

最美丽的英文

The most Beautiful English

四

最温馨动人的故事 最睿智的人生哲理

学会生活在此时此刻



人的生命是彩色的:它也许美丽,也许痛苦;也许伟大,也许平凡;有时,在路上的我们会停下来思考这一切的意义;有时,我们也会转而探寻那未知的奥秘。无论怎样,让我们拥抱一个绚丽的人生……



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最美丽的英文

(四)

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第七卷 感触美丽

Knoledge and virtue

春天,我触摸树枝,满怀希望地寻找新芽,那是大自然经过一个冬天的沉睡后苏醒的第一个标志。我能感觉到有着天鹅绒般肌理的可爱花朵,发现它层层地绽放着。于是,大自然的神奇展现在我面前。



第七卷

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知识与美德

★约翰·亨利·纽曼

知识是一回事,美德则是另外一回事。好意不是良 心、优雅不是谦让、广博与公正的观点也不是信仰。无 论多么富有启迪或高深莫测的哲学,都无法左右感情, 都不具备有影响力的动机,都不具有导致生动活泼的原 理。文科教育并非为了造就基督教徒或者天主教徒,而 是为了造就绅士。造就一个绅士是件美好的事, 有教养 的才智, 优雅的情趣, 正直、公正而冷静的头脑, 髙贵 而彬彬有礼的举止——这些是与渊博的学识生来固有的 品质, 也正是大学教育的目的。我倡导它们, 并加以阐 释和坚持。不过我要说的是,它们仍然不能确保圣洁, 或甚不能保证诚实。它们可以附庸于世故的俗人,附庸 于玩世不恭的浪子。唉, 当他们用它伪装起来时, 就更 增加了他们外表上的冷静、快活和魅力。就其本身而 言,它们似乎已经面目全非,它们已成为一种只可远观 的美德, 只有经过长久的观察方可探知真相。因此它们 受到广泛的责难,被指责为虚假、伪善。我想强调的

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是,这绝不是因为它们自身有什么过错,而是因为教授 及其崇拜者们一味地把它们弄得面目全非,而且还殷勤 地献上其本身并未要求的赞扬。如果说用剃刀能开采花 岗岩,用丝线能系住船只,那么你就可以希望能用人的 知识和理性这样美妙而优雅的东西去同人类的情感与高 傲那样的庞然大物进行抗争。

Knoledge and virtue

★ John Henry Newman

Knowledge is one thing, virtue is another; good sense is not conscience, refinement is not humility, nor is largeness and justness of view faith. Philosophy, however enlightened, however profound, gives no command over the passions, no influential motives, no vivifying principles. Liberal Education makes not the Christian, not the Catholic, but the gentleman. It is well to be a gentleman, it is well to have a cultivated intellect, a delicate taste, a candid, equitable, dispassionate mind, a noble and courteous bearing in the conduct of life - these are the connatural qualities of a large knowledge; they are the objects of a University; I am advocating, I knowledge; they are the objects of a University; I am advocating, I shall illustrate and insist upon them; but still, I repeat, they are no guarantee for sanctity or even for conscientiousness, they may attach to the man of the world, to the profligate, to the heartless, pleasant, alas, and attractive as he shows when decked, out in them. Taken by themselves, they do but seem to be what they are not; they look

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like virtue at a distance, but they are detected by close observers, and on the long run; and hence it is that they are popularly accused of pretense and hypocrisy, not, I repeat, from their own fault, but because their professors and their admirers persist in taking them for what they are not, and are officious in arrogating for them a praise to which they have no claim. Quarry the granite rock with razors, or moor the vessel with a thread of silk. then may you hope with such keen and delicate instruments as human knowledge and human reason to contend against those giants, the passion and the pride of man.

活出个性

★佚 名

在浩渺的大千世界中,每个人都仅有一次生存的机会——它是无与伦比,不可挽回的。正如卢梭所说,上帝创造了你,即刻打碎了那个属于你的特定模子。

名誉、财富、知识等仅为身外之物,并且每个人都 在为获取它们而努力奋斗着。但你的人生经历和感受却 是你的私人财产,无人可与你分享。你死后,也无人能 替你再活一次。如果你真正意识到了这一点,你就会懂 得,人生在世,活出自己的独特个性和滋味是最重要 的。衡量你的人生有意义与否的标准不是外在的成功, 而是你对人生意义的独特理解和感悟,从而使个性绽放 异彩。

真正做成自己并非一件易事。世间有好多人,你可以通过许多途径去识别他,他的职业,身份,社会地位等,唯独不是通过他的个性去识别。如果一个人总是按别人的意愿生活,没有自己的独立思想,总是忙于身外之物,没有自己的个性生活,那么,说他不是他自己就



一点儿都不为过。因为从他的头脑到他的心灵,你确实 找不到一样只属于他自己的东西,他只不过是别人的一 个影子和办事的机器罢了。



An Identity of One's Own

★ Anonymous

In the eternal universe, every human being has a one-off chance to live—his existence is unique and irretrievable. for the mold with which he was made, as Rousseau said, was broken by God immediately afterwards.

Fame, wealth and knowledge are merely worldly possessions that are within the reach of anybody striving for them. But your experience of and feelings about life are your own and not to be shared. No one can live your life over again after your death. A full awareness of this will point out to you that the most important thing in your existence is your distinctive individuality or something special of yours. What really counts is not your worldly success but your peculiar insight into the meaning of life and your commitment to it, which add luster to your personality.

It is not easy to be what one really is. There is many a person in the world who can be identified as anything—either his job, his status or his social role—that shows no trace about



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his individuality. It does do him justice to say that he has no identity of his own, if he doesn't know his own mind and all his things are either arranged by others or done on others' suggestions; if his life, always occupied by external things, is completely void of an inner world. You won't be able to find anything whatever, from head to heart, that truly belongs to him. He is, indeed, no more than a shadow cast by somebody else or a machine capable of doing business.



美丽留言

★佚 名

一天,一位老师让她的学生们把班上除自己以外的 所有同学的名字都写在两张纸上,并在每个名字下面留 出空白,紧接着,她让他们想起关于这些同学的最好并 把这些话写下来。

完成这项任务占据了课堂所剩的一点儿时间,孩子 们陆陆续续交上他们的答案,离开了教室。

周六的时候,老师分别在每张纸上写下一个学生的 名字,把之前同学们写下的话写到他们的名字下面。

一到了礼拜一,她便把这些纸发给了同学们。很快,同学们一个个地都笑了。

"这是真的吗?"有人低声说。

"我还从来不知道自己对别人来说意味着什么!"和 "我一直都不知道他们这么喜欢我。"是谈论的最高频 率。

后来再也没人重提起班里这件事了。老师不知道在 课后同学们是否谈到过或者和父母谈论过,但这些已经

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不重要了,她已经达到了她的目的,孩子们变得更加友 爱了。

就这样这些学生渐渐长大了。

若干年后,其中一个学生在越战中阵亡,这位老师 参加了这位特别学生的葬礼。

她从来不曾见过躺在军用棺木中的军人,里面的他看上去是那么的英俊、成熟。爱他的朋友们聚满了整个教堂,他们一个接一个地走向他的灵柩去看他最后一眼,老师则是这最后一个为他祝福的人。

她站在灵柩前,一位护柩的士兵走到她面前问道: "您是马克的数学老师吗?"

"是的。"她点头说。

士兵说: "马克总是提起你。"

葬礼过后,马克生前的很多同学一块儿去吃午餐。 马克的父母也在其中,显然他们很想和马克的老师谈点 儿什么。

"我们想拿样东西给您看,"马克的父亲边说边从口袋里掏出一个钱包,"马克阵亡时他们在身上发现了这个,我们觉得您可能还记得它。"

他打开钱包,很小心地拿出了两片破旧的笔记本纸,它们显然被展开又折叠过很多次了。老师没看就



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知道这是马克的同学当年曾写了一些留言的两片纸片。

"谢谢您为马克所做的这些,"马克的母亲说,"正如您所看到的,马克特别珍惜它。"

这时,马克的所有同学都聚拢了过来。查理羞怯地笑着说: "我也留着那张纸,我把它放在我书桌最上面的抽屉里。" 扎克的妻子说: "扎克要我把他的留言放进我们的结婚纪念册里。" "我的也在呢,"玛丽莲也说, "夹在日记本里了。"接着,另外一个同学伟基也拿出了她手袋里的钱包,向大家展示了她那张已经皱巴巴的纸条。 "我一直把这个带在身上," 维基眼也不眨地继续说, "我想我们都留着各自的那张纸。"

这时,老师坐下来, 哭了。

她为马克和再见不到马克的朋友们而哭泣。

若茫人海, 纷繁复杂, 我们似乎忘记了生命终将会在某一天生结束, 我们不知道那一天将会在何时到来。 所以, 请通过电话告诉那些你所爱的和你在乎的人们, 他们对你有多么特别和重要。

在一切都太晚了之前,告诉他们。

如果你现在忙得抽不出一些空闲去写些别人的优点 并发给他们,那么这是不是你第一次没能做这种能够改



善人际关系的小事呢?

记住:种瓜得瓜,种豆得豆。你给别人生活里投入了什么东西最终你自己的生活里也会被回馈到。



Nice Things

★ Anonymous

One day, a teacher asked her students to list the names of the other students in the room on two sheets of paper, leaving a space between each name. Then she told them to think of the nicest thing they could say about each of their classmates and write it down.

It took the remainder of the class period to finish their assignment, and as the students left the room, each one handed in the papers.

That Saturday, the teacher wrote down the name of each student on a separate sheet of paper, and listed what everyone else had said about that individual.

On Monday, she gave each student his or her list. Before long, the entire class was smiling.

"Really?" someone whispered.

"I never knew that I meant anything to anyone! " and "I didn't know others liked me so much." were most of the comments.

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