

● 英汉对照人物传记 ●

Michael Jordan: Basketball Skywalker

迈克尔·乔丹： 空中揽篮高手

[美] Thomas R. Raber 著
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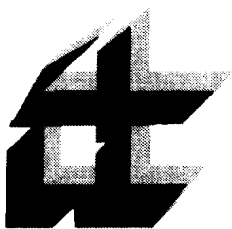
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1. The Sweet Sixth



As the clock ticked away the final minute of Game 6 in the Chicago Bulls' 1998 championship series against the Utah Jazz, Michael Jordan had the ball. He loves having the ball toward the end of a tight game. Then the game is his to win or lose.

“I feel like I’m in total control,” the 6-foot, 6-inch Bulls guard once said. “Whatever’s going to happen out there, it’s not going to happen until I start it. And everyone in the building knows it.”

If Michael could make something

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这是1998赛季芝加哥公牛队与犹他州爵士队争夺总冠军的第六场决赛，记时器上所剩的时间已经不多了，迈克尔·乔丹还控着球。他喜欢在这样一场激烈比赛的最后关头控球。这样，比赛的胜负就完全在他的股掌之间。

“我觉得一切都在我手心里。”这位身高6英尺6英寸（约1.98米）的公牛队后卫曾经说过：“无论场上将要发生什么，一切都将在我一声令下后才进行。而且整个体育馆内的人都明白这一点。”

如果迈克尔能为公牛队再做点贡

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good happen for the Bulls, they would win this game and the title. With about 40 seconds to go, Michael cut a threepoint Jazz lead to one .

Then Utah had the ball, but not for long. Michael stole the ball from Karl Malone and raced down the court. “I looked up and I saw 18.5 seconds left,” Michael said. “I felt like we couldn’t call a timeout. It gives the defense an opportunity to set up. It was a do – or – die situation. I let the time tick to where I had the court right where I wanted to .”

Then Michael made a jump shot that swished through with just more than five seconds remaining . “ All we had to do

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献，他们就可以拿下这场比赛并且获得总冠军头衔。还剩下 40 秒钟的时候，迈克尔使爵士队的三分优势扳成领先一分。

然后犹他获得了球权，但没过多久，迈克尔就将球从卡尔·马龙手中抢断下来，并且带球一路狂奔。“我抬头瞥了一眼，看到只剩下 18.5 秒。”迈克尔说：“我觉得我们不能叫暂停了，否则防守方就有机会来组织一下。这就到了不是你死就是我活的紧要关头了。我会让时间走到直到我抢占了我想到的位置为止。”

接着在比赛结束前 5 秒多钟时，迈克尔出手一个跳投命中。他说：“我

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was play defense for 5.8 seconds, and I knew we could do that,” he said.

They did! The Bulls successfully defended their NBA title and celebrated their sixth National Basketball Association championship in eight years. Michael, Scottie Pippen, and Coach Phil Jackson rejoiced with the Bulls and their fans. The three had been the core of Chicago's successful title drives. As the fans hollered and cheered, many wondered if this was the last game for these three. During the season, Pippen had said he would rather play for another team. Coach Jackson had said he was going to retire. And Michael had told reporters he didn't want to play without his

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们要做的一切就是再防守 5.8 秒。我明白我们肯定能做到。”

他们的确做到了！公牛队成功地捍卫了他们的 NBA 总冠军头衔，在八年时间里第六次勇夺全国篮球协会联赛总冠军。迈克尔、斯各特·皮蓬，还有菲尔·杰克逊教练和公牛队以及他们的球迷们共同分享了欢乐。这三个人是芝加哥队成功卫冕最关键的动力源泉。当球迷们欢呼雀跃庆祝胜利时，许多人都在考虑这会不会就是他们三人组合的谢幕之作呢？联赛中，皮蓬就曾放出话来说他宁愿为另一支球队效力。杰克逊教练也说过他打算退休了。而且迈克尔告诉记者如果没了他的最佳拍挡和恩师，他也不准备再打

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favorite teammate and coach.

With the sixth title in hand, Michael could look back at a season that had as many tense moments as happy ones. For a while, Chicago hadn't looked able to make it past the Eastern Conference finals. The surging Indiana Pacers were eager for a spot in the Finals. Chicago won the first two games of the series, but Reggie Miller and the Pacers won the next two games to even the series. Michael had missed a shot at the buzzer that cost Chicago Game 4.

Determined to show they were still powerful, the Bulls crushed Indiana in Game 5. Then, the Pacers fought back to win Game 6. Michael fell on a play that

下去了。

第六个总冠军奖杯到手之后，迈克尔终于可以回顾一下这个充满紧张与欢乐的赛季了。曾经有那么一阵子，芝加哥队看上去连东部赛区的决赛都无法过关。进步神速的印第安纳步行者队对在总决赛中亮相早就梦寐以求了。芝加哥先下两城后，雷杰·米勒和步行者们马上连扳两场将比分追平。迈克尔在终场铃响前的投篮未中使芝加哥丢掉了第四场。

公牛队决心要证明他们依然强大无比，在第五场对抗中一举击垮了印第安纳队。然而，步行者队顽强反击

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might have tied the score with five seconds to go.

Never had Michael's team needed seven games to reach the Finals. In the tense Game 7, Michael didn't play one of his best games but he contributed 28 points to the Bulls' 88 - 83 victory. In the second half of the fourth quarter, Michael looked winded and he didn't score. Was it possible that the Chicago Bulls weren't unbeatable after all?

Going into the Finals, the Bulls pulled together. Chicago had never lost a Finals series and had beaten the Jazz in the Finals the year before. Still, the Bulls were not overwhelming favorites to win again. When the Jazz won the first

拼下了第六场。在终场前五秒钟，迈克尔本可扳平比分的一投又告偏出。

迈克尔的球队以前从来没有哪次要打满七场比赛才能杀入总决赛。在高对抗的第七场决战中，迈克尔的发挥一般，但他贡献了 28 分使公牛队以 88 比 83 胜出。在第四节的后半段时间里，迈克尔似乎被压制得连呼吸都不顺畅了，竟然一分未得。难道说芝加哥公牛队最终不是坚不可摧的？

迈进了总决赛后，公牛队又紧紧地抱成了一团。芝加哥队从来没在总决赛的决战中失过手并在去年的总冠军争夺中刚击败过爵士队。尽管如此，公牛队再次取胜的呼声还不甚响亮。当爵士队获得了总决赛的首场胜利



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game of the series, some people wondered if the Bulls had lost their spark.

Games 2 and 3 provided the answer: a resounding No! In Game 3, Michael talked to his teammates at halftime. “Let’s bury these guys and make them think about it,” Michael told the Bulls. Chicago went out and smashed the Jazz, 96 – 54. The Jazz’s score was the lowest team point total in playoff history. The Bulls also won the Game 4, though by a much smaller margin. 86 – 82. And one game away from the title, the Bulls were stopped by the Jazz in Game 5. Pippen was hurt in Game 6 so Michael boosted his game and scored 45 points, including the game – winning shot.