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笑口常开

JOKING OUR WAY THROUGH ENGLISH



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李莫然 编著 縣路 漫画 罗蕙雯 翻译

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

笑口常开:笑话/**李奠然**主编. 青岛:青岛出版社,2009

ISBN 978-7-5436- -

Ⅰ. 笑话... Ⅱ. 孙... Ⅲ.

IV. R .

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2009)第 号

书 名 笑口常开

主 编

副主编

编 委

出版发行 青岛出版社

社 址 青岛市徐州路77号(266071)

本社网址 http://www.qdpub.com

邮购电话 13335059110 (0532)85814750传真 (0532)80998664

责任编辑 曹永毅 E-mail: @163.com

特约编辑

装帧设计 青岛出版设计中心:

照 排 青岛双星华信印刷有限公司

印 刷

出版日期 2010年1月第1版 2010年1月第1次印刷

印 张

字 数 千

书 号 ISBN 978-7-5436- -

定 价 .00元

编校质量、盗版监督免费服务电话 8009186216

青岛版图书售出后如发现印装质量问题,请寄回青岛出版社印刷物资处调换。

电话: 0532-80998826



JOKING OUR WAY THROUGH ENGLISH

(Preface)

Fr. John Lee is back to his own tricks again helping his students laugh their way through English. He insists that learning English is a pleasure, like eating an ice cream cone, not a chore, like taking bitter medicine. He is a hundred percent right. It is easier to learn new words in jokes than it is to learn them from a dictionary; and jokes have a far richer cultural content than any dictionary definition. Any student with Fr. Lee for a teacher is really lucky; the King's jester is a better teacher than the crown princes's tutor. I extend my sincere congratulations to Fr. Lee for reducing the pain in learning English; Chinese students should really love him.

Paul B. Denlinger

Professor of Linguistics, Soochow University



序

李奠然神父再次以他自己的诀窍,帮助学生透过笑话来学英文。他坚信学英文是种乐趣,就像是品尝冰淇淋甜筒的滋味,而不是件苦差,如同服一剂苦药。这见解真是百分之百的正确。在笑话中学习生字要比在字典里学容易多了,况且笑话蕴涵的文化内容要比任何字典定义更丰富。做李神父的学生真是幸运,毕竟皇帝的逗乐小丑要比正经八百的太子太保更善为人师,我谨向李神父表达我最诚挚的贺意,因为他减轻了学英文的痛苦,相信中国学生都会深深地喜欢上他。

邓临尔 东吴大学语言学教授



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Father John Lee, the author of "Joking Our Way Through English", was born and raised in North China near Peking. As a college student, he went to the United States in 1947. In 1949, he was ordained in Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. In the same year, he entered Loyola University graduate school in Chicago, studying Social Administration and Clinic Psychology.

In the Midwest, the Catholic priest has organized the first national convention for the overseas Chinese students who were aided by him psychologically, socially and financially. The energetic clergyman wore many hats. He was a zealous churchman, a sympathetic clinic psychologist, a popular lecturer and an articulate Radio and TV news analyst who produced and moderated "China Speaks Out," a semiweekly Radio program and "Press International," a weekly Television program on ABC.

Due to retinitis pigmentosa, an incurable eye disease, Father Lee has become legally blind since 1977. Because of the lack of reading ability, he listens to "talking books" and magazines. Instead fo sitting on a rocking chair brooding, the resilient man buries himself in hard work. Beside his teaching duties in the Department of Mass Media Communication at Fu Jen Catholic University, he has turned out some



twenty books. You can't keep a good man down. How true! Furthermore, Father Lee possesses a keen sense of humor and many of his books deal with the subject of witticism. "No sense crying over spilt milk. You may just as well make the best out of it," remarks the spunky priest, "Life is too short and we only live once. We must make a good use of the time alloted to us, making small contributions to others." He is certainly doing more than his share. In his spare time, if he has any, Father Lee writes a weekly column, entitled "East Meets West" in China News and regularly contributes articles to "Free China Journal," "Crown" and other publications in Taiwan and in United States. He is also a correspondent of "UCAN," a Hong Kong based English news agency.

To Father Lee, life is really worth living. In his world, sun shines brightly daily, fragrant flowers bloom everywhere and birds sing sweetly from morning to night. His optimistic spirit is contagious. It rubs off on every one who comes in contact with him. After each period, his students walk out of the classroom, wearing a broad smile and spreading sunshine and joy to their schoolmates. The world of ours would be a much more pleasant place to live and work, if there were more souls like Father Lee.

Jean Chen



作者简介

李奠然神父是《笑口常开》的作者,他出生在中国北方,距离北京不远,并在此长大。1947年,他以大学生身份赴美,1949年,他被密苏里州圣路易城的肯立克神学院授予圣职。同年进入芝加哥罗耀拉大学的研究生院,主修"社会行政学"及"临床心理学"。

李神父在美国中西部首创了海外中国同学会,在精神、社交及财力方面照顾同在异乡的学子。他精力充沛,身兼数职;他不仅是一个热诚的圣职人员,一个富有同情心的临床心理学家,还是一个广受欢迎的讲演者和口才极好的广播和电视新闻评论家。他制作并主持一个每周两次的广播节目——《中国大声说》,此外,他还每周参与ABC电视台播出的《国际新闻评论》。

李神父不幸罹患了一种无法痊愈的眼疾——色素性网膜炎,从1977年开始逐渐失明。由于无法阅读,他只有听"有声读物"。不屈不挠的李神父并没有因此打击就坐在摇椅上怨天尤人,反而更努力不懈地工作。他除了



在天主教辅仁大学大众传播系任教职外,尚有二十余本著述。一个坚强的人是不会被击倒的,李神父即是最好的证明。李神父极具幽默感,他的许多作品探讨的都是妙语趣话。这位生气蓬勃的神父常说:"覆水难收,人最好要随遇而安。""人生苦短,况且我们只能活一次。我们需善用时间,对他人有所贡献。"他做得的确比他份内之事还多。闲暇之余(如果他还有闲暇可言的话),李神父每周为《中国新闻》撰写《中西喜相逢》的专栏,并且定时为《自由中国》、《皇冠》和其他在台或在美的杂志刊物撰稿。此外,他也是香港"天主教英文通讯社"的通讯员。

生命对李神父而言是极珍贵的。在他的世界里,阳光普照,花香四处,鸟语不断。他的乐观富有感染力,会感染每个跟他接触的人。他的学生每次上完他的课步出教室时,总是面带笑容,并把他们的阳光和喜乐散播给其他同学。这个世界若是有更多像李神父这样的人,将会是一个更适于生存和工作的乐园。









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TIGHT WAD SCOTCHMAN

Edgar was plastered and brought to the court. The judge interrogated him, "Where did you get the liquor?" "A Scotchman gave it to me." Edgar replied. "Fifty dollars fine for perjury," the judge declared, "I know of no Scotchman foolish enough to give things away."

小气的苏格兰人

艾德加因醉得东倒西歪而被带上法庭。 法官审问他:"你从哪里得到这些酒的?""一

个苏格兰人 给我的。" 知答道。"判 你撒谎,罚 款 50 美元, 就我所知,



还没有哪个苏格兰人蠢到送东西给别人。"法官宣判道。















SANTA CLAUS

Around Christmas, Santa Claus' helpers stand on street corners, collecting nickles from passersby, who drop their coins into a pot with chicken wires over the top, to prevent kids from stealing the nickles. Otherwise, Santa Claus will be nickelless

圣诞老人



圣诞节 前后,圣诞节 尤的 助 在 街 的 市 的 市 有 的 市 有 行 人 据 计 行 人 把

镍币投到一个罐子里,罐上有一层细铁丝网防止孩子们偷拿镍币。否则,圣诞老人尼可拉斯可就变成了"镍币丢失"!





CROOKED CAR DEALER

Used car dealer: This automobile is in tip top shape. It runs beautifully and sells for nine hundred dollars.



Buyers: How can you afford to sell it at such a low price?

Used car dealer: I am going out of business. When you buy it, I advise you to file off the number on the engine, though.

奸 商

二手车商人:这辆车子有最时髦的外型, 跑起来又快又稳,而且只卖九千美元。

卖主们: 怎么可能卖这么低的价钱呢?

二手车商人: 我可是做赔本生意啊! 不过,要是你们买下它,我劝你们最好把引擎上的号码刮掉,免得被人认出是赃车。





TRUST NO-ONE

A conman put his little son on a mantel piece and asked him to jump into his outstretched arms. As the child did so, the man stepped aside. The boy fell flat on his face, broke his nose and



had his front teeth knocked out. "This is to teach you not to trust anybody." the conman said, "Not even your own father."

不要相信任何人

一位大骗子将他的小儿子放在壁炉架上, 要他跳入自己张开的双臂中。当小孩跳下去时,大骗子父亲闪到一旁,小男孩正面跌下去, 跌断了鼻梁和门牙。"这就是告诉你不要相信任何人,包括你的父亲。"大骗子道。