored for Liverpool against Bayern Munich in the Super Cup in Monaco (摩纳哥) seven days ago. Owen beat the Germany goalkeeper Oliver Kahn on one occasion, though Kahn made a notable save from one other effort. "He's one of the best in the world," said Owen of Kahn, "but I've taken notice of what he likes to do. It's a split-second (瞬间发生的) thing when you're put through whether to shoot high or low, but he stands up a lot."

Owen was reluctant (不情愿的, 勉强的) to mention the phrase "turning point" but he identified (确定) two definite (明确的) factors in his current success: "Almost" three weeks off in June after continuous summer activity for five years; and inclusion in Sven—Goran Eriksson's first team, for the friendly against Spain at Villa Park in February.

Owen played the whole 90 minutes that night and, while he did not score, the faith shown by Eriksson was noted. "I don't know if that was a turning point but I haven't looked back since. I've played in all the remaining games for club and country and had a successful time."

For those who doubt Owen—Kevin Keegan, perhaps—

there was also a refreshing(使人喜欢的) intelligence(聪明) about his insights(洞察力) into his job. Pressed on his famous pace, Owen said: "I do feel as sharp as I have ever done. But there's a difference between sharpness(锐利) and outright(彻底的, 完全的) pace. I don't know if I'd beat Emile Heskey or Sol Campbell over 100 metres, but I'm a quick footballer, not a 100m runner. The maximum I do is 20m, that's my distance."

Mention of Heskey brought the subject back to partnerships. With his Liverpool team-mate Robbie Fowler in contention, and Andy Cole, Owen did his best to tiptoe(小心翼翼) through the issue but appeared to plump(赞成, 支持) for Heskey as his preference(优先选择).

"I have no doubts Emile can cause problems. There aren't many who can stop him. He's willing to learn, he's very young and he's different to me, he makes different runs. He

FULL NAME: Michael James Owen
BORN: Chester, 14th December 1979
HEIGHT: 1.76 m
WEIGHT: 70 kg
HAIR COLOUR: Brown
EYE COLOUR: Brown/Green

Michael named European Footballer of the Year. 欧文当选 2001 年欧洲足球先生。

Michael was voted the European Footballer of the Year and was presented with the prestigious (声望很高的) award.

One of the highest personal honours in football, only six other British footballers have won it—the last was Kevin Keegan in 1979 (the year Michael was born).

Michael was thrilled(激动) and modest(谦虚的) as ever



lets me play through my strengths and he certainly hasn't let anyone down(使……失望) at Liverpool."

Michael's Career 足球生涯

Michael Owen was born on 14th December 1979 in Chester. He is a great asset(资产) to Liverpool Football Club and at the club he plays a forward. He has recently joined the England Squad and plays number 20, as this position he has become a great role model for all young footballers.

Michael Owen, a product of Liverpool's youth system burst on the scene towards the end of the 1996~1997 season with a debut(初次) goal in the away draw with Wimbledon. He was given his first start later that week when Liverpool met Sheffield Wednesday. Michael was a constant threat in that match but he couldn't get the goal his performance deserved, he was still given the Man of the Match award for his whole hearted performance. Unfortunately for Michael he didn't have another chance to impress that season, as that was the final match.

At the start of the 1997~1998 season Michael was still in the Liverpool side, as Robbie Fowler was carrying an injury. Playing alongside the experienced Riedel, Michael again showed his natural talent, again scoring an equaliser against Wimbledon.

With Fowler missing games through injury and suspension(中止, 暂停) Michael was given plenty of chances in the first team. Michael is one of the most promising players in England and now has a regular first team place and is sure to be an Anfield favourite for years come.

when he received the award from France Football magazine: "I couldn't believe it when I first heard the news. I knew that I was one of the five players in question, but it still seemed unbelievable to me.

"There was also Francesco Totti, against who we played recently, Raul Gonzalez, and even David Beckham who came 4th. Several Frenchmen were also in the race. What fantastic footballers!"

He added: "Marco van Basten won it three times. Michel Platini as well... add my name to that of Franz Beckenbauer, Johan Cruyff, Rivaldo, etc. I am extremely proud."

Michael beat Real Madrid(皇家马德里) star Raul and Germany goalkeeper(守门员) Oliver Khan to the top award, which was voted for by leading journalists and published by French magazine, *France Football*.

He polled 176 votes to 140 for Raul and 114 for Bayern Munich(拜仁慕尼黑队) stopper Kahn.

David Beckham, who was today named runner-up(亚军) in the nominations for the World Footballer of the Year, ranked fourth with 102.

Here are the results of the poll: 投票结果

1. Michael Owen (England) (176 points)
2. Raul (Spain) (140)
3. Oliver Kahn (Germany) (114)
4. David Beckham (England) (102)
5. Francesco Totti (Italy) (57)
6. Luis Figo (Portugal) (56)
7. Rivaldo (Brazil) (20)
8. Andrei Shevchenko (Ukraine) (18)
9. Thierry Henry (France) (14)
10. Zinedine Zidane (France) (14)

注释: 张国强

★★★★



Shania Twain

仙妮亚·唐恩

Shania's Quotes

"I don't like drugs. I don't like alcohol. I like clean living people around me." — Shania on choosing her band(乐队).

"We live in a very remote(遥远的) area, we live out in the wilderness, we live out on the lake. We've got dogs and horses. Real things that I like to go back to, you know, because my dogs don't care where I am on the charts(海图)." (laughs) — Shania 1995.

"It was never my dream to be a star. That was my parents' dream. I guess they prayed(祈祷) real hard."

"I've always been so intense(热情的). I have to learn how to chill out. My husband is great at that. I love to cook, so when I'm home that helps me to relax."

"I was always a communicative(爱说话的) performer, so I've just taken that on to a bigger stage. I don't like being seperated from the audience. I really enjoy the communication I have going on." — On performing

"To be honest, I'm pretty exhausted(疲惫的), I soak(浸泡) in a hot bath and then go to bed. I'm not one of those people who stays up(不睡觉) till four in the morning eating pizza and drinking beer." — Shania's life on the Road.

"I started at such a young age that I really feel old. I feel older than I am because I've lived such a full life already. I keep saying 'Oh, I'm so tired.'" — Not superhuman after all!

"It's kind of fun, but I'm not sure what the definition of a diva(歌剧中的首席女主角) is anymore. It could be an insult(侮辱) I suppose, but I think it's kind of fun." — On being called a Diva.

Personal Details

BIRTHDAY: 28th August.

BIRTHPLACE: Windsor(温莎) Ontario(安大略) Canada.

STARSIGN: Virgo(处女座).

NICKNAME: Woody (Mutt calls her this), Leenie (her family use this one).

RAISED: Timmins(蒂明斯), Ontario, Canada.

PARENTS: Jerry and Sharon Twain.

SIBLINGS(兄弟姐妹): Jill, Carrie ann, Daryl and Mark.

HOME: Switzerland, Florida.

MARRIED: 28th December 1993 in Huntsville Ontario, Canada.

FACT: Bryan Adams was a guest at the wedding and a female priest married them.

HUSBAND: Robert John Mutt Lange

PETS: Many horses and 3 dogs. Dancer is the horse she rides the most and Tim is her faithful companion! He's an adorable(可爱的) German Shepard who goes with Shania almost everywhere!

HAIR COLOUR: Brown.

EYE COLOUR: Green.

HEIGHT: 5' 4"

HOBBIES: Shania has a passion for horseback riding. Likes to read or watch movies. She can also juggle(变魔术)!

FAVOURITE TV PROGRAMS: Shania enjoys watching Music Video's and Nature Programmes. The Discovery Channel. She also likes to keep up with the news.

FAVOURITE FLOWER: The rose. White and peach roses are her favourites. Also likes daises(雏菊) and wild roses.

PERFUME: Likes a few but once said GIO by Giorgio Armani was her favourite.

INTERESTS: Songwriting, writing in general, horses, camping, walking, nature, wildlife etc.

MUSICAL DISLIKES: Music that promotes(提倡) violence or aggression.

Other Details...

Family and friends are very important to Shania. She is shy but confident. She loves her life and her fans. Her career gives her a great deal of pleasure. She said "all I care about is the fans." The fans are who she is doing all this for.

Activities: 喜爱的运动



《四个婚礼和一个葬礼》对白欣赏

剧情简介:

查尔斯是一位婚礼上的常客,然而他对结婚却始终怀有怀疑。但在一次乡间婚礼上,美丽的美国姑娘凯莉却深深地打动了他的心。虽然从朋友口中查尔斯得知凯莉是个私生活很不检点且与有钱男人来往的女性,但他还是推却了朋友们的狂欢计划而前去寻找凯莉。两人共度了一个美好的夜晚,但第二天凯莉竟离他而去,只身回了美国,弄得查尔斯心神不宁。查尔斯的朋友们一个都开始准备结婚。两个月后,在伦敦的一个婚礼上,查尔斯又遇见了凯莉,但就在他重拾希望之际,凯莉却向他介绍了自己的未婚夫哈米什。查尔斯大感失落。女友海伦娜向他表达了爱意,但查尔斯却根本无心应付。凯莉前来寻找查尔斯,两人再次共度了一个良宵。

一个月后,查尔斯收到了凯莉的结婚请柬。在选礼物时,查尔斯遇上凯莉,凯莉向查尔斯说起了自己的风流韵事。查尔斯冲动之下想向凯莉求婚,但却未能说出口。不久之后,查尔斯还是去参加了凯莉的婚礼,心灰意冷的查尔斯接受了海伦娜的感情。查尔斯的朋友盖诺斯心脏病发作而突然死亡。在葬礼上,查尔斯又见到了凯莉,并向她表白了自己的感情。

10个月后,查尔斯终于决定与海伦娜结婚。但在婚礼举行之前,查尔斯又见到了凯莉,她已经与丈夫离了婚。凯莉的出现令查尔斯心神大乱,在兄弟戴维的劝阻下,他终于在牧师面前说出了真心话,拒绝了海伦娜。凯莉前来探望查尔斯。在雨中,两人紧紧地拥吻在一起。两人约定:永远在一起,但并不结婚。

对白背景:

罗宾·阿特金森在本剧中只有短短的几分钟,总共两次,但他的每一次出现却都能引得人们捧腹大笑。罗宾·阿特金森扮演的神父是第一次主持婚礼,因此十分紧张,不仅声音一直在发抖,而且屡屡出错,弄得这对新人尴尬万分,引得来宾们哭笑不得。这场蹩脚的婚礼主持是本片最令人发笑的部分,堪称喜剧片中的精品。

对白欣赏:

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

People: Amen.

Priest: Let us pray. Father, you have made the bond of marriage a holy mystery, a symbol of Christ's love for his church. Hear our prayers for Burner and Lydia. Through your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Goat, errr. Ghost, one God forever and ever, Amen.

Guest A: This is his first time, he's a friend of the family.

The sports I've been doing the most during the writing of the new album are hiking (徒步旅行), swimming and horseback riding.

Tim (my dog) is doing well and is also enjoying his break from the road. He is six years old and full of energy. He loves to go hiking with us.

A New Look: 新形象

I've cropped (修剪) my hair to just below shoulder length and added a few highlights for the summer. I've been going with very light, low maintenance (保养) make up. For daywear

Charles: Excellent!

Priest: Burner and Lydia, I shall now ask if you freely undertake the obligations of marriage. Burner, repeat after me: I do solemnly declare...

Burner: I do solemnly declare...

Priest: That I know not of any lawful impediment!

Burner: That I know not of any lawful impediment...

Priest: Why I Lydia...

Burner: Why I Burner...

Priest: Sorry. Why I Burner Godfrey Saint John Delaney...

Burner: Why I Burner Jeffery Singin Delaney...

Priest: May not be joined in matrimony²⁾ to Lydia John Hibbet.

Burner: May not be joined in matrimony to Lydia Jane Hibbet.

Priest: Lydia, repeat after me: I do solemnly declare...

Lydia: I do solemnly declare...

Priest: That I know not of any lawful impediment...

Lydia: That I know not of any lawful impediment...

Priest: Why I Lydia Jane Hibbet...

Lydia: Why I Lydia Jane Hibbet...

Priest: May not be joined in matrimony...

Lydia: May not join in matrimony...

Priest: To Burner Jeffery Sidz Sizzer Delaney.

Lydia: To Burner Jeffery Singin Delaney.

Priest: I call upon those persons here present to witness...

Burner: I call upon those persons here present to witness...

Priest: That I Burner Delaney...

Burner: That I Burner Delaney...

Priest: Do take thee Lydia Jane Hibbet...

Burner: Do take thee Lydia Jane Hibbet...

Priest: To be my awful wedded wife.

Burner: To be my lawful wedded wife.

Priest: That's wrong. That's right. May almighty³⁾ God bless you all, the Father, the Son, and the holy spigot, Spirit.

All Guests: Amen.

Guest A: Bravo!

- 注释: 1) impediment [im'pɛdɪmənt] *n.* 妨碍, 阻碍, 障碍物
2) matrimony ['mætrɪməni] *n.* 结婚
3) almighty [ɔ:l'maɪti] *adj.* 全能的

★★★★

I've just been using a little concealer (隐藏) on any blotchy (有污点的) spots. The eye shadows (眼影) I use most often lately are the "wet/dry shadow" Sandstorm and Coffee Bean.

Goals 目标

I am living in an area of Switzerland where French is the primary language. Living here, I've decided that I want and need to be able to communicate (沟通) in it. I am in the process (过程) of learning French and hoping that I'll be able to hold a conversation in it before the year is out.

注释: 蔡训峰 ★★★★★

Scientists Find Strange Squid in Ocean Depths

科学家发现新的生物物种——大洋深处的怪鱿

by Glendda Chui

In the inky depths of the sea, scientists have found something big and weird: a squid² 23 feet long whose impossibly long, skinny arms are bent like elbows.

It isn't the fabled giant squid, which can stretch 60 feet and weigh a ton. It is something new and, in its way, even stranger.

And the fact that it has been sighted only recently, in eight locations around the world's oceans, shows how little we know about life in the deep, scientists said.

"Think about if we discovered a new horse in Africa — something like that. That would knock a lot of biologists on their ears," said William Sager, an oceanographer at Texas A&M University. He spotted one of the ghostly white creatures while cruising the Gulf of Mexico in Alvin, a small submersible⁴ craft used for research.

In fact, although 90 percent of the space available for life on Earth is in the deep ocean, less than 1 percent of that volume has been explored, said Ron O'Dor, senior scientist for the Census of Marine Life in Washington, D.C.

What's amazing about the new squid, he said, is that "this is a global organism that is in every bit of water around the world, as far as we can tell, and probably in large numbers, and we didn't know they existed."

Researchers don't know enough about the squid to give it an official Latin name. They have not been able to capture a specimen for study. All they know is what they have seen through the portholes⁵ of submersibles, at depths ranging from 6,367 to 15,540 feet. The animals have been spotted just eight times in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans and off the Gulf of Mexico.

Michael Vecchione, a biologist, has seen one of the mysterious animals himself. He's only watched videotapes. But last year, after hearing about the squid from a submersible operator who worked for an oil company, he alerted other researchers and collected what little information was available, including videotapes that captured the squid in action for up to 10 minutes at a time. It turned out that the earliest sighting was in 1988.

"As soon as I saw it, I knew it was a really bizarre squid," Vecchione said.

Most squid are shaped like torpedoes, with eight stubby⁶ arms and two longer tentacles⁷, all sprouting⁸ from the area around their mouths. "They shoot out the tentacles and grab something with the suckers⁹ at the end of it, and then haul it in and hold it with the eight arms while they chew on it," Vec-

chione said. "They have to swallow fairly small pieces because their esophagus¹⁰ goes through the center of their brain, and if they eat too big a piece they'll get a headache."

But in this squid, he said, you can't tell the arms and tentacles apart. All 10 appendages¹¹ jut out at right angles to the body, take a sharp, elbow-like bend and then hang down.

His own speculation¹² is that the arms are sticky, and that their unusual configuration¹³ keeps them spread apart so they don't tangle.

Vecchione said he suspects that the animals use these long, sticky arms "somewhat like living spider webs, to ensnare¹⁴ their prey."

Another strange thing: The squid did not shy away from the submersibles and did not appear disturbed when a bright light shone into their absolutely dark world.

"Your normal squid are very strong, active swimmers," Sager said. "you startle a squid and it's gone, usually in a cloud of ink." But this one "just hangs there," he said, "almost as if unaware that it's being observed."

David Clague, a geologist was among a group of researchers using a robotic submersible to explore the ocean bottom northeast of Oahu¹⁵ in the spring. They spotted a couple of tentacles dangling¹⁶ into the view of the video camera and watched, fascinated, as a squid got tangled up in one of the sub's cables and worked to free itself.

Because his group pokes around in a lot of previously unexplored areas, "We've seen new animals on every series of dives," Clague said. "But it's really surprising that something that big has been out there and we haven't known about it."

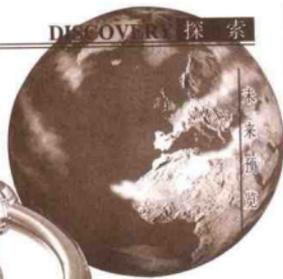
- ★★★★
1. weird [wiəd] a. 奇怪的, 不可思议的
 2. squid [skwid] n. 鱿鱼
 3. oceanographer [əuʃi'ɒnɒgrəfə] n. 海洋地理学家
 4. submersible [sʌb'mɜ:səbəl] a. 能沉入水中的; 能潜航的
 5. porthole ['pɔ:tbəʊl] n. 舷窗; 舱口
 6. stubby ['stʌbi] a. 粗短的; 树桩似的
 7. tentacles ['tentəkl] n. 触须; 触角
 8. sprout [spraut] v. 作出
 9. sucker ['sʌkə] n. 吸管; 吸盘
 10. esophagus [i'sɒfəgəs] n. 食管
 11. appendage [ə'pendidʒ] n. 附器; 附肢
 12. speculation [spɛkjʊ'leɪʃən] n. 推测
 13. configuration [kən'fɪgʊ'reɪʃən] n. 结构; 外形
 14. ensnare [ɪn'sneə] v. 绊住; 诱捕
 15. Oahu [əu'ɑ:hʊ] n. 瓦胡岛
 16. dangle ['dæŋgl] v. 吊着; 悬着

月能可以解决地球能量危机吗?

Moon Power

Could Solve Energy Crunch

by Andrew Quinn



With Earth's power consumption forecast to rocket to new highs in coming decades, one scientist is proposing a suitably far-out solution to the likely energy crunch — power plants on the moon.

Prof. David Criswell of the University of Houston's Institute for Space Systems said that lunar power plants that capture the sun's rays and send them on to Earth as concentrated microwave beams could provide inexpensive, abundant and stable energy for the Earth's growing population.

"This would be energy on a global scale," Criswell said in a briefing at the American Geophysical Union (AGU) meeting here.

Criswell's idea might seem loopy, but he insists that it would be achievable if the U. S. government would commit to spending the money — estimated at roughly three times the \$19 billion budget of the Apollo space program.

Criswell's lunar power plant idea was one of a number of alternative energy strategies floated by scientists at the AGU meeting to address the environmental crisis posed by Earth's voracious power consumption.

With some 85 percent of overall energy now produced by fossil fuels — blamed for producing the greenhouse gases many scientists believe are behind global warming — researchers say new methods must be found to generate energy if world economic growth is to continue in a healthy environment.

MOON SAID OBVIOUS CHOICE

According to Criswell, the moon is an obvious choice for new power production facilities that would feature none of the pollution or nuclear waste of earthbound plants.

Criswell's plan involves setting up solar panels at numerous new lunar installations to collect the sun's rays. This energy could then be converted into a microwave beam and sent back to "rectennas" on Earth, where it would be easily converted into electricity that could be plugged into the power grid.

The microwave energy beam, which could pass through rain and clouds, would have the intensity of about 20 percent of noontime sunlight and would be perfectly safe with only a slight problem of local radio interference, he said.

Criswell said the bulk of his lunar power plants could be easily constructed from materials already found on the moon, and that they were technologically simple enough to wire up quickly.

"This is comparable to the technology in a modern microwave oven," he said.

He conceded that some people might be concerned that the system could fall into the wrong hands, possibly transforming the gentle microwave power beam into a new type of weapon that could blast the Earth from space.

"You can turn almost anything into a weapon as we now know," Criswell said, adding that he was confident that enough safeguards could be built into the system to prevent it from being turned into a death ray.

Criswell estimates that it would cost about \$9 billion to get a small working

编译:阿蒙

人们预计在未来数十年内地球能量消耗将会冲向新的最高数字,因此,一位科学家为解决可能会发生的能源危机提出了一个前卫但可行的设想——在月球上建造能源工厂。

休斯顿大学空间体系学院的教授大卫·克里斯韦尔说:“月球上的能源工厂可以收集太阳光,然后以集中的微波光束形式反射到地球上,这样可以为地球上越来越多的人口提供廉价、丰富且稳定的能源。”

克里斯韦尔在美国地球物理协会一次情况汇报会上说:“那将是一场全球规模的能源供给。”克里斯韦尔的想法听起来似乎不切实际,但他坚持认为,如果美国政府愿意出资——估计大约是阿波罗登月计划190亿美元预算的3倍——这个设想是可以实现的。

克里斯韦尔的月球能源工厂设想只是科学家们在地球物理协会会议上,针对因地球上滥用能源而构成的环境危机提出的众多可替代能源对策中的一种而已。

目前地球上所消耗的总能量的85%来自于化石燃料——它们被认为是产生引起温室效应的罪魁祸首,许多科学家认为,是这些气体导致了全球变暖;研究人员说,如果世界经济还想继续在一个健康的环境中增长的话,就必须想出产生能源的新方法。

月球——首选新能源基地

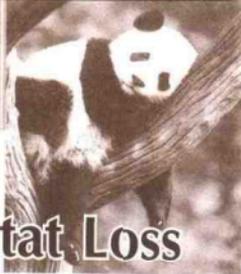
按照克里斯韦尔的说法,月球是首选的生产新能源的场所,且不会产生地球能源工厂引起的污染或核废料问题。

克里斯韦尔的计划包括在众多新建的月球能源设备上安装太阳能发热板收集太阳光。收集到的能量然后被转化为微波光束,反射到地球上的“硅整流二极管天线”上,该天线可以把光束轻易地转化为能被蓄电池储存的电能。

“微波光束能穿透雨水和云层,它的强度大约是正午阳光的20%,非常安全,只是对当地的广播会产生一定的干扰。”克里斯韦尔说。

克里斯韦尔声称,他设想的月球能源厂的大部分可以采用月球上已有的材料很容易地建造起来,要很快把它们搭建,在技术上也并不是问题。

“这就好比现代的微波炉技术。”他说。他坦承,有些人也许会担心这些设备落入坏人手里,因而可能会把和煦的微波光束转变成为能在太空炸毁地球的新型武器。



Panda's Progress Harmed by Poaching and Habitat Loss

by Margot Higgins 偷猎、居住地丧失危及大熊猫保护计划

Nestled in a remote bamboo thicket in China's Sichuan Province, a wild panda was first observed by a joint team of western and Chinese biologists on May 15, 1980.

The resulting panda preservation project, launched (实施) by the Worldwide Fund for Nature, "began with a headlong passion for a grand cause without realizing the magnitude of the task," recalls seasoned field biologist George Schaller.

Twenty years later, while much progress has been made, the giant panda is increasingly threatened by poaching (偷猎) and habitat loss.

Between 1974 and 1989, suitable habitat in the Sichuan province, where the largest number of giant pandas cling to survival, decreased by 50 percent. Within that province, a 1999 survey in one county revealed a 30 percent decrease in panda habitat since 1987.

The sex is a problem for pandas living in China's temperate forests. While much time and energy have been spent on captive breeding (人工饲养), these efforts have met with little success.

There is a long way to go before the captive population of pandas can sustain itself and contribute to the survival of pandas in the wild. Well over 100 pandas continue to languish (消失) in captive breeding programs and zoos.

Wild pandas do not share the reproductive problems of captive pandas, the researchers note. In their natural state, all adult females and males appear to be involved in breeding. A 1999 study found that only 28 percent of adult pandas in captivity are breeding.

As a result, habitat protection should be the highest conservation priority for pandas.

Known as "bamboo bears (竹子开花)" among local people, pandas are picky (挑剔的)

eaters. Their diet consists almost entirely of various bamboo species found in high mountain areas. Low in nutrients, bamboo provides enough nourishment for survival but little extra.

Because bamboo periodically dies out in unpredictable periods that range from 10 to 20 years, panda habitat fluctuates (波动、变化) over time.

When entire bamboo forests wither away (消失), pandas can starve to death if they aren't able to move to another area. Due to an increasingly small genetic pool, fragmented panda populations also risk interbreeding (近亲繁殖), which could lead to reduced resistance to disease, less adaptability to environmental change and a decrease in reproductive rates.

For those reasons, conservation groups say it is necessary to strengthen current panda reserves and establish viable corridors between them. "If patches of panda habitat are isolated, there will be disastrous consequences," warns Elizabeth Kempf.

The message echoes one that is associated with the American grizzly bear. Isolated to five remaining patches in the lower 48 states, grizzlies also require vast undeveloped terrain in order to survive.

The solution to habitat loss is far more challenging in China, where a population of more than 1 billion is pushing hungry people farther and farther into remote areas.

Giant pandas are by far the rarest members of the bear family. While their ancestors (祖先) once covered parts of Burma and northern Vietnam, there may be as few as 1,000 giant pandas left in the wild today, scattered across six isolated mountain ranges in south central China.

"The only hope for the future of the giant panda is to balance the needs of humans and the needs of the panda," Kempf said. "Giant pandas need vast areas of temperate mountain forests with lots of bamboo; people living in the vicinity of the animals need secure sources of income and better livelihoods; and China needs help from the world's people to protect its 'national treasure' for all of humankind."

★★★★

prototype of his lunar power plant up and running on the moon. Once it has proven that it works, a further investment of about \$50 billion could build the entire system — and break even in about five years.

"It's really a very cost-effective proposal," he said.

Extraterrestrial power production is not necessarily a new idea.

Power-producing solar satellites were first suggested in the 1960s and have been periodically reviewed.

Criswell said the idea of sitting power plants on the moon makes more sense.

"Why build a satellite? We already have one," he said. ★★★★★

"我们现在知道,人类几乎能把任何东西变成武器。"克里斯韦尔说道。他又说他很有信心,因为系统里将增加足够多的保卫措施,使它不会成为死亡光线。

克里斯韦尔估算要把一个小型的原型月球能源厂送上月球并使其在月球上运转起来大约要花费90亿美元。一旦证明它是行之有效的,就得再投资500亿美元才能建好整个系统——大约5年内不盈不亏。

"这真的是一个值得投资的建议。"他说,寻求地球外的能源生产未必是个新设想。

发射太阳卫星生产能源最初是在20世纪60年代提出的,之后,这个建议不时地被人们拿出重新考察。

克里斯韦尔说在月球上建造能源厂是个更明智的办法。"为什么要建造卫星?我们已经有了一个。"他说。