

Vol. 103



*Lei Feng*  
*Gao Yu-bao*

雷 锋 高玉宝

商 务 印 书 馆

SIMPLE ENGLISH READERS

Vol. 103

*Lei Feng*  
*Gao Yu-bao*

With Notes in Chinese

by

Jiao Cai

矫 才

The Commercial Press

Beijing, 1980

简易英语注释读物  
**雷 锋 高玉宝**  
岍 才 注释

---

商 务 印 书 馆 出 版

(北京王府井大街36号)

新华书店北京发行所发行

北京第二新华印刷厂印刷

---

787×1092毫米 1/32 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>印张 41千字

1980年5月第1版 1980年5月北京第1次印刷

印数 1—30,300册

统一书号: 9017·919 定价: 0.16元

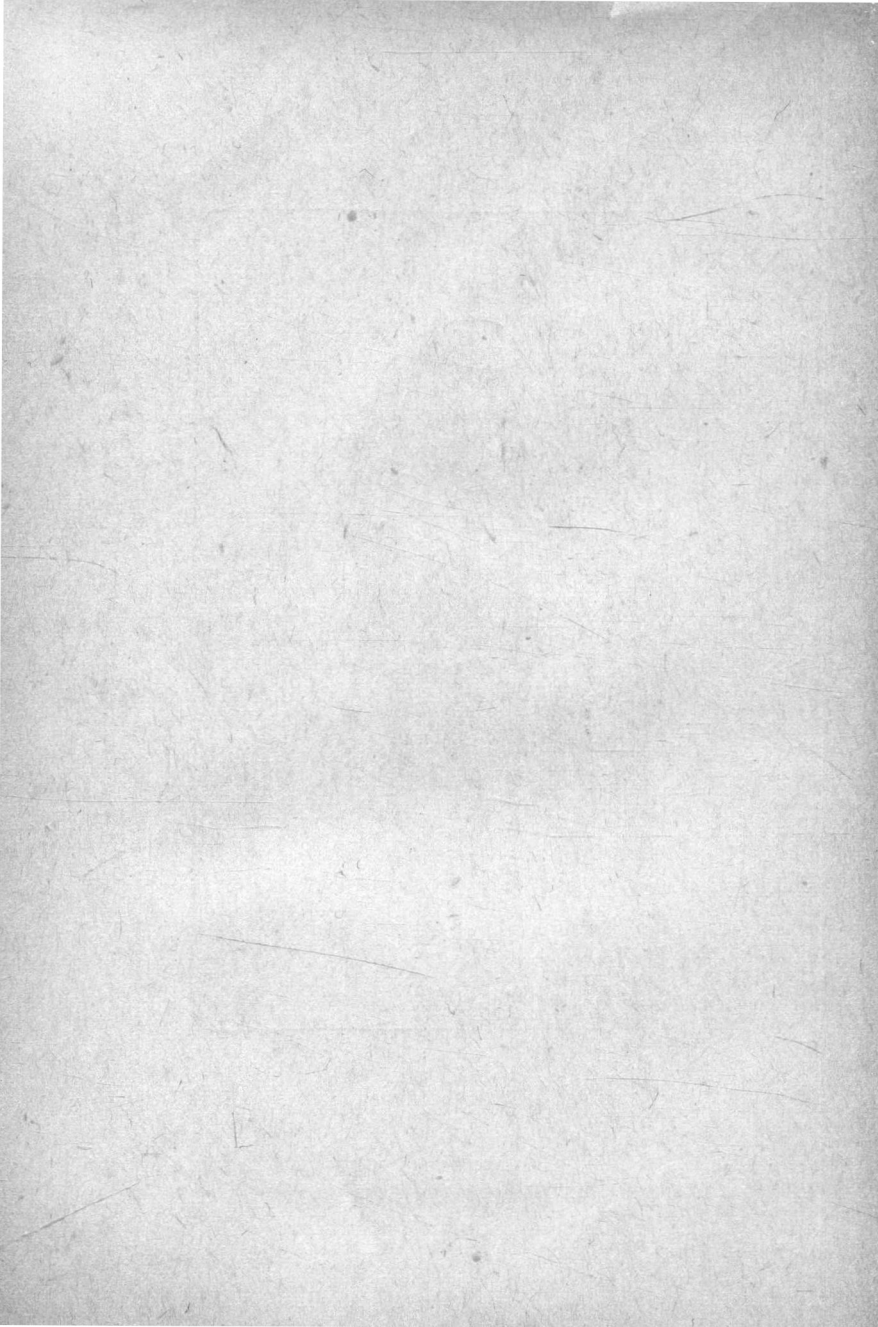
## CONTENTS

Lei Feng .....3

Gao Yu-bao .....29







## LEI FENG

### 1

Lei Feng was born in a village in Changsha County, Hunan Province, in the winter of 1940.

His father was a poor peasant. He rented a small piece of land from a landlord. He worked very hard but they were always very, very poor. Then one day in 1944 the Japanese came. They took Lei Feng's father away. He did not want to work for them, and they beat him up. He was badly hurt and he died not long afterwards. At that time Lei Feng was only five.

After this Lei Feng's twelve-year-old brother had to go to work in a factory. The boy never got enough to eat, and had to work long hours. He got thinner and thinner. When he passed out<sup>1</sup> in the workshop and hurt his arm, the boss threw him out.<sup>2</sup> The boy died soon after.

Then Lei Feng's two-year-old brother fell ill and also died. Now only Lei Feng and his mother were left. She went to work for a landlord. There she was treated worse than an animal. Life became too hard for her and she took her own life.<sup>3</sup>

So Lei Feng was an orphan — he had no father or mother. He was only seven. With his own eyes he had

---

1. passed out: 昏过去。 2. the boss threw him out: 老板把他赶了出来。 3. she took her own life: 她自尽了。

seen how the cruel man-eating society had killed all his family, one after the other.<sup>1</sup>

After his mother's death, he lived with his aunt. He often went to the mountains to gather firewood for her. One day the mother of a landlord saw him and shouted:

"Hey, you little beggar, what are you doing on my land?"

"Who said this mountain is yours?" Lei Feng shouted back.

The old woman was very angry. She tried to take the axe from him. In the struggle she hit his left hand again and again with the axe.

Lei Feng carried the marks of that attack for the rest of his life.<sup>2</sup> He also carried in him<sup>3</sup> hatred for the landlords for the rest of his life.

## 2

At long last Lei Feng's suffering came to an end. His village was liberated in August 1949. You can imagine how happy he was to see the People's Liberation Army march into the village!

Uncle Peng, the new village head, was very kind to the young Lei Feng. "The world is ours now," he said to the boy. "The landlords will never dare to bully us again. Remember, son, it is Chairman Mao and the Communist

---

1. With his own eyes ... one after the other. 他亲眼看到万恶的吃人的社会是怎样一个接一个地夺走了他全家的生命。one after the other: 一个接一个地。2. Lei Feng carried the marks ... for the rest of his life. 从此雷锋的身上就留下了这刀砍的伤疤。rest: 其余的部分。3. in him: 在此意为在他心中。



Party that have liberated us. When you grow up you must follow Chairman Mao and do everything as he teaches.”

Just before the PLA unit left his village, Lei Feng went up to an officer and said, “Please take me along with you, Uncle. I want to join the army and avenge my family.”

The officer looked down at the small boy and smiled. “We all come from poor families,” he said. “We will avenge your family for you. You are much too young to join the army.<sup>1</sup> And you’ll soon be going to school. Study hard and be a credit<sup>2</sup> to Chairman Mao.”

The officer’s words left a deep impression on the boy.

Lei Feng joined the Children’s Corps and became the leader. Then the land reform movement started in the village. The poor peasants held big struggle meetings against the landlords. At one meeting, Lei Feng stood up and pointed his finger at the landlord’s mother. He told the villagers how she had hit him with an axe. “We poor people have stood up. You’ll never be able to bully us any more!” he said and everyone shouted, “Long live the Communist Party! Long live Chairman Mao!”

In the summer of 1950, Lei Feng went to school. He was so happy! In the old society schools were only for the rich.<sup>3</sup> Before liberation he had never dreamed of going to school.<sup>4</sup> Now Chairman Mao and the Party had made

---

1. You are much too young to join the army. 你年纪太小离参军的年龄还差得远呢。too ... to... 太……以致不能……。much 修饰 too, 加强语气。 2. credit: 为……争光的人或事。 3. the rich = rich people 有钱人。某些形容词前用定冠词起名词作用, 泛指某一类的人或物。 4. he had never dreamed of going to school: 他做梦也从未想到上学。

all this possible for him. No wonder he told people again and again, "I'm not an orphan any more!"<sup>1</sup> The Party is my father and mother." And the first words he learned to write were: "Long live Chairman Mao!"

During the land reform Lei Feng got two *mu* of land. In the summer of 1955, the poor and lower-middle peasants in Lei Feng's village set up a co-operative.<sup>2</sup> Lei Feng was among the first to join. He gave the co-operative all his land. Later when certain people in the countryside tried to break up the co-operatives, Lei Feng was very angry. "The co-operative is my home," he said. "Nothing can make me leave it."

Every day after school he would go to work in the fields of the co-operative. Once he found an old landlord cutting rice in a field. There were ears of rice<sup>3</sup> all over the place. He went up to the landlord and said, "Look here! How can you do such a bad job!"

"Mind your own business,"<sup>4</sup> said the landlord, and went on working as carelessly as before.

"It is my business to make you work carefully."<sup>5</sup> Lei Feng was going to go to the cooperative office to tell the leaders about him when a cadre came up. The cadre sharply criticized the landlord. The poor and lower-middle peasants praised Lei Feng for what he had done.

---

1. No wonder he told ..., "I'm not an orphan any more!" 怪不得他一次次地对人家说, "我不再是一个孤儿了!" No wonder ... = It is no wonder that .... 2. co-operative [ˌkəʊ-ˈɒpəətɪv]: 合作社。 3. ears of rice: 稻穗。 4. Mind your own business: 你少管闲事。 5. It is my business to make you work carefully. 监督你好好干就是我的事。这里 It 是形式主语, 代表 to make ...。

In 1956 Lei Feng finished school. The village head sent him to the office of the County Party Committee. There he was a service worker. Everybody in the office liked him and took good care of him. They often told him stories of revolutionary heroes.

Once the County Party secretary was going to a meeting and he took Lei Feng with him. The two walked side by side. Lei Feng kicked a screw lying on the road. The secretary stopped, picked it up and put it in his pocket. Lei Feng wondered why he had done this.

A few days later Lei Feng had to take a letter to a factory. The secretary gave him the screw and told him to give it to the factory. He said to the boy, "A screw is a small thing, but if one of the screws is missing, the machine won't work. Ours is a poor country. We have to work hard to build it up. We mustn't waste anything."

Lei Feng looked at the small screw and then at the secretary. He never forgot the secretary's words.

One night the secretary was writing in his room. Lei Feng was also there. He thought the secretary might want him for something.<sup>1</sup> But soon he fell asleep. When he woke up, it was nearly daylight. He saw that the secretary was still working. He found himself covered with the secretary's coat.<sup>2</sup> This made him think of his past. He looked at the marks on his hand and tears came to his eyes.

---

1. He thought the secretary might want him for something. 他想书记可能有事需要他。 2. He found himself covered with the secretary's coat. 他发现自己身上盖着书记的大衣。

"The Party has given me everything. I must work and study harder for the revolution," he told himself.

In 1957 he became a member of the Communist Youth League.

The next year, the County Party Committee decided to start a big state farm. Lei Feng was chosen to be trained as a tractor driver.<sup>1</sup> He was very happy and excited when he drove the machine into a field. He wrote in his diary:

O swallows from the north,  
Please don't be frightened.  
What you hear is not thunder,  
But the noise of a tractor.

That year the farm got its first harvest, and it was a good one. Lei Feng threw his heart into the work,<sup>2</sup> but he said to himself, "I've done too little. There's so much to be done. I must work even harder."

It was the year of the Great Leap Forward. The movement for making steel was under way. The Anshan Iron and Steel Company asked Changsha County to send some young workers there. Lei Feng begged to go. He said, "Do let me go so that I can do more for the General Line."<sup>3</sup> The comrades on the farm were sorry to lose such a fine worker, but they agreed to let him go.

Before he left for the Northeast, Lei Feng did some-

---

1. Lei Feng was chosen to be trained as a tractor driver. 雷锋被挑选去学习开拖拉机。 2. Lei Feng threw his heart into the work: 雷锋一心扑在工作上。 3. Do let me go so that ... for the General Line. 一定让我去吧, 这样我可以为总路线多出点力。 do 用以加强语气。

thing he had wanted to do for many years — he paid a visit to Chairman Mao's birthplace, Shaoshan.

4

When he got to Anshan, Lei Feng was asked to learn to drive a bulldozer.<sup>1</sup> The leadership thought he would learn quickly because he had been a tractor driver. But Lei Feng was unhappy. "I've come here to make steel," he said. "Why do you want me to drive a bulldozer?"

The leading comrades explained to him that at Anshan every kind of work was part of steel making. A big industry was like a machine, they said. You could not do without any part of it, not even a screw.<sup>2</sup>

"I'm glad to be a screw for the carrying out of the General Line," Lei Feng thought to himself.

He was hardworking and modest. In three months he became a skilled bulldozer driver. He was praised and named a model worker several times.

After the day's work, the young workers often put on their best clothes and went to the cinema or theatre. They were always urging Lei Feng to join them.<sup>3</sup> So one day Lei Feng bought some new clothes. His fellow workers joked, "Look how smart<sup>4</sup> our Xiao Lei is!"

Then the leadership called on all workers to keep up

---

1. bulldozer ['buldɔ:zə]: 推土机。 2. You could not do without any part of it, not even a screw. 缺了任何一部分, 即使是一个螺丝钉也是不行的。 3. They were always urging Lei Feng to join them. 他们总是不断地怂恿雷锋参加他们的行列 (意思是象他们一样穿上漂亮衣服去影剧院)。这里用进行时用以加强 always 的色彩, 表示老是不断地这样做。 4. smart [smɑ:t]: 漂亮, 神气。



the good tradition<sup>1</sup> of hard work and simple living. Back in his room, Lei Feng looked at his new clothes and began to feel very bad about it. "Am I beginning to forget the good traditions?" he criticized himself, and he couldn't sleep that night. He thought of his bitter life before the liberation. None was born a revolutionary,<sup>2</sup> he told himself. A screw must be oiled and cleaned often, or it would get rusty. It was the same with one's thinking.<sup>3</sup> One must never stop remoulding<sup>4</sup> oneself if one wanted to be a true revolutionary.

From then on, Lei Feng not only worked harder but he studied Chairman Mao's works in real earnest.<sup>5</sup> When he finished work, he would go to the factory club to borrow Chairman Mao's works. If there was anything he didn't understand, he would ask others to help him. He was always asking himself whether he was putting Chairman Mao's teachings into practice. He often said to his friends, "A knife becomes rusty if it's not sharpened from time to time."<sup>6</sup> A man falls behind if he does not study hard."

## 5

In January 1960, Lei Feng's dream came true. He was accepted into the People's Liberation Army.

---

1. to keep up the good tradition [trə'diʃən]: 发扬好传统。 2. None was born a revolutionary: 没有人生来就是革命者。 3. It was the same with one's thinking. 人的思想也是如此。 one 在此泛指人。 4. remoulding: remould [ri'məʊld] 重新塑造; 改造。在此意为思想改造。 5. in real earnest: 非常认真地。 in earnest: 认真地。 6. from time to time: 经常地。

He had wanted to join the army when he first saw the PLA men in his village. But he was only eight then. Now, at nineteen, he was still a head shorter than others, and he weighed less than a hundred *jin*. The army doctors said that he was not tall or heavy enough for a PLA man. But Lei Feng did not lose heart;<sup>1</sup> he went over to see the officers in charge.<sup>2</sup> He told them about his bitter past, his present happy life, and his determination to defend the motherland. They were deeply moved and agreed to accept him. Lei Feng was very happy. "I'm most grateful to the Party,"<sup>3</sup> he said. "I will do my best to be a good fighter and a credit to Chairman Mao." On his first day in the army, Lei Feng wrote in his diary:

"This is a day I shall never forget. It is the most glorious day for me. I have put on army uniform and become a PLA man. My long-cherished dream<sup>4</sup> has come true at last. I'm so happy!

"Under the leadership of the Party, in this big revolutionary family, I will work hard to temper myself. I will always listen to the Party, obey orders and do whatever the Party wants me to do.<sup>5</sup> I will learn from heroes like Dong Cun-rui and Huang Ji-guang, and devote my life to our beloved motherland."

Military training began. Lei Feng had some difficulty with grenade-throwing. The grenade seemed so heavy in his

---

1. lose heart: 失去信心。 2. the officers in charge: 部队负责这项工作的干部。 3. I'm most grateful to the Party: 我非常感谢党。这里 most = very 用以加强语气, 不是副词的最高级形式, 前面没有定冠词。 4. long-cherished ['lɒŋ 'tʃerɪʃt] dream: 多年的梦想。 5. do whatever the Party wants me to do: 党叫我干啥就干啥。 whatever 是 what 的强调形式, 在这里意为不论任何事情。

hand and he could not throw it as far as the others. "How can I defend my country if I can't even throw a hand-grenade?" he asked himself. He made up his mind to practise hard.<sup>1</sup> When his comrades were resting after lunch, he would go out to practise.<sup>2</sup> He didn't pay any attention when his arm ached. And soon the arm became swollen. It was an effort for him even to raise his arm to salute.<sup>3</sup> The political instructor noticed this.

"Be patient," the political instructor said to him. "You've practised so hard that you've hurt your arm."<sup>4</sup>

That evening, when he opened his diary, he saw the picture of Huang Ji-guang he had put in it. This reminded him of how the hero had stopped an enemy machine-gun with his body. Huang's revolutionary spirit inspired him. He went out and began to practise again. The next morning, before daybreak, he got up quietly and again went to the drill-ground.

The day came for the new soldiers to throw real hand-grenades. When it was Lei Feng's turn, he took a hand-grenade, ran and threw it with all his strength.

"Excellent!" said his commander.

## 6

After this military training, Lei Feng was sent to a transport company as a truck driver.

---

1. made up his mind to practise hard: 下定决心苦练。 2. he would go out to practise: 他经常出去练习。 would 在此表示过去经常性的动作。  
3. It was an effort ... to salute. 甚至抬起胳膊行礼他都很吃力。 It 在这里是形式主语,代表 for him to ...。 4. You've practised so hard that you've hurt your arm. 你这样苦练,把胳膊都练伤了。 so ... that ... 如此……以致于……。

After he passed the driving test and began to drive on his own,<sup>1</sup> he kept on improving his skills. Whenever he was in a bus or a truck, he would watch the driver. And he often asked the other drivers questions so as to learn from them. He drove very carefully and always kept his truck in good condition.<sup>2</sup>

No matter how busy he was, he never stopped studying Chairman Mao's works. After he joined the army, he was even more eager to study. He often said to his comrades, "You can't live without food. You can't fight without a weapon. You can't drive a truck without a steering wheel. And you can't make revolution without studying Chairman Mao's works."

Lei Feng's job as a truck driver took him to all kinds of places at all hours.<sup>3</sup> It was difficult for him to find a full hour for reading. So he carried a bag of books with him wherever he went. When he had to wait in his truck, he would read in the driver's seat.

If he was free in the evenings, he usually read Chairman Mao's works, and he read deep into the night. He wrote a lot of notes in the books. On the pages of *Serve the People*, for instance, he wrote: "I think a revolutionary should give his life to the great cause of communism. I have only one aim in life: to be a man useful to the people. I live for the people, and I shall die for the people."

---

1. on his own: 独自地。 2. kept his truck in good condition: 把他的车保养好。 3. Lei Feng's job ... at all hours. 意思是卡车司机的工作使雷锋没有一定的工作地点和工作时间。