

《英语活页文选》

特辑

外刊特快专递 英语时文传真

聚焦克林顿

ocusing on Clinton



- 政治生涯
- 家庭生活
- 世纪审判
- “沙漠之狐”

北京大学出版社

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克林顿在白宫



幼年克林顿



克林顿和他的母亲、弟弟



童年克林顿和他的继父



肯尼迪会见克林顿。这是克林顿最喜欢的一张照片。



克林顿 1974 年第一次参加参议员竞选
(政治生涯中的第一次竞选) 时和他的
竞选班子合影。



最佳搭档——克林顿和希拉里



克林顿全家

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(以上文章选自近期《时代周刊》、《新闻周刊》等国外有关资料)

You Didn't Reveal Your Pain

谁能看到,在他笑容背后的童年不幸的阴影?

Bill Clinton's father, William Blythe III, after whom he was named, died in a car accident before he was born. He was raised by his grandparents from age 2 until 7 when his mother, with whom he is still close, married Roger Clinton Sr. Bill loved his stepfather and took his name, but Roger Clinton was an alcoholic^① prone to^② violence. After one ugly incident young Bill, still in his early teens, pointed to his mother and young half brother and warned his stepfather: "You will never hit either of them again. If you want them, you'll have to go through me." His stepfather backed down^③. In recent weeks Clinton has paused at various times along the campaign trail to talk with NEWSWEEK's Eleanor Clift and Jonathan Alter about the influence of those early years on him. Excerpts:

On his upbringing^④: When people are criticizing me, they get to the old "Slick^⑤ Willie" business. Part of it is that I'm always smiling and try to make it look easy and all that. And part of it is the way I was raised. I had such difficulties in my childhood. And I didn't have anybody I could talk to about it. I didn't know I

① alcoholic: 酒鬼

② be prone to: 倾向于

③ back down: 改变原先主意, 退缩

④ upbringing: 抚育, 成长

⑤ slick: 陈腐的, 陈旧的

was supposed to talk about it. I was raised in that sort of culture where you put on a happy face, and you didn't reveal your pain and agony^⑥. Those were not things you shared with people. In some ways, while I'm gregarious, I may be more solitary than I appear.

It was the same thing with [anguish^⑦ over] the [Vietnam] War. I was raised in a time and with a culture where I was never supposed to talk about myself or my own problems—my own pain or my own ambivalence^⑧. I was also raised to believe that no matter how tough it gets for you, there are always a whole lot of people worse off. I struggle now for ways to reveal my true feelings that don't seem self-indulgent^⑨. It's a real hard thing for me to do, I confess^⑩.

On his stepfather: He genuinely^⑪ did love me, and I genuinely did love him. It was himself that he didn't love. Like a lot of men of his age and time, he didn't have a lot of open and candid^⑫ conversations until he began to die. If you asked me to make a list of the 10 most vivid times of my life when I was really alive, I would say those six weeks when he was being treated for cancer at the Duke Medical Center—it was 266 miles from Georgetown [where Clinton was studying] to his hospital room—and I went there every weekend. And we had the kind of conversations that I wish my brother had had. [His half brother is a recovering drug addict^⑬.] I just have to say—and a lot of people like me who grew

⑥ agony: 极度的痛苦

⑦ anguish: 极度的痛苦

⑧ ambivalence: 矛盾的情绪

⑨ self-indulgent: 放纵的, 任性的

⑩ confess: 承认

⑪ genuinely: 真心地

⑫ candid: 坦诚的

⑬ addict: 上瘾的人

up in alcoholic families would say the same thing—the times were not all bad. People don't stay in hell—it's intermittent^⑬ hell that we all put up with... I never regret changing my name.

In an interview, my brother told a story about another incidence of domestic violence that I had interrupted. I didn't even remember it until I read the story, and then I remembered it. I guess I suppressed^⑭ a lot of that stuff. But the truth is that there were also a lot of very good times. Like a lot of addicts, [my stepfather] could never appreciate the good things in his life for being consumed by the gnawing^⑮ fears and failures and insecurities, even though he was attractive and intelligent.

On charges^⑯ that he's too eager to please: The only thing they ought to do is look at the whole record of my public life. Again, I was a peacemaker, and I hated overt^⑰ conflicts. It was a source of great pain in my childhood. One of the biggest problems I had in fully maturing^⑱ was learning how to deal with conflict, and express conflict and express disagreement without being disagreeable^⑲, without thinking the world would come to an end, without feeling I would kind of lose my footing^⑳ in life. Because I grew up in an environment in which either nothing happened or all hell broke loose, so that the ordinary expression of disagreement and the ordinary confrontation and conflict of daily life was not contained^㉑. It was either repressed^㉒ or it ex-

⑬ intermittent: 间歇的, 断断续续的

⑭ suppress: 禁止, 抑制

⑮ gnawing: 令人苦恼的

⑯ charge: 指责, 指控

⑰ overt: 明显的, 公然的

⑱ maturing: 成熟的过程

⑲ disagreeable: 令人不快的, 不合意的

㉑ footing: 立足点

㉒ contain: 包容, 姑息

㉓ repress: 镇压, 抑制