

Li Changshun's Cultivation and Photography of
Cacti and Other Succulents

Heavenly Beauty

李长顺仙人掌及多肉植物养殖与摄影



中国美术学院
CHINA FOLK UNIVERSITY

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前言

中国国际友好联络会副会长李长顺先生的力作——《天外奇妍》出版了。作者以仙人掌类植物为题材，用艺术摄影的手法，为我们展现了一幅梦幻般的迷人画卷。

在植物的大千世界里，仙人掌及多肉植物是个庞大的家族。其中，掌类植物多达两千余种，最高的植株可达几十米，最长的寿命可达数百年；多肉植物更是多至万余种。它们的原生地主要是在美洲和非洲的广袤土地上。为适应各种复杂、恶劣的生存环境，它们造就了顽强的生命力、罕见的贮水能力和抗干旱、耐酷热的独特习性。这一物种不仅极具观赏性，而且还有很高的食用、药用价值和净化空气的功能。

作者酷爱仙人掌和多肉植物，从上个世纪七十年代起就开始收集和养殖，乐此不疲，一往情深。二十多年过去了，这一健康高雅的业余爱好不仅丰富了生活，充实了内心世界，也为作者积累了数百种在国内难得一见的珍品。春风秋雨，斗转星移，一次次面对新芽萌动、奇花绽放，作者用镜头记录下了这动人的一切，使动态的美成为凝固的美，使稍纵即逝的瞬间成为永恒。它强烈地冲击着我们的视觉，撞击着我们的心灵，呼唤着我们内心深处对大自然母亲的最真挚的感激和对造物主神奇力量的慨叹！

翻开《天外奇妍》，作者引领我们走进了一个新奇的仙人掌类植物的世界。这些远道而来的物种千奇百巧，形态各异，或挺拔如柱，或圆润如盘，蜿蜒百转似龙舞，起伏跌宕如山峦；它们锋利的刺如针似剑，刚正不阿，而那绽放的

花朵却又千娇百媚，五彩斑斓，有的如丝绸质地，金属光泽；有的轻如云烟，薄如蝉翼；有的如国色牡丹富丽堂皇，有的像山间雏菊散发原野芳香；红似火，绿如翠，黄如琥珀，白如凝脂。它们只为至美而生，极致到不可思议，璀璨到令人屏息，完美到刻骨铭心。每一个蕾都包裹着一个梦想，每一朵花都是对生命的礼赞：因为它们，让沙漠出现奇迹，让山川披上霓裳；因为它们，让生活有了色彩，让心灵有了驿站；因为它们，让音乐家有了咏叹，让诗人有了华章；因为它们，让我们懂得了珍惜，懂得了爱。

掩卷遐思，细细品尝作者辛勤耕耘的硕果，我们由衷地赞叹他逸致闲情的升华，钦佩他高雅的审美情趣，感谢他有一颗唯美的心，不仅能在呵护花卉的同时体验诗意人生，还奉献给了读者醇厚甘美的精神和艺术佳酿；也感谢华艺出版社，在全人类空前重视自然保护的今天，推出这部赞美绿色生命的好书，给读者的精神家园吹进了一阵清新的风，增添了一方心灵绿洲。



Preface

We are delighted by the publication of Heavenly Beauty by Mr. Li Changshun, Vice President of the China Association for International Friendly Contact (CAIFC). Focusing on the cacti as its subject matter, the book uses artistic photography to unfold a magnificent scroll of a dreamland.

In the universe of plants, the cacti and other succulents form a large family. The cacti alone amount to over 2,000 species, including giants soaring as high as dozens of meters and champions of longevity lasting several hundred years. The succulents are even more numerous, reaching tens of thousands. In their expansive habitats across the American and African continents, these plants have adapted to their complex and harsh environment by developing a rare capability for water conservancy to combat drought and extreme heat. They are not only delightful to the eye, but are also valued as delicacies, medicines as well as magical air purifiers.

Deep in love with the cacti and other succulents, the author started collecting and growing such plants in the 1970s with a passion that was to intensify with the passage of time. Such decades-long devotion to a healthy and refined hobby has not only enriched the author's life and uplifted his spirit, but also resulted in a collection of hundreds of rarities unrivaled in the country. The rotation of the seasons has time and again coaxed exotic buds and petals from the plants' otherwise plain stems, exciting moments to be captured by the author's camera. A fleeting beauty has thus congealed into an aesthetic eternity. The images bring joy to the eye, thrill to the

heart, plunging the viewers into an ecstasy mixing gratitude for mother nature's bounty with awe before the Creator's boundless ingenuity.

Through the pages of Heavenly Beauty, the author ushers us into a fairyland of the cacti and other succulents. The exotic species from afar dazzle us with their myriad of shapes, from soaring pillars to sleek plates, some twisting like a dragon, others undulating like hills. Their prickles resemble swords and spears, staunch and upright. Their petals offer up a splendid display of shape and color, smooth like silk, shiny like metals, light like smoke, and thin like a cicada's wings. Some rival peonies in the imperial gardens; others emit the fragrance of daisies in the hills. They are red like flames, green like emerald, yellow like amber and white like milk. They look as if they have come to this world purely for the sake of beauty, and they do not stop until their beauty is perfect, breathtaking and awe-inspiring. Every bud contains a dream. Every flower is an ode to life. Their growth brings magic to the deserts and cloaks the hills with rainbows. They bring richness to life and solace to the heart. They give inspiration to musicians and poets. They teach us the meaning of value and love.

As we close the book, still under the spell of the author's horticultural achievements, we cannot help admiring his cultivated mind and refined tastes. And we cannot help admiring his pursuit of aesthetic perfection, which not only derives poetry from leisurely hobbies, but also elevates the readers to a new height of human spirituality and artistry. We are also grateful to Huayi Press for publishing a masterpiece--an ode to the green life at a time of heightened ecological awareness, a fresh breeze into our spiritual home and an oasis in our heart.





第一章

Chapter 1

锦簇花团

Magnificent Blossoms





彩牡丹
Aricarpus sp.



龙角牡丹
Ariocarpus scapharostrus

赤城

Ariocarpus scapharostrus





龟甲兜
Astrophytum asterias cv. 'Kikko kabuto'



般若
Astrophytum ornatum

