

▼
钟子
编译

英汉
对照

品茶怡心，让万事于 啜饮中随风而去

生活节奏的日益加快，让我们在不紧不慢的追赶与忙碌中多了一丝无奈和疲惫。偶尔脚步开始踟蹰，偶尔眼中有点儿迷茫，此时，不如沏上一壶清茶，让万事都在一杯杯的啜饮中随风远去……

天天读点好英文
[哲理·智慧卷]
Everyday English Notes

PHILOSOPHY AND WISDOM



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汉英对照

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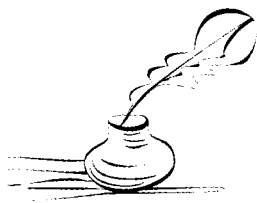
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你有着
What Is 怎样的态度
Your Attitude





栅栏与桥

A Fence and a Bridge

► 佚名 / Anonymous

Once upon a time, two brothers who lived on adjoining farms, fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in many years of farming side by side, sharing machinery, and trading labor and goods as needed without a conflict. Then the long **collaboration**¹ fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference, and finally it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on John's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's tool box. "I'm looking for a few days' work," he said, "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there I could help with? Could I help you?" "Yes," said the older brother, "I do have a job for you."

"Look across the **creek**² at that farm. That's my neighbor; in fact, it's my younger brother. Last week there was a **meadow**³ between us and he took his **bulldozer**⁴ to the river levee and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I'll do him one better."

"See that pile of lumber by the barn? I want you to build me a

fence — an 8-foot fence — so I won't need to see his place or his face anymore."

The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I'll be able to do a job that pleases you."

The older brother had to go to town, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day. The carpenter worked hard all that day measuring, sawing, nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job.

The farmer's eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all. It was a bridge — a bridge stretching from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work, handrails and all — and the neighbor, his younger brother, was coming toward them, his hand outstretched. "You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done."

The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in the middle, taking each other's hand.

They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox onto his shoulder. "No, wait! Stay a few days. I've a lot of other projects for you," said the older brother.

"I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, "but I have many more bridges to build."



从前,有这样一对兄弟,他们住在相邻的农场,常常发生争执。多年来,兄弟俩相处得一直不和睦,无论是共用农具,还是分配劳动、收成时,没有一次不发生争吵,而后兄弟俩就会很长一段时间不在一起劳作。有一次,他们最开始只是发生了一个小小的误会,但问题逐渐激化,最后兄弟俩竟说出难听的话语相互攻击,之后,他们谁都不再理睬对方,形同陌

路,这样已经持续几个星期了。

一天早上,有人敲响了老大约翰家的门。当他打开门后,发现是一位木匠,手里正提着工具箱。“我正在寻找一份短工,”他说,“也许在你这里能找到,有什么需要帮忙的吗?”“是的,”约翰说,“我需要你帮忙。”

“你看到河边的那个农场了吧,那里是我的邻居家。事实上,那是我弟弟家。上周在我们两家之间还是一片空草地,可他用推土机推出一道河沟,现在这里就多出了这条小河。他这样做是在故意气我,那好,我也不能示弱!”

“在谷仓旁边有一堆木头,我想让你帮我筑一道栅栏——必须八英尺高——这样我再也看不到他的家和他那张脸了。”

这个木匠说:“我听明白是怎么回事了,给我些钉子和一个挖掘机,我干的活儿肯定能让你满意。”

那天约翰刚好有事要去镇上,于是他给木匠准备好工具后就出发了。木匠十分卖力地工作着,他不停地丈量土地、锯木头、钉钉子,忙碌了整整一天。当日落时分约翰从镇上回来时,他刚好完工。

然而,令约翰目瞪口呆的是,他根本没有看到栅栏,而是看到了一座桥——一座连接那条河两岸的桥!这座桥太漂亮了,简直就是一件杰作。



人与人之间

产生矛盾后,往往谁都不愿意主动示弱。而这种僵持的局面只会让事情变得更加糟糕。其实只要你尝试作出一点让步,就会发现所谓的隔阂只是自己营造出来的幻影,爱从未离开过我们身边。

而这时,约翰的弟弟,正向他们走来,并向他伸出手说:“我做了错事,你没有怪我,还建了一座这么漂亮的桥,你真是我的好哥哥。”

分别站在桥两端的兄弟俩慢慢向桥上走去,在桥的中间他们相遇了,而后彼此握住对方的手。

木匠看到这儿,背起了他的工具箱。“等一等,不要走,留下来在这住几天吧,我们还有其他的活儿需要你帮忙呢。”约翰说。

“我也想留下来,”木匠说,“可是还有更多的桥需要我去建呢。”

热词盘点

1. collaboration [kə,læbə'reɪʃən] n. 合作,协作;通敌

例 The two companies are working in close collaboration each other.
这两家公司密切合作。

2. creek [kri:k] n. 〈英〉小湾,小港;〈美〉小河,小溪

例 He sprang through the creek.
他跳过小河。

3. meadow ['medəu] n. 草地,牧场;(河边的)低洼地

例 The meadow is peopled with wild flowers.
草地长满了野花。

4. bulldozer ['bul,dəuzə] n. 推土机

例 The bulldozer leveled the mount of earth.
推土机把土山推平了。

佳句欣赏

1. There was no fence there at all. It was a bridge — a bridge stretching from one side of the creek to the other!

他根本没有看到栅栏,而是看到了一座桥——一座连接那条河两岸的桥!

2. I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, "but I have many more bridges to build."

“我也想留下来,”木匠说,“可是还有更多的桥需要我去建呢。”

短语攻略

1. once upon a time 从前

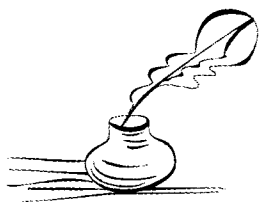
从前这里有一条小河。

译 _____

2. fall apart 散开,崩溃,破碎

不知怎的,我手里的这只杯子破碎了。

译 _____



父亲的位置无法取代

A Father's Job Is Unique

► 佚名 / Anonymous

If parents had job descriptions mine would read: organize bills, **playmates**¹, laundry, meals, ironing, **carpool**², snacks, outings and shopping, and laundry. The only thing on my husband's description would be the word "fun" written in big red letters along the top. Although he is a selfless caregiver and provider, our children think of him more as a combination of a jungle gym and bozo and clown.

Our parenting styles compliment each other. His style is a nonstop adventure where no one has to worry about washing their hands, eating vegetables, or getting cavities.

My style is similar to Mussolini. I'm too busy worrying to be fun. Besides, every time I try, I am constantly outdone by my husband. I bought my children bubble gum flavored **toothpaste**³ and I taught them how to brush their teeth in tiny circles so they wouldn't get cavities. They thought it was neat until my husband taught them how to rinse by spitting out water between their two front teeth like a fountain.

I took the children on a walk in the woods and, after two hours, I managed to **corral**⁴ a slow ladybug into my son's insect cage. I was "cool" until their father came home, spent two minutes in the back-

yard, and captured a beetle the size of a Chihuahua.

I try to tell myself I am a good parent even if my husband does things I can't do. I can make sure my children are safe, warm, and dry. I'll stand in line for five hours so the children can see Santa at the mall or be first in line to see the latest Disney movie. But I can't wire the VCR so my children can't watch their favorite video.

I can carry my children in my arms when they are tired, tuck them into bed, and kiss them goodnight. But I can't flip them upside down so they can walk on the ceiling or prop them on my shoulders so they can see the moths flying inside of the light fixture.

I can take them to doctor appointments, scout meetings, or field trips to the aquarium, but I'll never go into the wilderness, skewer a worm on a hook, reel in a fish, and cook it over an open flame on a piece of tin foil.

I'll even sit in the first row of every Little League game and cheer until my throat is sore and my tonsils are raw, but I'll never teach my son how to hit a home run or slide into first base.

As a mother I can do a lot of things for my children, but no matter how hard I try I can never be their father.



为人父母应做到哪些事情呢？我将其总结为：管理财务、陪孩子们玩耍、洗衣、做饭、熨烫衣物、出行租车、准备小吃、外出旅行、购物等等。对此，我先生却有着自己的见解，那就是两个字——快乐。尽管他总是对孩子们关爱有加、有求必应，可孩子们仍旧把他当做攀缘游戏架、傻瓜或是小丑。

我们夫妻在为人父母方面是互补的，他总是可以与孩子们尽情地玩耍，而与此同时我却要为孩子们有没有洗手、是不是吃了蔬菜，或是会不

会长蛀牙等等诸如此类的事情操心。

我的教子风格倒是有些像墨索里尼的执政风格。因为我实在太忙了,根本没有时间陪孩子们玩儿。再者,每当我试图逗孩子们开心的时候,我的先生总会占上风。在给孩子们买牙膏时,我总会选择他们喜欢的味道——泡泡糖所具有的各种特别的香味。我会教他们如何刷牙——要用牙刷在口中反复刷,形成环形,这样做可以防止蛀牙。他们觉得这样刷牙很好玩儿。直到有一天,我先生教他们如何漱口——从两颗门牙前把水挤出来——那样子就像喷喷泉一样。他们发觉这才叫好玩儿。

我带孩子们到丛林里散步,花了整整两个小时才捉到一只瓢虫放进我儿子的小虫笼里——那只瓢虫爬得比较慢。在孩子的眼中我已经很“酷”了。直到他们的父亲回家后,仅花了两分钟,就在后院里捉住了一只像吉娃娃狗(一种产于墨西哥的狗)那么大的甲虫。

尽管我先生能做好的事情我做不来,但我仍试着安慰自己——我是个好妈妈。至少我可以确保孩子们是安全的、暖和的、干干净净的。我可以为孩子们在商场里排五个小时的队,只为能让孩子们看上一眼圣诞老人;或是赶早排在队伍最前面,让孩子们看到最新的迪斯尼影片。但是我却不会使用录像机,没办法让他们在家里看到喜欢的录像。

孩子玩儿累的时候,我可以把他们抱到床上去,亲吻他们,向他们道声晚安。但我却不能让他们在床上倒立,让他们在天花板上“漫步”,也无法把他们扛在肩膀上,让他们看飞蛾如何在灯下飞舞。

我会定期带孩子们去看医生、开家长会,或是和他们一起去参观水族馆,但我从没有带他们去郊外钓鱼——将鱼饵挂在鱼钩上,再将鱼线抛入水中,待鱼上钩被钓上来后,用锡纸将鱼包好,就在户外烤着吃。

每一场少年棒球联合会比赛我都会参加,我会坐在第一排呐喊助威,直到我的嗓子喊疼了,扁桃体发炎了,但是我却无法教儿子如何打一个本垒打或是如何巧妙进入一垒的位置。

作为母亲,我可以为孩子们做许多事情,但是不管我怎样努力——我永远也无法代替他们父亲的位置。

热词盘点

1. playmate ['plei,meit] n. 一起玩耍的朋友,游戏的伙伴

例 His chief playmate was his dog.

他的主要玩伴是他的狗。

2. carpool ['kɑ:pu:l] v. 合伙使用汽车

例 Why do we have to carpool?

为什么我们要共乘?

3. toothpaste ['tu:θ,peist] n. 牙膏

例 He squeezed the last bit toothpaste out.

他挤出最后一点牙膏。

4. corral [kə'rel] vt. 把…赶入畜栏

例 The horses were swiftly corralled.

马群被迅速赶进了围栏。

佳句欣赏

1. Although he is a selfless caregiver and provider, our children think of him more as a combination of a jungle gym and bozo and clown.

尽管他总是对孩子们关爱有加、有求必应,可孩子们仍旧把他当做攀缘游戏架、傻瓜或是小丑。

2. As a mother I can do a lot of things for my children, but no matter how hard I try I can never be their father.

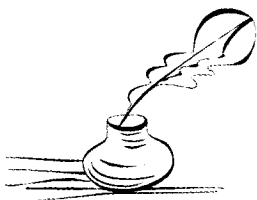
作为母亲,我可以为孩子们做许多事情,但是不管我怎样努力——我永远也无法代替他们父亲的位置。

短语攻略

spit out 吐出…;愤怒地说

他吃了一点蛋糕,立即就吐了出来。

译



学会认输

Learn to Lose

► 佚名 / *Anonymous*

Having been married for more than 40 years, I can attest to the truth of the following statement: to excel in the art of domestic argument, one must master the art of losing.

Modern psychologists are taken with the “win-win” solution. But in marriage, success resides more in “lose-lose” solutions. Out of these, both parties can win. For in the love **configuration**¹, losing gives a gift that always returns.

One day shortly after my wife and I were married, we set about picking new living-room wallpaper from a book of samples. My taste and hers were at odds.

“I like this one,” she said. “That looks like a section of a diseased liver.” “How can you say that? This is a classical pattern that goes all the way back to the Venetian.” “The Venetian were blind. They named blinds after them, remember? I like this one.” “I wouldn’t hang that in hell if I were the devil.”

As the argument went on, my wife suddenly slammed the book shut. “There are over two hundred samples in this book,” she declared, “I say we spend our energy finding one that suits us both, in—