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伊索寓言选

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(附英译原文)

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云雀和她的孩子

春天，云雀在嫩绿的麦垄上筑巢。到夏天，她的小鸟渐渐健壮起来，同时麦子也长高了，紧紧围绕着鸟巢。

临近秋天，雏鸟成长到能够飞翔了，麦子也接近成熟了。

一天，麦垄的主人来了，小云雀听他和儿子说：“麦子要大丰收。我要邀请邻居们来帮助咱们收割。”

小鸟听了很惊慌。它们几乎等不到母亲回来把它们搬到安全的地方去。

“还用不着搬哩，我的孩子，”妈妈说。第二天早晨，她照常外出，嘱咐孩子，农人再来时，细听他说什么，记清楚，以便妈妈回来时如实报告。

几天以后，田主又来了，小鸟们热心倾听，期望得到更多的消息告诉妈妈。



“邻居们已经不来了，”农人说，“去请你的叔父、叔伯兄弟来帮助咱们，麦子快要熟透了。”

“我们现在必须搬家！我们一定要搬家！”小云雀说，“否则割麦人来了，就会把咱们杀完。”

“还是不忙搬，”妈妈说，“他只是请朋友来帮忙，不用害怕；不过，倘若他再来，要留心听着。”

不久，他来了。看到麦子已成熟得快要落粒，他说，“明天咱们自己来割麦。”

当小鸟将这话告诉妈妈时，她说，“我的孩儿们，现在是咱们搬走的时候了，因为农人这次已下了决心。他不再找别人给他干活，而是决心自己干了。”

自力更生，远远胜于求人帮助。

The Lark and Her Young Ones

A lark had made her nest in spring in a field of young, green wheat. Her little ones had been growing stronger all the summer, while the wheat grew taller and closer about their home.

As autumn drew near, the young birds were almost old enough to fly and the wheat was nearly ripe.

One day the owner of the wheat field came by, and the little larks heard him say to his son, "Here will be a fine harvesting of wheat. I must send to all my neighbors to come and help me to gather it in."

This startled the birds. They could hardly wait for the mother to come home to move them to a place of safety.

"There is no need for moving yet, my children," said the mother. But when she left them, as usual, the next morning, she charged them to listen to what the farmer said, if he came again, and to remember so as to tell her

exactly what it was when she came back to them.

After a few days the owner of the field came again, and the eager birds listened to get more news for their mother.

"Since our neighbors have not come," the farmer said, "go and ask your uncles and cousins to come and help us, for our wheat is ready to harvest."

"We must move now! We must surely move!" said the young larks, "or the reapers will come and kill us all."

"Not yet," said the mother, "the man who only sends to his friends to help him is not to be feared, but watch and listen, if he come again."

And by and by he came. Seeing the wheat so ripe that it was shedding its grain, he said, "Tomorrow we will come ourselves and cut the wheat."

And when the birds told this to their mother, she said, "It is time now to be off, my children, for the man is in earnest this time. He no longer trusts to others to do his work, but means to do it himself."

Self-help is the best help.

石 头 汤

一个暴风雨的日子，有一个穷人到富人家讨饭。

“滚开！”仆人们说，“不要来打搅我们。”

穷人说，“只要让我进去，在你们的火炉上烤干衣服就行啦。”仆人们以为这不要花费什么，就让他进去了。

这个可怜人，这时请求厨师借给他一个锅，以便他煮点石头汤。

“石头汤呀！”厨师说，“我想看看你怎样能用石头



做成汤。”就把锅借给他。穷人放开水管在锅里装够水，然后从路上拿块石头放到锅里。

“可是，你得要盐吧；”厨师说。她给他一些盐，豌豆，薄荷，香菜，最后，她又把能够收拾到的所有的碎肉末都给他，这样，这个可怜人做的汤，成了一顿美味的午餐。

你们读到这篇寓言，就会知道，只要你持久地奋力争取，充分利用有利的条件，最后，你就能够达到目的。

Stone Broth

One very stormy day a poor man came to a rich man's house to beg.

"Away with you!" said the servants, "do not come here troubling us."

Then said the man, "Only let me in, and dry my clothes at your fire." This, the servants thought, would not cost them anything, so they let him come in.

The poor man then asked the cook to let him have a pan, so that he could make some stone broth.

"Stone broth!" said the cook. "I should like to see how you can make broth out of stone." So she gave him a pan. The man filled it with water from the pump, and then put into it a stone from the road.

"But you must have some salt," said the cook, and she gave him some salt, and some peas, some mint, and thyme, and at last she brought him all the scraps of meat she could find, so that the poor man's broth made him a good dinner.

You see from this fable that if you only try long enough, and are cheerfully making the best of what you have, you may at last get what you want.

乌鸦和水壶

乌鸦渴了，看见一个水壶，就飞过去看看里面是否有水。

她往里看时，见到有水，但距离壶口远，喝不到，虽然她极力伸长脖子还是达不到。

她停下来想：“怎样才能喝到水呢？我需要它，必须想个办法。”正好她看到地上放着一些小石头；于是，她用嘴衔起来，一个一个丢到水壶里。

石头落到壶底，终于把水挤上来达到壶口，这样，乌鸦很容易就喝到了。

乌鸦说，“有志者，事竟成。”

我亲爱的小朋友，用你的聪明智慧从这个寓言中学习吧。



The Crow and the Pitcher

A thirsty crow spied a pitcher, and flew to it to see if there was any water in it.

When she looked in, she saw that there was water, but that it was so far from the top that she could not reach it, though she stretched her neck as far as she could.

She stopped, and thought to herself; "How shall I get that water? I need it, and there must be some way." Just then she saw some pebbles lying on the ground; and picking them up in her beak, she dropped them one by one into the pitcher.

They sank to the bottom; and at last the water was pushed up to the top so that the crow easily drank.

"Where there's a will, there's a way," said the crow.

Learn from this fable, my dear child, to use your bright wits.

兔子和乌龟

一天，兔子嘲笑乌龟走得慢，骄傲地吹嘘自己跑的速度最快。

乌龟对这种嘲笑处之坦然。“让咱们试试竞走吧，”她说，“我愿同你竞走五英里，以五元打赌，请那里的狐狸作裁判。”

兔子答应了，他们就一同出发。

乌龟一刻也不停，迈着缓慢而又坚定的步子蹒跚前进，直向竞技场的终点走去。

然而兔子却是恣意玩耍，起先超过乌龟，后来落在后面了。在决胜点的中途，他慢慢啃着嫩草，并做着各种游戏。



过了一会儿，天气暖和，他躺下睡觉，说道，“倘若她过来了，我也能很容易追上的。”

当他醒来时，乌龟已经不见了；因而他极力快跑，发现乌龟在获得胜利后，已在决胜点安适地微睡着。

敏捷的人往往过于自信，迟钝而坚持不懈的人常常赢得胜利。

The Hare and the Tortoise

A hare one day made himself merry over the slow pace of the tortoise, and vainly boasted of his own great speed in running.

The tortoise took the laugh in good part. "Let us try a race," she said, "I will run with you five miles for five dollars, and the fox out yonder shall be the judge.

The hare agreed, and away they started together.

The tortoise never for a moment stopped, but