

# FLEA READERS

第二辑图



Scent of a Woman



#### 跳蚤,阅读精品系列中英文对照文丛

# FLEA READERS 跳蚤・阅读

第二辑

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# 前言

《跳蚤·阅读》(FLEA READERS) 是刘国彬教授和美籍专家迈克·理斯顿先生为大中学生和广大英语爱好者精心策划的一套英语课外读物,是针对教育部对目前英语教学现状提出的意见编撰的,旨在为广大中学生和大学低年级学生提供一套既实用又轻松的中英文对照读物。

这套书编排形式活泼新颖,文章短小精悍,图文 并茂,注释详实,这是本书的第一个特点;

第二,本丛书取材广泛,纵横古今中外,品类繁 多,包罗影视文(章)网(络)。

我们拟先推出三辑 30 本,以后再陆续添加。在本 丛书的成书过程中,许多人都付出了大量的时间、精 力和心血。我们在此向他们表示由衷的感谢。

尽管我们在尽最大的努力做好每一件事,但是失 误仍然在所难免。希望广大读者一如既往地对我们的 工作进行监督与批评,并欢迎广大读者随时与我们联 系。

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#### Helen Keller

海伦·凯勒

作者海伦·凯勒 (Helen Keller),于 1880年 出生在美国阿拉巴马州的塔斯坎比亚。当她还只 有一岁零七个月的时候,一场大病使她双目完全 失明,听力也丧失了。她的整个一生就这样生活 在无声无息的漫漫长夜中。在她7岁的时候,帕 金斯盲人学院派了一位教师到阿拉巴马州去专 门教海伦。这位教师是安妮·曼斯菲尔德·萨里 凡小姐 (Miss Anne Mansfield Sullivan),也就是后 来被人熟知并在海伦的文章中提到的约翰·梅 西夫人(Mrs. John A. Macy)。

要突破海伦面前的黑暗,启迪她的智慧,让她认识世界,她必须学会读和写。要能读书和写字,就必须能拼单调,并能将单调与它所表达的意义联系起来。而这对一个既晕又瞎的孩子来说,教师和学生的困难是难以想象的。然而,这位教师居然成功她做到了这一点。她打开了晕盲孩子的智慧之盲,使海伦有了文化。在这位教师的潜心教导下,海伦的智慧充分地开发了,后来进入了美国主要女子大学之一的赖德克里夫学院学习,并以优秀的学业成绩从该校毕业。

海伦在艰难的求学过程中,她的智力的发展 甚至比身体健全的人还要快。她不仅阅读,而且 从事写作,给有声望的杂志撰稿。从 1908 年到 1937年间, 她先后出版了6本书, 如《我所生活 的世界》、《我的生活故事》、《步出黑暗》、《我的信 仰》、《中流——我的后期生活》等。由于海伦的成 就,她的事迹传遍美国和其它国家,人们为她的 精神所感动,而且赞佩她事业上的成功。1932 年, 苏格兰的格拉斯哥大学特投予她名誉法学博 士学位。



## 内容简介

从这篇文章中,我们窥视到了海伦的内心感情世界。在阅读这位坚强的女作家的文章时,请读者时刻记住:她既是瞎子,又是妻子。而在她的字里行间,我们没有听到她的悲叹、忧怨、沮丧;却只看到,这个不幸的女作家对生活的热爱,对美好时光的憧憬。不幸的命运把她作为一个人的基本感觉意识剥夺了,她失去了常人应有的能力去享受生活。然而,她在命运劫难的痛苦中站起来了,向命运挑战,向生活索要感受,多么坚强的意志!多么坚毅的努力!

"看見东西的三天"是作者的设想。她盼望能有3天的时间让她看见光明、看见外部世界、看见生活的内容。这是一个残疾人内心的多么简单而又真切的向往!

文中所描叙的感受和事情, 一个身体健全 的人可能会不以为然。然而海伦却给平凡的生 活赋予了血肉。我们可以看到,她不仅有知识, 还有学识, 甚至有超过了一般学者对人生的理 解和对生活的热爱。



## Three Days to See

All of us have read thrilling stories in which the hero had only a limited and specified time to live. Sometimes it was as long as a year; sometimes as short as twenty-four hours. But always we were interested in discovering just how the doomed man chose to spend his last days or his last hours. I speak, of course, of free men who have a choice, not condemned <sup>©</sup> criminals whose sphere of activities is strictly delimited.

Such stories set us thinking, wondering what we should do under similar circumstances. What events, what experiences, what associations should we crowd into those last hours as mortal beings? What happiness should we find in reviewing the past, what regrets?

Sometimes I have thought it would be an excellent rule to live each day as if we should die tomorrow. Such an attitude would emphasize sharply the values of life. We should live each day with a gentleness, a vigor, and a keenness of appreciation which are often lost when time stretches before us in the constant panorama of more days and months and years to come. There are those, of course, who would adopt the Epicurean <sup>®</sup> motto of Eat, drink, and be merry, " but most people would be chastened by the certainty of impending <sup>®</sup> death.

## 看见东西的三天

我们都读过一些令人激动的故 事,主人公生命只有有限的特定时间, 有时长达一年, 有时短到 24 小时。但 我们总是有兴趣知道,那注定死亡的 人怎样度讨他最后的日子或最后的几 小时。当然,我说的是那些有选择自由 的人, 而不是那些活动范围被严格限 定的判了刑的犯人。

这样的故事让我们思考, 在相似 的情况下,我们该怎么办?人终有一 死,在那最终的几小时内安排什么事 情, 什么经历, 什么交往? 在回顾往事 时,我们该找到什么快乐?什么悔恨?

有时我想如果我们讨好每一天,就 像第二天就会死去,那将是个非常好的 习惯。这种态度鲜明地强调了生命的价 值。我们应该优雅、精力充沛、善知乐趣 地度过每一天。而在我们的生命还有很 多天,好几个月甚至许多年时,我们经 常失去这些品质。当然,也有人愿按享 乐主义的信条"吃、喝和欢乐"去生活。 但绝大多数人还是被面临死亡的必然 性所折磨。

(1) condemned [kən'demd]定罪的 2 epicurean [epikiuə ri:ən] 享乐主义的 3 impending [im'pendin] 将发生的, 迈进的



In stories the doomed hero is usually saved at the last minute by some stroke of fortune, but almost always his sense of values is changed. He becomes more appreciative of the meaning of life and its permanent spiritual vaues. It has often been noted that those who live, or have lived, in the shadow of death bring a mellow <sup>®</sup> sweetness to everything they do.

Most of us, however, take life for granted. We know that one day we must die, but usually we picture that day as far in the future. When we are in buoyant <sup>®</sup> health, death is all but unimaginable. We seldom think of it. The days stretch out in an endless vista. So we go about our petty task, hardly aware of our listless attitude toward life.

The same lethargy, I am afraid, characterizes the use of all our faculties and senses. Only the deaf appreciate hearing, only the blind realize the manifold <sup>®</sup> blessings that lie in sight. Particularly does this observation apply to those who have lost sight and hearing in adult life. But those who have never suffered impairment <sup>®</sup> of sight or hearing seldom make the fullest use of these blessed faculties. Their eyes and ears take in all sights and sounds hazily, without concentration and with little appreciation. It is the same old story of not being grateful for what we have until we lose it, of not being conscious of health until we are ill.



故事中, 注定要死的主人公往往 在最后一刻由某种命运突变而得救, 但几乎总是价值观改变了。他们对生 活的意义和永恒的精神价值更具欣赏 力了。常常可以看到那些生活或曾生 活在死亡阴影之中的人们都赋予他们 所做的每件事以芳醇甜美。

但是,我们大多数人认为生活是理 所当然的。我们知道总有一天会死,但 通常把那天想象在遥远的将来。当我们 心宽体健时,死亡几乎无法想象,很少 想到。时日在无穷的展望中延展着,于 是我们干着琐碎的事情,几乎意识不到 对生活漠不关心的态度。

恐怕,同样的懒散也构成了利用 我们所有的本能和感觉的特点。只有 聋子才珍惜听力, 唯有瞎子才体会到 能看见事物的种种幸福,这种结论特 别适合于那些在成年后失去视力和听 力的人们,而那些从没有遭受视觉或 听觉损伤之苦的人却很少充分利用这 些天赐的官能。他们模模糊糊地眼观 八方, 耳听各音, 不集中精神, 不会鉴 常。还是那句永不变的老话,直到失去 它,才知道它的珍贵,直到生病才意识 到健康的重要。

(I ucləm' lwollən

甜而多汁的,芳醇的

2 buoyant['boient] 快活的,振奋的

(3) manifold

['mænifəuld]各样 的,多方面的

4 impairment [im'piəmənt]报伤, 损害

I have often thought it would be a blessing if each human being were stricken blind and deaf for a few days at some time during his early adult life. Darkness would make him more appreciative of sight; silence would teach him the joys of sound.

Now and then I have tested my seeing friends to discover what they see. Recently I was visited by a very good friend who had just returned from a long walk in the woods, and I asked her what she had observed. "Nothing in particular," she replied. I might have been incredulous <sup>®</sup> had I not been accustomed <sup>®</sup> to such responses, for long ago I became convinced that the seeing see little.

How was it possible, I asked myself, to walk for an hour through the woods and see nothing worthy of note? I who cannot see find hundreds of things to interest me through mere touch. I feel the delicate symmetry of a leaf. I pass my hands lovingly about the smooth skin of a silver birch <sup>®</sup>, or the rough, shaggy bark of a pine. In the spring I touch the branches of trees hopefully in search of a bud the first sign of awakening Nature after her winter's sleep. I feel the delightful, velvety <sup>®</sup> texture of a flower, and discover its remarkable convolutions <sup>®</sup>; and something of the miracle of Nature is revealed to me. Occasionally, if I am very fortunate, I place my hand gently on a small tree and feel the happy quiver of a bird in full song. I am delighted to have the cool wa-



我常常想,如果每一个人在他成 年的早期,有一段时间又瞎又登,那会 是一种幸运的事,黑暗将会使他更加 珍惜视力、寂静将会教导他享受声 音。

我不时询问能看见的朋友,了解他 们看到什么。最近,我的一个好朋友来 看我、她刚从一片森林里散步回来,我 问她看到了什么,她答道:"没什么特别 的。"如果我不是习惯了这种回答,我可 能不相信,因为很久以来我已确信这种 情况:能看见的人却看不到什么。

我自问在林中散步一小时,怎么能 没有看到任何值得注意的东西? 我这个 看不见的人,仅仅通过触觉就发现许多 今我有兴趣的东西。我感触到树叶完美 的对称。我喜爱地抚摸着白桦那光洁的 树皮,或松树的粗糙树皮。春天,我摸着 树枝满怀希望搜索嫩芽,那是严冬的沉 睡后大自然苏醒的第一迹象。我抚摸过 花朵那令人愉快的天鹅绒般的质地, 感 觉到奇妙的卷绕,一些大自然奇迹向我 展现。有时,如果幸运,我把手轻轻地放 在一棵小树上,还能感受到一只高歌小 鸟的愉快颤抖, 我快乐地让溪涧的凉水 流过我张开的手指。对我来说,一片茂 转, 漩涡

- (I) incredulous [in'kredjulas]不轻 信的
- (2) accustom [ə·kʌstəm]使习惯 Ŧ
- ③ birch[bəxtʃ]桦树
- 4 velvety [ 'velviti ] 似天鹅绒的,柔软光 滑的
- ⑤ convolution [kɔnvəˈluːʃən]旋

ters of a brook rush through my open fingers. To me a lush carpet of pine needles or spongy grass is more welcome than the most luxurious Persian rug. To me the pageant <sup>①</sup> of seasons is a thrilling and unending drama, the action of which streams through my finger tips.

At times my heart cries out with longing to see all these things. If I can get so much pleasure from mere touch, how much more beauty must be revealed by sight. Yet, those who have eyes apparently see little. The panorama © of color and action which fills the world is taken for granted. It is human, perhaps, to appreciate little that which we have and to long for that which we have not but it is a great pity that in the world of light the gift of sight is used only as a mere convenience rather than as a means of adding fullness to life.

If I were the president of a university I should establish a compulsory <sup>®</sup> course in "How to Use Your Eyes". The professor would try to show his pupils how they could add joy to their lives by really seeing what passes unnoticed before them. He would try to awake their dormant <sup>®</sup> and sluggish <sup>®</sup> faculties.

Perhaps I can best illustrate by imagining what I should most like to see if I were given the use of my eyes, say, for just three days. And while I am imagining, suppose you, too, set your mind to work on the

