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A Swedish Gospel Singer

中文编译 周 正
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序 言

1993年冬，初次听到莉娜·玛丽亚的歌声。在满堂的听众面前，用清澈优美的声音，铿锵有力地唱起来的莉娜，是具有打动我们心灵的力量的一位歌手。她的残疾一事从我的脑海里完全消失了，只记起了曾经住过的斯德哥尔摩的街道，郊外丛林和湖泊的清新的空气，感触万端。

我把斯德哥尔摩生的长子放在乳母车上，就那样推着乘公共汽车或地铁顺便逛大街，并以为乐。那个时候，用轮椅上街的人们不断地向我“Ja, Hei”地打招呼。街上所到之处总能见到“残疾人之用”这样写成的招牌，最平常能见到的是为残疾人用的卫生间、斜坡面、电梯等等。这说的是二十年前的事。无论去哪个地方，老人们、带婴儿的母亲们和坐轮椅的人们的风采，融化在周围的风景之中，始终流逝着悠闲的时光。沉浸在莉娜的歌声之中，回忆和怀念着那时候的莉娜，是那样的小巧伶俐，心里很难过。

有了用英语写作莉娜·玛丽亚事迹的机会以来，直到写完这本书，与斯德哥尔摩的莉娜有过不少次的传真交往。她的传真是用脚趾打的证明信件并签过名。对她越了解越被她的奇迹所感动。同时，我们身为人父人母，从她的父母身上受到的教育相当的多。莉娜及其周围的人们通过她们的人生哲理为我们抛砖引玉，给我们什么启示呢？能把这本书读懂的话，我是非常高兴的。

在写本文之际，得到了许多友人的建议和帮助。特别是 Esther James 先生给予了非常多的关照。

1994年9月

白石かず子

July, 1994

Dear readers,

It's my pleasure to be able to visit your country. During my visits to Japan I got to know a lot of people.


I think the most precious gift we get in life is a friend. It's important that we care about each other and take time to get to know the people around us. Everyone needs to be loved by someone. Being a faithful friend isn't very easy though, and we often hurt each other. But I have found a friend who never lets me down. He is always there and gives me everything I need. Most of the songs that I sing is about my best friend Jesus Christ.

In this book you will get to know about my life. I hope this book will encourage you to find your "best friend" in life.

With lots of love,
Hjärtliga hälsningar,


Lena Maria

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(夹附测试卷 1 份)

1. Amazing Grace

A beautiful song, "Amazing Grace", is heard in a hall in Tokyo. The voice is not only clear and beautiful as an angel's but is very powerful. The audience is entirely fascinated, and some are even moved to tears.



5

The name of the singer is Lena Maria Johansson, a Swedish gospel singer. Her sweet voice, bright smile and sparkling eyes fill the hall with radiance and splendor.

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see.*

15

1—2. **《Amazing Grace》**〔《令人惊异的天恩》〕〔此歌是由英国人约翰·牛顿 (John Newton (1725—1807) 作词的赞美歌, 颇为人们所爱唱〕 6—7. **entirely fascinated**〔完全被吸引住了, 完全被迷住了〕 10. **gospel**〔福音(书), 新约圣经四福音书之一, 黑人福音音乐〕 11. **sparkling**〔闪亮的, 活泼的〕 11. **radiance**〔发光, 光辉, 光彩〕 12. **splendor**〔光辉, 光彩, 壮丽〕 14. **wretch**〔不幸的人, 可怜者〕 16. **blind**〔盲人的, 瞎, 失明的〕

Lena sings this song in Swedish, her mother tongue, and in English, and even in Japanese.

She says, "I wanted to sing the first phrase of 'Amazing Grace' in Japanese, and practiced it. I think Japanese is easier for us Swedish to pronounce than for native English speakers."



Lena Maria Johansson has no arms, and her left leg is half the length of her right one. Looking at her cheerful face, you may wonder how she has overcome her handicap.

2. Lena as a Child

Lena was born in 1968 in a little village, Habo near Jönköping in the south of Sweden. When she was born, her parents realized that their baby was seriously handicapped. Lena's mother Anna never took any medicine or drugs and she could not



think of any reason why her baby was born with such a 10 handicap.



2. Habo /'hɑ:bəu/〔哈勃(村名)〕 3. Jönköping /'jən'fepiŋ/〔约恩奎坪, 瑞典的一个城市名〕 5. realize〔= understand, 知道, 了解, 明白, 领悟〕 6. seriously〔严重地; 严肃认真地〕 8. medicine〔内服药; 内科学; 医学〕 9. drug〔常用药物; 麻醉药〕

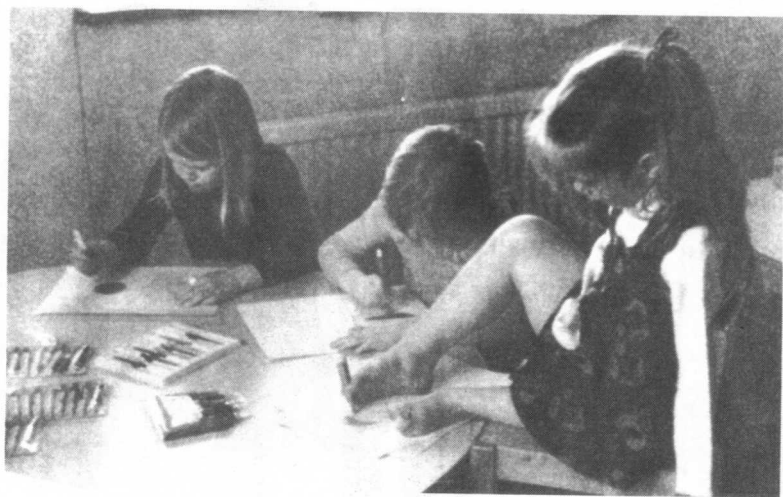
Lena's parents asked God many times why they were given such a difficulty. It took time for them to give a reason for it. Then, they came to accept it as the plan of God.

- 5 The doctor advised the parents to send the baby to an institution for the disabled if they felt it too hard to raise her. But her father Rolf said, "What is necessary for our baby is her family." Anna agreed with him, so they decided to keep their baby Lena with them.



6. institution [设立, 创设; (社会事业) 机构 (如学校、医院、教会等)] 6. the disabled [= the handicapped = physically challenged person, 机体有缺陷人, 残疾人]

Rolf recalls, "I remember a scene ... When Lena was sitting on the floor, playing with her friends, something seemed to have happened. All the children except Lena started to run off, but she wasn't able to follow her friends. I was so sad to see her left alone. However, she never cried nor complained. To my wonder, she appeared not to feel inferior because she wasn't able to move like others."



1. **recall** [想起, 回忆; 召回; 使复活] 6. **complain** [诉苦, 叫屈, 抱怨] 7. **appear** [出现; 露面; 好像]
7. **inferior** [低劣的; 次的; 下面的]

Once Lena had fun at her friend's. When Lena was leaving, the mother of her friend said at the door, "It's cold outside. You had better wear gloves." And she went inside to get her a pair of gloves. She had
5 completely forgotten that Lena had no hands. Lena's actions were so normal that her friend's mother didn't stop to think of Lena's handicap.



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5. **completely**〔完全地, 全面地; 圆满地〕 6. **normal**〔正常的, 标准的; 普通的〕
7. **stop to think of**〔把……留在心(思想)上; ……浮上心头〕

3. Lena's Parents

Lena's parents were very careful not to help her too much. But, they were always there when she needed them.

Anna says, "Nobody knows why she was born handicapped. However, it is clear that she is responsible for her life. Lena herself should be able to cope with difficulties and solve her own problems. Helping her too much might prevent her from finding her own ways and ideas to do things."

She continues, "A mother of a disabled child tends to feel burdened with her child's disability as if it were her own. I think that's wrong, because, then, everything in the child's life would come out only through its mother. This means that the child can't live its own life. What the mother can do for her child is to love it and help it handle its handicap."

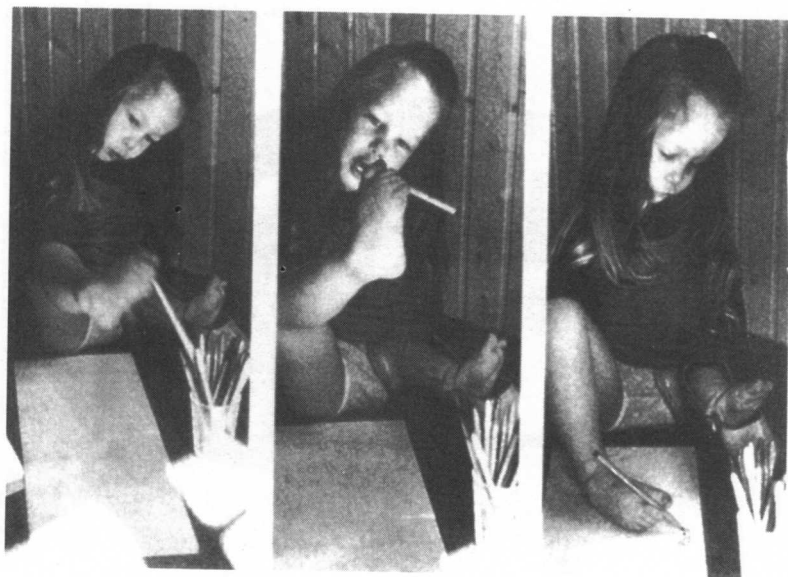
5---6. **be responsible for**...〔对……负责,对……应负有责任〕 7. **cope with**...〔应付(对付)…,处理…〕 8---9. **prevent...from...ing**〔妨碍(阻止)……去做……〕 10. **tend to**...〔倾向于……,有……倾向(趋势)〕 11. **feel burdened with**...〔对于(由于)……(而)感到负担(烦恼)〕



Rolf says, “Whether it is a child or an adult, handicapped or not, each individual has a different ability. In bringing out the ability, some people need a longer time than others. Whatever the case, 5 patience as well as time is an important factor.”

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2. **individual** [个人的, 个体的; 单独的] 3. **bring out** [显示出, 产生; 揭示出]
 5. **patience** [忍耐, 忍受] 5. **factor** [因素, 要素]

Anna adds, "As a therapist, I have thought that the most important thing in educating a handicapped child is to help it become independent. It doesn't matter how many hours it takes for the child to accomplish this. We should help the child to do as many things as possible by itself. Lena has always been a very independent child. Of course, I've only worried about her in an ordinary way any mother would worry about her child."



Lena tells us about her parents: “My parents always said, ‘The most important thing for you is to decide what to do yourself.’ And they let me do whatever I found interesting to learn. They have always treated
 5 me as a normal person and encouraged me in doing whatever I wanted to do. They said, ‘You are such a valuable person. We love you very much.’ I really love them and am very grateful to them. They have never thought of me as ‘handicapped Lena Maria’,
 10 but as ‘their daughter Lena Maria who just happened to have a handicap.’”



5. encourage〔鼓励; 支持; 促进〕 7. valuable〔有价值的, 宝贵的〕 8. grateful
 〔=thankful 感谢的, 感恩的〕 10—11. happen to have…〔偶然……, 碰巧……〕

4. Swimming

When Lena was three years old, a church minister advised her to go to a swimming school for functional training. At first her parents hesitated. But they thought it would be important for her to meet various people and enrich her experiences.

5

Going to a swimming school with the whole family on Wednesday became a great pleasure for Lena. She played in the water with the other children. She gradually got used to the water, and she was able to do the backstroke by the age of six. She even learned to 10
dive from a springboard.



3-year-old Lena with a swimming instructor.

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1. **minister**〔牧师; 部长, 大官〕 2. **functional**〔功能的, 机能的; 在起作用的〕
3. **hesitate**〔犹豫, 踌躇; 含糊〕 5. **enrich**〔使丰富, 充实〕 10. **backstroke**〔仰泳〕