

READING OF THE WEST

欧美风

英语阅读丛书

班荣学 赵荣 编

生命火花

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西北大学出版社

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内容简介

本书是《欧美风·英语阅读丛书》之四，所选 29 篇文章全部源自英美畅销报刊，如 *TIME*, *PEOPLE*, *NEWS WEEK* 等，内容有记叙一位女移民怎样圆了她的“美国梦”的《眉毛天使》，有涉及科技与生活的《皮肤的奥秘》、《是否存在第六感觉？》，有帮你理财、为你投资出谋划策的《消费秘诀》、《如何在股潮中稳操胜券》，还有微软巨子《比尔·盖茨的华盛顿之行》和克林顿连任而带来的《白宫的茫然》……以及其他反映西方社会文化生活的文章。

所选文章兼具知识性、趣味性、可读性强的特点，并采用文前加导读、文后加注释的方法，可为读者流利阅读提供帮助。

编辑的话

改革开放 20 年来，英语学习一直是一个在青年学生中经久不衰的热门话题。世界上恐怕没有一个国家像中国这样有那么多人投入那么大精力和那么多时间去学习英语，那么效果如何呢？如果你要问在校大学生他们最怵的功课是什么？90% 的人会毫不犹豫地回答：英语。英语困扰过或正在困扰着多少中国人，天知道！

在不断升级的英语学习浪潮中，教育界、出版界的朋友们也在不遗余力地推波助澜。20 年来，我国的英语教学取得了很大成绩，但也存在着应试教学的误区。我们的学生很容易接受教科书，却难以读懂当代的英语原文报纸杂志。出版界亦出版了以天文数字计算的英语教材、辅导读物及其它英语类图书，在各种图书展销会、订货会、各届书市上，若以类别来排行畅销书，英语类图书总是榜上有名。这是不是说广大

英语学习者就能找到适合自己的英语书呢？回答是“**No**”——不能尽如人意。

基于此，我们决定编辑一套英语阅读丛书。我们决定将反映西方的社会文化生活作为丛书的切入点，并以阅读英语原版文章的形式来体现。丛书精选了英语国家（主要是英美）多种畅销报纸杂志上的若干篇文章，文章多角度多方位地反映了欧美国家人民的精神追求、社会发展、文化生活和价值观念，具有鲜明的时代与社会特征。在选材上重点反映西方社会文化生活，选材范围涉及社会生活的各个方面，选择有代表性的社会事件、人物、普通人的平常事，多数人关注的话题。如现代科技方面涉及的内容有环保问题、太空探险、网络文化、微软风波等；社会生活方面关注青少年犯罪、单亲家庭、刑事案件、枪械泛滥等；西方文化方面则主要反映人们对理想的追求、与东方传统文化完全不同的价值观、道德观和人生观，亦包括个人自强不息、努力奋斗的内容，其中有人人们熟悉的电影明星、牛仔歌手、体坛精英，更有人人们不甚熟悉的普通人物，他们用自己的行动谱写了一曲曲感人的不屈不挠、力求上进的个人奋斗史。文章选材上注重通俗性和大众化，而摒弃猎奇似的奇闻轶事之类。文章难易程度适合大学生的英语水平，要求读者能读懂文章大意，即能理解80%的内容即可。

为便于读者阅读，我们在每篇文章前用数百字汉

语概括出文章大意，在文后注释生词、短语、不易理解的句子，以帮助读者理解文章内容。这种方法解决了潜在的阅读困难，消除了读者对原作品的怯生感，从而缩短了读者与原作者之间的距离，排除了读者跨文化交流的心理障碍。这种作法在选材时不受语言水平的限制，又丝毫不损伤或改变原作品语言所具有的“原汁原味”的风格。完整地再现了本族语使用者所惯用的词汇、句式、结构和言语风格。同时也解决了读者在欣赏原文时所面临的阅读能力低和知识志趣高两者不相匹配的矛盾。让读者在接触、感受地道英语的表达、交流中去轻轻松松地领略英美国家的风土人情、风俗习惯，了解他们的生活方式，思维方式和处世方法。窥视他们的人生观、道德观和价值观。通过语言了解文化，通过对文化的认识，加深对语言的理解。

这套丛书的起名还颇费了一番周折。最初入选的有四五个名字，经过再三斟酌推敲，考虑到这套丛书是从社会生活面切入，目的在于给读者营造一个流利阅读英语原文的语言氛围。那么作为展示和传统中国文化截然不同的西方文明的读物，应以能体现欧美主流社会的生活风貌为命名原则，我们总编认为，以《欧美风》作为丛书名来概括为宜，意欲使读者感受到纯正的欧美气息。

我们编辑该丛书的目的在于通过阅读英语原版

报刊文章，提高读者的英语阅读能力。试图通过英语阅读这扇窗口，展示给读者英语阅读的乐趣，使读者从阅读英文中去了解欧美社会，了解西方文化，在阅读中获取信息，提高英语水平。同时在愉快的没有任何心理负担的心境下学习英语。就像许多人习惯在临睡前看几页书、翻几张报纸那样，每天翻阅一会儿《欧美风》丛书，读两三篇英语文章，坚持一年半，你必有收获。你不必担心文章后有若干道阅读理解题需要你来回答，你也不必担心文章后有若干道选择题需要你去画勾，你只要能读懂文章大意即可，你只要通过阅读获取了知识即可——这便是阅读的目的，亦是我们编辑此书的初衷。

虽然从事编辑工作已十年有余，但我们很少用“编辑的话”这种方式直接与读者进行交流，编辑工作“为人做嫁”的特性使我们习惯于将一本本书默默奉献给读者。今天所说的“编辑的话”既有我们作为编辑的体会，亦有我们同是英语学习者的心得。但愿这不是多余的话。希望这套丛书对每一位读者都有所帮助。

责任编辑

1998. 9. 25

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Fighting Heart

生命火花

斯科特·汉密尔顿是奥运会滑冰冠军，他为美国赢得了荣誉，也赢得了广大观众的厚爱。他从小就患有消化不良综合症，骨瘦如柴，少年时期大半天时间都是在医院里出出进进，所以他所获得的奥运金牌就与众不同。他的成功是自强不息与勇于抗争的结果。遗憾的是他一生都未摆脱旧病的缠绕，39岁时又被诊断患有睾丸癌。他先是接受化疗，后来又接受手术治疗。他热爱生活，热爱生命。接受治疗前他还瞒着大家，参加了冰上表演赛并让医生冷冻了他的精液，为了病愈后生儿育女。在治疗过程中，他始终保持乐观的态度，忍受痛苦，配合治疗。同时他还激励其他癌症患者鼓起生命的风帆。他决心战胜病魔，重返冰坛。

Fighting Heart

Scott Hamilton

Battling for his life, an Olympic champ aims to whip an unsporting enemy—cancer.

"I'd be at an appearance, and the first thing people would ask me was, 'How's Scott?'" says skater Kristi Yamaguchi, who'd been touring with her friend Scott Hamilton in his Discover Stars on Ice show in March, when he received the devastating diagnosis of testicular cancer[®]. "It was amazing to me how many people wanted to know how he was feeling and to see him back on the ice."

Perhaps it shouldn't have been cause for amazement. Ever since Hamilton won the 1984 Olympic gold medal, Americans have felt a particularly personal bond with the diminutive, perpetually upbeat ice-skater[®]. Maybe it was his scrappy triumph over a hard-luck start—as the scrawny kid[®] who spent much of his early childhood in and out of hospitals with the malabsorption syndrome[®] that stunted his growth—or perhaps his work more recently as one of the most engaging skating commentators on television. Says actor Kevin Nealon, a close friend of Hamilton's since meeting him at a White House function several years ago: "Scott has

a special connection with the audience."

Now there seems to be good news for all the fans who have been rooting for the 39-year-old skater, including the 55,000 who sent get-well wishes (among them Nancy Reagan). After a grueling course of chemotherapy® and a subsequent operation, it's beginning to look as if the Bowling Green, Ohio, native will be among the 80 to 90 percent of testicular cancer patients to fully recover. (The disease strikes about 7,200 men in this country annually.) "Scott's chances for cure are excellent," says Dr. Eric Klein, who treated him at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. "He set his mind to it, and he will get through this." Observes Nealon: "Cancer picked the wrong person in Scott Hamilton. His willpower and winning attitude should be an inspiration to anyone."

On Aug. 14, a few days after returning to the ice for the first time since his diagnosis, Hamilton talked with correspondent Lorenzo Benet. Sitting in the cozy kitchen of the spacious suburban Denver home he shares with longtime girlfriend Karen Plage, 28, he spoke of the illness that threatened his life and career.

On March 15 everything hit the fan. I was in East Lansing, Mich., on tour with *Stars on Ice*, and during practice I was feeling crummy®. For the last few weeks I had been losing my appetite, and I'd begun feeling pain in my abdomen®. I just figured it was an ulcer® and my stressful

lifestyle catching up with me. But that afternoon my back went out, and I couldn't hit any jumps. I went to see our physical therapist. She felt my abdomen and said there was a real tight mass in there. "Scott, this isn't muscular[®]," she said. "You need to have this checked out."

After the show that night I was in such pain I couldn't stand up straight. I got on my tour bus and headed for Peoria, Ill., where we were scheduled to perform next. In the morning I felt better, but I went to the St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria to be checked out. The doctors decided to run a battery of tests, including CAT scans.

Early that afternoon the ER doctor gave me the bad news. They had found a tumor in my abdomen. He told me, "If it were me, I would take care of this situation immediately." A million emotions were running through my mind. At first I was in denial. It had to be just a pocket of gas, I told myself. But I couldn't explain how that mass had gotten there.

Everybody in the *Stars* cast was concerned. I really didn't know what to say, so I said everything was fine. I thought of what a friend of mine with cancer, comic Mack Dryden, had said during a performance. He said, "When you tell someone you have cancer, you give it to them." It's true in a way, because I think anytime you have a lifethreatening illness, it's easier on you than everyone around you. So I didn't tell anybody and just did the show.

When I got on the ice that night, the reality of the situation was setting in. I was frightened because I didn't know what was growing inside me. And I was depressed because I knew this could be my last show of the year. Then I thought that if this thing was serious, this could be my last show ever. I actually skated great.

That night, after the show, I had a beer with some of the skaters, including Kurt Browning, Rosalynn Sumners and Paul Wylie. I told them I was going to Cleveland to get checked out. Later, during the all-night ride, I called my girlfriend, Karen, in Denver and told her what was going on. She cried—and then she realized the worst thing she could do was be scared and weak. She knew I would absorb that. After the shock wore off[®], she said she would come and be there with me for the tests at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, one of the top cancer centers in the country.

By the next morning, when it was time to go, I was in a lot of pain. I took a full physical, had blood workups and a biopsy[®]. Later I told Karen, "I don't mind all the needles, but I don't want to deal with a lot of pain." That was my biggest fear. My mom, Dorothy, died of breast cancer when I was 18. I saw how much she suffered when the cancer spread to her lungs and her other vital organs, and she was the toughest woman I ever met. I didn't want to deal with the pain she'd experienced.

The next day we met with the doctors. They said I had

a germ-cell tumor¹³, a big one caused by a drainage of cancerous cells from my testicular region. And it was malignant¹³.

The doctors were very earnest when they gave me the news, so I said, "Is that all it is?" I was kidding. They seemed shocked and said, "No, Scott, it's very serious. This is something you have to deal with." Then they laid out their treatment plan. In order to shrink and kill the cancer, they would use chemotherapy. They told me they would have to remove the tumor and, probably, my right testicle¹⁴. I didn't find out until after my third chemo that the tumor had been twice the size of a grapefruit. I felt better after talking to the doctors because they said my cancer was curable. Everything I heard about this cancer was that it was something I could beat and should beat.

The treatment included four cycles of chemotherapy, each one of them spread over five days, with 16 days off between cycles. I put total faith in my oncologist¹⁵ Dr. Ronald Bukowski, who would be in charge of shrinking the tumor. Dr. Eric Klein would perform the surgery later on. They told me they wanted to start chemo right away.

On March 19, the day after I was diagnosed, I got together with the *Stars* cast. After they'd been told, the dozen of them decided to bus up from Dayton on their day off to have lunch with me. It meant more to me than they'll ever know. We had a hysterical time. Every joke was at my