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英汉对照
阅读本

浩瀚◎编

午后时光
休闲阅读系列之
至纯人性

神秘的蒲公英

*Happiness is a journey, not a destination. Therefore,
work like you don't need money, love like you've never
been hurt, and dance like no one's watching.*



厦门大学出版社
XIAMEN UNIVERSITY PRESS

国家一级出版社
全国百佳图书出版单位



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

神秘的蒲公英:英汉对照/浩瀚编. —厦门:厦门大学出版社,
2011. 11

(午后时光休闲阅读系列之至纯人性)

ISBN 978-7-5615-4061-9

I. ①神… II. ①浩… III. ①英语-汉语-对照读物②散文集-世界 IV. ①H319.4:I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2011)第 202528 号

厦门大学出版社出版发行

(地址:厦门市软件园二期望海路 39 号 邮编:361008)

<http://www.xmupress.com>

xmup@public.xm.fj.cn

厦门市明亮彩印有限公司印刷

2011 年 11 月第 1 版 2011 年 11 月第 1 次印刷

开本:889×1194 1/32 印张:2.25

字数:38 千字 印数:1~3 000 册

定价:14.00 元

本书如有印装质量问题请直接寄承印厂调换

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Are You the Wife of the God?

Chicago. It's a cold day in January. A little girl about 10-year-old was standing in front of a shoe store, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering with cold. A lady approached the girl and said, "My little girl, why are you looking so earnestly^① in that window?"

"I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes," the girl replied.

The lady took her by the hand and went into the store, and asked the clerk to get a half dozen pairs of socks for the girl. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. The clerk quickly brought them to her. She took the little girl to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed her little feet, and dried them with the towel. By this time the clerk had returned with the socks.

Placing a pair upon the girl's feet, she then purchased her a pair of shoes, and tying up the remaining pairs of socks, gave them to the girl. She touched her little face and said, "No doubt, my little girl, you feel more comfortable now?"

As she turned to go, the astonished girl caught her by the hand, and looking up in her face, with tears in her eyes, answered the question with these words: "Are you God's wife?"

词汇 ① earnestly 认真地;急切地

你是上帝的妻子吗？

芝加哥，1月寒冷的一天。* 一个10多岁的小女孩赤脚伫立在一家鞋店前，透过橱窗朝里面凝望着，由于寒冷，她禁不住瑟瑟发抖。一位女士走近女孩说道：“小朋友，你这么认真地盯着橱窗，看什么呢？”

“我在请求上帝给我一双鞋子。”女孩回答。

女士牵着她的手走进了商店，让店员去取半打棉袜。然后她问能否打一盆水并拿一块毛巾。很快店员取来了。她把小女孩带到商店的后面，脱下手套，蹲下来给她洗了那双小脚，然后用毛巾擦干。这时，店员也取来了袜子。女士把一双袜子穿到了女孩脚上，又为她买了一双鞋子，然后捆好剩余的袜子递给了女孩，女士拍着她的头说：“小朋友，现在一定感到舒服多了吧？”

当她刚想转身离开时，一脸惊讶的小女孩抓住她的手，仰起脸来盯着她，眼中噙满了泪水。她没有直接回答，而是问道：“你是上帝的妻子吗？”

Big Feet and Big Heart

It was an unseasonably^① hot day. Everybody it seemed was looking for some kind of relief, so an ice cream store was a natural place to stop.

A little boy, clutching^② his money tightly, entered the store. Before he could say a word, the store clerk sharply told him to get outside and read the sign^③ on the door, and stay out until he put on some shoes. He left slowly, and a big man followed him out of the store.

He watched as he stood in front of the store and read the sign “No Bare Feet”. Tears started rolling down his cheeks as he turned and started to walk away. Just then the big man called him. Sat down on the curb, he took off his size-12 shoes, set them in front of the boy and said, “Here, you won’t be able to walk in these, but if you sort of slide^④ along, you

can get your ice cream cone.”

Then he lifted the little boy up and set his feet into the shoes. “Take your time,” he said, “I get tired of moving them around, and it’s good to sit here and enjoy my ice cream.” The shining eyes of the little boy could not be missed as he shuffled up to the counter and ordered his ice cream cone.

He was a big man, all right. Big belly, big shoes, but most of all, he had a big heart.

词汇

①unseasonably 不合时宜地

②clutch 抓紧

③sign 招牌

④slide 滑行

大脚丫,大胸怀

这是一个不合时节的热天。似乎每个人都在寻找某种方法来消暑,因此,冰淇淋店自然变成了让人驻足的地方。

一个小男孩手中紧握着钱走进小店。他还没有开口,店员便厉声呵斥他出去看看贴在门上的告示,如果不穿上鞋子就不要进来。小男孩慢慢地转身离开,一个大个子男子也随着他走出去了商店。

小男孩站在商店的门前,读着上面的告示:禁止赤足。大个子男子看着他。当他转过身准备离开时,泪水开始从他的脸颊滑落。就在这时,大个子男子喊住了他,并坐在路边脱下自己12号的鞋子送到他面前说:“给你,穿上它们你可不好走路,但是如果拖着走,你就能吃到冰淇淋了。”

于是他抱起男孩,帮他穿上了那双鞋。他说:“不用着

急。我走累了，坐在这里吃冰淇淋还是不错的。”当小男孩拖着那双大鞋来到柜台买到冰淇淋时，他那双闪着泪光的眼睛让人难以忘记。

他是个大个子男人，一点儿也不错——大肚子、大鞋子，但最重要的是大胸怀。

A Silence Voice

From the first day he entered my junior-high classroom, Willard P. Franklin existed in his own world, shutting out his classmates and me, his teacher. My attempts at establishing a friendly relationship with him met with complete indifference.

Shortly after the Thanksgiving holiday, we received word of the annual Christmas collection of money for the less fortunate people in our school district.

When I called for the contributions the next day, I discovered that almost everyone had forgotten, except for Willard P. Franklin. The boy dug deep into his pants' pockets as he strolled up to my desk. Carefully, he dropped two quarters into the small container.

"I don't need milk for lunch," he mumbled. For a moment, just that moment, he smiled. Then he turned and

walked back to his desk.

That night, after school, I took our meager^① contributions to the school principal. I couldn't help sharing the incident that had taken place.

"I may be wrong, but I believe Willard might be getting ready to become a part of the world around him," I told the principal.

"Yes, I believe it sounds hopeful," he nodded^②. "And I have a hunch we might do well to have him share a bit of his world with us. I just received a list of the poor families in our school who most need help through the Christmas collection. Here, take a look at it."

As I gazed down to read, I discovered Willard P. Franklin and his family were the top names on the list.



- ① meager 不足的, 贫乏的
② nod 点头

无声的表达

自从威拉德·P. 富兰克林进入我教的初中班的那天起，他就把自己封闭了起来，不与其他同学交往，也不与我——他的老师——打交道，完全生活在他自己的世界里。我试图和他建立起一种友好的关系，但他对我却非常冷淡。

感恩节前不久，我们接到一年一度圣诞节募捐的消息，这些钱将用来捐给我们学校所在社区里的穷人。

第二天，当我要求募捐的时候，我发现几乎所有的人都把这件事给忘了，除了威拉德。他一边向我的桌子走来，一边伸手从裤子口袋里掏东西。最后，他小心翼翼地把两枚 25 美分的硬币丢进小箱子里。

“我午餐不需要喝牛奶。”他小声说。在那一瞬间，就那一瞬间，他笑了。然后，他转身回到了自己的座位上。

那天晚上，放学后，我把募捐的这一点儿钱交给了校长，并且忍不住把当天发生的事告诉了他。

“也许我想错了，但我相信可能威拉德正在准备成为这个班集体的一份子。”我告诉校长。

“是的，我认为这听起来有希望。”他点头说道，“我有一种预感，我们或许可以做得好一点儿，让他与我们分享他的世界。我刚收到一份名单，上面是我们学校里最需要通过圣诞节募捐获得帮助的贫困人员名单。这个，你看一下。”

我低头仔细一看，发现威拉德·P. 富兰克林和他的家庭排在名单的最前面。