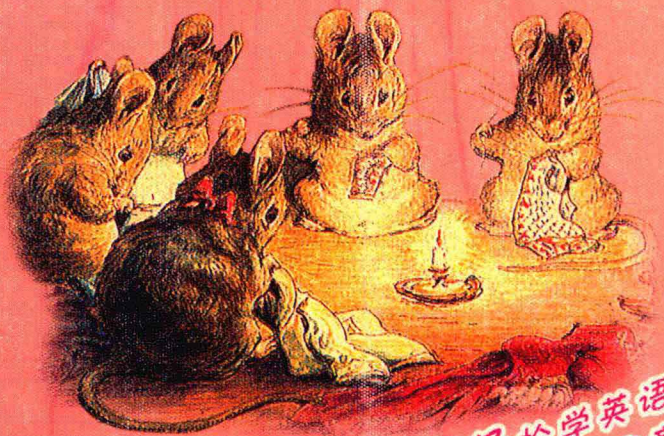


奇妙双语  
童话乐园

# 会缝衣服的小老鼠

The Tale of Gloucester

[英] 毕翠克丝·波特 / 著  
吴松梅 杨鸿飞 / 译



轻松学英语  
快乐读童话

福建少年儿童出版社

# 会缝衣服的小老鼠

The Tale of Gloucester

[英] 毕翠克丝·波特/著  
吴松梅 杨鸿飞/译



福建少年儿童出版社

## 会缝衣服的小老鼠

---

作者：[英]毕翠克丝·波特 著

吴松梅 杨鸿飞 译

出版发行：福建少年儿童出版社

社址：福州市东水路 76 号(邮编:350001)

http://www.fjep.com e-mail:fcph@fjep.com

经销：福建省新华书店

印刷：福建彩色印刷有限公司

开本：889 毫米×1194 毫米 1/40

印张：1.5 插页：4

印数：1-8180

版次：2004 年 8 月第 1 版

印次：2004 年 8 月第 1 次印刷

ISBN 7-5395-2538-X/J·528

定价：6.80 元

---

书中如有印装质量问题,可直接向承印厂调换



In the time of swords and periwigs and full-skirted coats with flowered lappets — when gentlemen wore ruffles, and gold-laced waist-coats of paduasoy and taffeta — there lived a tailor in Gloucester.

在故事发生的那个年代，人们常腰佩长剑，头戴假发，身穿下摆宽松的花边外套。绅士们穿着有褶边的衣服，马甲是用棱纹丝绸和塔夫绸做的，镶着金花边。

He sat in the window of a little shop in Westgate Street, cross-legged on a table, from morning till dark. All day long while the light lasted he sewed and snipped, piecing out his satin and pompadour, and lutestring; stuffs had strange names, and were very expensive in the days of the Tailor of Gloucester.



西门街有一家小店，从窗口望进去，你会看到一个裁缝，他从早到晚都盘腿坐在一张桌子上。只要有亮光，他就会这样一直不停地缝啊、裁啊，拼着他的缎子、小花卉和加光丝带；在那个年代，布料的名字很古怪，而且很贵。



But although he sewed fine silk for his neighbours, he himself was very, very poor — a little old man in spectacles, with a pinched face, old crooked fingers, and a suit of thread-bare clothes. He cut his coats without waste, according to his embroidered cloth; they were very small ends and snippets that lay about upon the table — Too narrow breadths for nought — except waistcoats for mice,” said the tailor.

尽管缝制的都是精美的丝绸衣服，他自己却很穷很穷。他按照绣花布的花纹来裁剪衣服，从不浪费布料；桌子上到处都是剪下来的很小的边角料——不过这些边角料窄得什么都做不了，除非是给老鼠做马甲。



One bitter cold day near Christmas-time the tailor began to make a coat — a coat of cherry-coloured corded silk embroidered with pansies and roses, and a cream-coloured satin waistcoat — trimmed with gauze and green worsted chenille — for the Mayor of Gloucester.

快到圣诞节了，天气非常寒冷。裁缝开始为格拉斯特市市长做一件大衣（一件樱桃红\*有棱纹并绣着三色紫罗兰和玫瑰的丝质大衣）和一件奶油色的缎子马甲。

\*西方最常见的樱桃是暗红色，很暗很浓，不像中国常见的樱桃是鲜红色，甚至微带粉红。



The tailor worked and worked, and he talked to himself: "No breadth at all, and cut on the cross; it is no breadth at all; tippets for mice and ribbons for mobs! for mice!" said the Tailor of Gloucester.

裁缝一边不停地忙着，一边自言自语：“根本不够宽嘛……用斜裁……根本不够宽嘛……做成披肩给老鼠们……做成长带子来捆绑暴徒们！给老鼠们！”格拉斯特的裁缝说。

When the snow-flakes came down against the small leaded window-panes and shut out the light, the tailor had done his day's work; all the silk and satin lay cut out upon the table.

雪片在铅框玻璃窗外面纷纷落下，天色渐渐暗了下来。今天的活儿已经全部干完了，所有的缎子和丝绸都已剪好，摆在了桌上。





There were twelve pieces for the coat and four pieces for the waistcoat; and there were pocket flaps and cuffs, and buttons all in order. For the lining of the coat there was fine yellow taffeta; and for the button-holes of the waist-coat, there was cherry-coloured twist. And every-

thing was ready to sew together in the morning, all measured and sufficient — except that there was wanting just one single skein of cherry-coloured twisted silk.

12片是做大衣的，4片是做马甲的；口袋盖子、袖口和纽扣，一切都摆放得井井有条。做大衣的衬里用很好的黄色塔夫绸，马甲的纽扣眼则用樱桃红的锁边丝线。准备就绪，就等着明天早晨缝到一起。一切都估量好了，材料充足——单单差一卷樱桃红的锁边丝线。





The tailor came out of his shop at dark, for he did not sleep there at nights; he fastened the window and locked the door, and took away the key. No one lived there at night but little brown mice, and they run in and out without any keys!

裁缝摸黑从店里出来。晚上没有谁住在那里，除了棕色的小老鼠们，他们没有钥匙也能跑进跑出！

For behind the wooden wainscots of all the old houses in Gloucester, there are little mouse staircases and secret trap-doors; and the mice run from house to house through those long narrow passages; they can run all over the town without going into the streets.

在格拉斯特，所有老房子的木头护壁板后面，有的是小小的老鼠楼梯和秘密的活动门，沿着那些又长又窄的通道，老鼠们能从一座房子跑到另一座房子。





But the tailor came out of his shop, and shuffled home through the snow. He lived quite near by in College Court, next the doorway to College Green; and although it was not a big house, the tailor was so poor he only rented the kitchen.

裁缝从店里出来，在大雪中拖着步子回了家。他住的地方离学院大院很近，就在格林学院大门口旁边；那房子不大，裁缝却穷得连这也租不起，只租下了厨房。

He lived alone with his cat; it was called Simpkin.

和他同住的只有一只猫，叫辛普金。

Now all day long while the tailor was out at work, Simpkin kept house by himself; and he also was fond of the mice, though he gave them no satin for coats!

每天裁缝在外面干活，辛普金看家。他也喜欢老鼠，不过他可没有缎子给他们做大衣！

“Miaw?” said the cat when the tailor opened the door. “Miaw?”

“喵？”裁缝开门时辛普金叫了。



The tailor replied: “Simpkin, we shall make our fortune, but I am worn to a ravelling. Take this groat (which is our last four pence) and Simpkin, take a china pipkin; buy a penn’orth of bread, a penn’orth of milk and a penn’orth of sausages. And oh, Simpkin, with the last penny of our fourpence buy me one penn’orth of cherry-coloured silk. But do not lose the last penny of the fourpence, Simpkin, or I am undone and worn to a thread-paper, for I have NO MORE TWIST.”



裁缝回答：“辛普金啊，我们会发财的，可是我累得快散架了。把这四便士拿去（我们就剩这点儿钱了），拿上小瓦罐，去买一便士面包，一便士牛奶，一便士香肠。哦，还有，辛普金，用那最后一便士，给我买樱桃红的丝线。可别把这最后一便士丢了，辛普金，不然我就完了，我将功亏一篑，因为我没有锁边丝线了。”



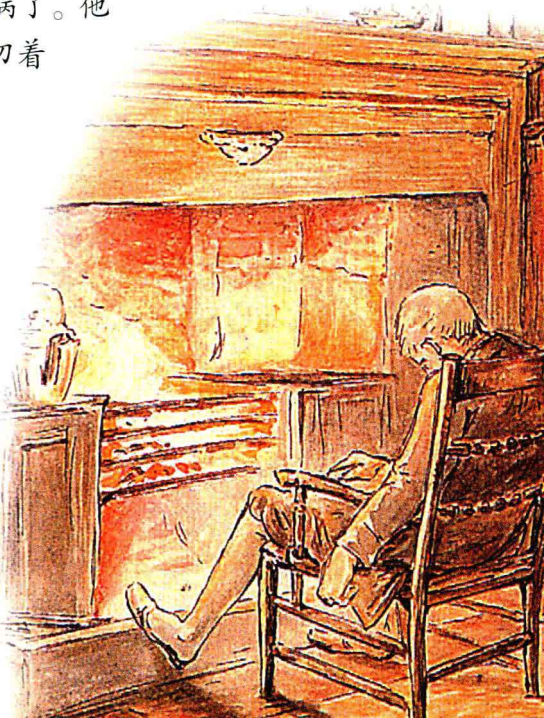
Then Simpkin again said, “Miaw?” and took the groat and the pipkin, and went out into the dark.

辛普金又叫了声“喵”，拿起四便士和小瓦罐，消失在黑夜中。

The tailor was very tired and beginning to be ill. He sat down by the hearth and talked to himself about that wonderful coat.

裁缝太累了，因此生病了。他坐在壁炉前，自言自语唠叨着那件奇妙的大衣。

“I shall make my fortune — to be cut bias — the Mayor of Gloucester is to be married on Christmas Day in the morning, and he hath ordered a coat and an embroidered waistcoat — to be lined with yellow taffeta — and the taffeta sufficeth; there is no more left over in snip-





pets than will serve to make tippets for mice —— ”

“我会发财的……要用斜裁\*……市长圣诞节那天结婚，他订做了一件大衣和一件绣花马甲……衬里要用黄色塔夫绸……塔夫绸呢够用了，只是没有剩余的边角料给老鼠们做披肩……”

Then the tailor started; for suddenly, interrupting him, from the dresser at the other side of the kitchen came a number of little noises ——

Tip tap, tip tap, tip tap tip!

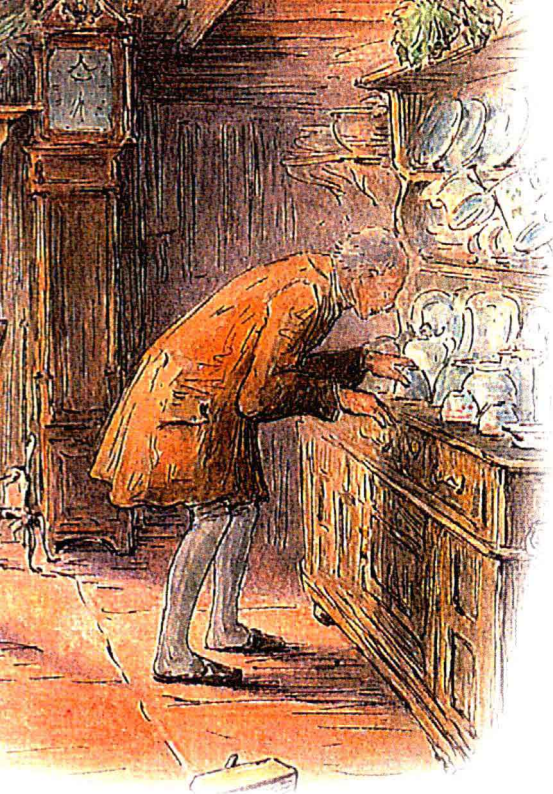
“Now what can that be?” said the Tailor of Gloucester, jumping up from his chair. The dresser was covered with crockery and pipkins, willow pattern plates, and tea-cups and mugs.

The tailor crossed the kitchen, and stood quite still beside the dresser, listening, and peering through his spectacles. Again from under a tea-cup, came those funny little noises.

Tip tap, tip tap, tip tap tip!

---

\*斜裁，一种裁剪工艺，下剪刀的角度和布料上纤维的走向成45度角，可以使衣服更贴身。



突然，从橱柜里传来一阵细微的声响。裁缝吃了一惊，停下来听——

踢踏，踢踏，踢踏踢！

“这能是什么声音呢？”格拉斯特的裁缝说着，从椅子上跳起来。他走过去，静静地站在橱柜旁听着，透过他的眼镜察看着。

“This is very peculiar,” said the Tailor of Gloucester; and he lifted up the tea-cup which was upside down.

“这可真是怪了。”格拉斯特的裁缝说着掀开一个倒扣的茶杯。



Out stepped a little live lady mouse, and made a curtsy to the tailor! Then she hopped away down off the dresser, and under the wainscot.

走出来一位小老鼠女士，她对着裁缝行了个屈膝礼！然后跳下橱柜，到护壁板后面去了。



The tailor sat down again by the fire, warming his poor cold hands, and mumbling to himself—

裁缝又坐回炉火旁边，暖着他那双可怜的冰冷的手，继续小声地嘟囔起来。



“The waistcoat is cut out from peach-coloured satin—tambour stitch and rose-buds in beautiful floss silk. Was I wise to entrust my last fourpence to Simpkin? One-and-twenty button-holes of cherry-coloured twist !”



“马甲是用桃红色的缎子做的，用绷圈刺绣的方法，在上面用丝光线绣成玫瑰花苞……我把四便士中的最后一便士托付给辛普金，不知是否明智？那可是21个纽扣眼的樱桃红锁边丝线……”

But all at once, from the dresser, there came other little noises:

刚刚坐下，橱柜那边又传来一阵细微的声音——

Tip tap, tip tap, tip tap tip.!

踢踏，踢踏，踢踏踢！





“This is passing extraordinary!” said the Tailor of Gloucester, and turned over another tea-cup, which was upside down.

“这太奇怪了！”格拉斯特的裁缝说，他走过去掀开另一个倒扣的茶杯。

Out stepped a little gentleman mouse, and made a bow to the tailor!

走出来的是一位老鼠小绅士，他也给裁缝鞠了一躬！

And then from all over the dresser came a chorus of little tappings, all sounding together, and answering one another, like watch-beetles in an old worm-eaten window-shutter —

接着，整个橱柜传来一声声轻叩组成的合唱，一齐作响，相互呼应，仿佛在多年虫蛀的百页窗里有支甲壳虫乐队——

