

世界文学经典故事

# 英语 悦读

姜炳坤 编著

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# 前 言

还是在十五年以前,看到中学生们因困于应试教育,全然无暇去欣赏一些经典的,有极高审美价值的世界文学作品,我就想编一套用英语来讲世界各国文学杰作的阅读丛书,并立即着手翻译和编写了。当时我甚至已有一个长远、全盘的设计,准备在第一集中,综合汇集各国顶级知名的中短篇小说。这里面可以有悲,有喜,有童话,有传说,有古典,有近代。然后逐年按风格再出以下集子,分别如悲情,幽默,传奇,悬念,警世等等。偏偏好事多磨,就在第一集已见雏形时,我经历了一场病痛,在接下来的几年中,连开两次大刀,加上一些别的原因,这本即将付型的书就被搁置一边,并一直被延误至今。这次我下定决心,一定要让这本书面见读者,让学生们有一本可以欣赏,可以用来陶冶情操,可以饶有兴趣地阅读,并在不太费力的情况下帮助自己提高英语水平的课外读物。在生词表中,那些标有星号的单词属于英语四级词汇,也基本覆盖了英语高考大纲的单词。考虑到学生的时间和精力有限,我希望学生在享受阅读的同时还能有效地提高在高考中的英语竞争力。我在编写的一开始,就把这本书的读者群瞄准为中学和大学的学生,其中尤以高中学生为主。在一般情况下,学生在买书选书的时候,往往会和家长的意见不同,而唯独在对待这本书的态度上,一定会出奇地一致。因为我清楚地记得,在我



小时候曾经和父亲同时为《爱的教育》中一篇《小抄写员》感动不已。这故事不但加深了我和父亲的感情,也大大改变了他和我情感沟通的方式。在我收集的这三十篇故事中所体现的人文精神是各国相通的,也是永恒的。每篇故事配上的两幅插图更将生动地强化这种人文精神,体现悲天悯人的情怀。最后附上的中文译文只是迎合当今外文出版物的习惯而已,如果有能力借助我们的词汇表和词典,你可以把故事的情节和语言问题都梳理清楚的话,你完全可以不读后面的中文译文;即使你看了译文,我也相信你可以有自己的译法。最后,希望大家喜欢这本读物,并且今后有更多的机会买到这类能熏陶心灵,提高英语水平的书籍。

借此机会,我对荣景华和钦寅二位 in 编写中提供的帮助表示深深的谢意。

2010年7月

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## Essay 1

### Aladdin<sup>①</sup> and Magic<sup>②</sup> Lamp

*The Arabian Nights*<sup>③</sup>



Long, long ago, in the country of Persia<sup>④</sup>, there was a little boy called Aladdin. He lived with his mother, a poor widow<sup>⑤</sup>. He and his mother worked very hard, but still they did not have enough food to eat.

Far from Persia, there was the country of Egypt<sup>⑥</sup>. In Egypt there was a magician<sup>⑦</sup>. He had heard that there was a magic lamp in Persia, and that the lamp can do everything for the man who has it.

The magician came to Persia to get the lamp. He found out that the lamp was buried in a deep cave, and the opening of the cave was too small for him to get in. 'I need to get a little boy to help me,' the magician thought to himself. 'After he brings the lamp to me, I'll leave him in the cave, so that nobody else will know about this magic lamp.'

Then he came to the village where

① Aladdin /ə'laedɪn/

阿拉丁(阿拉伯民间故事集《一千零一夜》之《阿拉丁和神灯》中寻获神灯和魔指环的少年)

② \* magic /'mædʒɪk/ adj.  
有魔力的

③ *The Arabian Nights*  
《一千零一夜》(又名《天方夜谭》,阿拉伯民间故事集)

④ Persia /'pɜːʃə/ n. 波斯(西亚国家,现在的伊朗)

⑤ \* widow /'wɪdəʊ/ n.  
寡妇

⑥ Egypt /'iɪdʒɪpt/ n. 埃及

⑦ magician /mə'dʒɪfn/ n.  
魔法师





Aladdin lived, and grabbed<sup>⑧</sup> the boy up. When they arrived at the cave, the magician said to the boy, 'I want you to go down this cave. There is a lighted lamp buried somewhere in the cave. Find it and bring it to me.' And before the boy went down, the magician gave him a ring to help him to find his way in that cave.

Aladdin slipped down to the bottom of the cave, and there he found a beautiful garden. There were all kinds of trees and fruit, and on the ground there were rubies<sup>⑨</sup> and pearls<sup>⑩</sup>. The boy was dazzled<sup>⑪</sup>; he picked as many rubies as he could. 'I'll take these rubies to my mother,' he thought, 'then we can buy some good food.'



Just then he saw the lamp the magician had been looking for. He didn't know what the lamp was for, but he took it back to the

⑧ \* grab /græb/ v. 抓住

⑨ ruby /'ru:bi/ n. 红  
宝石

⑩ \* pearl /peɪl/ n. 珍珠

⑪ \* dazzle /'dæzl/ v.  
使目眩,使眼花



opening of the cave, just as the magician had told him to. 'Here is the lamp,' the boy called.

'Give the lamp to me first,' answered the magician, 'and I'll help you out of the cave.'

But Aladdin was a clever boy. 'No,' he said. 'You let me out first, then I'll give you the lamp.'

The evil<sup>⑫</sup> magician got very angry. He blocked the opening of the cave, thus leaving the boy in the inside forever.

Aladdin felt helpless<sup>⑬</sup> and cried. Then he remembered the ring that the magician gave him, and began to rub it. Suddenly a genie<sup>⑭</sup> rose right before his eyes. 'I'm the slave of the ring,' the genie said. 'What do you want from me?'

'Take me home!' Aladdin ordered. *Woosh*<sup>⑮</sup>! They were back at his home in a second, and found Aladdin's mother crying for the disappearing of her son.

Aladdin showed the rubies and the lamp to his mother. 'What can the lamp do?' the woman asked, as she rubbed the lamp.

Before she finished her words, a giant<sup>⑯</sup> genie appeared. 'I'm the genie of the magic lamp,' roared<sup>⑰</sup> the genie. 'What do you want from me?'

⑫ \* evil /'i:vl/ *adj.* 邪恶的

⑬ \* helpless /'helpləs/ *adj.* 无依无靠的

⑭ genie /'dʒɪni/ *n.* (阿拉伯神话中的)神怪, 妖怪

⑮ *woosh* /wu:ʃ/ *interj.* 呜的一声

⑯ \* giant /'dʒaɪənt/ *adj.* 巨大的

⑰ \* roar /rɔ:(r)/ *v.* 吼;咆哮



The woman, very surprised at seeing him, said, 'I want some food.' Immediately there it was: a big table of nice food—food that they had not seen for their whole life!

From that day on, Aladdin and his mother worried no more; the genie of the lamp came with plenty of good food whenever they wanted.

Then one day, Aladdin saw the princess<sup>⑮</sup> of Persia passing by the village. She was so attractive<sup>⑯</sup> that Aladdin fell in love at once. 'I want to marry the princess,' he told his mother. So he took out the magic lamp and ordered, 'Make me the richest man in the country.'

Thus Aladdin, now the richest man in the country, took a lot of precious<sup>⑰</sup> presents to the Sultan<sup>⑱</sup> of Persia, and said, 'I'd like to marry your daughter.' The Sultan was pleased to hear this. A grand wedding<sup>⑳</sup> took place, and Aladdin married the beautiful princess and lived a happy life with her.

Several years later, when the Egyptian<sup>㉓</sup> magician found out that Aladdin had escaped<sup>㉔</sup> from the cave and became rich, he was very jealous<sup>㉕</sup> and angry. He went to the palace of Persia, and persuaded the princess to give the magic lamp to him. As soon as he got hold of it, the magician told the lamp to take the

⑮ \* princess /prɪn'ses /  
n. 公主

⑯ \* attractive /ə'træktɪv/  
adj. 漂亮的;有魅力的

⑰ \* precious /'preʃəs/  
adj. 珍贵的;宝贵的

⑱ Sultan /'sʌltən/ n. 苏丹(某些伊斯兰国家最高统治者的称号)

㉔ \* wedding /'wedɪŋ/ n.  
婚礼

㉓ Egyptian /ɪ'dʒɪpʃn/  
adj. 埃及的

㉔ \* escape /ɪs'keɪp/ v.  
(常与 from 连用)  
逃走

㉕ \* jealous /'dʒeləs/  
adj. 嫉妒的



princess and the whole palace away into his own country, Egypt.

When Aladdin found his wife missing<sup>⑥</sup>, he got out the ring and rubbed it for help. The genie of the ring appeared and told him that the magician had taken the palace to Egypt. 'Bring it back to me!' shouted Aladdin. But the genie of the ring was not as powerful as that of the magic lamp, and couldn't do that.

'Take me to the palace, then,' Aladdin said. *Woosh!* There he was, in front of his palace in Egypt. He saw the princess sitting at the window, and asked about the magic lamp.

'The magician has taken it with him,' the princess said. Aladdin thought for a while and started to whisper to her...

That evening the princess put on her best clothes and looked prettier than ever. When the magician came back, she persuaded him to drink wine with her. The magician drank on and on, and was drunk<sup>⑦</sup> at last. Then the princess stole the lamp from him and gave it to Aladdin.

The rest of the story goes—as you already know—that Aladdin and his wife led a happy life thereafter<sup>⑧</sup>...

⑥ \* missing /'mɪsɪŋ/  
adj. 失踪的

⑦ \* drunk /drʌŋk/ adj.  
喝醉了的

⑧ \* thereafter  
/ˌðeə'ɑftə(r)/ adv.  
此后; 后来

## Essay 2

### Air Door No. 12

Baldomero Lillo<sup>①</sup>



Little Barboro stuck to his father's legs desperately<sup>②</sup>. Some great noise thundered in his ears and made him sick. It was the first time that he went into the lift<sup>③</sup>, and he felt like being dropped into a bottomless<sup>④</sup> dark hole. He and his father were falling at a dazing<sup>⑤</sup> speed in total darkness. Barboro looked up at the pithead<sup>⑥</sup> with wonder and fear, trying to figure out how he had been swallowed<sup>⑦</sup> by this awesome<sup>⑧</sup> black monster<sup>⑨</sup>.

Finally the lift landed on the ground with a thump<sup>⑩</sup>. The shrill<sup>⑪</sup> shriek<sup>⑫</sup> of the iron cord<sup>⑬</sup> and the thick groan<sup>⑭</sup> of the chains got on his nerves<sup>⑮</sup> and made him shudder<sup>⑯</sup>.

He walked after his father along the tunnel<sup>⑰</sup>. They were quite early; most of the miners<sup>⑱</sup> had not come to work yet. It took a while for his eyes to get used to the darkness, but there was hardly anything to

① 巴尔多梅罗·利约 (1867-1932), 智利作家

② desperately /'desperətli/ *adv.* 拼命地, 不顾一切地

③ \* lift /lift/ *n.* (BrE.) 电梯; 升降机

④ bottomless /'bɒtəmləs/ *adj.* 无底的

⑤ dazing /'deɪzɪŋ/ *adj.* 让人眼花缭乱的

⑥ pithead /'pɪθed/ *n.* 矿坑入口

⑦ \* swallow /'swɒləʊ/ *v.* 吞下, 咽下

⑧ awesome /'ɔːsəm/ *adj.* 引起敬畏的, 可怕的

⑨ \* monster /'mɒnstə(r)/ *n.* 怪物, 妖怪

⑩ thump /θʌmp/ *n.* 砰然声; 重击声

⑪ shrill /ʃrɪl/ *adj.* 刺耳的; 声音尖锐的

⑫ shriek /ʃrɪk/ *n.* 尖叫声

⑬ \* cord /kɔːd/ *n.* 索, 粗线



see here except for the pits<sup>⑭</sup> dug out of the ribs<sup>⑮</sup>. The boy was pretty sure that he would get lost in this labyrinth<sup>⑯</sup> if he were here alone.

About forty metres to the shaft<sup>⑰</sup>, the boy and his father stopped before a certain pit. A lamp, blackened<sup>⑱</sup> by the coal dust, hung still on the ceiling. The dismal<sup>⑲</sup> light given out from the lamp made the whole space look like a tomb. At the farthest end of the pit sat an old foreman<sup>⑳</sup>, who was reading the roster<sup>㉑</sup> at the desk in front of him. The old man had a deathly<sup>㉒</sup> pale face and a pair of weary<sup>㉓</sup> eyes. 'He is like a dead man already,' the boy thought.

Barboro's father walked up to the foreman and said humbly<sup>㉔</sup>, 'I've brought my boy, mister<sup>㉕</sup>.'

The foreman raised his old eyes for a close examination at the tiny body of the boy, who tried to hide himself behind his father like a frightened rabbit<sup>㉖</sup>. He didn't seem impressed by this undersized<sup>㉗</sup> child. Barboro on his part didn't know why he was being stared at like this, but as he looked back from behind his father, he knew that somehow<sup>㉘</sup> he was not up to<sup>㉙</sup> the standard of this old man.

'Is he eight already?' the foreman

⑭ \* groan /grəʊn/ *n.*

呻吟, 叹息; 承受重  
压发出的嘎吱声

⑮ get on one's nerves 使  
人心烦不安; 使人心  
神不定

⑯ shudder /'ʃʌdə(r)/

*v.* (由于恐怖、寒冷、  
憎恶)战栗; 发抖

⑰ \* tunnel /'tʌnl/ *n.*

坑道; 隧道

⑱ \* miner /'maɪnə(r)/

*n.* 矿工

⑲ pit /pɪt/ *n.* (矿)坑

⑳ \* rib /rɪb/ *n.* (矿石、  
岩石的)脉纹, 矿壁

㉑ labyrinth /'læbəɪrɪnθ/

*n.* 迷宫

㉒ \* shaft /ʃɑ:ft/ *n.* 竖  
井; 坑道

㉓ blacken /'blækən/ *v.*

使变黑

㉔ dismal /'dɪzml/ *adj.*

阴沉的, 凄凉的, 令人  
忧郁的

㉕ foreman /'fɔ:mən/ *n.*

工头, 工长, 领班

㉖ roster /'rɒstə(r)/ *n.*

花名册

㉗ deathly /'deθli/ *adv.*

死一般地

㉘ \* weary /'weəri/ *adj.*

疲倦的, 厌倦的

㉙ humbly /'hʌmbli/ *adv.*

谦恭地

㉚ mister /'mɪstə(r)/ *n.*

先生



questioned.

‘Yes, mister,’ his father answered.

‘But he can hardly do anything yet. You’d better send him to school first, then bring him to this damn<sup>⑤</sup> tomb.’

‘Mister,’ the father got anxious on hearing this and begged, ‘you know how things are for me. I have a big family; there are seven mouths at home to feed and I alone cannot earn<sup>⑥</sup> enough bread. Please take this boy, mister. He is the son of a miner, and he should do what his father does.’

The old man, stubborn<sup>⑦</sup> as he was, seemed to be touched. He looked up again; his heart went all out for the child as he looked into his innocent<sup>⑧</sup> eyes. He knew that this was just another boy who had been born to be poor and was going to die young. Like other sons of a miner, he had been ripped<sup>⑨</sup> from every single chance to enjoy life and be happy. The foreman moved his eyes away from the boy and stared at the father; like other miners, this was an unlucky man, crashed<sup>⑩</sup> by the weight of poverty and heavy work. Something deep inside him made the foreman change his mind. He whistled<sup>⑪</sup> to the left side of the pit. A dark shadow appeared at the entrance.

⑪ \* rabbit /'ræbɪt/ *n.*

兔,野兔

⑫ undersized

/ˌʌndə'saɪzɪd/ *adj.* 个儿小的

⑬ \* somehow /'sʌmhaʊ/

*adv.* 不知何故; 不知怎么地

⑭ up to 达到

⑮ \* damn /dæm/ *adj.*

(常出现在口语中, 起加强语气的效果)该死的

⑯ \* earn /ɜ:n/ *v.* 赚

得,挣得

⑰ \* stubborn /'stʌbən/

*adj.* 固执的, 坚定的

⑱ \* innocent /'ɪnəsnt/

*adj.* 天真无邪的

⑲ \* rip /rɪp/ *v.* 扯裂;

撕裂

rip sb. from sth.

将某物从某人身上剥夺走

⑳ \* crash /kræʃ/ *v.* 压

垮;撞毁

㉑ \* whistle /'wɪsl/ *v.* 吹

口哨,打呼哨





‘Julio,’ the foreman called to the shadow. ‘Take this boy to No. 12. He’ll take the place of Jose’s son—that child who was killed in the accident yesterday.’

Then, turning around, he barked<sup>④②</sup> at the thanking father, ‘Watch yourself, you lazybones<sup>④③</sup>. You didn’t make up to the quota<sup>④④</sup> last month. If you keep it this way, I’ll replace<sup>④⑤</sup> you with someone else.’

After this he waved at the father to let him go.

The father and his son went silently away. They followed Julio along the tracks in the long dark tunnel, their footsteps<sup>④⑥</sup> sounding against the walls. The father walked with his head hanging on his chest, beaten<sup>④⑦</sup> by life. Barboro trotted<sup>④⑧</sup> along, holding his father’s hand as tight as he could. He could think of nothing for what had just happened was beyond this young boy, but the sickening<sup>④⑨</sup> noise in his ears grew louder and louder and made him breathless<sup>⑤⑩</sup>.

Before he could realize what was to come next, he heard Julio say ‘Here we are’ and found himself in front of a heavy wooden door. On the door there was the number ‘12’. ‘So that was what they called the “air door”,’ the boy thought. He was glad he could finally make something out<sup>⑤⑪</sup>

④② bark /bɑ:k/ v. 吼叫;  
大声喊叫

④③ lazybones /'leɪzbəʊnz/  
n. 懒骨头

④④ \* quota /'kwɔ:tə/ n.  
定额

④⑤ \* replace /rɪ'pleɪs/ v.  
(常与 with, by 连  
用)用……代替

④⑥ \* footstep /'fʊtstep/  
n. 足迹;脚步声

④⑦ beat /bi:t/ v. (beat,  
beaten) 击打, 打败

④⑧ trot /trɒt/ v. 小跑

④⑨ sickening /'sɪkənɪŋ/  
adj. 令人作呕的, 使  
人厌恶的

⑤⑩ breathless /'breθlɪs/  
adj. 喘不过气来的;  
气喘吁吁的

⑤⑪ make ... out 明白,  
理解, 弄懂



for the first time since he was suddenly woken up by his father this morning, and then taken here. He had been very willing to have a look at the mine, for his father talked nothing else but the mine at home; but now that he was here, he didn't like what he saw at all.

Then there came a rumble<sup>⑤②</sup> of a coal cart along the tracks under their feet. Before he could realize what was happening, the coal cart arrived at the gate. As every good boy would do, Barboro jumped at his feet at once and opened the wooden door for the cart to go through. The cart rumbled by. Julio and the boy's father looked very satisfied with the boy's quick reaction<sup>⑤③</sup>.

'He is already a good miner,' thought the father. He bent down toward his son and began to stroke<sup>⑤④</sup> the boy's hair. He was sorry for the boy, for sure, because he knew what kind of fate was waiting for him. But what else could he do?!

And Barboro, not used to this tenderness from his father, began to be suspicious<sup>⑤⑤</sup>. Suddenly he thought he knew why he was taken here, and he cried out.

'Father,' he screamed<sup>⑤⑥</sup>. 'Take me home!' He caught hold of<sup>⑤⑦</sup> his father by

⑤② rumble /'rʌmbəl/ n.  
隆隆声

⑤③ \* reaction /rɪ'æksjən/  
n. 反应

⑤④ \* stroke /strəʊk/ v.  
抚摩

⑤⑤ \* suspicious /sə'spiʃəs/  
adj. 怀疑的

⑤⑥ \* scream /skri:m/ v.  
尖叫

⑤⑦ catch hold of 抓住, 抓着