

张艳玲◎主编

The Most Greatest Speeches in The World

最伟大的演讲

下册

这些英文，都有共同的特点：经典、优美、百读不厌。既可以陶冶情操，增长知识，给人以快乐的感受，又可激励人们向上。这些美文历经时间的考验而沉淀下来，成为历代传诵不衰的美文。



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In Memory Of The Challenger Astronauts

怀念“挑战者号”宇航员

Ronald Reagan/罗纳德·里根

演讲者简介

罗纳德·里根（Ronald Reagan，1911年2月6日—2004年6月5日），美国政治家，第三十三任加利福尼亚州州长，第四十任总统。历任总统之中，他就职年龄最大。他还是历任美国总统中唯一一位演员出身的总统。他的演说风格高明且极具说服力，被媒体誉为“伟大的沟通者”。

1980年，里根在竞选中获胜。1984年谋求连任成功。里根执政期间，提出一项旨在压缩政府开支、减少国营事业、降低通货膨胀率的政治改革计划。对外，对苏联等社会主义国家采取强硬立场，并提出了“星球大战”计划。

里根在任职期间成功地进行了税收方面的改革，废



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除了许多克扣制度。在他任职末期，是美国历史上持续时间最长的、没有经济衰退和经济萧条的和平时期。1989年1月，里根辞职。2004年6月5日病逝，享年93岁。

“挑战者号”是美国宇航局的第二架航天飞机。1986年1月28日，“挑战者号”在美国佛罗里达州的卡那维拉尔角升空73秒后爆炸，七名宇航员在这次事故中罹难。里根和无数美国人一同潸然泪下。当天，里根总统发表了这篇声情并茂的演说——《怀念挑战者号宇航员》。



In Memory Of The Challenger Astronauts

Ronald Reagan

Jan 31, 1986

Ladies and Gentlemen, I'd planned to speak to you tonight to report on the state of the Union, but the events of earlier today have led me to change those plans. Today is a day for mourning and remembering. Nancy and I are pained to the core by the tragedy of the shuttle Challenger. We know we share this pain with all of the people of our country. This is truly a national loss.

Nineteen years ago, almost to the day, we lost three astronauts in a terrible accident on the ground. But we've never lost an astronaut in flight. We've never had a tragedy like this. And perhaps we've forgotten the courage it took for the crew of the shuttle. But they, the Challenger Seven, were aware of the dangers, but overcame them and did their jobs brilliantly. We mourn seven heroes; Mi-



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chael Smith, Dick Scobee, Judith Resnik, Ronald McNair, Ellison Onizuka, Gregory Jarvis, and Christa McAuliffe. We mourn their loss as a nation together.

For the families of the seven, we cannot bear, as you do, the full impact of this tragedy. But we feel the loss, and we're thinking about you so very much. Your loved ones were daring and brave, and they had that special grace, that special spirit that says, "Give me a challenge, and I'll meet it with joy." They had a hunger to explore the universe and discover its truths. They wished to serve, and they did. They served all of us.

We've grown used to wonders in this century. It's hard to dazzle us. But for twenty-five years the United States space program has been doing just that. We've grown used to the idea of space, and, perhaps we forget that we've only just begun. We're still pioneers. They, the members of the Challenger crew, were pioneers.

And I want to say something to the schoolchildren of America who were watching the live cover-



age of the shuttle's take-off. I know it's hard to understand, but sometimes painful things like this happen. It's all part of the process of exploration and discovery. It's all part of taking a chance and expanding man's horizons. The future doesn't belong to the fainthearted; it belongs to the brave. The Challenger crew was pulling us into the future, and we'll continue to follow them.

I've always had great faith in and respect for our space program. And what happened today does nothing to diminish it. We don't hide our space program. We don't keep secrets and cover things up. We do it all up front and in public. That's the way freedom is, and we wouldn't change it for a minute.

We'll continue our quest in space. There will be more shuttle flights and more shuttle crews and, yes, more volunteers, more civilians, more teachers in space. Nothing ends here; our hopes and our journeys continue.

I want to add that I wish I could talk to every man and woman who works for NASA, or who worked on this mission and tell them: "Your dedica-



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tion and professionalism have moved and impressed us for decades. And we know of your anguish. We share it."

There's a coincidence today. On this day three hundred and ninety years ago, the great explorer Sir Francis Drake died aboard ship off the coast of Panama. In his lifetime the great frontiers were the oceans, and a historian later said, "He lived by the sea, died on it, and was buried in it." Well, today, we can say of the Challenger crew: Their dedication was, like Drake's, complete.

The crew of the space shuttle Challenger honored us by the manner in which they lived their lives. We will never forget them, nor the last time we saw them, this morning, as they prepared for their journey and waved goodbye and "slipped the surly bonds of earth" to "touch the face of God."

Thank you.

◆ ◆ ◆ 熟词空间 ◆ ◆ ◆

1. earlier 早的, 初期的



2. shuttle 航天飞机
3. astronaut 宇航员
4. special 特别的，专门的
5. respect 尊重；敬意，问候
6. professionalism 从事专门职业者的特性、地位等
7. dedication 贡献，献身；献词



怀念“挑战者号”宇航员

罗纳德·里根

(1986年1月31日)

女士们、先生们：

我本来计划在今晚向你们汇报我们国家的形势。但是，今天早些时候发生的事件使我改变了计划。今天是一个让人悲痛和铭记的日子。南希和我为“挑战者号”航天飞机的悲剧感到无比痛心。我知道我们国家的人民都是悲痛欲绝。这是我们国家的巨大损失。

19年前，几乎也在今天，在我国，我们在一次可怕的故事中失去了三名宇航员。但此前，我们从未在飞行中损失过一名宇航员，从未有过今天这样的“灾难”。所以，也许我们已经忘记航天飞机机组人员需要多么大的勇气。但是，“挑战者号”上的七名宇航员深知其中的危险，他们克服了这些危险，出色地履行着自己的职责。我们缅怀这七位英雄：迈克尔·史密斯、迪克·斯科比、朱迪恩·伦斯尼克、罗纳德·迈克那尔、埃利森·奥尼祖卡、格雷戈里·加维斯、克里斯塔·麦考利夫。让我们和全国人民一起哀悼我们失去的七位英雄。



这七位英雄的家人们，我们跟你们一样难以承受这场灾难的打击。我们感受到了失去亲人的痛苦，我们认为你们一定也是这样。你们的亲人勇敢无畏，他们特殊的勇气和特殊的精神告诉我们——“给我一个挑战，我会满怀喜悦地去迎接”。他们渴望探索宇宙，渴望揭开宇宙的真相。他们希望报效国家，他们做到了。他们为我们所有的人尽了职。

在这个世纪，我们已经习惯于各种奇迹，很少有什么会使我们赞叹不已。但是，美国航天计划二十五年来做的正是这样的奇迹。我们对太空计划习以为常，也许已经忘记我们不过刚刚起步。我们仍然是先驱者。他们——“挑战者号”全体机组人员是先驱者。

我要对观看航天飞机发射直播的美国学童说几句话。我知道这难以接受，但有时，像这样令人痛苦的事就这样发生了。这是探索 and 发现过程的一部分，是冒险、拓展人类世界的一部分，未来不属于弱者，未来属于强者。“挑战者号”全体人员把我们推向未来，我们将继续追随他们的脚步。

我一直对我们的航天计划充满信心，并怀有深深的敬意。我们没有隐藏航天计划，我们没有遮盖和隐瞒。今天发生的悲剧决不会延迟我们的航天计划。我们完全公开地实施它。这正是自由的方式，我们一刻也不会改变这个方式。



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我们将继续我们的太空探索，将有更多次的航天飞行、有更多的宇航员，是的，会有更多的志愿者、更多的普通公民和更多的教师进入太空。这不是结束。我们的希望和我们的旅程不会止步。

我还想说，我想对为国家航空航天局，或者为完成此次使命而工作的每一个人说：“几十年来，你们的奉献和敬业精神令我们感动，我们将铭记在心。我们了解你们的痛苦，我们跟你们一样悲痛。”

今天是一个巧合。三百九十年前的今天，伟大的探险家弗朗西斯·德雷克爵士在巴拿马附近海面的一条船上辞世。在他的一生中，最大的疆界就是海洋。后来，一位历史学家说：“他生在海边，死在海上，葬在海里。”今天，我们可以说“挑战者号”上的宇航员也像德雷克一样，他们奉献了一切。

“挑战者号”的宇航员用他们的生命历程带给我们荣耀。我们永远不会忘记他们，也不会忘记今天早上最后一次见到他们的那一刻。那时，他们正准备踏上他们的旅程，挥手告别，正要“挣脱大地粗暴的束缚”，去“触摸上帝的脸”。

谢谢各位。



Farewell Speech

告别演说

Bill Clinton/比尔·克林顿

演讲者简介

比尔·克林顿 (Bill Clinton, 1946 年出生), 原名威廉·杰弗逊·克林顿 (William Jefferson Clinton), 美国第四十二任总统。

1976 年, 克林顿通过竞选担任阿肯色州首席检察官。1978 年, 32 岁的克林顿被选为这个州的州长, 成为当时美国最年轻的州长。1992 年底, 比尔·克林顿作为民主党候选人以 43% 的公选票, 当选美国第四十二任总统。1996 年 11 月再次当选为美国总统。

北京时间 2001 年 1 月 19 日上午 9 点, 美国总统克林顿发表电视告别演说, 提出美国要继续参与国际事务, 以及保持世界领导位置。克林顿又说, 虽然自己的总统任期即将结束, 但他会继续以一个普通公民的身份为公众服务。克林顿总统任内, 美国经历了有史以来最长的经济增长期, 他也是现代美国总统中离任时公众支持率最高的总统。



Farewell Speech

Bill Clinton

Jan 18, 2001

My fellow citizens, tonight is my last opportunity to speak to you from the Oval Office as your President.

I am profoundly grateful to you for twice giving me the honor to serve, to work for you and with you to prepare our Nation for the 21st century.

And I'm grateful to Vice President Gore, to my Cabinet Secretaries, and to all those who have served with me for the last eight years.

This has been a time of dramatic transformation, and you have risen to every new challenge. You have made our social fabric stronger, our families healthier and safer, our people more prosperous.

You, the American people, have made our passage into the global information age an era of great American renewal.



In all the work I have done as president—every decision I have made, every executive action I have taken, every bill I have proposed and signed—I've tried to give all Americans the tools and conditions to build the future of our dreams, in a good society, with a strong economy, a cleaner environment, and a freer, safer, more prosperous world.

I have steered my course by our enduring values: opportunity for all, responsibility from all, a community of all Americans. I have sought to give America a new kind of Government, smaller, more modern, more effective, full of ideas and policies appropriate to this new time, always putting people first, always focusing on the future.

Working together, America has done well. Our economy is breaking records, with more than 22 million new jobs, the lowest unemployment in 30 years, the highest homeownership ever, the longest expansion in history.

Our families and communities are stronger. Thirty—five million Americans have used the family leave law. Eight million have moved off welfare. Crime is at a



25-year low. Over 10 million Americans receive more college aid, and more people than ever are going to college. Our schools are better. Higher standards, greater accountability and larger investments have brought higher test scores, and higher graduation rates.

More than 3 million children have health insurance now, and more than 7 million Americans have been lifted out of poverty. Incomes are rising across the board. Our air and water are cleaner. Our food and drinking water are safer. And more of our precious land has been preserved, in the continental United States, than at any time in 100 years.

America has been a force for peace and prosperity in every corner of the globe. I'm very grateful to be able to turn over the reins of leadership to a new President, with America in such a strong position to meet the challenges of the future.

Tonight, I want to leave you with three thoughts about our future.

First, America must maintain our record of fiscal responsibility. Through our last four budgets, we've turned record deficits to record surpluses, and we've



been able to pay down \$ 600 billion of our national debt—on track to be debt-free by the end of the decade for the first time since 1835.

Staying on that course will bring lower interest rates, greater prosperity and the opportunity to meet our big challenges. If we choose wisely, we can pay down the debt, deal with the retirement of the baby boomers, invest more in our future and provide tax relief.

Second, because the world is more connected every day in every way, America's security and prosperity require us to continue to lead in the world. At this remarkable moment in history, more people live in freedom than ever before. Our alliances are stronger than ever. People all around the world look to America to be a force for peace and prosperity, freedom and security.

The global economy is giving more of our own people, and billions around the world, the chance to work and live and raise their families with dignity. But the forces of integration that have created these good opportunities also make us more subject to global forces of destruction, to terrorism, organized crime and narco