

美丽英文

Beautiful English

· 英汉典藏版 ·

晨间版

B e a u t i f u l

帮助你遇到的下一个人

E n g l i s h

品质篇

陈根花 李碧莲 / 主编



JUST HELP THE NEXT PERSON



.....

这是短小精悍的智慧读本，展现英文的美丽和人生的美丽。展卷而读，尽览人生哲理；触类旁通，领悟成功真谛……



天津教育出版社
TIANJIN EDUCATION PRESS

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

美丽英文:晨间版.品质篇:汉英对照 / 陈根花,李碧莲主编.

—天津:天津教育出版社,2011.1

ISBN 978-7-5309-6277-0

I. ①美… II. ①陈… ②李… III. ①英语—汉语—对照读物 IV. ①H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2010)第 241710 号

美丽英文(晨间版)

品质篇·帮助你遇到的下一个人

出 版 人 胡振泰

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责任编辑 谢 芳

装帧设计 郭亚非

出版发行 天津教育出版社

天津市和平区西康路 35 号 邮政编码 300051

<http://www.tjeph.com.cn>

经 销 新华书店

印 刷 天津新华印刷三厂

版 次 2011 年 1 月第 1 版

印 次 2011 年 1 月第 1 次印刷

规 格 16 开(787×1092 毫米)

字 数 127 千字

印 张 15.5

定 价 23.00 元



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No. 01

An Act of Kindness

President Abraham Lincoln often visited hospitals to talk with wounded soldiers during the Civil War. Once, doctors pointed out a young soldier who was near death and Lincoln went over to his bedside.

“Is there anything I can do for you?” asked the President.

The soldier obviously didn’t recognize Lincoln, and with some effort he was able to whisper, “Would you please write a letter to my mother?”

A pen and paper were provided and the President carefully began writing down what the young man was able to say:

“My dearest mother, I was badly hurt while doing my duty. I’m afraid I’m not going to recover. Don’t **grieve** too much for me, please. Kiss Mary and John for me. May God bless you and father.”

The soldier was too weak to continue, so Lincoln signed the letter for him and added, “Written for your son by Abraham Lincoln.”

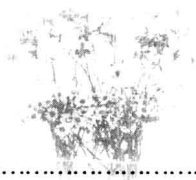
The young man asked to see the note and was astonished when he discovered who had written it. “Are you really the President?” he asked.

“Yes, I am,” Lincoln replied quietly. Then he asked if there was anything else he could do.

“Would you please hold my hand?” the soldier asked. “It will help to see me through to the end.”

In the **hushed** room, the tall **gaunt** President took the boy’s hand in his and spoke warm words of encouragement until death came.





【日积月累】

◇grieve *vi.* (for, over)感到悲痛

◇hushed *adj.* 寂静的;低声的

◇gaunt *adj.* 憔悴的,瘦削的





【参考译文】

善举

在内战期间,亚伯拉罕·林肯总统经常去医院与受伤的士兵交谈。有一次,医生告诉总统,有一名年轻的士兵快死了,于是,林肯来到他的床边。

“需要帮忙吗?”总统问。

很显然,士兵没有认出是林肯总统,费了不少劲才开口小声说话,“能替我写封信吗?给我妈妈。”

准备了纸和笔,总统开始认真地写下年轻人说的话:

“亲爱的母亲,我在执行任务的时候受伤了。伤势很严重,恐怕无法康复。请不要太为我悲伤,替我轻吻 Mary 和 John。愿上帝保佑父亲和您。”

士兵身体太虚弱,没法继续说下去,于是林肯在信上署了名,并在后面加上一句,“亚伯拉罕·林肯代写”。

年轻人想看看信,当发现是谁为他写的时候,他惊呆了。“您真的是总统?”他问。

“是的,我是。”林肯静静地回答道。然后,他问还可以帮上什么忙。

“请您握着我的手,好吗?”士兵问道。“帮助我走完最后的路程。”

在这个寂静的房间里,高高瘦瘦的总统握着这个男孩的手,说着鼓励的话,直到死亡到来。



【人生启迪】

鲜花虽美却没有关爱纯洁,彩虹虽美却没有关爱多彩,星星虽美却没有关爱闪亮。人世间需要真情关爱,有时候只需要将你小小的善举奉献出来,你就会发现这世间原来是那样的美好可爱!



No. 02

Building Your House

An elderly **carpenter** was ready to retire. He told his boss of his plans to leave the house-building business to live a free life with his wife and children. He would miss the paycheck each week, but he wanted to retire. He believed that they could get by.

The boss was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but **over time** it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He used poor materials and built the house carelessly. It was a pity to end a **dedicated** career.

When the carpenter finished his work, his boss came to check the house. Then he handed the front-door key to the carpenter and said, "This is your house... my gift to you."

The carpenter was shocked!

What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently.

So it is with us. We build our lives, **a day at a time**, often putting less than our best into the building. Then, with a shock, we realize we have to live in the house we have built. If we could do it over, we would do it much differently.

But, you cannot go back. You are the carpenter, and every day you hammer a nail, place a board, or build a wall. Someone once said, "Life is a do-it-yourself project." Your attitude, and the choices you make today, helps



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build the “house” you will live in tomorrow. Therefore, Build wisely!

.....

【日积月累】

- ◇carpenter *n.* 木匠
- ◇over time 随着时间的推移,久而久之
- ◇dedicate *adj.* 献身于……的,专心致志的
- ◇a day at a time 得过且过,做一天和尚敲一天钟





【参考译文】

建你自己的房子

一位上了年纪的木匠准备要退休了，于是他告诉老板说要离开建筑业去与自己的妻子和孩子一起过自由自在的生活。虽然他也不太舍得那每周都会按时入账的薪水，但他还是决定退休，他相信他们会撑过去的。

得知这名优秀员工要离开，老板很是难过，于是他问木匠能否看在个人情份上替他再建一栋房子。木匠答应了，但是随着时间的推移，人人都看得出他的心已经不在工作上了。他不仅使用劣质材料，而且工作三心二意，像这样来结束自己一生奉献的事业很是让人遗憾。

木匠结束工作后，他的老板来检查房子，然后他给了木匠一把前门钥匙，告诉他：“这是你的房子，我送给你的礼物。”

木匠震惊了！

他感到非常惭愧，如果早知道这房子是为自己建的，那他肯定就会用一种完全不同的心态来建这栋房子了。

我们也一样，自己建造自己的生活，做一天和尚敲一天钟，从来没有竭尽全力。然后我们会惊奇地发现，自己必须要住进自己建的这房子。如果可以重来一次的话，我们肯定会换个方式。

但是，事情已经无可挽回了。你就是那个木匠，每天，你都会钉一根钉子，放一块木板，或者竖一堵墙。曾经有人说过：“生活就是一个‘自己动手’的工程。”你的态度和你今天的选择都决定了你明天将要“住进去的房子”。所以，要明智点“建房”。

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【人生启迪】

其实每个人都是在为自己的未来努力，今天的点点滴滴可能都与自己的未来息息相关，只是我们自己从来都没意识到，然而等我们意识到时才发现自己已不得不住进虽是自己建造但自己却并不满意的“房子”里，就像这个木匠一样。所以我们做任何事都要善始善终，坚持是一种品质，是一种美德，是一种让你老了退休后能住进好“房子”的踏实心情！





No. 03

Heaven and Hell—the Real Difference

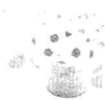
A man spoke with the Lord about heaven and hell. The Lord said to the man, “Come, I will show you hell.” They entered a room where a group of people sat around a huge pot of **stew**. Everyone was skinny, **desperate** and starving. Each held a spoon that could reach the pot, but each spoon had a handle so much longer than their own arms that it could not be used to get the stew into their own mouths. The suffering was terrible.

“Come, now I will show you heaven.” The Lord said after a while. They entered another room, similar to the first—the pot of stew, the group of people, the same long-handle spoons. But there everyone was happy, healthy and satisfied.

“I don’t understand,” said the man. “Why are they happy here when they were **miserable** in the other room and everything was the same?” The Lord smiled. “Ah, it is simple,” he said. “Here they have learned to feed each other.”

【日积月累】

- ◇ **stew** *n.* 炖肉(或菜) *v.* 炖, 焖
- ◇ **desperate** *adj.* 极需要的; 绝望的
- ◇ **miserable** *adj.* 痛苦的; 悲惨的





【参考译文】

天堂和地狱的真正差别

一个人和上帝谈论天堂和地狱。上帝对这个人说：“来，我带你去地狱看看。”他们走进一个房间，里面有一群人围坐在一锅炖肉旁边。每个人都面黄肌瘦，绝望无助，饥肠辘辘。他们各持一个能够到汤锅的长勺，但是每个勺柄都远比他们的手臂还长，所以他们没法把炖肉送到自己嘴里去。这样的煎熬十分可怕。

过了一会儿，上帝说：“来，现在我带你去天堂看看。”他们走到另一间房，和第一间房间一样，里面都有一锅炖肉，一群人，手里都拿着长柄勺。但是每个人都健康快乐，心满意足。

那个人说：“我不懂，为什么两个房间里东西都是一样的，这里的人却这么开心，而那边的人那么悲惨？”上帝笑了。他说：“啊，这很简单，这里的人学会了彼此喂食。”

.....

【人生启迪】

天堂的人们互助互爱，地狱的人们自私自利，而处于两者之间的人间，既有“自扫门前雪”的人，亦有努力付出不计回报的人。在生活中，如果你想让自己身处的环境犹如天堂，请你毫不吝啬地伸出你的手，这样他人快乐，你也快乐！

