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- Rudyard Kipling (英) 著
- Ralph Mowat (英) 改写

The Jungle Book

森林王子



外语教学与研究出版社
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THE JUNGLE BOOK
BY RUDYARD KIPPLING
— TRANSLATED BY —

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- Siobhan Russell (英) 插图
- 张志纯 译

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内容简介

在印度南部的群山之中，一个人类的婴儿躺在山洞里，又温暖又安全。他挤在小狼崽们中间，旁边卧着狼妈妈，可是他一点也不害怕。洞穴外，食人虎希尔汗正愤怒地咆哮着，想要杀死那个婴儿。“没门儿！”狼妈妈说道，“这个人崽儿是我的，他会活下去，和狼群一起奔跑，并且成为我的儿子。我要叫他莫格利。”

许多年过去了，那个人崽儿莫格利和小狼们一起成长起来。在他的老师老棕熊巴鲁和黑豹巴格拉的教导下，他懂得了“森林法则”。在森林中他屡入险境，可也交到了不少动物朋友。

当然他还有个敌人。食人虎希尔汗对他耿耿于怀。老虎在等待机会，期待着有一天能够抓住这个人崽儿，然后杀死他。

THE JUNGLE BOOK

In the hills of Southern India a baby lies warm and safe in a cave. He lies among wolf-cubs, next to Mother Wolf's side, and he is not afraid. Outside the cave Shere Khan, the man-eating tiger, roars angrily, wanting to kill. 'No!' says Mother Wolf. 'The man's cub belongs to me. He will live, to run with the other wolves, to be my son. And I will call him Mowgli.'

The years pass, and Mowgli the man's cub grows up with the wolves. He learns the Law of the Jungle from his teachers, Baloo the old brown bear and Bagheera the black panther. He has many adventures, and many friends among the animals of the jungle.

But he still has an enemy. Shere Khan the tiger has not forgotten. He waits for the day when he can catch the man's cub — and kill him.

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1

Mowgli's brothers

One very warm evening in the Seeonee hills in Southern India, Father Wolf woke up from his day's rest. Next to him lay Mother Wolf, with their four cubs beside her.

'It's time to look for food,' said Father Wolf, and he stood up to leave the cave.

'Good luck,' said a voice. It was the jackal, Tabaqui, who eats everything and anything, even pieces of old clothes from the villages. The wolves of India do not like him, because he runs around making trouble and telling bad stories about them.

'Shere Khan, the tiger, is coming to look for food here,' said Tabaqui.

'He can't,' cried Father Wolf. 'By the Law of the Jungle he must tell us first, *before* he comes here to hunt.'

'Shere Khan has a bad leg, so he can kill only cows. In the village near him the people are angry. That is why he is coming here — to start hunting in a new place. Listen, you can hear him now,' said Tabaqui.

'He is a stupid animal,' said Father Wolf, and he listened to the angry noise of a tiger who has not eaten. 'No one will find anything to eat in the jungle now.'



1. 莫格利的兄弟们

温暖的夜色笼罩着印度南部的西奥尼群山。休憩了一天的狼爸爸醒了过来。他的身边躺着狼妈妈，还有四只小狼崽。

“该出去找点吃的了，”狼爸爸说道。他站起身，准备离开洞穴。

“祝你好运。”一个声音说道。是豺狼塔巴奎，一个什么都吃的家伙，连从村子里找到的旧衣裳碎片也不放过。印度的狼群都不喜欢他，因为他到处乱窜，制造麻烦，还老是讲他们的坏话。

“老虎希尔汗就要到这里来觅食了。”塔巴奎说道。

“岂有此理，”狼爸爸叫道，“按照‘森林法则’，他在来这里捕猎之前，必须提前通知我们。”

“希尔汗的一条腿不好使，只能抓牛来吃。附近的村民气坏了。所以他就到这里来了——换个新地方开始捕猎。听，他来了，”塔巴奎说道。

“这个愚蠢的家伙，”听着饥饿的老虎愤怒的吼叫声，狼爸爸说道：“这下子再也没有谁能在森林里找到吃的了。”

cub *n.* a young lion, bear etc. 幼兽 **jackal** *n.* a wild animal like a dog that lives in Asia and Africa and eats the remaining parts of dead animals (亚洲和非洲的)豺;胡狼

‘But Shere Khan is hunting man, not animal, tonight,’ said Tabaqui.

The Law of the Jungle says that animals must not hunt man, because man-killing brings men with guns. Then everybody in the jungle is in danger.

Father and Mother Wolf listened to Shere Khan in the jungle not far away. Then, suddenly, they heard a noise much nearer to them.

‘It’s a man. A man’s cub. Look!’ said Father Wolf.

And there in front of them stood a baby who could just walk. He looked up at Father Wolf and laughed.

‘Is that a man’s cub?’ asked Mother Wolf. ‘I have never seen one. Bring it here.’

The baby, small and with no clothes, pushed its way between the cubs to get near to Mother Wolf. ‘Look,’ she said, ‘he is taking his meal with the others.’

‘I have heard that this has happened before,’ said Father Wolf, ‘but I have never seen it until now. Look at him. He is not afraid.’

Suddenly, it was dark, and Shere Khan was pushing his great head in through the mouth of the cave.

‘We are pleased that you visit us, Shere Khan,’ said Father Wolf, but his eyes were angry. ‘What do you need?’

‘I am hunting a man’s cub,’ said Shere Khan. ‘Its father and mother have run away. Give it to me.’

“可是希尔汗今晚是来吃人的，不是吃动物。”塔巴奎说道。

根据“森林法则”，动物是不可以猎杀人的，因为一旦有人被杀，人们就会带着枪来到这里。这样一来，森林里所有的动物都会陷入危险之中。

狼爸爸和狼妈妈听着不远处的丛林中希尔汗的动静。突然，他们听到从更近的地方传来一个声音。

“是人，一个人崽儿。看！”狼爸爸叫道。

他们面前站着一个刚学会走路的婴儿。他抬起头，看着狼爸爸，然后笑了。

“那就是人崽儿吗？”狼妈妈说道，“我还从来没见过呢，快把他带过来。”

孩子个头很小，身上也没有穿衣服。他在狼崽们之间挤出一条路来，想走到狼妈妈的身边。“看，”她说，“他和其他孩子一样来吃奶了。”

“我听说以前曾发生过这样的事，”狼爸爸说道，“但是我直到今天才亲眼看到。你瞧，他一点都不害怕。”

突然，洞里暗了下来，原来是希尔汗的大脑袋从洞口挤了进来。

“欢迎来访，希尔汗，”狼爸爸嘴上说道，眼中却透出一股怒气。“有何贵干？”

“我正在抓一个人崽儿。”希尔汗回答道，“他的父母已经逃走了。把他给我。”



Father Wolf knew that Shere Khan could not get inside the cave because he was too big.

‘The man’s cub belongs to us,’ he said. ‘The Pack — the other wolves and I — will decide. If we want to kill him, *we* will kill him, not you.’

‘The man’s cub belongs to me! It is I, Shere Khan, who speaks!’ And Shere Khan’s roar filled the cave with noise.

‘No!’ came the angry voice of Mother Wolf. ‘The man’s cub belongs to me! We will not kill him. He will live, to run with the other wolves, to be my son. Now go away, fish-killer, eater of cubs! Go!’

Shere Khan went. He knew that he could not fight Mother Wolf in the cave. ‘But I will have this man-cub one day, you thieves!’ he shouted from the jungle.

‘Do you really want to keep him, Mother?’ said Father Wolf.

‘Keep him?’ said Mother Wolf. ‘Yes. He came here by night, alone and hungry, but he was not afraid. Yes, I will keep him. And I will call him Mowgli, the frog.’

‘But what will the other wolves of the Pack say?’

By the Law of the Jungle all wolf-cubs must come to the Pack when they can walk. The wolves look at the cubs carefully. Then the cubs are free to run anywhere because all the adult wolves know them and will not attack them.

狼爸爸知道希尔汗没法钻进洞来，因为他的个头太大。

“这个人崽儿是我们的，”他说，“怎么处置他，我和其他狼自有主张。如果我们想杀死他，我们就会杀了他，而不是由你来决定。”

“这个人崽儿是我的！应该由我希尔汗说了算！”整个山洞都回荡着希尔汗的怒吼声。

“没门儿！”狼妈妈发出了愤怒的叫声，“这个人崽儿是我的。我们不会杀死他。他会活下去，和狼群一起奔跑，并且成为我的儿子。滚开，你这个只敢抓鱼和小孩吃的家伙，滚！”

希尔汗离开了，自知自己无法在洞穴里和母狼争斗。“总有一天我会抓到这个人崽儿的，你们这些小偷！”森林中传来了他的吼声。

“你真的想留下他吗，孩子他妈？”狼爸爸问道。

“留下他？”狼妈妈回答道，“当然。他晚上一个人来到这里，还饿着肚子，可是他一点都不害怕。是的，我要留下他。我还要给他取个名字，就用那只青蛙的名字，叫莫格利。”

“但是狼族里的其他狼会怎么说？”

根据“森林法则”，狼崽们学会走路以后，他们都必须来到狼族里所有狼的面前。群狼会仔细端详这些狼崽。然后，狼崽们就可以四处奔跑了，因为所有的成年狼已经认识了他们，不会再攻击他们了。



pack *n.* a group of wild animals that hunt together
(野兽的)一群

* * *

When the four wolf-cubs could run a little, Father Wolf took them and Mowgli and Mother Wolf to the Meeting Rock. Here, the hundred wolves of the Wolf-Pack met every month when the moon was full.

The leader of the Pack was Akela, a great grey wolf. Each new wolf-cub came to stand in front of him and Akela said, 'Look well, O Wolves. Look well!'

At the end, Father Wolf pushed Mowgli into the circle of wolves. Then from the trees outside the circle they heard the voice of Shere Khan.

'The man-cub belongs to me. Give him to me!'

Akela did not move but said only, 'Look well! Who speaks for this man-cub? Two voices, who are not his father and mother, must speak for him.'

There is only one other animal who can come to these wolf-meetings — Baloo, the sleepy brown bear. His job is to teach the Law of the Jungle to the wolf-cubs.

'I speak for the man-cub,' came Baloo's deep voice. 'Let him run with the Pack. I myself will teach him.'

'We need another voice to speak for him,' said Akela.

Silently, another animal jumped down into the circle. It was Bagheera the panther, black as the night, clever, strong, and dangerous.

'O Akela, will you let me speak?' said Bagheera softly. 'The Law of the Jungle says it is possible to buy the

* * *

四只狼崽会跑以后，狼爸爸带着他们和莫格利跟狼妈妈一起来到了聚会石边。每逢月圆，狼族数以百计的狼都会在这里举行一次聚会。

狼族的首领是一只名叫阿克拉的大灰狼。一只只新露面的幼狼纷纷走到了他的面前，阿拉克说着：“大家看仔细！看仔细点！”

最后，狼爸爸将莫格利推到了狼群中间。就在这时，狼群围成的圈子外面的树林里传来了希尔汗的声音。

“这个人类的孩子是我的，把他还给我！”

阿克拉没有动，只是说道：“看仔细点！谁愿意为这个人类的婴儿说情？必须有他父母之外的两个人为他说情。”

狼群的聚会只允许除了狼之外的一个动物参加，那就是每天都昏昏欲睡的棕熊巴鲁。他的任务就是教幼狼们学会“森林法则”。

“我来替这个人类的孩子说说情，”巴鲁用他那低沉的声音说道，“让他和狼族呆在一起吧，我来负责教导他。”

“我们还需要一个人来替他说情，”阿克拉说道。

另一只动物无声无息地跃到了狼群中间，原来是黑豹巴格拉。他全身漆黑，聪明、强壮而危险。

“噢，阿克拉，你愿意让我说上两句吗？”巴格拉轻声说道，“‘森林法则’说可以交



speak for to speak in
support of someone
 替……说话 **panther** *n.*
a black leopard 黑豹

life of a cub. It is bad to kill a man-cub. He cannot hurt you. Let him live with you, and I will give you a fat cow, newly killed, which lies in the jungle not far away. '

The voices of the wolves replied, 'Let him live.' They were always hungry and they wanted to get the dead cow. Soon they went away, and there were only Akela, Bagheera, Baloo, and Mowgli's wolf family left. They could hear the angry roars of Shere Khan in the night.

'It is good,' said Akela. 'Men are clever. Perhaps this man-cub will help us when he is older. Take him away,' he said to Father Wolf, 'and teach him well. '

And so, because of Baloo's good word and the present of a cow, Mowgli now belonged to the Seeonee Wolf-Pack.

* * *

The story of Mowgli's life among the wolves fills many books, but we must jump ten or eleven years now. Father Wolf, Baloo, and Bagheera taught Mowgli well, and he learnt everything about the jungle. He knew the meaning of every sound in the trees, of every song of the birds, of every splash in the water. He learnt to climb trees like a monkey, to swim in the rivers like a fish, and to hunt for his food as cleverly as any animal in the jungle.

换下一个小崽儿的性命。杀掉人崽儿没什么好果子吃。他伤害不了你们，所以让他和你们一起生活吧。我愿意给你们一头刚刚杀死的肥牛，就在不远处的林子里。”

狼群回答道：“让他留下来吧。”他们总是饥肠辘辘，所以对那头死牛很感兴趣。很快他们便四下散去，只剩下阿克拉、巴格拉、巴鲁以及莫格利一家。夜色中能听到希尔汗发出阵阵怒吼。

“很好，”阿克拉说道，“人类很聪明，说不定这个孩子长大以后还可以帮助我们。把他带走吧，”他对狼爸爸说，“好好教导他。”

就这样，由于巴鲁的美言加上牛的功劳，莫格利成为了西奥尼山上狼族的一员。

* * *

有关莫格利在狼群中的故事能够写上好几本书，但是现在我们必须跳过十来年。狼爸爸、巴鲁和巴格拉悉心教导莫格利，让他学会了有关森林的一切事情。对于林间的每一种声音，鸟儿的每一支歌以及水中的每一次水花飞溅，他都知道其中的含义。他学会了像猴子一样爬树，像鱼儿一样在河里游泳，以及像任何动物一样在林

中敏捷地捕猎。

splash *n.* the sound of a liquid hitting something or being moved around quickly (液体的) 溅泼声；洒落声