

The background of the cover features a stylized, high-contrast illustration. A large, dark silhouette of a warrior's helmet with a prominent crest is positioned in the upper right. To the left and below the helmet are several dark, pointed shapes representing spears or pikes. The overall color scheme is dominated by black, dark grey, and a light yellowish-tan background.

三百勇士

THE BRAVE THREE HUNDRED

〔美〕詹姆斯·鲍德温原著 王志坚 译注 李仲福 校订

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U.S.A.] James Baldwin

选自《FIFTY FAMOUS STORIES RETOLD》

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云南人民出版社出版 (昆明市书林街100号)
渡口新华印刷厂印装 云南省新华书店发行

开本：787×1092 1/32 印张：7.375 字数：156,000

1982年5月第一版 1982年5月第一次印刷

印数：1—7700

统一书号：10116·898 定价：0.68元

译 者 的 话

美国作家詹姆斯·鲍德温(James Baldwin 1841—1925)的《Fifty Famous Stories Retold》(旧译《泰西五十轶事》)和《Thirty More Famous Stories Retold》(旧译《泰西三十轶事》),是讲述欧洲历史故事的姊妹作,共计八十个故事。内容主要是叙述英国历史上一些著名人物的生活片断,也有一些希腊、罗马、法国、丹麦,甚至美国和中国的历史故事。时间上溯公元以前,下及十八世纪,前后涉及二千年;书中包括国王、将军、妇女、士兵、侠盗、教士、学者、医生、乞丐、奴隶等各种不同身份的人物;背景有高山、大海、溪流、清泉、市镇、村落、战场、监狱、牧区、茅舍等多种场合;体裁采用了传记、散文、寓言、童话等各种形式。本书全为独立的短篇。每篇简短明快,文笔朴素,内容丰富,通情达理,思想性与艺术性有较好的结合。

本书属于稗官野史式的作品,人物或可见诸经传,而所叙故事却未必载于史册。这些故事以民间传说为基础,加以整理提炼、润饰而成,把群众喜闻乐道的故事,用文学语言加以精炼和提高,使它们富于情趣和风采,并具有警世和哲理意味。无怪几十年来不脛而走,历久勿衰,不但在英美广泛流传,脍炙人口,同时也受到其他国家学习英语的人们的喜爱,是经得起时间考验的作品。本世纪二十年代起,我国就有一

些学校采为外语教本或用作课外读物。

为了帮助我国青少年和业余爱好者们学习英语，并在英语学习中扩大视野，增长知识，陶冶性情，培养好的品德，我在《Fifty Famous Stories Retold》中选择思想性和艺术性都较好的三十五篇，取名为《三百勇士》，加以汉语译文，并略加注释，推荐给读者。因译者水平有限，缺点错误在所难免，衷心希望读者们提出宝贵意见，以便修改订正。

编译过程中，云南大学范启新先生和李立强、邢若铨等同志曾给译文初稿提了不少宝贵意见，尹华中等同志给了我不少帮助，谨此致谢。

1981年3月

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三 百 勇 士

1. KING ¹ALFRED AND THE CAKES

Many years ago there lived in Eng-land a wise and good king whose name was Al-fred. ²No other man ever did so much for his country as he; and people now, ³all over the world, ⁴speak of him as Alfred the Great.

In those days a king did not have a very ⁵easy life. There was war almost all the time, and no one else could lead his army into ⁶battle so well as he. And so, between ⁷ruling and fighting, he had a busy time of it indeed.

A ⁸fierce, ⁹rude people, called the ¹⁰Danes, had come ¹¹from over the sea, and were fighting the English. There were so many of them, and they were so bold and strong, that for a long time they ¹²gained every battle. If they ¹³kept on, they would soon be the masters of the whole country.

¹⁴At last, after a great battle, the English army ¹⁵was broken up and ¹⁶scat-tered. Every man had to save himself in the best way he could. King Alfred fled alone, in great ¹⁷haste, through the woods and ¹⁸swamps.

¹⁹Late in the day the king came to the hut of a

1. 国王艾尔弗雷德和烧饼

很久以前，英格兰有一位名叫艾尔弗雷德的贤明国王。他对国家的贡献很大，没有谁能比得过他，人们至今还尊敬地称他为艾尔弗雷德大帝。

那个时候随时都有战争，做一个国王并不都能享受很舒适的生活。艾尔弗雷德率领军队进行战斗，十分精明能干。他既要治理国家，又要指挥战争，所以非常忙碌。

当时，有个名叫丹麦的凶横残暴的民族渡过大海来攻打英国。他们人数众多，凶猛强悍，所以经常打胜仗。照这样下去，丹麦人很快就会成为整个英国的统治者了。

在一次大战之后，英军战败，四散溃逃，人人尽力自救。艾尔弗雷德国王也匆匆忙忙地穿过丛林和沼泽独自逃亡。

傍晚的时候，艾尔弗雷德国王来到一个伐木人的小屋。

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1. Alfred ['ælfri:d] n. (人名) 艾尔弗雷德，艾尔弗雷德大帝 (849—899)，英国西萨克森王。 2. no other man ever 从来没有别的人。
3. all over the world 全世界。 4. speak of 讲起，谈到。 5. easy life 安乐的生活。 6. battle ['bætl] n. 战斗，会战。 7. ruling ['ru:liŋ] n. 统治。 8. fierce [fiəs] a. 凶猛；凶恶。 9. rude [ru:d] a. 粗鲁；粗暴。 10. Dane [dein] n. 丹麦人。 11. from over the sea 渡海而来。 12. gained every battle 屡战屡胜。 13. kept (keep) on 继续。 14. at last 终于。 15. was broken up 打败。 16. scatter ['skætə] vi. 溃散。 17. haste [heist] n. 急速；急忙。 18. swamp [swɒmp] n. 沼泽；沼地。 19. late in the day 傍晚。

²⁰wood-cut-ter. He was very tired and hungry, and he begged the wood-cut-ter's wife to give him something to eat and a place to sleep in her hut.

The wom-an was baking some cakes upon the ²¹hearth, and she ²²looked with pity upon the poor, ²³ragged fellow who seemed so hungry. She had no thought that he was the king.

"Yes," she said, "I will give you some supper if you will watch these cakes. I want to go out and ²⁴milk the cow, and you must see that they do not burn while I am gone."

King Alfred was very willing to watch the cakes, but he had ²⁵far greater things to think about. How was he going ²⁶to get his army together again? And how was he going to ²⁷drive the fierce Danes out of the land? He forgot his hunger; he forgot the cakes; he forgot that he was in the woodcutter's hut. His mind was busy making plans for to-mor-row.

In a little while the wom-an came back. The cakes were smoking on the hearth. They ²⁸were burned to a crisp. Ah, how angry she was!

"You lazy fellow!" she cried. "See what you have done! You want some-thing to eat, but you do not want to work!"

²⁹I have been told that she even ³⁰struck the

他又累又饿，请伐木人的妻子给他一点吃的东西和一个睡觉的地方。

伐木人的妻子正在炉上烤饼，她用同情的眼光看着这个满面饥色，衣衫褴褛的穷汉。她根本没有想到他竟是他们的国王。

“好吧，”她说，“如果你给我看着这些烧饼，我就会给你点晚饭吃。现在我要出去挤牛奶，我不在的时候，你得看好这些饼子，别让它们烤焦了。”

艾尔弗雷德国王当然是十分愿意看守这些烧饼的；但是，他还有更重要的事要去思考：他将怎样重新聚集他的军队？他将怎样把凶悍的丹麦人赶出国土？……想着想着，他忘了饥饿，忘了烧饼，忘了他是在一个伐木人的小屋里。他的思想正为明天而紧张地策划着。

过了一会，伐木人的妻子回来了。饼子正在炉上冒烟，已经烤成了焦块！啊，她是多么忿怒啊！

“你这个懒汉！”她叫道。“看你干的好事！你想吃东西，可又不想做事情！”

据说她甚至用棍子打了这个国王。不过我几乎不能相信

20. wood-cutter ['wud-, kətə] n. 伐木工人；樵夫。 21. hearth [hɑ:θ] n. 炉。 22. looked with pity 见而怜之。 23. ragged ['rægid] a. 衣衫褴褛的。 24. milk the cow 挤牛奶。 25. far greater things 更重要的事。 26. get his army together 重整军队。 27. drive ... out 逐出。 28. were (be) burned to a crisp 烧焦。 29. I have been told 据说。 30. strike [straik] vt. 打，击。

king with a stick, but I can hardly be-lieve that she was so ³¹ill-na-tured.

The king must have laughed to himself ³²at the thought of being scolded in this way; and he was so hungry that he ³³did not mind the woman's angry words half so much as the loss of the cakes.

I do not know ³⁴whether he had any-thing to eat that night, or whether he had to go to bed without his supper. But ³⁵it was not many days until he had gath-ered his men to-geth-er again, and had beaten the Danes in a great battle.

她的脾气会坏到这种地步。

国王对这样受到别人的责骂一定会感到十分好笑。但是，他实在太饿了，所以，他对伐木人妻子的粗暴态度，远不如他对烤焦的烧饼那样在意。

我不知道那天夜里他是否吃上了东西，也不知道他是否饿着肚子上床。我所知道的，只是在不久之后，他就重新集合起他的部队，在一次大战中打败了丹麦侵略者。

31. ill-natured [il'neitʃəd] a. 坏脾气的。 32. at the thought of 想到。 33. did (do) not mind 不及注意。 34. whether ['hwetðə] conj. 是不是；究竟(引出宾语从句)。 35. it was not many days 不多几天。

2. KING ALFRED AND THE 'BEGGAR

²At one time the Danes drove King Alfred from his ³kingdom, and he had to ⁴lie ⁵hidden for a long time on a little ⁶is-land in a river.

One day, all who were on the is-land, except the king and queen and one ⁷servant, went out ⁸to fish. It was a very ⁹lonely place, and no one could ¹⁰get to it except by a boat. About noon a ragged beggar came to the king's door, and ¹¹asked for food.

The king called the servant, and asked, "How much food have we in the house?"

"My lord," said the servant, "we have only one ¹²loaf and a little wine."

Then the king gave thanks to God, and said, "Give half of the loaf and half of the wine to this poor man."

The servant did as he was ¹³bidden. The beggar thanked the king for his ¹⁴kindness, and went on his way.

In the after-noon the men who had gone out to fish came back. They had three boats full of fish, and they said, "We have caught more fish to-day

2. 国王艾尔弗雷德和乞丐

有一次，丹麦人把艾尔弗雷德国王赶出了他的国土。他只得长期隐匿在一条河里的小岛上。

一天，除了国王、王后和一个仆人以外，岛上所有的人都出外捕鱼去了。这是一个非常偏僻的孤岛，而且除了乘船以外，没有一个人能到这岛上来。正午时候，竟有一个衣衫褴褛的乞丐，来到国王门口讨东西吃。

国王叫来仆人，问道：“我们屋里还有多少食物？”

“我的主人，”仆人回答说，“我们只有一个面包和一小点酒了。”

于是国王向上帝感恩，并吩咐说：“拿半个面包和一半酒给这个穷人。”

仆人照着他的吩咐做了。乞丐谢过国王以后，径自走了。

下午，出外捕鱼的人回来了。他们捕得了满满三船鱼。他们说：“我们来到这个小岛以后，从来还没有捕到过今天这

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1. beggar ['bega] n. 乞丐。 2. at one time (过去)有个时期；一度。 3. kingdom ['kɪŋdəm] n. 王国。 4. lie 处于某种状态。 5. hidden ['hɪdn] 隐藏，躲藏。 6. island ['aɪlənd] n. 岛。 7. servant ['sɜ:vənt] n. 仆人。 8. to fish 捕鱼，打鱼。 9. lonely ['ləʊnli] a. 孤单的，幽静的。 10. get to 到达。 11. ask for 讨；请求。 12. loaf [ləʊf] n. (一条)面包。 13. bidden ['bɪdn] 吩咐。 14. kindness ['kaɪndnis] n. 仁慈；照顾。