

阳光英语

Joy-Ride English

4

A Rose for Elizabeth

》 献给伊丽莎白的玫瑰

Your Time

》 我最珍视的……

The Sparkles of Acting

》 演艺之光

The Scarecrow

》 稻草人

The Golden Apple

》 金苹果



14319.4/259

April Days

四·月·的·日·子

By Hamlin Garland
徐栋良 译 / 李家真 校

Days of witchery, subtly sweet,
When every hill and tree finds heart,
When winter and spring like lovers meet
In the mist of noon and part —
In the April days.

Nights when the wood frogs faintly peep
Once — twice — and then are still,
And the woodpeckers' martial voices sweep
Like bugle notes from hill to hill —
Through the pulseless haze.

Days when the soil is warm with rain,
And through the wood the shy wind steals,
Rich with the pine and the poplar smell,
And the joyous earth like a dancer reels —
Through April days!



Hamlin Garland: 哈姆林·加兰 (1860—1940), 美国作家, 凭自传体小说《中部边地农家女》获得1922年普利策奖 (Pulitzer Prize)。

迷人的日子, 氤氲着隐约的芬芳,
一山一树都焕发生机,
冬天和春天像情人一样
在正午的雾霭中相聚 又分离——
在这四月的日子里。

夜晚, 林蛙低吟阵阵,
一下——两下——接着是寂静一片,
啄木鸟威武的噪音
像军号声越过重重山峦——
穿过无声无息的雾气。

在那些日子里, 雨润的土地透出暖意,
羞怯的风悄悄拂过林间,
满载着松树和白杨的清香,
还有欢乐的大地, 像舞蹈家一样翩跹——
在整个四月里!

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What Goes Around,
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Paris — City of Light (II)



Place de la Concorde

Why Does a Woodpecker Peck?¹

“森林卫士”啄木鸟

Tap-tap-tap-tap. Tap-tap-tap-tap. You may have heard that sound while walking in the woods, or maybe in your own backyard. It's a woodpecker, hammering high in a tree with its hard, pointed beak². Why do woodpeckers work so hard to drill³ holes in trees? They have three good⁴ reasons.

By Jodi Forschmiedt

■ 叮叮
选注

Someplace to Live

Every year, the woodpecker carves a cozy⁵ new nest hole in a tree. Small types of woodpeckers make small nests, and larger species⁶ drill bigger holes. When a male and a female woodpecker want to start a family, they work together to make a nest cavity⁷.

After the young woodpeckers are hatched, they live in their parents' nest for about a month. The parents may continue to feed their young for a while after they have left the nest.



Something to Eat

Delicious insects live under tree bark.⁸ And dead trees are full of bugs⁹. These include insect eggs, immature insects (*larvae*), insects that are changing into adults (*pupae*),¹⁰ and adult insects.

A hungry woodpecker has all the right¹¹ equipment to catch bugs for lunch. Four toes on each foot, two pointing¹² forward and two backward, make perfect hooks for climbing up tree trunks. A tail that acts like a spring¹³ also helps. The woodpecker leans back and bounces up the tree.¹⁴ Superstrong tail feathers steady the woodpecker while it works.¹⁵ The bird's sharp

beak rapidly pounds the tree, and its extra-long tongue flicks out to skewer bugs in the hole it has created.¹⁶

Something to Say

Sometimes woodpeckers peck just to make sounds. Their drumming¹⁷ sends messages to other woodpeckers. When a male woodpecker has chosen a place to live, he finds a surface that will be noisy, like a hollow tree, and drums loudly to tell others that this is his territory.¹⁸

Woodpeckers will drum on anything, even garbage-can lids, to make a loud noise! The drummer hopes the racket will also attract a mate¹⁹. Woodpeckers tap softly to talk with their mates and with their youngsters.

The forest benefits from²⁰ woodpeckers' hard work. Squirrels, owls²¹, and other birds often live in holes made by woodpeckers. Woodpeckers eat so many insects from dead trees that they can prevent some destructive²² ones from spreading and harming healthy trees. Forest dwellers²³ love to hear the *tap-tap-tap* of the woodpecker!



1. woodpecker: 啄木鸟; peck: 啄。
2. 正在一棵树的高处用它又尖又硬的喙努力工作呢。hammer: 反复敲打, 拼命干, 此处一语双关, 对于啄木鸟来说, 反复敲击树木也就是在努力工作; pointed: 尖的; beak: 喙。
3. drill: 打眼, 钻孔。
4. good: 充足的, 有充分根据的。
5. cozy: 舒适的。
6. species/'spi:ʃi:z/: 种, 类。
7. cavity/'kævəti/: 洞, 穴。
8. delicious: 美味的; bark: 树皮。
9. bug: 虫子。
10. immature: 幼年的; larva/'lɑ:və/: 幼虫, 复数形式为 larvae(/'lɑ:vɪ/);

- pupa/'pju:pə/: 蛹, 复数形式为 pupae(/'pju:pi:/)。
11. right: 合适的, 符合要求的。
12. point: v. 朝向。
13. spring: 弹簧, 发条。
14. lean: 靠, 倚; bounce: 跳, 跃。
15. 啄木鸟尾巴上的羽毛十分坚硬, 可以使它在工作时保持平衡。steady: v. 使稳, 使不摇晃。
16. 啄木鸟用尖喙快速地啄着树干, (同时,) 它会快速伸出格外长的舌头, 卷走刚啄开的洞里的虫子。pound: 连续重击; extra-: 一般放在形容词前, 表示“超出”、“越出”; flick: (急速地) 轻轻转动; skewer:

- 用杆串住。(编者注: 啄木鸟的舌头细长, 前端带钩, 能伸进被凿开的树干里, 把虫子钩出来。)
17. drum: v. 有节奏地敲击。
18. 它会找一个能弄得出声音的地方, 比如一棵空心树, 然后用力地啄, 弄出很大的动静, 以此告诉其它动物这里是它的地盘。hollow: 空心的, 中空的; territory: 领地, 领域。
19. racket: 喧嚷声, 吵闹声; mate: (鸟的) 配偶。
20. benefit (from): 得益, 得到好处。
21. owl: 猫头鹰。
22. destructive: 破坏性的。
23. dweller: 居民, 居住者。

光之城 (下)

Paris, known as the City of Light, is one of the most charming cities. It is a city that won't disappoint you.

Paris — City of Light (II)

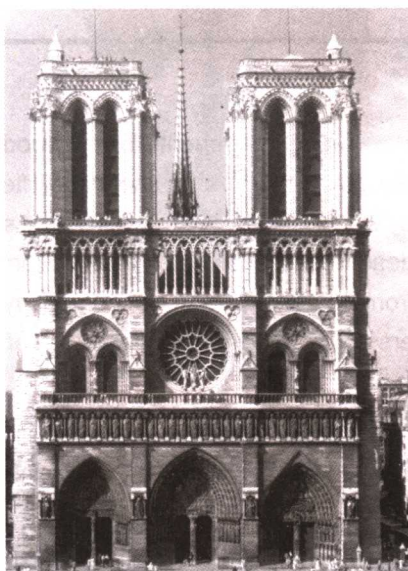
Paris is the second-largest city in Western Europe, and it is probably the city with the most things to see. When visiting Paris, there are some highlights you must see.

Notre Dame¹

巴黎圣母院

Not the largest cathedral² in the world, the Notre Dame might be the most famous of all cathedrals. The gothic masterpiece is located on a small island in the heart of the city.³

The site of the Notre Dame is the cradle of Paris and had been the religious center of the city.⁴ The bishop⁵ of Paris started the construction in 1163. The Cathedral was to be built in the new gothic style and had to reflect Paris's status⁶ as the capital of the France. It was the first cathedral built on a monumental scale



1. Notre Dame/ˌnɒtrəˈdɑːm/: 巴黎圣母院，全称为 Notre Dame de Paris。

2. cathedral: 大教堂。

3. gothic: 哥特式的，哥特式建筑以高耸的尖角拱门、拱顶及花格玻璃窗为特点，流行于12至16世纪；masterpiece: 杰作；locate: 使……坐落于，位于。

4. site: 所在地址；cradle: 摇篮；religious: 宗教的。

5. bishop/ˈbɪʃəp/: 主教。

6. status: 重要地位。

and became the prototype for future cathedrals in France.⁷

It took until 1345 before the cathedral was completed, partly because the design was enlarged during construction. The result is an overwhelming⁸ building, 130 meters long with two 69 meters tall towers. The spire, which reaches 90 meters, was added in the 19th century by Viollet-le-Duc.⁹ The Notre Dame has several large rose windows¹⁰, and the northern 13th century window is the most impressive¹¹. It is 21 meters high.

The spectacular eastern buttresses are 15 meters wide.¹² The west side features three wide portals, the gallery of Kings and the famous gargoyles.¹³

During the Revolution, many of the cathedral's sculptures, gargoyles were removed or demolished¹⁴. Even the gallery of Kings was severely¹⁵ damaged. It wasn't until the 19th century before the Cathedral was fully restored¹⁶ by Viollet-le-Duc. It was restored again between 1991 and 2001.

7. 这是当时建成的第一个超大规模的教堂，它成了后来法国教堂的蓝本。monumental: 巨大的；prototype: 原型。

8. overwhelming: 势不可挡的。这里是说巴黎圣母院建成后的规模之大，令人震撼。

9. spire: 尖顶；Viollet-le-Duc/vjɒ'lelə'dju:k/: 维奥莱-勒-杜克 (1814—1879)，法国建筑师，哥特复兴式建筑代表。

10. rose windows: 玫瑰花窗，也就是圆花窗，是一种巨型花瓣格子圆窗。

11. impressive: 给人深刻印象的。

12. spectacular: 壮观的，引人注目的；buttress: 扶壁。

13. 西扶壁的特色是三扇（雕刻着圣经的）大门、“国王长廊”和著名的怪兽状承溜口。feature: 以……为特色；gallery of Kings: “国王长廊”，指的是大门上方的一长条壁龛，里面陈列着28座耶稣先祖的帝王雕像；gargoyle/'gɑ:gɔɪl/: 怪兽状承溜口，指的是中世纪哥特式建筑屋顶上的半人半兽状承溜口，用以引导屋顶上的水流以保持清洁，如今它们已经完全失去了最初的实用价值和宗教价值，成了一种纯粹的装饰品。

14. demolish: 毁坏，破坏。

15. severely: 严重地。

16. restore: 整修。

Hôtel des Invalides

荣军院

Hôtel des Invalides was founded in 1671 by Louis XIV¹, the Sun King. He wanted to provide accommodation for disabled and impoverished war veterans.² Originally only a number of barracks were planned,³ but King Louis XIV chose a design which consisted of a large impressive building with a royal courtyard and church.

1. Louis XIV: 路易十四 (1638—1715)，法国国王[1643—1715]，建立绝对君权，推行重商主义政策，企图称霸欧洲而连年进行战争，同时他又迷恋艺术和建筑，在位期间造就了法国文艺史上的黄金时期，故人们称其为“太阳国王”(Sun King)。下文中提到的Louis XIII、Louis XV、Louis XVI分别为法国国王路易十三、路易十五和路易十六。

2. 他想给伤残贫困的老兵们提供一个住处。accommodation: 住宿；impoverished: 贫困的；veteran: 老兵。

3. originally: 起初，原来；barrack: 外观简陋划一的房子。

The front facade facing the Seine river is 196 meters long.⁴ The whole building features 15 courtyards, the largest being the court of honor⁵. This courtyard was used for military parades⁶.

The building was completed in 1676 and housed⁷ up to 4,000 war veterans.



4. facade/fə'sa:d/ (建筑物的) 正面; Seine/seɪn/: 塞纳河。

5. court of honor: (欧洲某些国家调查有关军人荣誉事项的) 军人荣誉法庭。

6. parade/pə'reɪd/: 游行。

7. house: v. 收容。

Pont Alexandre III¹

亚历山大三世桥

Most people consider the Pont Alexandre III the most beautiful bridge in Paris. It is lavishly decorated with lampposts and sculptures of cherubs and nymphs.² On each end of the bridge are large gilded statues on 17 meters high granite pillars.³ Each of the ornaments⁴ on the bridge was created by a different artist.

Construction of the bridge took almost three years. It was first prefabricated in a factory and later transported and assembled by a large crane.⁵ One of the requirements for the



1. 亚历山大三世桥是俄国沙皇尼古拉二世 (Nicolas II) 出资修建的。桥的名字以他的父亲亚历山大三世 (Alexander III) 的名字来命名, 用来纪念亚历山大三世与法国签署的法俄联盟协定。pont: 〈法〉桥。

2. 桥上装饰着 (有花朵雕饰的青铜) 灯柱和小天使与林中仙女的雕像, 非常豪华。cherub: 小天使; nymph: 居于山林水泽的仙女。

3. gilded: 镀金的; granite /'grænɪt/: 花岗岩; pillar: 柱子。

4. ornament: 装饰品, 点缀品。

5. prefabricate: 预制; assemble: 装配; crane: 起重机。

6. 对这座桥的要求之一就是它不能挡住观望荣军院和香榭丽舍大道的视线。obstruct: 遮没, 挡住; Champs Élysées/'ʃɑ:ŋzeili:'zei/ (巴黎著名的) 香榭丽舍大街, 或称爱丽舍大街, 以美丽和讲究时髦著称。

7. result in: 结果是, 导致; span: 跨距。

8. tsar/za:(r)/: 俄国沙皇。

9. name sb./sth. after sb.: 以某人的名字给……命名。

10. open: 开通; Universal Exposition: 指1900年在法国巴黎举办的、人称“世纪之总”的第九届万国博览会。

bridge was that it should not obstruct the view on the Invalides and Champs Élysées.⁶ This resulted in a very low 40 meters wide bridge with a single 107.5 meters long span and a height of only 6 meters.⁷

In October 1896, the first stone was laid by the Russian Tsar⁸ Nicolas II. It was named after⁹ his father, Tsar Alexander III. Construction only started in May 1897 and the bridge opened just in time for the Universal Exposition of 1900.¹⁰

Palais du Luxembourg

卢森堡宫

Between 1615 and 1627 the Palais du Luxembourg was constructed. It was built for Marie de Médicis¹, mother of Louis XIII. She was of Italian descent, so the architect designed the palace in a Florentine style.² In 1794, during the French Revolution, the palace served as a prison. It also served as the headquarters of the Luftwaffe during the Second World War.³ It currently houses the French Senate.⁴

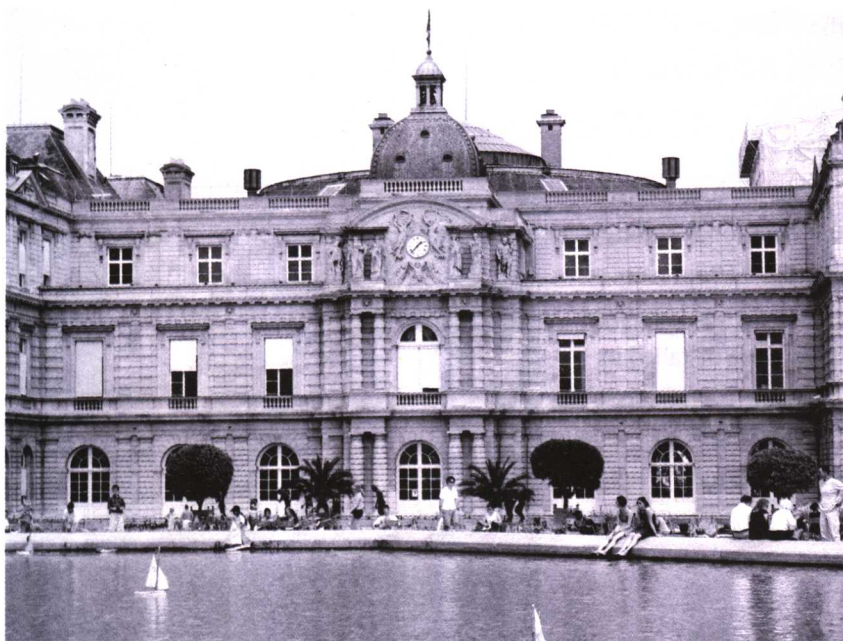
1. Marie de Médicis: 玛丽·德·美第奇, 法国国王亨利四世的王后。

美第奇家族是欧洲最富有的银行家, 是佛罗伦萨的王公望族, 该家族出了两位教皇和两位法国皇后。

2. descent: 血统; Florentine style: 佛罗伦萨风格。

3. headquarters: 指挥部; Luftwaffe /'lu:ftvɑ:fə/: (二战中的) 纳粹德国空军。

4. currently: 现在; house: 给……房子住, 这里指作为办公场所; French Senate: 法国参议院。



Place de la Concorde

协和广场

The octagonal¹ Place de la Concorde is the largest square in Paris. In 1763, a large statue of King Louis XV was erected at the site to celebrate the recovery of the king after a serious illness.² The square surrounding the statue was created later, in 1772. It was known as the place Louis XV.

In 1792, during the French revolution, the statue was destroyed and the square was called Place de la Révolution. A guillotine was installed at the center of the square and in a time span of only a couple of years, 1,119 people were beheaded here.³ Amongst them many famous people like King Louis XVI, Marie Antoinette, and revolutionary Robespierre, just to name a few.⁴ After the revolution the square was renamed several times until 1830, when it was given the current name "Place de la Concorde".

In the 19th century the 3,200 years old obelisk from the temple of Ramses II was installed at the center of the Place de la Concorde.⁵ It is a 23 meters tall monolith⁶ in pink granite and weighs about 230 tons. In 1831, it was offered by the Viceroy of Egypt to Louis Philippe.⁷ It was only one of three obelisks offered by the Viceroy, but only one was transported to Paris. Pictures on the pedestal⁸ describe the transportation to Paris and its installation at the square in 1836.

At each corner of the octagonal square is a statue representing a French city. They were installed in 1836.

1. octagonal/'ɒktəgənəl/: 八角形的, 八边形的。

2. erect: 竖立; recovery: 康复, 痊愈。

3. guillotine/'gɪləti:n/: 断头台; install: 安置, 名词形式为 installation; span: 一段时间; behead: 砍……的头。

4. Marie Antoinette /ma:'ri:əntwa:'net/: 玛丽·安托瓦内特, 法国国王路易十六的王后; Robespierre /rɒbes'pjɜ:/ 罗伯斯庇尔, 法国资产阶级革命领袖。

5. obelisk/'ɒblɪsk/: 方尖碑; Ramses II: 拉美西斯二世 (? — 1237BC), 古埃及第十九王朝第三代国王。(编者注: 这座埃及方尖碑上刻满了埃及象形文字, 主要内容是对法老拉美西斯二世丰功伟绩的歌颂。)

6. monolith: 独块巨石。

7. viceroy/'vaɪsɔɪ/: 总督; Louis Philippe: 路易·菲利普 (1773—1850), 法国国王。

8. pedestal: 底座。



A Rose for Elizabeth

献给伊丽莎白的玫瑰

By Judith P. Josephson

■ 馨儿 选注

1. patio/'pætriəu/: 院子; a bunch of: 一束; daisy: 雏菊。

2. present: v. 呈献; statue: 雕像。

3. concert pianist: 在音乐会上演奏的钢琴家。

4. recording: 唱片。

5. (她) 非常喜欢音符像奔流的山泉那样汨汨流过。

6. terrified: 害怕的。

7. spelling bee: 拼单词比赛; family gathering: 家庭聚会。

8. call on: 要(学生)回答问题。

9. volunteer: 自告奋勇; make announcements: 宣布通知。

10. pass out: <僵>昏倒, 失去知觉。

11. dumb/dʌm/: 傻的, 愚蠢的。

12. spotlight: 聚光灯; gleam: 闪烁。

13. trip: 绊倒。

14. garble: 使(语句)混乱不清。

15. offstage: 舞台下。与其相对的是onstage, backstage则表示“在后台, 向后台”。

Elizabeth walked onto the patio, carrying a bunch of daisies.¹

"Beautiful flowers for... for... oh, I'll never get it right!" she cried, throwing the daisies on the ground.

Elizabeth had been practicing her speech for a week. She'd presented flowers to the dog, the cat, and the statue in the garden.²

Part of her couldn't wait. This Saturday, the great Ana Wolff, famous concert pianist³, would perform in Pasadena. For four years, Elizabeth had taken piano lessons. She'd listened to Ms. Wolff's recordings⁴ over and over, loving the way the notes tumbled like a rushing mountain stream⁵.

Part of Elizabeth was terrified⁶. Her music teacher at school, Mr. Leaf, had asked Elizabeth to present the flowers to Ms. Wolff after the performance. Why had he chosen *her*? Elizabeth hated oral reports, spelling bees, plays at family gatherings⁷ — *anything* where she had to talk in front of people.

Plenty of other kids liked giving speeches. Myron gave a speech every time Mr. Leaf called on⁸ him. Melissa always volunteered to make announcements⁹. Let one of *them* present the flowers!

"How's the speech coming?" asked Elizabeth's mother from the back door. "Want to practice on me?"

"No, thanks," said Elizabeth. "Mom, I can't do this! I'll forget. I might even pass out¹⁰!"

"No, you won't, honey. Think about it... sharing the stage with Ana Wolff. What an honor!"

"Not if I do something dumb¹¹."

But Elizabeth kept practicing. "Beautiful flowers for a beautiful performance..."

Each night, Elizabeth dreamed about music, spotlights, and a gleaming grand piano.¹² Sometimes she tripped¹³ and fell. Other times she garbled¹⁴ the words. Once the dream ended with Ms. Wolff rushing offstage¹⁵ before Elizabeth could say anything.

On Saturday night, Mom brushed the tangles out of Elizabeth's curly red hair.¹⁶

"I feel silly in this," Elizabeth said, shaking the starchy ruffles on her new blue dress¹⁷. "I hate the way it rustles!¹⁸!"

"You look lovely," soothed¹⁹ Mom.

At the auditorium, Elizabeth and her mother took their seats. Elizabeth held the bouquet²⁰ of red roses. Their sweet velvety scent made her nose itch.²¹ Mr. Leaf hurried past.

"All set²², Elizabeth?" he asked.

Her stomach tightened²³, but she nodded at him. Mom squeezed²⁴ Elizabeth's hand.

The lights dimmed, and Ms. Wolff walked onstage wearing a black gown.²⁵ Smiling, she bowed. She's tiny²⁶, thought Elizabeth. Not bigger than I am. Somehow she had expected a giant!

Ms. Wolff strode briskly to the piano and took her seat.²⁷ She paused, her long, slim fingers poised over the keys.²⁸ Then she began to play.

Ms. Wolff's fingers danced across the keys. She

swayed and nodded, and her shiny black ponytail bobbed.²⁹ Back and forth raced her feet among the pedals.³⁰ Trills, runs, rippling chords. Soft sad parts, loud angry parts, parts that sounded fun to play.³¹ Drawn³² into the music, Elizabeth forgot for a moment about the six words she had to say.

After each piece, the audience clapped loudly. Right before Ms. Wolff's last piece, Elizabeth and her mother slipped³³ backstage.

Elizabeth clutched the bouquet of roses and peered around the heavy black curtain.³⁴ The dreaded³⁵ moment was almost here. With a flourish³⁶, Ms. Wolff played her final chord.

Applause thundered³⁷ through the auditorium. People jumped to their feet³⁸ and cheered.

Ms. Wolff smiled and bowed. Then she walked offstage and into the wings³⁹. Almost immediately, she returned to the stage for a second bow.

Mom nudged⁴⁰ Elizabeth. "Now!"

Clutching the roses, Elizabeth walked slowly toward Ms. Wolff. The stage lights felt blazing⁴¹ hot. Beads of perspiration trickled down Elizabeth's face.⁴² Finally she reached the spot where Ms. Wolff was standing.

Elizabeth opened her mouth. She mouthed⁴³ the words, but no sound came out. Murmurs and scattered coughs came from the front row.⁴⁴ Ms. Wolff's warm brown eyes looked kind. Elizabeth tried again.





The words felt stuck in her windpipe.⁴⁵ She began to see dots in front of her eyes.

This is it⁴⁶, Elizabeth thought. She took a deep breath and said, "Beaut... Beautiful flowers for a beautiful performance!" She handed the roses to Ana Wolff.

The audience cheered. Through the glare of the footlights⁴⁷, Elizabeth could see the people in the crowd smiling. Ms. Wolff wrapped⁴⁸ Elizabeth in a big hug. Scents of roses and Ms. Wolff's flowery perfume mingled.⁴⁹

Backstage, Ms. Wolff ruffled⁵⁰ Elizabeth's hair. "Now you know how I feel every time I go onstage!"

"You mean... you get scared⁵¹, too?" asked Elizabeth.

"You bet⁵² I do," said Ms. Wolff. "It's called 'stage fright'⁵³."

"What do you do about it?" asked Elizabeth.

"You swallow that fear and go out there anyway," said Ms. Wolff, smiling. "Just the way you did tonight."

Then the great Ana Wolff gently drew⁵⁴ a single red rose from her bouquet and gave it to Elizabeth.

16. tangle: 纠缠的一团; curly: (头发) 卷曲的。
17. starchy: 上过浆的, 浆硬的; ruffle: 褶裥饰边。
18. rustle/rʌsl/: 沙沙作响。
19. soothe: 安慰, 抚慰。
20. bouquet/bu'keɪ/: 花束。
21. velvety: 醇和的; scent/sent/: 香味, 气味; itch: 发痒。
22. set: 准备好的。
23. tighten: 收紧。
24. squeeze: 紧握。
25. dim: 变暗; gown: 礼服。
26. tiny: 个头小的。
27. stride: 大步走; briskly: 轻快地。
28. poise: 悬着, 这里指弹钢琴之前手指在琴键上方停留片刻; key: 琴键。
29. 她身体来回摆动着, 不时点着头, 乌黑发亮的马尾辫上下跳跃着。sway: 摇摆; ponytail: 马尾辫; bob: 来回快速摆动。
30. 她的双脚快速地来回踩着踏板。pedal: 踏板。
31. 颤音, 急奏, 轻柔的和弦。柔和而忧伤的部分, 洪亮而激烈的部分, 还有一些部分一听就知道弹起来会很有趣。这两个句子是一系列名词词组的排列, 表现了 Ms. Wolff 精彩的钢琴表演。
32. draw: 吸引。
33. slip: 悄悄地走。
34. clutch: 紧抓, 紧握; peer: 窥视。
35. dreaded: 令人恐惧的。
36. flourish: [音]装饰颤音。
37. thunder: (掌声) 雷动, 发出雷鸣般的响声。
38. to one's feet: 起来。
39. wing: (舞台的) 侧面。
40. nudge: 用肘轻推。
41. blazing: 炽烈的。
42. 伊丽莎白脸上滴下了汗珠。perspiration: 汗, 汗水; trickle: 滴, 淌。
43. mouth: v. 张嘴说 (但没发出声音)。
44. 前排传来了观众的窃窃私语声, 还夹杂着几声咳嗽。scattered: 疏疏落落的。
45. 这些话好像堵在她的气管里了。windpipe: 气管。
46. this is it: <口>[表示已打定主意]就是这话。
47. footlights: 舞台上的脚灯。
48. wrap/ræp/: 围住。
49. perfume: 香水; mingle: 混合在一起。
50. ruffle: 弄乱 (头发), 这里指 Ms. Wolff 亲密地抚弄着伊丽莎白的头发。
51. scared: 害怕的。
52. you bet: <口>当然, 一定。
53. stage fright: 舞台恐惧症, 怯场。
54. draw: 拔出, 抽出。

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THE GOLDEN APPLE

金·苹·果



Athena

An owl represented the goddess of wisdom and warfare.

雅典娜

代表智慧与战争女神的猫头鹰。

The problem with Eris is that she causes trouble everywhere she goes. Well, that's her job. She's the goddess of arguments and disagreements, and somebody has to do it. But she's not the sort of person you might want at a wedding. So, when Peleus and Thetis got married on Mount Olympus, every god and goddess was there except Eris. Hera left her off the list.

Hera's the queen of the gods so the decision was hers, and, as we'll see, it caused a whole lot of trouble. Everybody was having a great time, eating the best food and drinking nectar from golden cups. Then Eris turned up.

She just stood there, glaring at everyone, then she pulled something out of her tunic, said, "My present for you!" and threw it among the guests. It was a golden apple — maybe not the most normal wedding present — but Eris knew what she was doing. The god who caught the apple looked at it closely, then said, "There is something written here on the apple. It says, 'For the most beautiful.'"

厄里斯的问题就是她每到一处都会带来麻烦。当然了，这也是她的职责所在，因为她是争吵与不和女神，而且，这种事情也总得有人来做。但你不会愿意在婚礼上看到她这样的人。所以，当珀琉斯和西蒂斯在奥林匹斯山上结婚的时候，所有的男女神明都应邀齐聚一堂，只有厄里斯没来。赫拉没有把她列入邀请名单。

赫拉是诸神的王后，所以是她做的这个决定。接下来我们会看到，这招来了无穷的后患。正当大家都欢欣喜悦，品尝着最美味的佳肴，用金杯畅饮蜜露时，厄里斯出现了。

她就站在那里，怒视着每一个人。然后从外衣里掏出一件东西，说：“这是我给你们的礼物！”然后，她把它扔到了客人中间。那是一只金苹果——也许它不是最普通的结婚礼物，但厄里斯知道自己在做什么。接到金苹果的那位天神对着它仔细端详，然后说：“苹果上有几个字，‘献给最美丽的人’。”

That started it, of course. Hera was first to speak. "I am queen of the gods!" she said. "I must be the most beautiful. The apple is mine." This was not the best argument I've ever heard, but it might have been the end of it, except that Athena got involved.

"No, Hera, you are wrong. I am the goddess of wisdom. The apple belongs to me."

Myself, I couldn't see any connection between wisdom and beauty, unless she meant some sort of inner beauty. More importantly, you might have expected a goddess of wisdom to stay out of a silly disagreement like that. However, Athena was also the goddess of warfare, so maybe she felt she had to speak up. Then, while Hera stared at her, it became a three-cornered fight because Aphrodite stepped in. "I am the goddess of love and beauty," she said in that soft voice she always used. "The apple is mine."

当然，事情就这样开始了。赫拉首先发话。“我是诸神之后，”她说，“我应该是最美的！苹果是我的。”这算不上是我听过的最好的理由，不过要是雅典娜不插进来的话，事情也许就这样结束了。

“不，赫拉，您错了。我是智慧女神，苹果应该属于我。”

我本人倒看不出智慧和美丽之间有什么联系，除非她指的是某种内在的美。而更重要的是，作为智慧女神，她本不该介入到如此荒唐无聊的争执之中。但雅典娜也是战争女神，这也许就是她觉得自己不得不说几句的原因。当天后赫拉瞪着雅典娜的时候，阿佛罗狄特也加入了进来，这场争执于是变成了一场三角斗争。“我是爱与美的女神，”她以惯常的柔美声音说道，“苹果是我的。”



Personally, I think Aphrodite had a point, and I would have given it to her, but neither of the other two were willing to give away. The air got fairly heavy with insults after that, and there was a feeling that the party was over.

The argument went on for some time, and you could see that the other gods were getting tired of it. In the end, Zeus had to intervene. He was king of the gods, and I suppose he could have settled it there and then, but Hera was his wife—and, what's more, Athena and Aphrodite were his daughters! You could see that any decision he made would cause serious trouble in the family.

So he told them to go and see a shepherd called Paris, who lived on Mount Ida near the city of Troy. Now, that's a good distance across the sea. It was far enough away to guarantee a bit of peace and quiet for the rest of us—you could see his thinking. Zeus said that Paris was famous for his good judgement. You might wonder why somebody with that kind of reputation was working as a shepherd, but we'll get to that later.

So off the three of them went—they just disappeared, like gods and goddesses do—and the rest of us got back to the food and the nectar.

A few seconds later, on Mount Ida, Paris looked up from his sheep and there they were, three goddesses, shining with light

我个人认为阿佛罗狄特的话还有点在理，我倒愿意把苹果给她，但另外两位是不会善罢甘休的。她们争执不下，气氛也变得紧张起来，大家感觉宴会也就此结束了。

争吵又持续了一阵子，可以想像，其他的神明对此也越来越厌烦了。最后，宙斯不得不出面了。他是诸神之王，我本以为他会当场摆平此事，但赫拉是他的妻子，而雅典娜和阿佛罗狄特又是他的女儿！你想想，他做任何决定都会引起严重的家庭矛盾。

所以，他让她们去见一个叫帕里斯的牧羊人，他就住在特洛伊城附近的艾达山上。那可是一段飘洋过海的漫长路程呀，遥远得足以保证其他人能得到片刻的和平与安宁——你不难看出宙斯的用意。宙斯说，帕里斯一向以判断公正著称。你也许会觉得奇怪，为什么这样一位声名卓著的人却在牧羊呢？等下我们会说到其中的缘故。

她们三位就这样出发了，她们一下子就消失了——神明们都是这样的——而我们其他人又继续品尝佳肴，畅饮蜜露。

片刻之后，在艾达山上，帕里斯从他的羊群中抬起头来，发现这



Aphrodite

A red rose represented the goddess of love.

阿佛罗狄特

红玫瑰代表爱之女神。



Twin pipes

Ancient Greeks played two pipes at a time. Pipes were made from sycamore wood.

双笛

古代希腊人同时吹奏两支笛子。笛子是用埃及榕木做成的。