



西方老故事50篇

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出版前言。

多年以来,中译出版社有限公司(原中国对外翻译出版有限公司)凭借国内一流的翻译和出版实力及资源,精心策划、出版了大批双语读物,在海内外读者中和业界内产生了良好、深远的影响,形成了自己鲜明的出版特色。

二十世纪八九十年代出版的英汉(汉英)对照 "一百丛书",声名远扬,成为一套最权威、最有特色 且又实用的双语读物,影响了一代又一代英语学习者和 中华传统文化研究者、爱好者;还有"英若诚名剧译 丛""中华传统文化精粹丛书""美丽英文书系",这些优 秀的双语读物,有的畅销,有的常销不衰反复再版,有 的被选为大学英语阅读教材,受到广大读者的喜爱,获 得了良好的社会效益和经济效益。

"双语名著无障碍阅读丛书"是中译专门为中学生和 英语学习者精心打造的又一品牌,是一个新的双语读物 系列,具有以下特点:

选题创新——该系列图书是国内第一套为中小学生量身打造的双语名著读物,所选篇目均为教育部颁布的语文新课标必读书目,或为中学生以及同等文化水平的

社会读者喜闻乐见的世界名著,重新编译为英汉(汉英)对照的双语读本。这些书既给青少年读者提供了成长过程中不可或缺的精神食粮,又让他们领略到原著的精髓和魅力,对他们更好地学习英文大有裨益;同时,丛书中入选的《论语》《茶馆》《家》等汉英对照读物,亦是热爱中国传统文化的中外读者所共知的经典名篇,能使读者充分享受阅读经典的无限乐趣。

无障碍阅读——中学生阅读世界文学名著的原著会遇到很多生词和文化难点。针对这一情况,我们给每一本读物原文中的较难词汇和不易理解之处都加上了注释,在内文的版式设计上也采取英汉(或汉英)对照方式,扫清了学生阅读时的障碍。

优良品质——中译双语读物多年来在读者中享有良好口碑,这得益于作者和出版者对于图书质量的不懈追求。"双语名著无障碍阅读丛书"继承了中译双语读物的优良传统——精选的篇目、优秀的译文、方便实用的注解,秉承着对每一个读者负责的精神,竭力打造精品图书。

愿这套丛书成为广大读者的良师益友,愿读者在英语学习和传统文化学习两方面都取得新的突破。

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James Baldwin

1. King Alfred and the Cakes

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

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

A fierce[®], rude[®] people, called the Danes, had come from over the sea, and



1. 阿尔弗雷德国王和蛋糕

许多年前,英格兰有一位睿智善良的国王名叫阿尔 弗雷德。这个国王为国家作出的贡献无人能比,世人现 在谈起他,都将他称为阿尔弗雷德大帝。

在当时那个年代,做国王的日子并不好过。由于战争连绵不断,阿尔弗雷德领兵打仗的本领又无人能敌, 所以他一方面要治理国家,另一方面还要带兵打仗,阿 尔弗雷德国王实在太忙了。

有一个名叫"丹麦"的残暴野蛮的民族,远渡重洋



- ① fierce [fiəs] a. 凶猛的
- ② rude [ru:d] a. 野蛮的

were fighting the English. There were so many of them, and they were so bold and strong, that for a long time they gained every battle. If they kept on, they would soon be the masters of the whole country.

At last, after a great battle, the English army was broken up and **scattered**^①. Every man had to save himself in the best way he could. King Alfred **fled**^② alone, in great **haste**^③, through the woods and swamps.

Late in the day the king came to the **hut**[®] of a **woodcutter**[®]. He was very tired and hungry, and he begged the woodcutter's wife to give him something to eat and a place to sleep in her hut.

The woman was baking some cakes upon the **hearth**[®], and she looked with pity upon the poor, ragged 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 milk 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 far greater things to think about. How was he going to get his army together again? And how was he going to drive 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 tomorrow.

In a little while the woman came back. The cakes were smoking on the hearth. They were burned to a **crisp**[©]. Ah, how angry she was!

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

I have been told that she even struck the king with a stick; but I can hardly believe that she was so ill-natured[®].

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

① scattered ['skætəd] a. 溃 散的

of the lad unit to be a little

- ② fled [fled] v (flee 的过去式) 洮跑
- ③ haste [heist] n. 仓促
- ④ hut [hʌt] n. 小屋
- ⑤ woodcutter ['wud,kʌtə(r)]
 n. 伐木者
- ⑥ hearth [hɑ:θ] n. 壁炉

⑦ crisp [krisp] n. 松脆物

⑧ ill-natured ['il-neitʃəd] a. 脾气坏的

攻打英国。他们人多势众, 胆大凶猛, 在很长一段时间 里他们逢战必胜。如果照此形势发展下去, 整个英国恐怕不久就要落入他们的手中。

在后来的一场恶战中,英国军队被打散了,士兵们纷纷逃走以寻求自保。阿尔弗雷德国王逃走的时候 只有孤身一人,他行色匆忙地从树林和沼泽中间穿行 而过。

夜幕降临。国王来到一个伐木工住的小木屋,当时 他又累又饿,请求伐木工的妻子给他弄点吃的,并且允 许他在那里过夜。

女主人正忙着在火炉上烤蛋糕,她同情地看着眼前 这个衣衫褴褛、饥肠辘辘的可怜家伙,丝毫没有想到此 人竟会是国王陛下。

"好吧!"她说,"只要你帮我看着这些蛋糕, 我就给你晚饭吃。我现在出去挤牛奶,我不在的时候你 要看着蛋糕,别把它们烤煳了。"

阿尔弗雷德国王当然很乐意帮这个忙,可是他还有 更重要的事情需要考虑,比如怎样才能把溃散的军队集 合起来,怎样把凶恶的丹麦人赶出国土。想着想着,他 竟然忘记了饥饿,忘记了蛋糕,忘记了自己身处伐木工 的小木屋里,满脑子都是第二天的行动计划。

过了一会儿,女主人回来了。看见蛋糕已经烤成焦炭在炉子上冒着烟,她当时就火冒三丈!

"你这个懒鬼!"她大声训斥道,"看你干的好事!你想吃东西,可什么都不想干!"

我听人说她最后居然还抄起棍子打了国王。不过, 我真的无法相信她的性情竟然会如此暴躁。

国王想到自己竟然受到这样的责骂,心里一定会暗 自发笑。当时他实在太饿了,因此比起女主人的责骂, 他更懊恼的是烤糊了的蛋糕。

Fifty Famous Stories Retold

I do not know whether he had anything to eat that night, or whether he had to go to bed without his supper. But it was not many days until he had gathered his men together again, and had beaten the Danes in a great battle.

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