

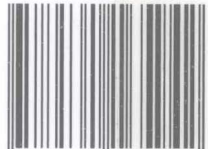
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写在前面的话

Previous Remark



喧嚣的都市,交织的来往人群,浮躁的车水马龙,令人无法喘息的压力……华灯初上,一切归于平静。楼群中,大大小小的窗格子有一处是你的栖息港湾,床头灯光柔柔地撒下,静静地坐下来,享受久违的那一份沉寂,或感悟或顿足,或惊叹或沉淀,或开怀或深思……翻开那智慧的篇章,徜徉于那优美的文字,任由一段段文章轻轻触碰你的心灵,在对人生的感悟和思考中,在释怀与淡定中任睡意袭来……这就是我们的《每天读点英文》系列。这是一套最如水、最宁静、最素雅、最智慧、最品质、最快乐、最轻松、最营养、最简单的休闲书籍,字字玑珠。

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编者

2011年10月

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You know, lady

你知道的,女士

A lady was walking down the street to work and she saw a parrot on a perch in front of a pet store. The parrot said to her, "Hey lady, you are really ugly." Well, the lady is furious! She stormed past the store to her work. On the way home she saw the same parrot and it said to her, "Hey lady, you are really ugly."

She was incredibly ticked now. The next day the same parrot again said to her, "Hey lady, you are really ugly."

The lady was so ticked that she went into the store and said that she would sue the store and kill the bird. The store manager replied, "That's not good," and promised he wouldn't say it again.

When the lady walked past the store that day after work the parrot called to her, "Hey lady."

She paused and said, "Yes?"

The bird said, "You know."

一位女士在街上步行去上班,她看到一只鹦鹉站在一家宠物店前面的栖木上。这只鹦鹉对她说:“嘿,女士,你长得真丑。”当然,这位女士狂怒!她气冲冲地走过这家店去上班。在回家的路上,她又看到这只鹦鹉,它对她叫道:“嘿,女士,你真丑。”

当时她非常生气。第二天这只鹦鹉又对她说:“嘿,女士,你可真丑啊。”

女士气得不行,走进店里,声称她要起诉这家店还要把这只鸟给杀了。店主说:“这可不太好。”并向她保证那只鸟不会再说这样的话了。

这天下班后当她经过这家店的时候,那只鹦鹉叫住她:“嘿,女士。”

她停来说:“什么事?”

鸟说:“你知道的。”

大洪水

雨下了一天又一天，一场可怕的洪水降临。水涨得很高，一个男人被迫爬到他的屋顶上。

水越涨越高，有个男人划着小艇出现了，告诉他让他上船。

“不，”屋顶上的男人答道，“我信仰上帝；上帝会救我的。”

于是划着小艇的男人走了。屋顶上的男人祈求上帝来救他。

水越涨越高，突然一艘高速游艇出现。“爬进来！”船中的男人大声叫道。

“不，”屋顶上的男人回道，“我信仰上帝；上帝会来救我的。”

于是高速游艇中的男人也消失了。屋顶上的男人继续祈祷上帝来救他。

水继续上涨。一架直升机出现，通过扩音器，飞行员说他会放下一根绳子给屋顶上的男人。

“不，”屋顶上的男人回道，“我信仰上帝；上帝会来救我的。”

于是直升机也飞走了。屋顶上的男人继续祈祷上帝来救他。

水越涨越高，最终屋顶上的男人被水冲走了，哎呀，这个可怜的人淹死了。

到达天堂，男人直接走到上帝面前。“天父，”他说，“我信仰你，你向你祈求来救我，但你却什么都没做。为什么？”上帝很疑惑，答道：“我给你派了两艘船还有一架直升机，你还想要什么？”

“That’s wonderful!” the artist exclaimed, “What’s the bad news?”

With concern, the gallery owner replied: “The guy was your doctor.”

一名艺术家问画廊老板,最近有没有人对他展出的画感兴趣。

“这有好消息和坏消息,”老板回答,“好消息是有一位先生咨询你的作品,他想知道在你死后你的画会不会升值。我告诉他你的画会升值,他就把你的15幅画全都买走了。”

“真是太好了,”艺术家叫道,“那坏消息是什么?”

画廊老板担心的说:“买画的人是你的医生。”



Business Just Started

开张大吉

A young businessman had just started his own firm. He rented a beautiful office and had it furnished with antiques.

Sitting there, he saw a man come in to the outer office. Wishing to appear the hot shot, the businessman picked up the phone and started to pretend he had a big deal working. He threw huge figures around and made giant commitments.

Finally he hung up and asked the visitor: “Can I help you?”

The man said: “Yeah, I’ve come to activate your phone lines.”

一个年轻人的公司刚刚开张。他租用了漂亮的办公室,室内还摆设了古董作装饰。

这位年轻人在里面坐着的时候,看见一个男人走进了外面那间办公室。为显示生意的红火,这位生意人拿起电话假装正在谈一桩大买卖,他随口说出几个大数目并做了一堆承诺。

好不容易电话“打”完,挂上听筒,年轻人问进来的人:“您有事吗?”

那人说:“是的,我是来给你开通电话的。”



Always Share

分享一切

An old couple went into a restaurant and ordered something to eat: one Coca Cola and one portion of French fries. The old man sat down and the woman, his wife, sat opposite him, and he began to divide the Coca Cola into two glasses, half for him and half for his wife. He divided all the French fries half-and-half then. He gave half to his wife and kept half for himself. Then he began to eat and drink, and the woman just drank but didn't eat.

There was a young man who was standing next to the table wondering why the old man had divided everything in half, and he thought that maybe they didn't have any money. He said to the old couple, "I can buy you one more portion; you don't have to share like that." So the old man explained, "No, no, no, we have been married for forty years and we always share everything. Whatever we have, we share half and half. Don't worry, but thank you, anyhow."

But then after a while, he saw that the woman wasn't eating, and only the man ate, so he asked the woman, "Why aren't you eating?"

And the wife said, "Today it's his turn to use the teeth."

有一对老夫妇到速食店去,叫了一罐可乐和一份薯条。然后他们面对面坐下来,那位老先生先把可乐分成两杯,一杯给自己,另一杯给他太太。接着他又将薯条分成两份,一份给他太太、一份给自己。然后他开始吃薯条、喝可乐,但是他的太太只是喝可乐,不吃薯条。

一个年轻人刚好站在旁边,看到老先生把每样食物都分成两半,觉得很奇怪,他想或许他们没有钱,便跟老夫妇说:“我可以再买一份给你们,你们就不用这样分了。”老先生解释说:“不,不,不!我们结婚四十年了,一直都是分享每件事物,什么东西都是一个人分一半。不用担心我们,不过还是谢谢你的好意。”

过了一会儿,他看只有老先生吃着薯条,老太太没吃,便问老太太:“你为什么不吃呢?”

老太太说:“今天轮到他用牙齿。”



The Gas Men

煤气工人

Two gas company servicemen, a senior training supervisor and a young trainee, were out checking meters in a suburban neighborhood. They parked their truck at the end of the alley and worked their way to the other end.

At the last house, a woman looking out of her kitchen window watched the two men as they checked her gas meter.

Finishing the meter check, the senior supervisor challenged his younger coworker to a foot race down the alley and back to the truck to prove that an older guy could outrun a younger one.

As they came running up to the truck, they realized the lady from that last house was huffing and puffing right behind them. They stopped and asked her what was wrong.

Gasping for breath, she replied: "When I see two gas men running as hard as you two were, I figured I'd better run too!"

两个煤气公司的工作人员，一位是年长的培训监督师，一位是年轻的受训员，正外出在市郊的小镇上查表。他们将车停在街道的一端，然后依次检查到另一端。

到最后一户人家时，女主人从厨房的窗子看他们检查她家的煤气表。

检查完之后，年长的监督员向年轻的同事提出挑战，两人来一个脚力赛跑，沿着街道跑回卡车处，来证明年纪大一点儿的同样能够超过年轻人。

在他们快跑到卡车的时候，他们发现最后一户人家的女主人正跟在他俩身后气喘吁吁地大步跑来。他们停下来问她发生了什么事。

她上气不接下气地说：“当我看见两个煤气工人像你们这样没命地跑，我想我最好也跑！”



Who Do You Think You Are

你以为你是谁

The bus was crowded, and as one more man tried to get on, the passengers wouldn't let him aboard.

"It is too crowded," they shouted, "Who do you think you are?"

"I am the driver," he said.

公共汽车上很挤,当又一个人还是试图上车时,乘客们不让他上。

"车上太挤了,"他们喊道,"你以为你是谁?"

"我是司机!"他说。



Who Dares Move Me

谁敢动我

A person has a bad toothache but he feared the pain of pulling out the tooth. So he has been afraid to go to the dentist. But this time it was really unbearable. Then he summoned up courage to go to see a dentist.

But when he saw the pliers stretching into his mouth, he was too fearful to let the physicians continue! So the dentist asked the assistant to get him a whiskey.

Then asked him: "Now has the courage?"

He is honest to answer: "No!"

Then give him the second cup...the third cup...

"Wait!" The dentist asked him, "What is the matter now?"

The patient shouted: "I want to see who dares to touch my teeth!"

有个人牙疼但他又怕拔牙会更痛,所以一直不敢去看牙医。但是这次他实在是受不了了,于是就鼓起勇气去看牙医。

但当他看到钳子要伸入他口中时,却又怕得不敢让医师动手! 于是医师要旁边的助手去给他拿一杯威士忌酒。

然后问他:"现在有勇气了吗?"

他老实回答说:"没有!"

于是再给他第二杯……第三杯……

"等等!"牙医问他,"现在怎么样了?"

病人咆哮道:"我想看看谁敢来动我的牙齿!"



I Think that I Am a Chicken

我认为自己是一只鸡

Psychiatrist: "What's your problem?"

Patient: "I think I'm a chicken."

Psychiatrist: "How long has this been going on?"

Patient: "Ever since I was an egg!"

精神病医生：“你怎么了？”

病人：“我觉得自己是一只鸡。”

精神病医生：“这种情况有多久了？”

病人：“从我是一只蛋开始！”



Protest

抗议

A drunk stands up in a bar and shouts: "All Lawyers are scumbags."

Another drunk stands up and yells: "Hey, I resent that remark."

The first drunk yells: "Why, are you a lawyer?"

"No," said the second drunk, "I'm a scumbag."

一喝醉了的人在一酒吧大叫：“所有的律师都是无赖。”

另外的一个喝醉了的人站起来同样大叫：“嗨，我不同意你那么说。”

之前的喝醉者大叫：“为什么？你是一位律师？”

“不，”第二个喝醉了的说，“我是一个无赖。”



Scottish Three Kick Rule

A big city London lawyer went duck hunting in rural Scotland. He shot and dropped a bird, but it fell into a farmer's field on the other side of a fence.

As the lawyer climbed over the fence, an elderly farmer drove up on his tractor and asked the lawyer what he was doing.

The lawyer responded: "I shot a duck and it fell into this field, and now I'm going to retrieve it."

The old farmer replied: "This is my property, and you're not coming over here."

The indignant lawyer replied: "I'm one of the best trial lawyers in the UK, and if you don't let me get that duck, I'll sue you and take everything that you own."

The old farmer smiled and said: "Apparently, you don't know how we do things in Scotland. We settle small disagreements like this, with the Scottish Three Kick Rule."

The lawyer asked: "What is the Scottish Three Kick Rule?"

The farmer replied: "Well, first I kick you three times and then you kick me three times, and so on, back and forth until someone gives up."

The attorney quickly thought about the proposed contest and decided that he could easily take the old codger. He agreed to abide by the local custom.

The old farmer slowly got down from the tractor and walked up to the city fellow. His first kick planted the toe of his heavy work boot into the lawyer's groin, which dropped him to his knees.

His second kick nearly ripped the nose off his face.

The lawyer was flat on his belly, when the farmer's third kick to a kidney nearly caused him to give up, but didn't.

The lawyer summoned every bit of his will and managed to get to his feet and said: "Okay, you old tosser, now it's my turn."

The old farmer smiled and said: "Now, I give up, you can keep the duck!"