



英国维多利亚童话丛书

(英汉对照)

THE BROWN OWL THE BROWN OWL

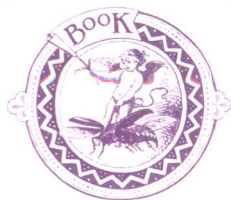
# 棕色的猫头鹰

李翠亭 编译



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虽然篇幅长短不一，但篇篇都有很高的阅读价值，其原文语言优美流畅、句法规范、用词恰当，其译文基本保持了原文的句法特点和用词风格，其情节曲折动人，其内容奇异多彩，其知识性、奇特性、教育性融为一体，能使广大初、高中学生在乐趣中巩固和扩大英语词汇量，提高阅读英语的能力，了解西方文化，另外，还能开阔学生想象的空间，提高学生的审美意识和处世判事能力。总之，本套书有助于广大青少年及其他英语爱好者提高英语水平及人文素质。

本套书分为四册，由于各篇故事长短不一，每册书包含篇数不等。

第一册编入故事两篇。《棕色的猫头鹰》，故事中的情节曲折动人，高潮接连不断，人物刻画栩栩如生。其中有法力无边的神功奇能，有宏大激烈的战争场面，有惊心动魄的打猎活动，有热闹紧张的比武大会，还有沁人心脾的浪漫情调。整个故事脍炙人口，引人入胜。《魔鱼骨》，故事中那位聪颖美丽、通晓事理的小公主令人佩服。

第二册编入故事三篇。《菲奥瑞蒙德公主的项链》，故事中公主那绝伦的美貌掩盖着一个天大的秘密，令人心悬不已。《不好战的龙》，故事展示给读者一个特别精彩的场面——威武的杀龙英雄与美丽的巨龙之间展开的一场声势浩大的表演战。《金钥匙》，故



事展现给读者一个七彩纷呈的奇异世界，令人心驰神往。

第三册编入故事四篇。《金河王》，故事中神奇的金河王惩恶扬善，屡创奇迹。《玛丽洛特》，叙述一位美丽善良的小姑娘解救仙子并得到仙子相助的故事。仙子们创造的奇迹令人赏心悦目。《两个孩子解救了祖国》，故事叙述的是兄妹二人消除龙灾、解救祖国的冒险经历，是一部扣人心弦的历险记。《彼得·潘在肯星顿花园》，故事中可爱的小彼得，刚出生七天就飞出了妈妈的房间，把读者带进一个奇妙的精灵世界。

第四册编入故事两篇。《自私的巨人》，其意境优美，寓意深刻。《瘸腿小王子和会飞的斗篷》，叙述的是一个聪明漂亮的小王子在仙女教母的帮助下历尽曲折、战胜不幸、终成一代明主的感人故事。故事中蕴含着深刻的人生哲理和处世之道。

本书的编选受益于美国著名的少儿文学专家 Michael Patrick Hearn 先生，每篇故事及每幅插图均由他提供。在此向 Hearn 先生谨致诚挚的谢意。因编译者水平有限，书中难免有错误之处，期望读者不吝指正。

编译者

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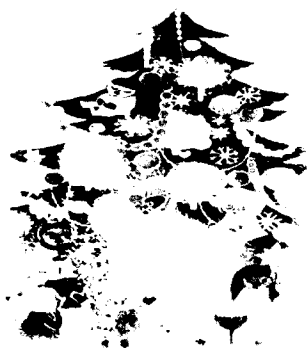
(英汉对照)

☐ 棕色的猫头鹰

☐ 金河王

☐ 不好战的龙

☐ 瘸腿小王子和会飞的斗篷





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## *The Brown Owl*

*FORD MADOX FORD*

Once upon a time, a long while ago—in fact long before Egypt had risen to power and before Rome or Greece had ever been heard of—and that was some time before you were born, you know—there was a king who reigned over a very large and powerful kingdom.

Now this king was rather old, he had founded his kingdom himself, and he had reigned over it nine hundred and ninety-nine and a half years already. As I have said before, it was a very large kingdom, for it contained, among other things, the whole of the western half of the world. The rest of the world was divided into smaller kingdoms, and each kingdom was ruled over by separate princes, who, however, were none of them so



## 棕色的猫头鹰

——麦多克斯·福德

很久很久以前，有一个国王统治着一个疆土辽阔、国势强盛的国家。当时，你还没有出生，实际上连埃及也还远没到强盛的时候，还没有人听说过有罗马和希腊的存在。

这个故事开始的时候，国王已经很老了。这个国家是他一手建立起来的，他统治这个国家已经九百九十九年半了。这是个非常大的王国，它包括了世界的整个西半部。世界的其他地方被分成了许多小国，由各自的





old as Intafernes, as he was called.

Now King Intafernes was an exceedingly powerful magician—that was why he had remained so long on the throne; for you must know that in this country the people were divided into two classes—those who were magicians, and those who weren't. The magicians called themselves Aristocrats, and the others called themselves what they liked; also in this country, as in all other countries, the rich magicians had the upper hand over the rest, but still the others did not grumble, for they were not badly treated on the whole. Now of all the magicians in the country the King was the greatest, and no one approached him in magic power but the Chancellor, who was called Merrymineral, and he even was no match for the King.

Among other things King Intafernes had a daughter, who was exceedingly beautiful—as indeed all princesses are or ought to be. She had a very fair face, and a wealth of golden hair that fell over her shoulders, like a shining waterfall falling in ripples to her waist.

Now in the thousandth year of her father's reign the Princess was eighteen, and in that country she was already of age. Three days before her nineteenth birth-



君主统辖。这些君主们谁也没有这个叫英特福恩的老国王年纪大。

英特福恩国王是个法力异常强大的术士，所以他才能维持这么多年的统治。这个国家的人分为两类，一类是术士，另一类是非术士。术士们都称自己为贵族，而非术士们就很随便了，他们愿意称自己是什么就称自己是什么。和其他国家一样，这个国家富有的术士们统治着其余的人，但被统治者并没有什么怨言，因为总的来说他们所受的待遇还算不错。现在，在这个国家里，除了大臣麦利米内罗以外，没有人能在法力上和国王相比，但麦利米内罗也不是国王的对手。

国王有个美丽绝伦的女儿——大概公主们都极其美丽或应该极其美丽吧。她的脸盘儿非常标致，一头金色的秀发像波光闪闪的瀑布一样，从头上飘落到肩上，再从肩上一一直垂落到腰部。

在她父亲统治这个国家的第一千个年头上，公主十八岁了。在这个国家，到了这个年龄的人就算是成人了。再有一天就到她的十九岁生日了，就在这个时



day, however, her father fell sick and gradually weakened, until at last he had only strength left to lie in his royal bed. Still, however, he retained his faculties, and on the Princess's birthday he made all the magicians file before his bed and swear to be faithful for ever to the Princess. Last of all came the Chancellor, the pious Merrymineral, and as he took the oath the King looked at him with a loving glance and said:

“Ah! my dear Merrymineral, in truth there was no need for thee to have taken the oath, for it is thy nature to be faithful; and it being thy nature, thou couldst not but be faithful.”

To which the pious Merrymineral answered:

“To such a master and to such a mistress how could I but be faithful?” and to this noble sentiment the three hundred and forty-seven magicians could not help according unanimous applause.

When they were quiet again the King said:

“So be it, good Merrymineral, do thou always act up to thy words. But now leave, good men all, for I am near my end, and would fain spend my last moments with my daughter here.”

Sorrowfully, one by one, the courtiers left, wish-

## 棕色的猫头鹰



候老国王病倒了，渐渐地衰弱下去了，最后只剩下在床上躺着的力气了。然而，他的头脑还保持着清醒的状态。在公主生日那天，他让所有的术士列队排在他的床前，让他们发誓永远忠于公主。道貌岸然的麦利米内罗大臣是最后一个到国王床前的，在他发誓的时候，国王宠爱地看着他，然后说：

“啊，亲爱的麦利米内罗，实际上你根本不必发誓，因为忠诚是你的天性，既然是你的天性，你就不可能不忠诚。”

听了国王的话，貌似忠诚的麦利米内罗回答说：

“对这样好的国王，这样好的公主，我除了忠诚以外还能怎么样呢？”在场的三百四十七位术士为这崇高的感情禁不住一齐鼓起掌来。

当他们平静下来以后，国王说：

“我的好麦利米内罗，你总是信守诺言、言行一致的。好了，现在请你们走吧，我快要不行了，我想和我女儿在一起度过我生命的最后时刻。”

大臣们悲伤地一一向国王告别。在他们心目中，



ing him their last adieux. He had been a good king to all, all through his long reign, and they were sorry that he had to leave them at last.

Soon they were all gone except the good Merrymineral, and at last he too went, his whole frame shaking with suppressed sobs; his body seemed powerless with grief, and his limbs seemed to refuse their functions. The King looked after him, carefully noticing whether the door was shut. Then he spoke:

“My dear daughter,” he said, “when I am gone be kind to every one, and, above all, cherish the Owl—do cherish the Owl—promise me to cherish the Owl.”

“But how can I cherish the Owl?” cried the poor Princess, “how can I, unless I know who he is?”

But the King only answered:

“Dear Ismara, do promise to cherish the Owl!”

And he said nothing else for a long time, until at last the Princess saw that the only way to let him rest in peace was to promise, and she said:

“I promise, dear father, but still I do wish I knew who or what the Owl is that I am to cherish.”

“You will see that in good time.” answered the King. “Now, my dear Ismara, I shall die happy, and



## 棕色的猫头鹰



他一直是个好国王，但遗憾的是他最终还是要离开他们的。

很快，所有的大臣们都走了，麦利米内罗是最后一个离开的，当时他整个身体都随着被压抑的抽泣而颤动，他的肢体像是由于极度的悲痛而变得瘫软无力，他的腿脚似乎也失去了原有的功能。国王目送他离去，看着他确实关好了门。然后，他对女儿说：

“我亲爱的女儿，我去世以后，你要善待每一个人，最重要的是，你要关爱那只猫头鹰，一定关爱它，答应我！”

“我怎么能关爱一只猫头鹰呢？”公主哭着说，“要是我不知道他是谁，我怎么能好好关爱他呢？”

可是国王只回答说：

“亲爱的伊丝玛拉，一定要发誓关爱那只猫头鹰！”

很长一段时间，他什么也没说，最后公主意识到，只有答应他的要求，他才能安息，于是，她说：“我发誓，亲爱的爸爸，可是，我还是想知道我要关爱的猫头鹰是谁或者是什么。”

“到时候你就明白了，”国王回答说，“好了，亲爱的伊丝玛拉，我可以放心愉快地死去了，你以后也安