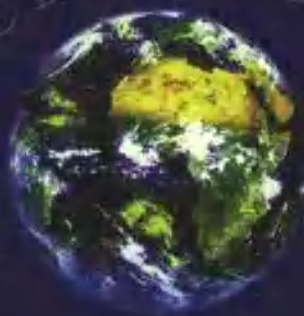


THE CLASSICAL & PRACTICAL ENGLISH

实用英文经典

# 英文散文经典



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# 英文散文经典

主编：张 浩



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## Of Beauty


*Francis Bacon*

Virtue is like a rich stone, best plain set: and surely virtue is best in a body, that is comely, though not of delicate features: and that hath rather dignity of presence, than *beauty of aspect*. Neither is it almost seen, that very *beautiful persons*, are otherwise of great virtue; as if nature were rather busy not to err, than in labour, to produce excellency. And therefore, they prove accomplished, but not of great spirit; and study rather behaviour, than virtue; but this holds not always; for *Augustus Caesar*, *Titus Vespasianus*, *Philip Le Belle of France*, *Edward the Fourth of England*, *Alcibiades of Athens*, *Ismael the Sophy of Persia*, were all high and great spirits; and yet the most beautiful men of their times. In beauty, that of favour, is more than that of colour, and that of decent and gracious motion, more than that of favour. That is the best part of beauty, which a picture cannot express; no, nor the first sight of the life. There is no excellent beauty, that hath not some strangeness in the proportion. A man cannot tell, whether *Apelles*, or *Albert Durer*, were the more trifler; whereof the one would make a person age by geometrical proportions; the other, by taking the best parts out of divers faces, to make one excellent. Such personages, I think, would please nobody, but the painter, that made them. Not but I think a painter, may make a better face, than ever was; but he must do it, by a kind of felicity (as a musician that maketh an excellent air in music), and not by rule. A man shall see faces, that if you examine them, part by part, you





shall find never a good; and yet all together do well. If it be true, that the principal part of beauty, is in decent motion, certainly it is no marvel, though persons in years, seem many times more amiable; *pulchrum Autumnus pulcher*; for no youth can be comely, but by pardon, and considering the youth, as to make up the comeliness. *Beauty* is as summer-fruits, which are easy to corrupt, and cannot last: and, for the most part, it makes a dissolute youth, and an age a little out of countenance: but yet certainly again, if it light well, it maketh virtues shine, and vices blush.








## 谈 美

培根

德行犹如宝石，朴素最美；其于人也，则有德者但须形体悦目，不必面貌俊秀，与其貌美，不若气度恢宏。人不尽知：绝色无大德也；一如自然劳碌终日，但求无过，而无力制成上品。因此美男子有才而无壮志，重行而不重德。但亦不尽然。罗马大帝奥古斯提与泰特思，法王菲律浦，英王爱德华四世，古雅典之亚西拜提斯，波斯之伊斯迈帝，皆有宏图壮志而又为当时最美之人也。美不在颜色艳丽而在面目端正，又不尽在面目端正而在举止文雅合度。美之极致，非图画所能表，乍见所能识。举凡最美之人，其部位比例，必有导于常人之处。阿贝尔与杜勒皆画家也，其画人象也，一则按照几何学之比例，一则集众脸形之长于一身，二者谁更不智，实难断言，窃以为此等画象除画家本人外，恐无人喜爱也。余不否认画象之美可以超绝尘寰，但此美必为神笔，而非可依规矩得之者，乐师之谱成名曲亦莫不皆然。人面如逐部细察，往往一无是处，观其整体则光采夺目。美之要素既在子举止，则年长美过年少亦无足怪。古人云：“美者秋日亦美。”年少而著美名，率由宽假，盖鉴其年事之少，而补其形体之不足也。美者犹如夏日蔬果，易腐难存；要之，年少而美者常无行，年长而美者不免面有惭色。虽然，但须托体得人，则德行因美而益彰，恶行见美而愈愧。



## OF STUDIES

*Francis Bacon*

Studies serve for delight, for ornament, and for ability. Their chief use for delight, is in privateness and retiring; for ornament, is in discourse; and for ability, is in the judgement and disposition of business. For expert men can execute, and perhaps judge of particulars, one by one; but the general counsels, and the plots and marshalling of affairs, come best from those that are learned. To spend too much time in studies is sloth; to use them too much for ornament, is affectation; to make judgement wholly by their rules, is the humour of a scholar. They perfect nature, and are perfected by experience: for natural abilities are like natural plants, that need proyning by study; and studies themselves do give forth directions too much at large, except they be bounded in by experience. Crafty men contemn studies, simple men admire them, and wise men use them; for they teach not their own use; but that is a wisdom without them, and above them, won by observation. Read not to contradict and confute; nor to believe and take for granted; nor to find talk and discourse; but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested; that is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not curiously; and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Some books also may be read by deputy, and extracts made of them by others; but that would be only in the less important arguments, and the meaner sort of books; else distilled books are, like common distilled waters,

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flashy things.


Reading maketh a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man. And therefore, if a man write little, he had need have a great memory; if he confer little, he had need have a present wit; and if he read little, he had need have much cunning, to seem to know that he doth not. Histories make men wise; poets witty; the mathematics subtile; natural philosophy deep; moral grave; logic and rhetorie able to contend. Abeunt studia in mores. Nay there is no stond or impediment in the wit, but may be wrought out by fit studies; like as diseases of the body may have appropriate exercises. Bowling is good for the stone and reins; shooting for the lungs and breast; gentle walking for the stomach; riding for the head; and the like. So if a man's wit be wandering, let him study the mathematics; for in demonstrations, if his wit be called away never so little, he must begin again. If his wit be not apt to distinguish or find differences, let him study the schoolmen; for they are cymini sectores. If he be not apt to beat over matters, and to call up one thing to prove and illustrate another, let him study the lawyers' cases. So every defect of the mind may have a special receipt.

## 谈 读 书


培 根


读书足以怡情，足以傅彩，足以长才。其怡情也，最见于独处幽居之时；其傅彩也，最见于高谈阔论之中；其长才也，最见于处世判事之际。练达之士虽能分别处理细事或一一判别枝节，然纵观统筹、全局策划，则舍好学深思者莫属。读书费时过多易惰，文采藻饰太盛则矫，全凭条文断事乃学究故态。读书补天然之不足，经验又补读书之不足，盖天生才干犹如自然花草，读书然后知如何修剪移接；而书中所示，如不以经验范之，则又大而无当。有一技之长者鄙读书，无知者羡读书，唯明智之士用读书，然书并不以用处告人，用书之智不在书中，而在书外，全凭观察得之。读书时不可存心诘难作者，不可尽信书上所言，亦不可只为寻章摘句，而应推敲细思。书有可浅尝者，有可吞食者，少数则须咀嚼消化。换言之，有只须读其部分者，有只须大体涉猎者，少数则须全读，读时须全神贯注，孜孜不倦。书亦可请人代读，取其所作摘要，但只限题材较次或价值不高者，否则书经提炼犹如水经蒸馏，淡而无味矣。

读书使人充实，讨论使人机智，笔记使人准确。因此不常作笔记者须记忆特强，不常讨论者须天生聪颖，不常读书者须欺世有术，始能无知而显有知。读史使人明智，读诗使人灵秀，数学使人周密，科学使人深刻，伦理学使人庄重，逻辑修辞之学使人善辩；凡有所学，皆成性格。人之才智但有滞碍，无不可读适当之书使人之顺畅，一如身体百病，皆可借相宜之运动除之。滚球利睾肾，射箭利胸肺，慢步利肠胃，骑术利头脑，诸如此类。如



智力不集中，可令读数学，盖演题须全神贯注，稍有分散即须重演；如不能辨异，可令读经院哲学，盖是辈皆吹毛求疵之人；如不善求同，不善以一物阐证另一物，可令读律师之案卷。如此头脑中凡有缺陷，皆有特药可医。





## Humble Folk —the Strength of Great Britain


*Lance Barryman*


Make way! Make way! Shakespeare and Milton, Drake, Raleigh, and all. Bright spirits of genius and chivalry, lean from your paradise and welcome The Little People of England!

You who soared on wings of song or marched to fame by highways of adventure, beckon to your side a motley band sprung from obscure corners of your homeland. They carry no weapons, wave no banners, chant no stately measures of poesy. Men, women, and children are here; pale clerks, laborers with stiff, gnarled hands, old fishermen, and young mechanics; housewives, washerwomen, nursemaids and chars; clean little boys and girls politely calm, and grimy ones whose language splits the ear. All climbing to heights of glory as if born to sacrifice and heroism. Scaling the peaks by humble paths and back alleys which turned to pits of flame, and by wide roads raked with shells, or attaining the summit of valor through dark and cruel descent into the icy waters of the sea.

Like soldiers they have borne the shock of fire and bombs; like sailors they have gone down unflinchingly to their death in shattered ships; and like aviators they have given their strength to rise "By Labor to the Stars".

Make way! Make way! Keats, Shelley, Frobisher, Nelson, and all. Illustrious shades of Old England, draw into your midst a defenceless army which chose to die rather than be enslaved.





Receive as one of yourselves this Cockney woman who was found dead, her body shielding that of a neighbor's living child; this blind man who sprang to his feet when walls crashed about him and bearing the weight of falling timbers on his shoulders saved the lives of others who had eyes to see his magnificent agony. Lay a kind hand upon the old man who slipped out quietly to carry a bomb from under a cottage window to a deep shell-hole half a mile away and never returned to his little family who were keeping his supper hot. Smile gently upon a small thing named Maggie, who begged her sister to tie a scarf over her mouth so that she would not scream while waiting for the ambulance to take her away. Open your arms to the little children dying of cold and hunger on the sea and to those who went down in a torpedoed ship singing to break your heart.

No Abbey walls have space to record the deeds of these simple people gone sadly or gaily to eternity. Their names shall not be graven on stone or painted on glass; no Roll of Honor could set them all forth. But the dust of England, the winds which whisper in her trees, the waves which beat upon her shores, shall vibrate with the passion of their courage, the splendor of their sacrifice. Each dawn shall tell how they arose in humble cheerfulness to light their tiny corner of the earth with a candle of faith; each sunset shall be a flaming beacon to remind all men of their burning steadfastness.

Let the cry ring through the halls of the Immortals: Make way! Make way! Make way for THE LITTLE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND!

From "The Legionary"





## 小人物——英国的脊梁

兰斯·巴里曼


让开！让开！莎士比亚、米尔顿、德雷克、雷利以及所有的人。天才、绅士的光辉灵魂们，从你们所在的天国中探出身子，欢迎来自英国的小人物吧！

凭借歌曲的翅膀飞黄腾达或通过冒险的高速路走向成名的你们，把来自你们祖国偏僻角落，衣着纷杂的人们召唤到你们身边吧。他们没有武器，没有旗帜，吟诵的诗文也缺少庄重的韵律。男女老少都来了；有脸色苍白的职员，双手僵直粗糙的劳工；上了年纪的渔民和年轻的技工；有家庭主妇，洗衣女工，保姆和勤杂女工；还有干净整洁的小伙子，文静礼貌的姑娘和说话震破耳朵、脏兮兮的人。这些人都登上了荣誉之颠，好像生来就具有牺牲精神和英雄气概。他们沿着不知名的小径和变成火坑的穷街陋巷，以及被炮弹炸过一遍的开阔道路，攀上了顶点；或者在黑暗和残酷的境地中下降到冰冷的海水中，才达到了英勇的最高峰。


他们像战士，曾受过炮火的洗礼；他们像水兵，曾视死如归地与破碎的战舰共沉没；他们像飞行员，曾奋力高飞以“力冲云霄”。

让开！让开！济慈、雪莱、弗罗比舍、纳尔逊以及所有的人。古英格兰的那些声名显赫的幽灵们，把这支没有防御能力，却宁死而不愿被奴役的队伍吸收到他们中间去吧。

把这个伦敦东区妇女看作你们的一员吧！人们发现她已死亡，她用自己的躯体保护了邻居家的一个活泼可爱的孩子；还有这个双目失明的人，也把他看作你们的一员吧！他在屋墙倒塌时







一个箭步冲上去，用自己的肩膀顶住了塌落的横梁。他拯救了其他一些人的生命，这些人都目睹了他痛苦死亡的壮烈场面。请向一位老人施以仁慈的按手礼吧！他悄悄地溜出家门，把农舍窗下的一颗炸弹搬到半英里之外的一个深弹坑内，再也没能回到可爱的家里，而家人给他留的晚饭还余热未退。请给予一个名叫玛吉的小家伙以温柔的微笑吧！她恳求姐姐用围巾堵着自己的嘴，为的是在等救护车时不会发出痛苦的尖叫声。张开你们的双臂，拥抱那些在海上因寒冷和饥饿而死在海上的孩子吧！张开你们的双臂，拥抱那些因鱼雷击中船只，而葬身大海的人们吧！那船只的爆裂声会令你心碎！

威斯特敏斯特大教堂的墙上没有留下空间来记录这些或喜或悲从死亡走向永恒的普通人们的事迹。人们也不会把他们的名字刻在石头上或印在玻璃上；阵亡将士的名单也不会记载他们所有的名字。但是英国的大地，拂过英国树丛的清风，拍打英国海岸的波浪，将为他们的勇敢激情和献身精神颤动振奋不已。每一个黎明将会告知人们，他们如何在平淡愉快的心情中起床，用信念的烛光照亮地球上他们所在的微不足道的角落；每一次日落将像一座闪亮的灯塔，使所有人都想起他们炽热的坚强信念。

让这种呐喊声响彻整个不朽人物的殿堂：让开！让开！为英格兰的小人物腾出地方！