



ENGLISH PARTY

英语 PARTY

# 文苑精华

The Pith of Famous Articles

阳 程 王 莹 主编

远方出版社

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*The Pith of Famous Articles*

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主 编	阳 程 王 莹
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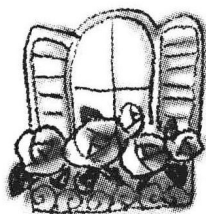
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## 前言

往事如烟,岁月如歌。在生活的旅途中,我们总是会在心灵深处,去释放情怀,去重温回忆,去瞻仰经典,去领悟生活。每一次当心灵之语流过你的心河,你是否坚守信仰的庄严,是否释放心灵的微笑,是否感动记忆的声音,是否感恩生活的赏赐。脚步在不停地走,心就有不断地追求。憧憬每一份惬意的灵动感受,一切就在我们为你营造的英语 PARTY 现场。

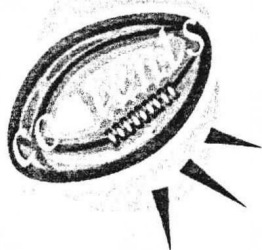
在这套丛书中,你将体验到:时尚前沿的超级冲击,域外风情的宜人风采,文坛诗海的字字珠玑,谚语神话的美妙奇幻,异国情调的清新独特,超强口语的纯正顺畅,人生丰碑的熠熠光辉,多元时空的绚丽多彩,爱意无限的神圣伟大,唐诗双声的意味深长,小品幽默的生活滋味,还有时间流逝的永恒定格等等。丰富、自然、悠扬、愉悦,是我们为青少年朋友举办这场 PARTY 的宗旨,相信



你定会在这里邂逅生活的美好与奇特。让我们一起来亲身感受、回味感悟吧！

由于编写的内容只是亿万分之一，加之编者水平有限，不足之处，愿大家批评和指正。

编 者



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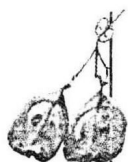
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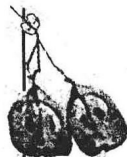
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Life Songs

生命如歌







## The Death of the Moth

*Virginia Woolf*

Moths that fly by day are not properly to be called moths; they do not excite that pleasant sense of dark autumn nights and ivy-blossom which the commonest yellow under-wing asleep in the shadow of the curtain never fails to rouse in us. They are hybrid<sup>①</sup> creatures, neither gay like butterflies nor sombre like their own species. Nevertheless the present specimen, with his narrow haycoloured wings, fringed with a tassel of the same colour, seemed to be content with life. It was a pleasant morning, mid-September, mild, benignant, yet with a keener breath than of the summer months. The plough was already scoring the field opposite the window,

---

① hybrid n. 杂种, 混血儿, 混合物 adj. 混合的, 杂种的



and where the share had been, the earth was pressed flat and gleamed<sup>①</sup> with moisture<sup>②</sup>. Such vigour came rolling in from the fields and the down beyond that it was difficult to keep the eyes strictly turned upon the book. The rooks too were keeping one of their annual festivities; soaring round the tree-tops until it looked as if a vast net with thousands of black knots in it has been cast up into the air; which, after a few moments sank slowly down upon the trees until every twig seemed to have a knot at the end of it. Then, suddenly, the net would be thrown into the air again in a wider circle this time with the utmost clamour and vociferation<sup>③</sup>, as though to be thrown into the air and settle slowly down upon the treetops were a tremendously exciting experience.

The same energy which inspired the rooks, the ploughmen, the horses, and even, it seemed, the lean bare-backed downs, sent the moth fluttering from side to side of his

① gleam n. 微弱的闪光, 一丝光线, 瞬息的一现 vi. 闪烁, 隐约地闪现 vt. 使发微光, 使闪烁

② moisture n. 潮湿, 湿气

③ vociferation n. 大声叫嚷, 喧嚷



square, of the window-pane. One could not help watching him. One was, indeed, conscious of a queer feeling of pity for him. The possibilities of pleasure seemed that morning so enormous<sup>①</sup> and so various that to have only a moth's part in life, and a day moth's at that, appeared a hard fate, and his zest in enjoying his meager opportunities to the full, pathetic. He flew vigorously to one corner of his compartment, and, after waiting there a second, flew across to the other. What remained for him but to fly to a third corner and then to a fourth? That was all he could do, in spite of the size of the downs, the width of the sky, the far-off smoke of houses, and the romantic voice, now and then, of a steamer out at sea. What he could do he did. Watching him, it seemed as if a fiber, very thin but pure, of the enormous energy of the world had been thrust into his frail and diminutive<sup>②</sup> body. As often as he crossed the pane, I could fancy that a thread of vital light be-

① enormous adj. 巨大的, 庞大的, <古>极恶的, 凶暴的

② diminutive adj. 小的, 指小的, 小型的 n. 小的人, 指小辞, 指小词, 爱称



came visible. He was little or nothing but life.

Yet, because he was so small, and so simple a form of the energy that was rolling in at the open window and driving its way through so many narrow and intricate corridors<sup>①</sup> in my own brain and in those of other human beings, there was something marvelous as well as pathetic<sup>②</sup> about him. It was as if someone had taken a tiny bead of pure life and decking it as lightly as possible with down and feathers, had set it dancing and zigzagging to show us the true nature of life. Thus displayed one could not get over the strangeness of it. One is apt to forget all about life, seeing it humped and bossed and garnished and cumbered so that it has to move with the greatest circumspection<sup>③</sup> and dignity. Again, the thought of all that life might have been had he been born in any other shape caused one to view his simple activities with a kind of pity.

After a time, tired by his dancing apparently, he settled

① corridor n. 走廊

② pathetic adj. 可怜的, 悲惨的

③ circumspection n. 细心, 慎重



on the window ledge in the sun, and the queer spectacle being at an end, I forgot about him. Then, looking up, my eye was caught by him. He was trying to resume his dancing, but seemed either so stiff or so awkward that he could only flutter to the bottom of the windowpane; and when he tried to fly across it he failed. Being intent on other matters I watched these futile attempts for a time without thinking, unconsciously waiting for him to resume his flight, as one waits for a machine, that has stopped momentarily<sup>①</sup>, to start again without considering the reason for its failure. After perhaps a seventh attempt he slipped from the wooden ledge and fell, fluttering his wings, on to his back on the window-sill. The helplessness of his attitude roused me. It flashed upon me that he was in difficulties; he could no longer raise himself; his legs struggled vainly<sup>②</sup>. But, as I stretched out a pencil, meaning to help him to right himself, it came over me that the failure and awkwardness were the approach of death. I laid the pencil

① momentarily adv. 即刻

② vainly adv. 徒劳地





down again.

The legs agitated themselves once more. I looked as if for the enemy against which he struggled. I looked out of doors. What had happened there? Presumably it was midday, and work in the fields had stopped. Stillness and quiet had replaced the previous animation. The birds had taken themselves off to feed in the brooks. The horses stood still. Yet the power was there all the same, massed outside indifferent, impersonal<sup>①</sup>, not attending to anything in particular. Somehow it was opposed to the little hay-colored moth. It was useless to try to do anything. One could only watch the extraordinary<sup>②</sup> efforts made by those tiny legs against an oncoming doom which could, had it chosen, have submerged an entire city, not merely a city, but masses of human beings; nothing, I knew, had any chance against death. Nevertheless after a pause of exhaustion the legs fluttered again. It was superb this last protest, and so frantic that he succeeded at last in

① impersonal adj. 非个人的

② extraordinary adj. 非常的, 特别的, 非凡的, 特派的