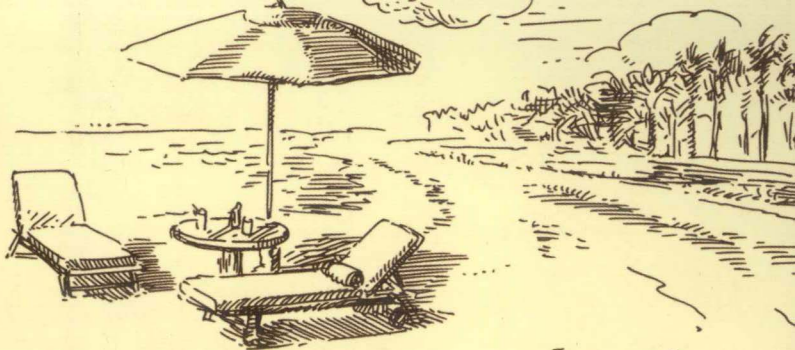
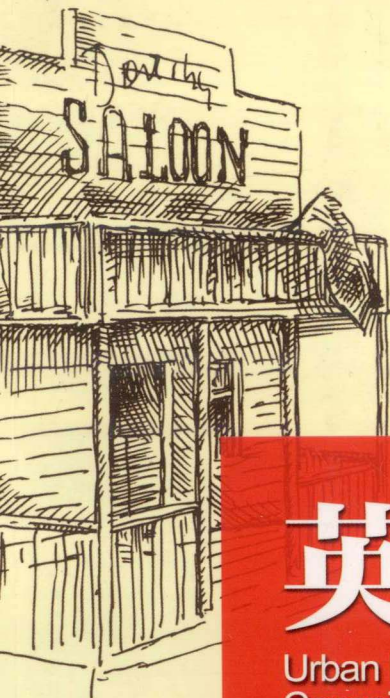




双语译林

英汉双语对照



# 英美故事会

Urban Legends,  
Conspiracy Theories &  
Old Wives' Tales

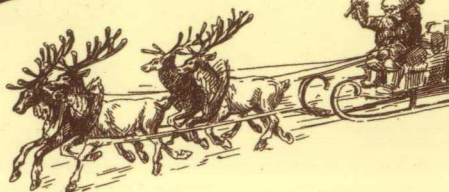
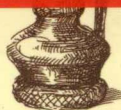


Season 1  
第1季

Albert Jack  
[美国]艾伯特·杰克 著

邵志军 译

凤凰出版传媒集团  
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# 英美故事会：第1季

Albert Jack

[美国]艾伯特·杰克 著

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Urban Legends, Conspiracy  
Theories & Old Wives' Tales

英美故事会：第1季



## Revenge Is a Cheap Jaguar

Early one morning, a teenage garage mechanic in Oxford was looking through his local paper for a cheap second-hand car when his attention was caught by one rather puzzling small advert: 'Jaguar XK8 for sale, 2 years old, perfect condition, leather interior and sat. nav.— only £200.' Believing the price to be a misprint that should have read £20,000 at the very least, he moved on to other adverts, but his attention kept drifting back to the one for the Jaguar until he finally made up his mind to telephone the number provided. A well-spoken lady answered and confirmed he was the first caller and that the car was indeed only £200.

Still puzzled, the young mechanic drove to the address given by the lady and found himself at a large country house with landscaped gardens, tennis courts and a swimming pool. Outside the garage was a shiny black Jaguar XK8 being polished by the gardener. The V8 engine purred when the mechanic took it out for a spin and the car was in mint condition, so on checking the price again the mechanic quickly handed over £200 and promptly received the keys and log book in return. He could scarcely believe his luck but had to ask, 'Why are you selling the car so cheaply? Surely you must know it is worth much more?' The lady hesitated and then decided no harm could be done if she explained the story behind it all.

'A few years ago,' she told him, 'I met the perfect man. He was tall, attractive and owned a very successful publishing business. We got married, moved into this house and everything was perfect for three years. Then he employed a beautiful, sexy young PR executive and

## 美洲虎为什么这么便宜？

有天一大早，牛津一位年轻的汽车机修工在翻阅当地报纸，看看有没有便宜的二手车信息，一条让人相当困惑的小广告吸引了他的注意：

“出售美洲虎XK8，车龄两年，车况理想，真皮内饰，卫星导航，只售200英镑。”小伙子心想肯定是价格印错了，那至少也要两万英镑，就继续看下面的广告。但是这条美洲虎的广告把他弄得心神不定，最后他决定拨一下广告上提供的号码。一位言辞得体的女士接了电话，说他是第一位打来电话的人，而且，这辆车确实只卖200英镑。

这位年轻机修工还是有点不解，就开车前往那位女士所给的地址，发现自己来到了一座乡村大别墅前，旁边是几处精心设计的花园、网球场和一座游泳池。在车库外面停着一辆闪亮的黑色美洲虎XK8，园丁正在擦车。当机修工将它开出去试车的时候，V8的引擎低沉地咆哮了起来，车子看来状态非常完美。于是，机修工再次核对了价钱，连忙递上了200英镑，麻利地接过对方递来的钥匙和行车日志。但是，他还是不能相信自己的好运气，忍不住问：“为什么这车卖这么便宜呢？你肯定知道这车不止这个价吧？”女士开始有点犹豫，但是想想告诉他也无妨，就原原本本讲了关于这辆车的故事。

“几年前，”她说，“我遇到了我的白马王子，他高大帅气，还拥有一家非常成功的出版公司。我们结了婚，搬到了现在这座房子里。前三年还事事如意，后来他聘用了一个漂亮性感的年轻公关小姐，他们有了性关

before I knew it they were having an affair. I found out about a month ago and when I confronted him he admitted everything, packed his bags and left, just like that. Then, last week, I received a letter from his lawyer stating that as long as he could retain my share of the business as well as his own, he was happy for me to keep the house and the rest of the money. But there was one condition: as he didn't want to come back to the house and face me, I was told I had to sell his Jaguar, keep half the money and forward the balance on to him to use as a deposit for a new car. So that is exactly what I am doing.'

系，我一直被蒙在鼓里。大约一个月前，我发现了真相。在我面前他承认了一切，然后收拾了自己的东西就走了。事情就是这样。后来，上个星期，我收到他律师寄来的一封信，说只要我把在他公司的股份和他的股份全部给他，他就很乐意把这座房子和剩下的钱全部给我。但是有一个条件：因为他不想再回到这座房子里来面对我，所以托人转告我，我得把他的美洲虎卖了，我留一半钱，剩下的钱转交给他，用作购买一辆新车的定金。所以，我就照办了。”

## Unexpected Reversal

In Weybridge, Surrey, an elegant lady was patiently waiting for a parking space at the shopping centre near the old Brooklands racetrack. After a short while, she noticed a man walking to his car and so she drove closer in order to use the space once he had vacated it. But just as he left, an arrogant youngster nipped past her and forced his boy-racer Escort into the empty bay ahead of her. The lady wound her window down. 'Young man,' she said. 'I have been waiting for that space.'

'Sorry, old girl,' came the reply, 'but that's what happens when you are young and quick.' With that, the lady positioned her Mercedes directly in front of his car and then reversed as fast as she could, smashing the tow bar straight into the Escort, destroying the radiator and the entire front end. As his car sat hissing and leaking water all over the parking bay, the youngster looked on in shocked disbelief. 'You can't do that,' he stammered. 'Yes, you can,' replied the lady. 'You can when you are old and rich.'

We have all, at times, wished we could have delivered a withering put-down in response to an insult. A past master at it was Sir Winston Churchill, who once silenced Lady Nancy Astor after she had fired the barb: 'Winston, if I were your wife I would put poison in your coffee.' The great man shot back: 'Nancy, if you were my wife, I would surely drink it.' On another occasion he was insulted by a young woman who

## 意外倒车

在萨里郡的韦布里奇市，靠近老布鲁克兰赛道<sup>①</sup>旁，一位优雅的女士正在耐心地等待购物中心外面的停车空位。没过多久，她注意到一个男子正走向他自己的车，于是她开近了一点，准备等他一腾出那个空位就停上去。但是那个男子刚开走，一个目中无人的小鬼就刺溜一下超过了她，将他的飙车手护卫舰硬生生地插到了她前面空出来的那个泊位上。女士摇下了她的车窗。“年轻人，”她说，“我一直在等这个位子啊。”

“对不起，老姑娘，”对方甩过来这句话，“我又年轻，手脚又快，你就一边凉快去吧！”听到这句话，女士直接就把她的梅赛德斯停到了他的车前面，然后迅速将车往后倒，用车子的牵引杆猛地撞向那辆护卫舰，把散热器和整个车头都撞报废了。看着自己的车停在那里嘶嘶作响，整个泊车位到处都是漏下的水，小鬼头一脸震惊，无法相信这是事实。“你不可以这样。”他结结巴巴地说。“不，你可以，”女士回答说，“当你又老又有钱的时候就可以。”

有时我们都希望自己能够在受到对方侮辱时一下子就把他反驳到哑口无言。历史上有位擅长此道的大师，他就是温斯顿·丘吉尔爵士。他有一次在男爵夫人南希·阿斯特恶言相向时让她闭了嘴。男爵夫人说：“温斯顿，假如我是你的妻子，我一定会在你咖啡里面下毒。”这位伟人回敬她说：“南希，假如你是我的妻子，我一定会喝了它。”还有一次，一位年轻

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<sup>①</sup> 世界上第一条专为比赛而建的车道，1907年投入使用，1939年举办其最后一场赛车比赛。现为布鲁克兰博物馆所在地。



said, 'Mr Churchill, there are two things I don't like about you. Your politics and your moustache.' To which he replied, 'Fear not, madam, for you are not likely to come into contact with either.'

Supermodels can apparently produce wit from time to time. The following exchange between two of them, who I have decided should remain nameless for the sake of my future health and wellbeing, took place on an international flight. 'I liked your recent autobiography. Who wrote it for you?' 'That's kind of you to say. Who read it to you?' Touché ... (or perhaps 'touchy' is the correct word).