



愿哲理小故事成为点亮你人生的明灯

静下心来，慢慢品读，
就会从这些小故事中发现一片广阔的天地，
从而打开这扇虚掩着的智慧之门。

小故事 大道理

英汉对照版

Meaningful Short Stories
English-Chinese Edition

王晓阳◎主编



- 欣赏佳译
- 提高英语水平
- 感悟智慧

中国纺织出版社



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Preface

佛曰：一花一天堂，一沙一世界。

从一朵花朵的绽放，就可以想象出整个天堂的美妙；从一粒沙子中，就能够看到整个世界的模样。

同样，从一则小故事中，我们亦能窥探到智慧的灵光。

本书从古今中外浩如烟海的故事长河中，撷取了几十朵美丽的浪花。所选的故事虽小，其中所蕴含的道理却意味深长。这些简单明了的小故事，以平易近人的姿态，不老套、不说教地告诉了你一个个道理。它们如同清泉一样，缓缓地流淌着，渗入你的心田。

为了方便广大英文爱好者，本书特采用中英文对照的方式编排。英文爱好者可以将经典的原文和优美的译文比较推敲，欣赏佳译，提高英语水平。文学爱好者可以从本书优美的文字中感受最真挚、最纯洁的感情，从而思索人生的意义。

编者所选用的这些故事，有的或许你已经熟知于心，有的或许还是初次谋面。这些都没关系，只要你能放下你疲惫的心灵，静下心来，慢慢品读，就会从这些小故事中发现一片广阔的天地，从而打开这扇虚掩着的智慧之门。

有一句著名的电影台词说得好：“如果你不出去走走，你就会以为这就是

世界。”现在,请你不妨跳出自我的圈子,把眼光放开,你就会发现,其实世界上有很多好的经验我们都可以参考。

开卷有益。愿本书中的这些哲理小故事能成为点亮你人生的明灯。在它们温润的智慧之光的沐浴下,你可以把不快的忧伤变为沉醉的美酒,把午夜黑暗化为黎明的曙光,使原本没有意义的人生之旅变得格外轻松、欢快。

编 者

2010年7月



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Meaningful Short Stories
English-Chinese Edition

态度决定人生

生命是一场奔跑，成功是一种态度。

就像《阿甘正传》里的阿甘——一个幼年又患有腿疾，且智商只有 75 的人，无论在足球场、战场还是生意场，都表现得异常优秀。在阿甘一生的成长过程中，无论面临多大的困难他都会摒弃一切杂念，把自己仅有的智慧、信念、勇气集中在一点，什么嘲讽、讥笑都置之不理，只知道拔腿就跑。如果跌倒了，很简单，爬起来再跑……

人生如白驹过隙，唯有选择一种积极、乐观、自信的态度，才能增加人生的高度、拓展人生的广度。

1.



★The Spirit of the Spider

After the rain, a spider crawled hard to the frayed web. Because the wall was so damp, it slipped down as it crawled at a certain height. It still crawled up again when it dropped down again...

The first person saw it, saying to himself with a sigh, "Isn't my life like this spider's? I am always busy, but I get nothing." He felt down everyday.

The second person saw it, saying, "What a stupid spider! Why not move around and crawl from the dry wall nearby? I shouldn't be this foolish in future." Then he wised up.

When the third person saw it, he was moved by the spirit of the spider who suffered repeated defeats, but continued to its struggle. Then he became stronger.

The spirit of success can always detect the strength of success.

Notes:



1. damp *adj.* 潮湿的;有湿气的
2. downhearted *adj.* 垂头丧气的;无精打采的
3. intelligent *adj.* 有才智的;聪明的
4. detect *v.* 发现;察觉;注意到



Translation

★蜘蛛的精神

雨后,一只蜘蛛艰难地向墙上已经支离破碎的网爬去,由于墙壁潮湿,它爬到一定的高度,就会掉下来,它一次次地向上爬,又一次次地掉下来……

第一个人看到了,他叹了一口气,自言自语:“我的一生不正如这只蜘蛛吗?忙忙碌碌而无所得。”于是,他日渐消沉。

第二个人看到了,他说:“这只蜘蛛真愚蠢,为什么不从旁边干燥的地方绕一下爬上去?我以后可不能像它那样愚蠢。”于是,他变得聪明起来。

第三个人看到了,他立刻被蜘蛛屡败屡战的精神感动了。于是,他变得



坚强起来。

有成功心态的人处处都能发觉成功的力量。



Famous aphorisms:

1. *Having a positive progressive attitude is greater than having a gold mine.*

——Lincoln

拥有一种积极进取的心态,胜过拥有一座金矿。

——林肯

2. *Optimists can see the opportunity in the disaster; Pessimists see the scourge in the opportunity.*

——anonymous author

乐观者在灾祸中看到机会;悲观者在机会中看到灾祸。

——佚名

3. *Few things are impossible in themselves; And it is often for lack of will, rather than of means, that man fails to succeed.*

——La Rocheforcauld

事情很少有根本做不成的;其所以做不成,与其说是条件不够,不如说是由于决心不够。

——罗切福考尔德



2.



★The Twelve Sincere Smiles

A passenger told a stewardess that he needed a cup of water to take his medicine as the plane was taking off. She told him that she would bring him the water in ten minutes.

Thirty minutes later, when the passenger's ring for service sounded, the stewardess flew in a flurry. She was kept so busy that she forgot to deliver him the water. As a result, the passenger was held up to take his medicine. She hurried over to him with a cup of water, but he refused it.

In the following hours on the flight, each time the stewardess passed by the passenger, she would ask him with a smile whether he needed help or not. But the passenger never paid attention to her.

When he was going to get off the plane, the passenger asked the stewardess to hand him the passengers' booklet. She was very sad. She knew that he would write down sharp words, but with a smile she handed it to him.

After the passenger got off the plane, she opened the booklet, and cracked a smile, for the passenger wrote, "On the flight, you asked me whether I needed help or not twelve times. How can I refuse your twelve sincere smiles?"

That's right! Who can refuse twelve sincere smiles from a person?



Notes:

1. stewardess *n.* 空中小姐
2. sharp *adj.* 锋利的; 刻薄的
3. crack *v.* 爆炸, 裂纹



Translation

★十二次真诚的微笑

飞机刚刚起飞,一位乘客向空姐要一杯水吃药。空姐告诉他 10 分钟后就为他送来。

30 分钟后,客人要求服务的铃声响了,空姐慌了神,原来在忙碌中她忘了为客人送水,耽误了客人吃药。她马上给客人送去一杯水,但客人拒绝了。

在此后几小时的飞行中,空姐每次经过这位客人都要微笑着问客人是否需要什么服务,但客人都没有理睬她。

要下飞机时,客人叫空姐拿来留言簿,空姐很伤心,她知道客人要写下批评的话,但她仍微笑着把留言簿递给了客人。

等那个客人下了飞机,空姐打开留言簿,她笑了,因为客人写道:“在飞行中,你微笑着问我需不需要服务,一共有 12 次,我怎么能拒绝你 12 次真诚的微笑呢?”

是啊,有谁能拒绝别人 12 次真诚的微笑呢?





Famous aphorisms:

1. *A smile is the best name card.*

——Moliere

微笑是最好的名片。

——莫里哀

2. *Smile is a panacea that can resolve all unpleasantness.*

——Thomas Fuller

微笑是灵丹妙药,能化解一切不愉快。

——富勒



3.



★Open the Heart's Door

There were two brothers, aged four or five years old. As the bedroom windows were closed all day, they thought the house was too dark. When they saw the bright sun outside, they felt envy.

The two brothers discussed, "We can sweep a little sun from the outside into our house together." Thus, the two brothers took a broom and a dustpan to sweep up the terrace for the sunshine's arrival. When they moved the dustpan many times, there was still no sunshine in the house.

Mom was busy in the kitchen and surprised to see them. She asked, "What are you doing?" They replied, "The room is too dark, and we're sweeping up the terrace for the sunshine's arrival." Mother smiled, "As long as the windows open, the sun will come naturally, why should you sweep it?"

To open the door of the heart, the success of the sun will be able to disperse the failure of the dark.



Notes:

1. envy *v.* 嫉妒, 羡慕
2. terrace *n.* 台, 阳台; 平台; 露台
3. disperse *v.* 分散, 消散, 驱散
4. sweep up 打扫; 扫除, 清除



Translation

★敞开心门

有兄弟二人, 年龄不过四五岁, 由于卧室的窗户整天都是密闭着, 他们觉得屋内太阴暗了, 看见外面灿烂的阳光, 觉得十分羡慕。

兄弟俩就商量: “我们可以一起把外面的阳光扫一点进来。”于是, 兄弟两人拿着扫帚和畚箕, 到阳台上去扫阳光。等到他们把畚箕搬到房间里的时候, 里面的阳光就没有了。这样一而再再而三地扫了许多次, 屋内还是一点阳光都没有。

正在厨房忙碌的妈妈看见他们奇怪的举动, 问道: “你们在做什么?” 他们回答说: “房间太暗了, 我们要扫点阳光进来。”妈妈笑道: “只要把窗户打开, 阳光自然会进来, 何必去扫呢?”

把封闭的心门敞开, 成功的阳光就能驱散失败的阴暗。