

SPEECH



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世界著名演讲

——面对挑战

青岛出版社

英汉对照

SPEECH

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姜 晏 葛燕君

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世界著名演讲精粹

——面对挑战

Face the Challenges

Stephen Colbert

Commencement Address at Knox College

June 3, 2006

Thank you. Thank you very much. First of all, I'm facing a little bit of a **conundrum** here. My name is Stephen Colbert, but I actually play someone on television named Stephen Colbert, who looks like me, and who talks like me, but who says things with a straight face he doesn't mean. And I'm not sure which one of us you invited to speak here today. So, with your **indulgence**, I'm just going to talk, and I'm going to let you figure it out.

I wanted to say something about the Umberto Eco[®] quote that was used earlier from *The Name of the Rose*.[®] That book **fascinated** me because in it these people are killed for trying to get out of this library a book about comedy, Aristotle's **commentary** on comedy. And what's interesting to me is one of the arguments they have in the book is that comedy is bad because nowhere in the New Testament does it say that Jesus laughed. It says Jesus wept, but never did he laugh.

But, I don't think you actually have to say it for us to imagine Jesus laughing. In the famous **episode** where there's a storm on the

面对挑战

斯蒂芬·科尔伯特

在诺克斯学院的毕业演讲

2006年6月3日



谢谢！非常感谢！首先，我有一个疑问：我的名字是斯蒂芬·科尔伯特，但我在电视上扮演过一个名叫斯蒂芬·科尔波特的人，那个人的长相、说话方式都很像我，但他说话时总绷着脸，他并不想这样。我不知道你们今天请来的演讲者是哪一个斯蒂芬·科尔伯特。承蒙大家的垂青，我要开始演讲了，你们听完便会知晓。

我想谈谈安伯托·艾柯早期在《玫瑰之名》一书中援引的一句话。那本书让我十分着迷，因为在书中，一些人想从图书馆里找出一本关于喜剧的书——这本书是亚里士多德对喜剧的评价，却因此纷纷被杀。有趣的是，在那本书中，他们有一个争论：喜剧不好，因为《新约》中从未提过耶稣笑了。《新约》中曾提到耶稣哭了，但从未提到他笑了。

但是，我认为《新约》不必明确说出来，我们就能想象到耶稣笑了。在一段著名的章节中，湖面上刮起了风暴，渔夫们已经逃走了。圣徒

conundrum /kə'nʌndrəm/ *n.* 疑问，难题

indulgence /in'dʌldʒəns/ *n.* 沉溺，放纵

fascinate /'fæsineɪt/ *vt.* 被……入迷，吸引住

commentary /'kɒməntəri/ *n.* 评论，注释

episode /'epɪsəʊd/ *n.* 一段情节，片段

lake, and the fishermen are out there. And they see Jesus on the shore, and Jesus walks across the stormy waters to the boat. And St. Peter thinks, "I can do this. I can do this. He keeps telling us to have faith and we can do anything. I can do this." So he steps out of the boat and he walks for — I don't know, it doesn't say — a few feet, without sinking into the waves. But then he looks down, and he sees how stormy the seas are. He loses his faith and he begins to sink. And Jesus **hot-foots** it over and pulls him from the waves and says, "Oh you of little faith." I can't imagine Jesus wasn't **suppressing** a laugh. How **hilarious** must it have been to watch Peter — like Wile E. Coyote® — take three steps on the water and then sink into the waves.

Well it's an honor to be giving your commencement address here today at Knox College. I want to thank Mr. Podesta for asking me two, two and a half years ago, was it? Something like that? We were in Aspen®. You know being people who go to Aspen. He asked me if I would give a speech at Knox College, and I think it was the altitude, but I said yes. I'm very glad that I did.

On a beautiful day like this I'm reminded of my own graduation 20 years ago, at Northwestern University. I didn't start there, I finished there. On the graduation day, a beautiful day like this. We're all in our **gowns**. I go up on the **podium** to get my leather **folder** with my diploma in it. And as I get it from the dean, she leans in close to me and she smiles, and she says that's my ride, actually. I have got to get on that train, I'm sorry. Evidently that happens a lot here. So, I'm getting my folder, and the dean leans into me, shakes my hand and says, "I'm sorry." I have no idea what she means. So I go back to my seat

们看到耶稣站在湖边,走过风雨交加的湖面来到船上。圣·彼得想:“我能做到,我能做到。耶稣一直告诫我们拥有信念,万事即成。我能做到。”所以,他把脚迈出船身,向前走了——我不知道,书上也没说——走了几英尺,却没有掉进湖里。但这时彼得向下看,看到湖面是如此汹涌澎湃,他便丧失了信念,开始往下沉。耶稣急忙上前一步,将他从湖里拉出来,说道:“哦,你的信念还不够。”我想象不到当时耶稣的嘴角没有一丝微笑。看着彼得——像大笨狼怀尔·E·科约特一样——在水上走了3步,然后就掉进水里是多么滑稽的一件事啊!

好了,今天能来到诺克斯学院给大家做毕业演讲,我感到非常荣幸。我想感谢波德斯塔先生在两年半前邀请我,是吧?是那会儿吧?当时我在阿斯彭,你们知道去阿斯彭的都是什么样的人吧。他问我是是否愿意在诺克斯学院做个演讲,我觉得那真是个高难度的挑战,但我还是说:“好的。”我很高兴自己当时答应了他。

我想起了20年前自己在西北大学的毕业典礼,那天就像今天一样阳光明媚。但我没有从那里扬帆起航,只是在那里结束了我的大学生涯。毕业典礼那天和今天一样美好,我们都穿着长袍,我走上台去领取装有学位证书的皮夹。当我从主任手中接过皮夹时,她靠近我,笑着说:“这实际上是我的毕业典礼,我得赶上这趟车,很抱歉。”显然这种事在这里常发生。好了,我接过皮夹,主任靠近我,握了握我的手,说:“我很抱歉。”我不知道她什么意思,所以回到座位打开皮夹,

hot-foot /hɒt'fʊt/ *v.* 急匆匆地走

suppress /sə'pres/ *vt.* 止住,隐瞒,压制

hilarious /hi'lerɪəs/ *adj.* 滑稽的,可笑的

gown /gaʊn/ *n.* 长袍,长外衣

podium /'pəʊdiəm/ *n.* 讲台,(乐队)指挥台

folder /'fəʊldə/ *n.* 文件夹,折叠物

and I open it up. And, instead of having a diploma inside, there's a **scrap** — a torn scrap of paper — that has **scrawled** on it, "See me." I kid you not.

Evidently I had an incompetence in an independent study that I had failed to complete. And I did not have enough credits. And, let me tell you, when your whole family shows up and you get to have your picture taken with them — and instead of holding up your diploma, you hold the torn corner of a yellow legal **pad** — that is a **humbling** experience. But eventually, I finished. I got my credits and next year at Christmas time, they have mid-year graduation. And I went there to get my diploma then. They said that I had an **overdue** library fine and they wouldn't give it to me again. And they eventually mailed it to me, I think. I'm pretty sure I graduated from college.

But I guess the question is why has a two-time commencement loser like me speak to you today? Well, one of the reasons they already mentioned is that I recovered from that slow start. And I was recently named by Time magazine one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World! I guess I have more fans in sub-Saharan Africa than I thought. I'm right here on the cover between Katie Couric[®] and Bono[®]. That's my little picture — a sexy little sandwich between those two.

But if you do the math, there are 100 Most Influential People in the World. There are 6.5 billion people in the world. That means that today I am here representing 65 million people. That's as big as some countries. What country has about 65 million people? Iran? Iran has 65 million people. So, for all intents and purposes, I'm here representing Iran today. Don't shoot.

里面没有学位证书,反而是一张草纸——一张揉碎了的草纸——上面写着一句话:“来找我。”我没有和你们开玩笑。

显然,我不擅长自主学习,所以没有修满学分。我跟你们说,当全家人都来参加你的毕业典礼时,你得和他们合影——你没有拿着学位证书,却拿着一张折了角的黄页纸——那真是一段耻辱的经历,但我最终完成了学业。我在次年圣诞节时修满了学分,那时学校举行了年中毕业典礼。我去学校拿学位证书时,他们却说我在图书馆借的一本书逾期欠款了,所以还是不能把学位证给我。我想学校后来还是把学位证书寄给了我。我从西北大学毕业了,这一点我十分确定。

但我想大家一定纳闷:为什么像我这样一个两次毕业典礼都没有拿到学位的人今天会在这里给大家做演讲呢?他们已经提过的一个原因就是:我在缓慢起步中逐渐崛起。最近,《时代周刊》将我评为“世界上 100 位最具影响力的人物”之一!我猜自己在撒哈拉以南的非洲地区有不少崇拜者,比想象中还要多。这是我和凯蒂·库里克、波诺的一张封面合影,我被他俩夹在中间,瞧!我多性感呀!

但如果你们算算,世界上有 100 位最具影响力的人物,世界上有 65 亿人。这就意味着今天我代表了 6500 万人,和一些国家的人口一样多。哪些国家拥有 6500 万人口呢?伊朗?伊朗拥有 6500 万人口。所以,出于各种原因,今天我在这里代表的是伊朗,不要开枪!

scrap /skræp/ *n.* 碎片,废品

scrawl /skrɔ:l/ *v.* 乱涂,潦草地写

pad /pæd/ *n.* 衬垫

humbling /'hʌmbliŋ/ *adj.* 羞辱的,耻辱的

overdue /'əʊvə'dju:/ *adj.* 过期的,逾期的

But the best reason for me to come to speak at Knox College is that I attended Knox College. This is part of my personal history that you will rarely see reported. Partly because the press doesn't do the proper research. But mostly because it is not true! I just made it up, so this moment would be more **poignant** for all of us. How great would it be if I could actually come back here — if I was coming back to my **alma mater** to be honored like this. I could share with you all my happy memories that I spent here in Galesburg, Illinois. Hanging out at the Seymour Hall[®], right? Seymour Hall? You know, all of us **alumni**, we remember being at Seymour Hall, playing those drinking games. We played a drinking game called Lincoln-Douglas[®]. Great game. What you do is, you act out the Lincoln-Douglas debate and any time one of the guys mentions the Dred Scott decision[®], you have to chug a beer. Well, technically three-fifths of a beer. You do have a good education! I wasn't sure if anybody was going to get that joke.

I soon learned that a **frat house**[®] — oops — divided against itself cannot stand.

How can I forget cheering on the team — the Knox College Knockers? The Prairie Fire. Seriously, the Prairie Fire. Your team is named after something that can get you federal disaster relief. I assume the "Flash Floods" was taken.

Oh, yes, the memories are so fresh. It was as if it was just yesterday I made them up. And the history, you don't have to tell me the history of Knox College. No, your website is very thorough. The college itself has long been known for its diversity. I am myself a supporter of **diversity**. I myself have an **inter-racial** marriage. I am Irish and my wife is Scottish. But we work

我到诺克斯学院演讲的最合适的原因就是：我在这儿读过书。我的这段个人经历很少见诸报端，其中一部分原因是因为新闻界做的调查工作还不够多，但主要是因为这根本就不是真的，是我刚刚编造的，所以这一刻定会令我们所有人都难以忘怀。要是我真的能回到这里，那该多好——如果我真能回到母校得到如此嘉奖，我就能和大家分享我在伊利诺伊州的盖尔斯堡度过的幸福时光了。在西摩大厅闲逛，对吗？西摩大厅？我的所有男生校友们，我们仍然记得在西摩大厅玩的那些喝酒游戏。我们玩过一个叫林肯-道格拉斯的喝酒游戏。伟大的名字。怎么玩呢？就是你们扮演林肯与道格拉斯在一起辩论，只要其中一个男生提到德雷德·斯科特的判决，就得喝掉一杯啤酒。好吧，理论上是 3/5 杯啤酒。你们都接受过很好的教育！我不知道是否有人听懂了这个笑话。

这个游戏让我很快明白兄弟会——是呀——各立一派是不会长久的。

我怎么能忘记球队的啦啦队呢？——诺克斯学院的美女们？“草原火”。的确是“草原火”。你们球队的名字能让你们领到联邦的灾难救济金，我想应该是“闪洪队”吧。

哦，是的，这些记忆都还历历在目，仿佛我昨天才刚刚编好。至于历史，你们不需要告诉我诺克斯学院的历史。不需要，你们的网站讲述得很全面。诺克斯学院以多元化著称，我也很支持多元化。我和妻子来自不同的地方，我是爱尔兰人，我妻子是苏格兰人。但我们的婚

poignant /'pɔɪnjənt/ *adj.* 强烈的，难以忘怀的

alma mater /'ælmə/'meɪtə/ *n.* 母校

alumni /ə'ɪlmnaɪ/ *n.* 男毕业生

frat /fræt/ *n.* 大学男生联谊社，兄弟会

diversity /daɪ'vɜ:sɪti/ *n.* 多样性，差异

interracial /,ɪntə'reɪʃəl/ *adj.* 不同种族间的，人种混合的

it out. And it is fitting, most fitting, that I should speak at Knox College today because it was founded by **abolitionists**. And I gotta say — I'm going to go out on the limb here — I believe slavery was wrong. No, I don't care who that upsets. I just hope the mainstream media give me the credit for the courage it took to say that today. I know the **blogosphere** is just going to explode tomorrow. But enough about me. If there can be enough about me.

Today is about you — you who have worked so hard to pack your heads with learning until your skulls are all **plump** like — sausage of knowledge. It's an apt metaphor, don't question it. But now your time at college is at an end. Now you are leaving here. And this leads me to a question that just isn't asked enough at commencements. Why are you leaving here?

This seems like a very nice place. They have a lovely website. Besides, have you seen the world outside lately? They are playing for **KEEPS** out there, folks. My God, I couldn't wait to get here today just so I could take a breathe from the real world. I don't know if they told you what's happened while you've **matriculated** here for the past four years. The world is waiting for you people with a club. **Unprecedented** changes happening in the last four years. Like globalization. We now live in a hyperconnected, global economic, outsourced society. Now there are positives and minuses here. And a positive is that globalization helps us understand and learn from **otherwise** foreign cultures. For example, I now know how to ask for a Happy Meal in five different languages. In Paris, I'd like a "Repas Heureux." In Madrid a "Comida Feliz." In Calcutta, a "Kush kana." In Tokyo, a "Happy Seto " And in Berlin, I can order

姻美满,我俩很合适,再合适不过了。我之所以跟你们说这个是因为诺克斯学院是由废奴主义者创建的。我要说——我打算爬着出去——我相信奴隶制是错误的。不,我不在乎谁会生气。我只希望主流媒体能因为我今天说出这些话的勇气而给我一些赞许。我知道明天的博客会被挤爆,但是关于我的事已经够多了,如果可以的话,我不在乎再多一些。

今天的焦点是你们——你们学习刻苦,用知识充实头脑,直到你们的脑袋都肿得像——知识香肠。这是一个恰当的比喻,不要质疑。但现在,你们在大学的时光已接近尾声,现在你们要离开学校了。这使我不禁要问一个在毕业典礼上被不断谈及的问题:你们为什么要离开这里?

这里似乎是个好地方,学校的网站也很精致。而且,你们最近没有关注外面的世界?伙计们,在外面,人们为了把别人挡在外面而明争暗斗。我的上帝,我现在都迫不及待地要回到校园,好让我逃离真实的世界,喘一口气。我不知道他们有没有告诉过你们:在你们上大学的这4年里,世界发生了什么变化?世界正拿着棍棒等着你们呢!在过去的4年里,世界发生了天翻地覆的变化,比如全球化。我们现在居住的社会高度联通、经济全球化、资源外包。全球化有利有弊,利就在于它能使我们了解和学习外来文化。比如,现在我知道怎样用5种语言叫一份“欢乐套餐”。在巴黎,我会说:“Repas Heureux”。在马德里,我会说:“Comida Feliz”。在加尔各答,我会说:“Kushkana”。在东京,我会说:“Happy Seto”。而在柏林,我会点一份

abolitionist /ˌæbəˈlɪʃənɪst/ *n.* 废奴主义者

blogosphere /blɒgəˈsfɪə/ *n.* 博客

plump /plʌmp/ *adj.* 丰满的,肿胀的

matriculate /məˈtrɪkjʊleɪt/ *v.* 准许入学,录取

unprecedented /ʌnˈpreʃɪdəntɪd/ *adj.* 空前的,前所未有的

otherwise /ˈʌðəwaɪz/ *adj.* 不同的