

英汉对照

# 爱默生格言集

世界名家格言作品精选

世界图书出版公司

「美」爱默生 著

庄起敏 编译



休闲英语

ENGLISH ENTERTAINMENT

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EMERSON

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## 前 言

古今中外,无数伟大的思想家、文学家为后人留下了许多充满睿智、富有哲理、耐人寻味和令人叫绝的格言。美国散文家、思想家和诗人爱默生(Ralph Waldo Emerson 1803—1882)便是其中杰出的代表。他的许多名言佳作因其积极的思想性和对人生经验的高度概括而为人们广为传诵。其代表作《论自助》(Self-reliance)更是成了激励人们自强不息的教科书。19世纪和20世纪的文化名人,如尼采、梅特林格和柏格森等都公开承认从他那里获益匪浅。

本书选编和翻译了爱默生的格言400余条,力求多角度地反映作者对世界和人生的看法,其中有些观点由于历史的局限性或者民族、国情、风俗等等差异,可能难以为我们所接受,只能作为了解作者思想全貌的一个方面。

本书既是一本给人以精神启迪的格言选编,同时也是一册中英文对照的读物,希望它~~能对英语学习者~~,特别是美国文学爱好者有所帮助。在~~翻译~~过程中,笔者深感自身才疏学浅,虽然尽了最大努力,但~~难免存在不少疏漏,甚至错误之处~~,恳请读者予以批评指正。

本书在出版前,承蒙国际性语言刊物 *Language International* 编委、上海外国语大学~~施行~~先生~~任~~细审读了译稿,并提出了许多宝贵的修改意见,在此表示衷心的感谢。

编译者

1996.3 于上海

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## Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803—82)

What I loved in the man was his health, his unity with himself, all people and all things seemed to find their quite peaceable adjustment with him, not a proud domineering one, as after doubtful contest, but a spontaneous-looking peaceable, even humble one.

Thomas Carlyle (1795—1881)

Scottish essayist, historian

我对此人的爱戴在于他健康的身心、他自身的和谐。所有的人和物似乎都能与他平安协调、相互适应,因他不是一个如同在难以预测胜负的争辩后表现得妄自尊大,盛气凌人的人,而是一个表情自然、温和甚至谦恭的人。

托马斯·卡莱尔(1795—1881)

苏格兰散文作家和历史学家

Never in my life have I met anyone who did not agree that Emerson is an inspiring writer. One may not accept his thought in toto, but one comes away from a reading of him purified, so to say, and exalted. He takes you to the heights, he gives you wings. He is daring, very daring. In our day he would be muzzled, I am certain.

Henry Miller (1891—1980)

U. S. author

在我的一生中还未曾见有人不同意说爱默生是一个给人以鼓舞的作家。人们或许不能完全接受他的思想,但读过他作品的人,可以说,灵魂会得到净化,精神会得到升华。他让你站得高、他让你飞上天。他勇敢大胆,非常勇敢大胆。我敢肯定:如他处在我们这个年代,会要他保持缄默。

亨利·米勒(1891—1980)

美国小说家

Such a man as instinctively feeds on pure ambrosia and leaves alone the indigestible in things.

Friedrich Nietzsche (1844—1900)

German philosopher

他是一个本能地仅以仙馐美味为食而对难以消化之物不屑一顾的人。

弗里德里奇·尼采(1844—1900)

德国哲学家

## 爱默生论引语与翻译

I do not hesitate to read ... all good books in translations. What is really best in any book is translatable——any real insight or broad human sentiment.

Society and Solitude, "Books"(1870)

我会毫不犹豫地去读……所有那些优秀著作的翻译本。任何书中真正的精华都是可以翻译的——一切真知灼见，一切丰富的人间情感。

《社会与孤独·书籍》(1870)

Next to the originator of a good sentence is the first quoter of it. Many will read the book before one thinks of quoting a passage. As soon as he has done this, that line will be quoted east and west.

Journals 1867 entry

几乎能与一个佳句的创作者相提并论的是这个句子的第一个引用者。无数人读了某本书后才会有人想到从中引用一段，而一旦有人如此做了以后，那段文字便会到处引用，广为流传。

《日记》(1867)

I hate quotations. Tell me what you know.



Journals and Miscellaneous Notebooks  
May 1849 entr

我憎恨引语。告诉我你自己的东西吧。

《日记与杂记》(1849)

By necessity, by proclivity, —— and by delight, we all quote.

Letters and Social Aims.

“Quotation and Originality”(1876)

出于需要,出于癖性,——出于乐趣,我们人人都引用他人的语句。

《书信与社会目标·引语与创见》(1876)

## 一、自助与自信

Whoso would be a man must be a nonconformist.

Essays, "Self-reliance"(First Series, 1841)

一个真正的人必须是不附和习俗而有独立见解的人。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind.

Essays, "Self-reliance"(First Series, 1841)

最终而言,除了你自己健全的大脑之外,没有什么神圣的。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Let a man then know his' worth, and keep things under his feet.

Essays, "Self-reliance"(First Series, 1841)

那么,让每个人都明白自己的价值,将万物置于自己的脚下。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Trust thyself; every heart vibrates to that iron string.

Essays, "Self-reliance"(First Series, 1841)

自信吧：人人都会与那刚劲有力的乐弦发生心灵的共振。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Infancy conforms to nobody; all conform to it.

Essays, "Self-reliance"(First Series, 1841)

婴儿不会依从任何人，而任何人却都去依从婴儿。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Who shall set a limit to the influence of a human being?

The Conduct of Life, "Power"(1860)

有谁可以对人的影响加以限制的呢？

《人生的行为·权力》(1860)

The only gift is a portion of thyself.

Essays, "Gifts"(Second Series, 1844)

天赋即为汝自身之一部分而已。

《论文集(第二辑)·论礼物》(1844)

Make yourself necessary to someone.

The Conduct of Life,

"Considerations by the way"(1860)

让你自己成为他人不可或缺的人吧！

√ Obedience alone gives the right to command.  
正是自己的顺从授人以统治的权利。

The education of the will is the object of our existence.

意志的培养是我们生存的目标。

No law can be sacred to me but that of my nature.

Essays, "Self-reliance" (First Series, 1841)

对我来说,除了自己天性的法则之作,不存在什么神圣的法则。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

√ Let me admonish you, first of all, to go alone; to refuse the good models, even those which are sacred in the imagination of men.

The Divinity School Address (1838)

首先,让我们劝你走自己的路;不要去追随那些好的样板,甚至那是在人们想象之中的圣人。

《对神学院的演讲》(1838)

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\* 没有注明出处的均转摘自《Instant Quotation Dictionary》

Imitation cannot go above its model. The imitator dooms himself to hopeless mediocrity.

The Divinity School Address (1838)

模仿不可能超过其模特。模仿者注定是没有希望的平庸之辈。

《对神学院的演讲》(1838)

The kingdom of man over nature, which cometh not with observation, ... he shall enter without more wonder than the blind man feels who is gradually restored to perfect sight.

Nature (1836)

人类必将进入一个能亲自征服大自然的王国——尽管这一王国并不会随主观意愿而到来——……皆时，他会如同一个盲人逐渐恢复视力，最后重见光明时那样感到无比的惊喜。

《论自然》(1836)

Our spontaneous action is always the best. You cannot, with your best deliberation and heed, come so close to any question as your spontaneous glance shall bring you.

Essays, "Intellect" (First Series, 1841)

我们出自本能的行动总是最好的行动。即便是最慎重的考虑和最密切的注意，也不可能像你本能的目光那样使你更靠近所面临的问题。

Who can set bounds to the possibilities of  
man?

Nature (1836)

谁能限制人的潜能呢?

《论自然》(1836)

In self-trust all the virtues are comprehended.

The American Scholar (1837)

所有的美德都包含在自我信赖之中。

《美国的学者》(1837)

Blessed are those who have no talent!

Journal. February 1850

得福于天的是那些无才之辈。

《日记》1850年2月

If the single man plant himself indomitably on  
his instincts, and there abide, the huge world will  
come round to him.

The American Scholar (1837)

如果一个人坚强地站定在他的本能之上并留守  
在那里,那么广大的世界自会迁就于他。

《美国的学者》(1837)

Give me health and a day and I will make the  
pomp of emperors ridiculous.

Nature (1836)

只要给我健康与时间,我将使帝王的炫耀与浮  
华显得荒唐与可笑。

《自然》(1836)

Nothing can bring you peace but yourself.

Essays, "Self-reliance" (First Series, 1841)

能给你带来安宁的唯有你自己。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

What I must do is all that concerns me, not  
what the people think.

Essays, "Self-reliance" (First Series, 1841)

我必须做的是与我有关的事,而不是他人想做  
的事。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

I hope in these days we have heard the last of  
conformity and consistency. Let the words be  
gazetted and ridiculous henceforward.

Essays, "Self-reliance" (First Series, 1841)

我希望现在是我们最后一次听到顺从与一致。  
从此之后,宣告这两个词的“破产”和荒诞无稽。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Every true man is a cause, a country, and an age.

Essays, "Self-reliance" (First Series, 1841)

每一个真正的人就是一项事业，一个国家，一个时代。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Let us never bow and apologize more. A great man is coming to eat at my house. I do not wish to please him; I wish that he should wish to please me. I will stand here for humanity, and though I would make it kind, I would make it true.

Essays, "Self-reliance" (First Series, 1841)

让我们再也不要点头哈腰，赔礼道歉。一个伟人要来我家吃饭，我不想讨好他；反而希望他想讨好我。我要站在此地维护人性。尽管我想让人性显得仁慈，但我更要让它表现出真诚。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

When private men shall act with original views, the lustre will be transferred from the actions of kings to those of gentlemen.

Essays, "Self-reliance" (First Series, 1841)

当平民百姓按照独到见解行事之时，光辉便将从国王的行为转移到这些有识之士的行为之上。



《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Discontent is the want of self-reliance; it is infirmity of will.

Essays, "Self-reliance"(First Series, 1841)

不满就是缺乏自助;是意志薄弱的表现。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

The secret of fortune is joy in our hands.

Essays, "Self-reliance"(First Series, 1841)

幸运的秘诀是我们自己手中的欢乐。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Welcome evermore to gods and men is the self-helping man. For him all doors are flung wide; him all tongues greet, all honors crown, all eyes follow with desire.

Essays, "Self-reliance"(First Series, 1841)

自助的人永远受到神和人的欢迎。所有的大门都对他敞开;所有的人都向他致意;所有的桂冠都戴到他的头上,所有的目光都热切地追随着他。

《论文集(第一辑)·论自助》(1841)

Insist on yourself; never imitate. Your own gift you can present every moment with the cumulative force of a whole life's cultivation; but of the