



新标准 中小学分级英语读物

# Mei's Dream

## 梅的梦想

Elaine O'Reilly (英) 著 俞叶 注

 外语教学与研究出版社

 英国麦克米伦出版公司

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ELEMENTARY LEVEL

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## 这是一套优秀的分级英语读物

亲爱的老师、同学们，由外语教学与研究出版社和英国麦克米伦出版公司联合出版的这套《新标准中小学分级英语读物》终于与大家见面了。它不仅内容丰富有趣，打开了英美文化的一扇窗，而且还是学习英语路途中的一个得力助手与伙伴。

这套读物根据难易程度分为4级：Beginner Level, Elementary Level, Intermediate Level 和 Upper Level。读物内容包括独立成篇的小说及其他作品，均选自原版小说、改写的名著或科普读物，涉及中小學生都感兴趣或热中的题材。读物根据不同等级在词汇、语法、语言难度上加以注释，使同学们能以不同的语言水平阅读英文作品。每一本读物都配有自测练习，用以引导和辅助同学们阅读，也可由老师用来组织、指导学生进行系统的阅读活动。

我们衷心希望这套《新标准中小学分级英语读物》能够成为老师们在英语教学中的得力助手，也愿这套读物能够丰富同学们的阅历，开阔你们的视野，缩小你们与英语语言及文化的距离。

如果老师、同学们喜欢这套读物，请把它推荐给你们的的朋友，如果你们对读物有什么不满意之处或有什么好的建议，也请别忘了告诉我们！

很多具有丰富教学经验的中小学老师为这套读物做了注释和相关练习，我们在此表示衷心感谢，感谢他们对我们的大力支持。此外，东南大学的程俊瑜老师为如何编辑与更好地使用这套读物提供了许多宝贵意见，在此我们特向程老师深表谢意。

## 我们想对老师们说

亲爱的老师，首先感谢您关注我们这套读物，感谢您推荐和指导您的学生阅读这套读物。作为出版者，我们想奉上几条建议，以供您在教学中参考。

对读物的使用不必像在课堂上讲解课文那样。使用读物可以有多种形式，既可以让学主独自并按照自己合适的进度去阅读，允许他们选择自己喜爱的内容，以满足不同学生对不同兴趣爱好的实际需求，也可以作为课堂教学的补充，在给予一定的指导与帮助下进行阅读。对于前者，老师可帮助学生选择最合适的读物，并担负起督促、指导的责任；对于后者，则有利于老师系统地、有组织地对学生的阅读进行指导、帮助，并可组织许多与阅读相关的集体活动。

老师在组织学生阅读的过程中，应注意不仅要激发学生们的阅读兴趣，而且要使这种兴趣和热情持续下去。老师可以对全班同学的阅读情况作个记录，如使用表格形式，并可将表格公布在班级的墙上，同时鼓励同学们相互交流，推荐自己已读过的读物。老师也可组织同学们在班上汇报阅读的内容，还可以以小组为单位，组织集体阅读，鼓励同学们在阅读中互相帮助、互相学习、共同解决困难。读后可以组织同学们发展或改写故事的某些情节，并把故事表演出来，这样的表演活动常常可以成为学生们阅读的巨大动力。老师还可以利用录音带或介绍相关的文化背景知识，来激发学生们的阅读欲望，引导学生们积极地去预测将要阅读的内容。同时老师也可以帮助学生们解决一些阅读中的障碍，如生词问题、文化差异造成的理解难点等等，使得学生能够顺利地完成阅读。当然老师更应该鼓励学生们运用各种阅读技巧去克服阅读中的困难，提高实际阅读的能力。阅读后老师应引

导学生们进一步深化对内容的理解,并可以以读物内容为原材料,设计多种活动来为学生提供使用英语的机会,如模仿故事人物、情节等。老师应通过一切可能的、有效的方法培养学生的阅读兴趣,增强他们独立阅读的信心,最终实现自主地、独立地阅读原文,那么这些大量的课外阅读必将给学生的英语能力带来极大的改观。

这套读物所配的练习非常新颖实用,为学生们提供实践英语和使用英语的机会。老师在使用时,可根据学生情况适当加以改进、补充,取其精华,为我所用。对于全英文的练习题要求,老师可以适当用中文形式给出。对可能出现的生词和需要提前了解的文化背景知识,老师也要事先有所掌握,并相应给予学生辅导。对于中西文化的差异,在阅读后可组织学生就有关话题进行讨论,加深学生对有关问题的认识和理解。老师对 Before Reading 练习要起到帮助学生做好阅读准备,引导他们入门的作用。对 While Reading 练习,老师则应该负好帮助学生顺利有效进行阅读的责任,注意激发学生的丰富想像力,同时引导他们通过活跃的思维,获得丰富完整的阅读信息。对 After Reading 练习,老师则要担负起巩固和深化阅读成果的作用,应注重学生的思想和他们对书中内容的理解,可以设计一些活动,让学生对文中的焦点人物、故事情节、相关话题等展开讲座、辩论或研究等,为学生提供使用英语进行交流的良好契机。

总之,这套读物无论在总体设计、编排上,还是练习设置中,都采用了较新的语言教学指导思想。老师们在使用中,要结合实际情况,充分利用其优势和长处,对不当之处进行灵活改进,以期取得很好的辅助教学效果。

## 我们想对同学们说

这套读物为你们提供了一个大量接触英语的好机会。大量地阅读不仅可以使你们真正提高阅读能力,还可以巩固你们课堂所学的语言知识,扩大词汇量,增强语感。分级读物可以使你们体验成功的喜悦,增强你们使用英语的信心。

在你们开始阅读这套读物前,我们还有几点建议想要告诉你们。首先,你们应该选择自己感兴趣的故事去阅读,这样才能很好地享受阅读的乐趣。在阅读中,你们真正的主人,寻找你们感兴趣的事物,而不要成为生词或语法的奴隶。切记你们并不需要认识每一个单词或知道每一句的准确译文,如果感到内容有趣,能带给你们快乐,就读下去,如果觉得阻力太大,文章太难,就干脆换一本。你们可以在老师的辅导下阅读,也可以自己读,还可以几个同学一起来读,在阅读过程中相互交流感受和体会。要学会通过上下文推测出某些生词的含义,而不是频繁地查字典。阅读的成绩最终应以看完了多少本书来衡量,对新词和语法的巩固则应该通过一些辅助练习和你们自己的理解与心得来完成。正文前的Notes可帮你们扫除一些生词障碍和了解有关的文化背景知识,你们也可以通过Notes和其后的Before Reading练习预测正文内容。做这样的阅读前热身准备,有助于你们顺利地积极地去阅读故事。While Reading练习帮助你们克服阅读障碍,引导阅读方向,指点你们抓住主题、要点,整理归纳信息及如何使用正确的阅读技巧等。After Reading练习则帮助你们在语言学习、思想收获等方面达到最佳效果。通过做以上练习,使你们不再是被动的读者。走进读物,与书中人物互动交流会使你们的阅读活动更有意义,乐趣无穷。

愿这套读物不仅为你们的英语学习提供帮助,更成为你们成长道路上的好朋友、好伙伴。

**Notes** 频繁地查阅词典一定会让你阅读受阻，不如一次扫清这些“拦路虎”！

p5

brave 勇敢的

p6

be proud of 以……为荣

university 大学

earn 赚取

successful 成功的

p7

edge 边缘

slip 滑

splash 飞溅声

p9

apartment 公寓

track suit 运动外套

rescue 救助

p10

sore throat 嗓子痛

ache 疼痛

decision 决定

p12

nonsense 胡说

p13

panic 惊慌

disappear 消失

studio 演播室

p14

producer 制作人

p15

wave 挥手

offer 提供

p17

embarrass 使难为情

grab 抓住

interview 采访

opportunity 机会

p18

publicity 宣传

crew 全体人员

p22

professional trainer 专业

教练

sponsor 资助

discuss 商量

p23

generous 慷慨的

p26

interrupt 打断

independent 独立的

suffer 经受

debt 债

p29

frighten 害怕

helmet 头盔

p30

petal 花瓣

accept 接受

p31

instead 取而代之

p34

forgive 原谅

take it easy 别紧张

p35

live one's way 照某人的方  
式生活

talented 有才华的

upset 使不安

p36

trip 旅行

fabulous 极好的

p37

enormous 巨大的

p38

carnation 康乃馨

spices 调味品

p41

nervous 神经紧张的

p42

elegant 雅致的, 优美的

p43

track 跑道

performance 演出

warm-up exercises 热身运动

relax 放松

sprint 冲刺

instruction 指令

p45

natural 天生的

session (时间) 段

p46

coincidence 巧合

exhaust 精疲力竭

p48

scare 害怕

p50

confront 勇敢地面对

p51

amazing 令人惊异的

scarf 围巾

brunch 早午餐

p55

shock 震惊

p59

snack 小吃

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## A Before Reading

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- 1 What kind of people do you think Mei is? Look at the back cover of the book and the pictures in the book. Make some guesses.
- 2 If you see someone fell into the water, would you rescue him/her? Why?

**My Notes:**

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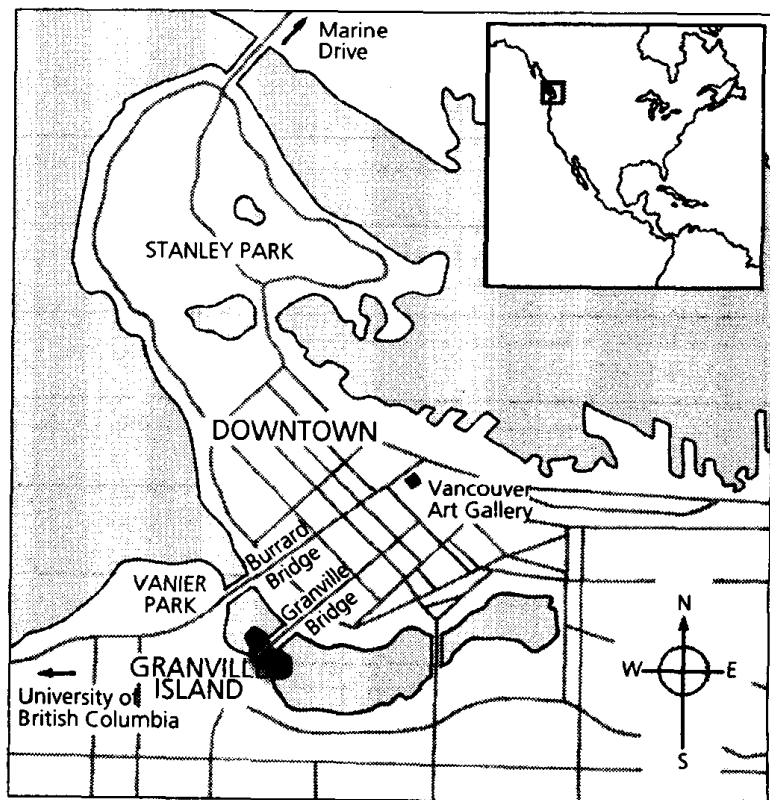
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# Introduction

Dreams come to you when you are asleep. Thoughts, ideas and pictures come into your mind. Dreams can be happy, or dreams can be sad. But you can also dream when you are awake. These dreams are your hopes and wishes for the future. This is the story of a young girl's dream and how it came true.



*A map of Vancouver*

# The People in This Story

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**Mei Nguyen**

is 18 years old. She was born in Hanoi, in Vietnam. She now lives in Canada, in the city of Vancouver.



**Lan Thi**

is Mei's grandmother. She brought Mei to Canada eight years ago.



**Alfredo Santini**

has a shoe store in Vancouver. Mei works for him.



**Mike Murray**

works for a television company.



**Sandy McLaren**

is Mei's new friend.



**Mr X**

is a mysterious man in a big silver car. He will change the lives of the people in the story.



## You Must Have a Dream

You must always have a dream. Life can be difficult and a dream helps you when life is hard. A dream gives you hope. My dream is this – I love to run and I want to win a gold medal in the Olympic Games.

I know that I'm a good runner. I'm very fast and one day, perhaps I will run in the Olympic Games. My dream will come true. I believe in it.

My grandmother and I live in Vancouver, in western Canada. Vancouver is a beautiful city on the Pacific Ocean. Every evening after work, I run along the sea front near Vanier Park. I love to see the colours on the water as the sun goes down. I run past men with fishing rods in their hands. Sometimes they catch a fish but most of the time they sit in silence. I run past young people. They hold hands and look at the sunset. They have their dreams. But my dream is different.

Nine years ago my mother died. My grandmother and I left Hanoi in Vietnam and we came to Canada. I was ten years old. My grandmother and I are alone in the world. There are no other people in my family. My father died when I was a baby. He was killed in the war. I don't remember him at all. But I have many good memories of my mother. She was a wonderful woman. I loved her very much. She worked hard. She was clever, brave and strong. I want to be strong and brave, too.

Things were not easy when we first came to Canada. Everything was so different from Vietnam. I had to learn to speak English. I had to study hard. I wanted my grandmother to be proud of me.

In my last year at school, my teacher said, 'Mei, do you want to go to university?'

'Yes,' I said, 'but – but it's impossible. I have to get a job. I have to earn money to help my grandmother.'

So now I work in Mr Alfredo Santini's shoe store. But things will change.

Before she died, my mother said to me, 'Mei, live your life fully. Be happy! Be brave! Be successful!'

I will try to be all of these things.

## 2

### 'Help! Help!'

#### *Sunday*

Today was Sunday, so I didn't have to go to work. I stayed at home in the morning and helped my grandmother with the housework. In the afternoon, I went running as usual. There are lots of good places to run in Vancouver. Today, I decided to go somewhere different. I went to Stanley Park to run along the old sea wall.

It was a fine day but there was a cold wind. There were not many people in the area. At this time of the year, the geese are getting ready to fly south to warmer countries. I

stopped to watch a flock of those big beautiful birds. They flew low over the water. Near me, there was a fair-haired woman with her little boy.

'Look, Tom! Look at the birds!' she shouted to him. But Tom didn't listen. He picked up some small stones and he ran to the edge of the sea wall. He threw the stones into the water. Then suddenly his foot slipped and he fell. Down he went – *splash* – into the cold, grey water.

'Mommy!' the boy cried. 'Mommy!'

'Help! Help!' his mother shouted. 'My boy! My boy! Help! I can't swim!'

I ran to the edge of the sea wall and I jumped into the cold, grey sea. I caught the little boy in my arms. Two young men put out their arms. They helped us out of the water, first Tom and then me.

'Oh, my darling, my darling!' Tom's mother cried. 'You're safe. Thank God!' There were tears in her eyes and her hands shook.

One of the young men took off his jacket and covered the little boy with it.

'Come on,' he said. 'I have my car near here. We have to get that boy to hospital right away.'

'Yes, of course, yes,' Tom's mother said. She looked at me. Tears ran down her cheeks.

'You saved my boy. What can I say? You were so brave,' she said.

'Come on! Hurry up,' said the young man with the car. 'Let's go.' They got into the car.

'I also have a car,' the other young man said to me. 'Can I give you a ride? You're very wet and it's cold.'