

英语拾趣



王善明 编著

安徽教育出版社

AMUSEMENT
IN LEARNING ENGLISH

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A BED OF ROSES

养尊处优(安乐窝)

Anyone who thinks that the job of being President of the United States is a bed of roses is quite mistaken. 谁要是以为当美国总统是养尊处优那就全然错了。

上句英文不能译作：谁要以为当美国总统是玫瑰床那就全然错了。

A bed of roses 不作“玫瑰床”解，也不可误解为“玫瑰花坛”(A rose bed 才是玫瑰花坛)。它的真实含意是：欢乐安逸的生活景况(a pleasant, easy condition of life)，译作“安乐窝”，倒也贴切。

之所以作此解释，是因为玫瑰花自古以来被西方人看得特别高贵，不仅被作为欢乐、安逸、荣华、幸福的象征，而且被誉为“尽善尽美”的典型。相传古罗马人为炫示其生活的极度豪华舒适和无比欢乐安逸，常以玫瑰花撒床。a bed of roses一语即来源于此。

根据上述来历及含义，人们便常用它来比喻豪华奢侈的生活和称心如意的境遇。