

英汉对照阅读丛书

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诗 文 选 读



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前 言

随着中国加入世界贸易组织和对外开放的不断深入,英语对人们的工作和生活显得越来越重要,应广大英语爱好者,尤其是青少年读者的要求,我们编译了这本《诗文选读》。

英文原文多为散文、诗歌,不少出自名家之手,文字优美、抒情、流畅,文章思想性强,品位高雅;译文水平较高,译者中不乏专门从事翻译教学研究的教授、学者。

为便于读者理解原文,我们对一些较难懂的词句做了注释。然而对原文的理解,不仅限于语法、词汇,有时还涉及文化与历史背景知识以及文体、语气等比较细微的地方。我们希望这本书能对爱好英语的读者有所帮助。

编 者
2003 年 6 月

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The True Beauty

□ Carew

He that loves a rosy cheek
Or a coral⁽¹⁾ lip admires⁽²⁾,
Or from star-like eyes doth seek
Fuel to maintain his fires;
As old time makes these decay⁽³⁾,
So his flames must waste away.
But a smooth and steadfast mind,
Gentle thoughts, and calm desires,
Hearts with equal love combined,
Kindle never-dying fires:
Where these are not, I despise
Lovely cheeks or lips or eyes.

语法难点注释

(1) coral *a.* 珊瑚的, 珊瑚制的

(2) admire *vt.* 赞赏, 羡慕, 称赞

(3) decay *vi.* 腐烂, 衰败状态

真正的美

□ 黄燕生 译

他爱慕玫瑰般的花容，
迷恋珊瑚般的朱唇，
追求星眸般的明眸的人，
延续他的火焰，需要炭薪。
当这些都随着岁月走向凋零，
他的火焰，也将衰微消暗。
只有平稳、坚定的心灵，
伴着柔美娴思、怡神温静，
比翼绵绵，心心相印，
才能燃起永不熄灭的火焰；
没有这些，我将鄙弃
那可爱的花容月貌、
明眸秋波、朱唇如樱。

Character of a Happy Life

□ *Wotton*

How happy is he born and taught
That serveth not another's will,
Whose armor⁽¹⁾ is his honest thought
And simple truth his utmost⁽²⁾ skill!
Whose passions⁽³⁾ not his masters are,
Whose soul is still prepared for death,
Not tied unto the world with care
Of public fame, or private breath;
Who envies none that chance doth⁽⁴⁾ raise
Or vice; Who never understood
How deepest wounds are given by praise;
Nor rules of state, but rules of good:
Who hath⁽⁵⁾ his life from rumors freed,
Whose conscience is his strong retreat;
Whose state can neither flatters⁽⁶⁾ feed,
Nor ruin make oppressors great;
Who God doth late and early pray
More of his grace than gifts to lend;
And entertains the harmless day

With a well-chosen book or friend;
This man is freed from servile⁽⁷⁾ bands
Of hope to rise, or fear to fall;
Lord of himself, though not of lands;
And having nothing, yet hath all.

语法难点注释

- (1)armor *n.* 盔甲,(军舰、车辆等的)装甲,保护物
- (2)utmost *a.* 极度的,最大的,最大可能的
- (3)passion *n.* 激情,热情,酷爱
- (4)doth(古)do 的第三人称单数现在式
- (5)hath(古)have 的第三人称单数现在式
- (6)flatter *vt.* 向……谄媚,奉承,使满意
- (7)servile *a.* 奴隶的



生活的幸福

□ 黄燕生 译

生来不屈就别人的意图，
这是多么幸福！
忠诚的思想是他的盔甲，
他的本色是真挚与纯朴！
他不是情感的奴仆，
灵魂中没有怕死的因素；
在人世间的声誉面前，
也就无拘无束。
不嫉羡腾达，不萌发邪想，
那些人永不理解
赞扬会造成深刻的创伤；
约束他的不是堂皇的外表，
而是心地的善良。
生活不受谣言的影响，
良心才是他静居的地方；
谰言钻不进他的心房，
毁伤并不能抬高威胁者的威望。
他晨夕祈祷奉侍，

却从不恳求恩施；
一册精选的诗集，
一位知心的朋友，
相伴着度过宁静的一日；
他从不相信升迁，
也不惧怕降职；
虽不能主宰大地，
却可主宰自己；
他没有一切，
却又享有一切。

沃顿



Poor Richard Says

Benjamin Franklin published and edited an almanac⁽¹⁾ known as Poor Richard's Almanac, from 1733 to 1758 under the name of Richard Saunders; and "Poor Richard" became a well known pen name⁽²⁾ in American literature. The sayings of "Poor Richard" which appeared in the almanac were based on⁽³⁾ the common sense proverbs⁽⁴⁾ and expressions of all ages and nations. These practical words of advice to the people, improved by Franklin's talent for simple, humorous writing, had universal appeal⁽⁵⁾. Many of them, in one form or another are still quoted today. The almanac achieved world-wide fame and were published in many languages.

"They that won't be advised, can't be helped." Richard's sayings use few words because, "A word to the wise is enough."

On learning from others, Poor Richard says that: "Wise men learn by the mistakes of others, fools hardly by their own."

"Traditionalists⁽⁶⁾ tell us what is best; but we must learn from the moderns what is most fitting."

"Learn from the skillful; he that teaches himself has a fool for a master."