

双语爱读 动物星球

张煜 ◎ 丛书主编

STORIES
OF
ANIMAL
TOTEMS

动物 图腾故事

斯通尼 等 ◎ 复述 于巧峰 毛茜茜 彭举云 ◎ 译

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以动物的视角给人类以感动和反思



国防工业出版社

National Defense Industry Press

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PREFACE

前言

“图腾”一词来源于北美印第安人阿尔衮琴部落奥吉布瓦方言，是totem一词的音译，意为“它的亲属”、“它的标记”。在原始人信仰中，认为本氏族人都源于某种特定的物种，于是，图腾信仰便和祖先崇拜联系在一起。在许多图腾神话传说中，自己的祖先就来源于某种动物或植物，或是与某种动物或植物发生过亲缘关系，于是某种动物或植物便成了这个民族最古老的祖先。

无论是作为词语本身还是作为词语所代表的文化现象，图腾在任何时候、任何地方都散发出一种迷人的神秘魅力。神秘会激发想象力的生长，促使好奇心膨胀。而英语系国家的动物图腾故事、神话，由于其独特的异域风情，使得这神秘更加独特而魅惑，如同一座刚刚发现的宝藏一样深不可测，令人想一探究竟。

故事中的动物主人公们精彩地演绎了古老的西方社会生活中人与人的关系，反映了西方社会文化下的人类起源及历史变迁，展现了后来对这个民族的文化和民族的心理产生的巨大而深远影响的图腾崇拜，有反映狩猎、农耕活动的，也有描绘动物、人与自然斗争的。或温馨，快乐，或发人深省，震撼人心……弱小的田鼠也可以愚弄狡猾的郊狼；癞蛤蟆为人类奉献出了生命而被人们尊为永远的祖母；乌鸦不远万里为寒冷黑暗的北方世界带来光明和温暖，永远为人们尊敬爱戴；骄傲和自负让野牛和田鼠命丧黄泉；熊和郊狼与美丽的女孩之间也有温馨的爱情；高大凶猛的野牛也有温情的一面，为爱不惜贡献出自己而让人们永远敬畏膜拜，熊和人竟可以息息相通，同生共死……

语言学习很重要的一部分是学习语言所承载的文化。图腾文化是一国文

化之根，可以了解一个民族的历史、风俗和共同心理，对认识一个民族的特点，具有重要意义。动物图腾故事则是图腾文化的载体，成为西方社会及历史发展的真实写照。阅读这本书，会为我们拉开英语系国家图腾文化的序幕，揭开最神秘、最令人神往的传统文化深处的面纱。这些远古朦胧的记忆，向我们讲述了为什么一种动物在一国文化中会有那么重要的地位，西方为什么有这样那样的风俗习惯，这样那样的图腾崇拜……

本书采用英汉双语对照的形式，对特有的语言和文化现象加以详细的注解，文字流畅、通俗易懂。让我们阅读这些动物图腾故事，了解西方文化的起源。



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The background of the entire page is a detailed black and white illustration. At the top, a tropical beach scene is depicted with palm trees and a calm sea. In the lower half, a large sea turtle is shown resting on a sandy shore, surrounded by dense, feathery vegetation. The turtle's head is turned towards the right, and its shell shows intricate patterns.

动物图腾故事 STORIES OF ANIMAL TOTEMS

PART 1

MY "TRANSFORMATION"
动物们的“秘密”



1

How Terrapin's Shell Got Its Pattern 破碎的水龟壳



Native American-Cherokee Story retold by Oban

美国土著居民——彻罗基人的故事 奥本复述

Terrapin and Possum were friends. They liked to gather persimmon fruit and eat it together in the sun. One day they found a tree with ripe fruit in its top branches. Possum climbed up, picked the persimmons and threw them down to Terrapin, who slowly rolled them into a pile with her front claws.

A wolf **sauntered**¹ through the bushes and stopped to watch behind a tree. He liked persimmons too, and these were big and shiny orange. He licked his jaws with his long tongue, imagining how tasty the fruit would be and thinking how lucky it was that Possum had already thrown them down.

The wolf trotted over to Terrapin's fruit pile, stretched out one of his front legs and rolled two of the persimmons towards him. Terrapin pulled her head and legs inside her shell, frightened, and huddled like a stone.

"Go away!" shouted Possum, glaring down through the tree branches. "This is our fruit. Find another tree." The Wolf ignored Possum and began to eat the fruit.

Possum jumped up and down on his branch angrily. "Hey, Wolf. It's no fun taking fruit that's already on the ground. Are you too tired to jump and catch fresh fruit?"

He started throwing persimmons down again and Wolf leaped in the air and caught them in his teeth. Then Possum broke off a sharp piece of twig and threw it down among the persimmons. Wolf, who was excitedly catching everything that fell, snapped his jaws around the twig and a persimmon. The twig stuck in his throat and he choked to death.

Terrapin **waddled**² over and poked him to make sure he was dead. "I'll take his ears to use as spoons," she said. And she cut off his ears with her sharp claws. Then she waved goodbye to Possum, who settled himself on a branch and carried on eating persimmons.

Terrapin walked into the village. Over the next two days she went from house to house, dipping the ears into the jars of gruel that the women always kept by their doors. "Yum," she muttered. "I love gruel as much as I love persimmons."

Soon the news went around that Terrapin had killed Wolf and was using his ears as spoons to steal gruel. Other wolves got together and followed Terrapin, and took her prisoner during the night.

"I didn't kill Wolf," cried Terrapin. "Yes you did," said the wolves. "Everyone says you did—and you've got his ears."

The Wolves held a council meeting to decide what to do with Terrapin. They decided to boil her in a clay pot. Terrapin laughed and said, "my back feet are stronger than clay. I'll smash any pot you put me into".

The Wolves talked it over again. They decided to burn Terrapin in the fire. Again Terrapin laughed. "My shell will protect me. I'll roll on the fire and put it out."

The Wolves thought again. "We'll take you to the river and throw you in at the deepest point, to drown you", said their leader.

Terrapin pretended to tremble and rock in her shell. "No. Please don't. The water is so

-
1. **saunter** *n. & vi.* 闲逛, 漫步
 2. **waddle** *n. & vi.* 蹒跚而行
 3. **thump** *v.* 重击; 砰然地响 *n.* 重击; 重击声

deep and my shell is so heavy, I'll sink!" she cried. The Wolves laughed.

They dragged her to the river and the two biggest Wolves threw her as far out over the water as they could. This was just what she wanted. Splash! She hit the water and dived down towards the weeds at the bottom. But the water was muddy and she couldn't see clearly. She **thumped**³ into a jagged rock and her shell cracked in many places.

Stunned, she floated down into the weeds. Then she sang a healing song. "I will sew myself together, I will sew myself together." The water washed around her and slowly the pieces of her shell came together again.

But the shell's surface was no longer smooth. Scars formed ridges, which made a pattern. Terrapin carries this shell pattern to this day.

译赏

水龟和负鼠是好朋友。他们喜欢一起摘了柿子，边晒着太阳边吃。有一天，他们发现一棵树最顶端的枝上长满了成熟的柿子。负鼠就爬上去摘下柿子，扔给水龟，水龟用前爪慢慢地把柿子滚到一起堆成一堆儿。

一只狼在丛林中闲逛，发现了他们，便停下来躲在一颗树后面观望。他也喜欢柿子，他眼前的这些柿子又大又黄，在阳光下闪着耀眼的光泽。他用长舌头舔了舔下巴，想象着柿子会是多么好吃，觉得负鼠已经把柿子扔下来了，自己可真是太幸运了。

狼一路小跑来到水龟的柿子堆前，伸出一条前腿，把两个柿子滚到自己眼前。水龟害怕了，把头和腿都缩到壳里，蜷缩起身体，就像一块石头一样。

“走开！”负鼠从树枝间往下怒目而视，喊道，“这是我们的果子，你去找另一棵树。”狼根本不理会负鼠的话，开始大口吃起柿子来。

负鼠气得在树枝上窜上跳下。“喂，狼！捡掉在地上的果子没什么好玩的，你是不是太累了跳不起来接新鲜柿子了？”

负鼠又开始往下扔柿子，狼跳到空中张嘴来接。这时负鼠折下一根尖尖的小树枝，在扔柿子的间隙扔了下去。狼那时已经兴奋过度，无论掉下什么都会张嘴来接，他用嘴巴一下子接住一根小树枝和一个柿子，小树枝刺进他的喉咙里，狼卡死了。

水龟慢吞吞地爬过去，戳了戳狼，确定狼死了。“我要拿他的耳朵当勺子用。”她说。

水龟用她锋利的爪子把狼的两只耳朵撕下来，挥了挥手和负鼠告别。负鼠则稳稳当当地坐在一根树枝上继续吃柿子。

水龟走进村里，因为村里的妇女总是把盛粥的罐子放在门边。在接下来的两天中，水龟挨家挨户用狼的耳朵从罐子里舀粥喝。“唏，”她喃喃地说，“我太喜欢喝粥了，就像爱吃柿子一样。”

很快，水龟杀死了狼，并用他的耳朵当勺子偷粥喝的消息四处传开了。其他的狼聚集在一起，尾随着水龟，在夜里捉住了她。

“我没有杀狼，”水龟大喊。“就是你，你杀了他，”众狼说道，“大家都说你杀了狼——而且你拿了他的耳朵。”

众狼召开了一次会议来决定如何处置水龟，他们决定把她放在一个陶罐里煮。水龟笑道：“我的后腿比陶土还强壮，你们把我放在陶罐里，我会把它打得粉碎。”

众狼又讨论了一下，决定用火把水龟烧死。水龟又笑了：“我的壳会保护我的。我会在火里打滚，把火扑灭。”

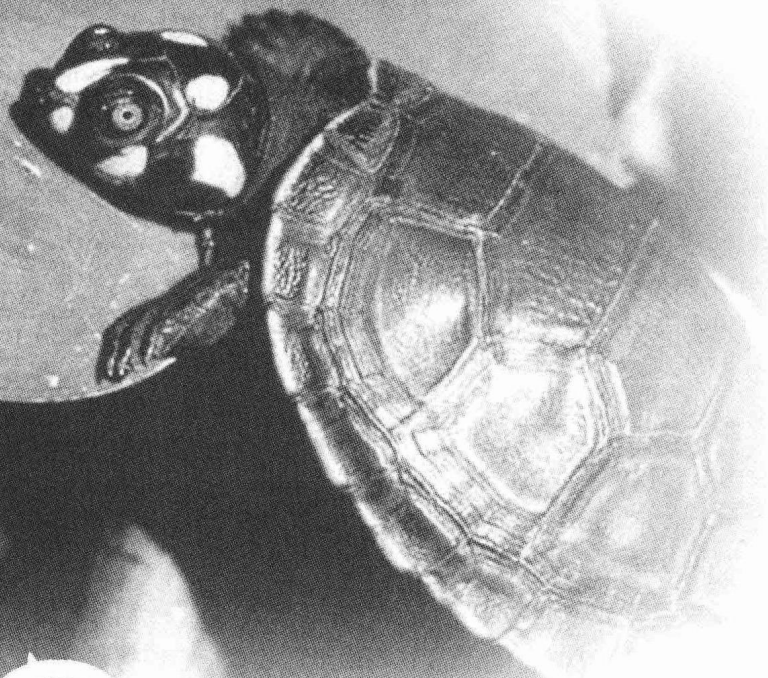
众狼又想了想。“那我们就把你带到河边，扔在最深的地方淹死你。”头狼说道。

水龟假装吓得发抖，在壳里摇摆个不停。“不，请不要那么做。水那么深，我的壳又那么重，我会沉下去的！”她喊道。众狼大笑起来。

他们把水龟拖到河边，两只最大的狼使出全身力气把她扔到最远处，水龟正巴不得他们这样呢。啪！水龟跌到水里，朝着河底的水草潜去。可是河水浑浊，视线不好。她砰地一下子撞在一块尖尖的大石头上，壳碎成了许多块儿。

水龟大惊失色，沉到河底的水草里。她唱起一首疗伤的歌：“我将自己缝起来，我将自己缝起来。”河水冲刷着她，慢慢地，她的碎壳片又长到一起了。

但是龟壳表面不再光滑，疤痕形成了脊状，组成了一种图案。直到今天，水龟还背着这种图案的壳。



2

How Tortoise Lost His Tail and Teeth 巫医与乌龟之战



Australian Aboriginal **Dreamtime**¹ Legend retold by Oban
澳大利亚土著神话开天辟地时期的神话传说 奥本复述

When someone dies, people thought their spirit went from our world into the land of souls where they found eternal life. They thought there was a bridge over the river of death, stretching between the two worlds. But no one really knew what happened.

A long time ago, a man who had died, woke up and was glad to be alive again. He had quite a story to tell.

“I walked a long way,” he said, “until I came to a wide, rushing river. I knew I had to cross it, but the banks were steep and the water was very deep. Then further down I saw a narrow bridge and a large **mound**² on the other side.”

“I stepped onto the bridge and it moved. It was alive. The mound was a gigantic tortoise, and the bridge was its long tail. I ran forward, trying to cross as fast as I could, but the tortoise lifted its head and looked at me. It had red gleaming eyes and rows of sharp teeth. It moved its shell and lifted its tail, and I fell into the water.”

“The water sucked me under. It was like a dark tunnel, with sharp rocks that cut and

bruised³ me. But then I came to the surface again and saw people on the banks of the river on our side, hunting and gathering wood. I thought I knew some of them — friends who'd died earlier. Maybe they were resting on their way to the land of souls. Or they couldn't get across either.”

“The river swept me on again, out to sea. The waves were huge but the salt water healed my wounds and the tide carried me to land. I woke up on a beach, sheltered by cliffs. I found drinking water and food and I rested. When I was stronger I climbed up and used the sun to guide me home.”

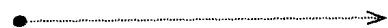
The people listening to his story were amazed and worried. “What can we do?” one of them asked. “How can we reach the land of souls when it's time for us to die, if that monster tortoise stops us?”

Someone suggested they should ask the medicine man, who lived near their village. He thought about the problem. “A brave man, who has strength and power from our great spirits, must cut off the tortoise's tail.”

Everyone looked at him, **relieved**⁴ that he was the one talked to the great spirits and not them. “All right,” he said. “I will send my spirit to the river and find the tortoise. When I fall asleep, to let my spirit wander, put my axe in my hand so I'm ready to fight.”

The people did as they promised and the medicine man's spirit set off on his journey. When he reached the river he climbed a tree and watched as other souls arrived and tried to cross the river on the tortoise's tail. Each time the animal shook them off, and they were swept away in the water.

The medicine man climbed down again. Moving as lightly as the wind, he ran across the bank and out onto the giant tail. The tortoise tried to shake him off, but the medicine man was too fast. He jumped onto the enormous shell, spun round and cut off the tail with his axe.



1. **Dreamtime** *n.* 澳大利亚土著神话中的开天辟地时期
2. **mound** *n.* 土墩, 护堤, 塚 *vt.* 筑堤, 堆起 *vi.* 积成堆, 隆起
3. **bruise** *v.* 擦伤, 打伤, 撞伤 *n.* 瘀伤, 擦伤
4. **relieved** *adj.* 放心的
5. **fang** *n.* (犬, 狼等的) 尖牙, 犬牙, (毒蛇的) 毒牙; 牙根; 尖端 *vt.* 灌水引动 (水泵)

The tortoise reared up on its back legs, twisted round and fell sideways, rolling the medicine man underneath its body. But the man wriggled out and jumped away. Then he used his axe again and cut off the head with its sharp teeth. Glad that the fight was over, the medicine man sat down for a moment on the riverbank.

He realized that souls arriving on the other side still needed a way to cross the river. He looked at the trees nearby and chopped down one with a tall, straight trunk. It fell, making a safe bridge across the river.

The body of the tortoise was still quivering in its shell, and the medicine man felt sorry for the animal. He believed that the great spirits had forced it to act the way it had. It wasn't the animal's fault.

He looked round and saw a snake curled on the ground, disturbed by the tree being cut down. It lashed its tail and flicked its tongue at him. The medicine man cut off the snake's head, picked it up and cut out the poison **fangs**⁵ with the tip of the axe blade. Then he held the head against the tortoise's neck, and using his healing powers, joined it onto the animal's body.

Finally he healed the wound where he'd cut off the tortoise's tail. He didn't want to reconnect the long tail and risk the animal being used by the great spirits again. So he formed a neat stump under the animal's shell.

And that is why the tortoise has a head like a snake, with no teeth, and a short, stumpy tail.

译文欣赏

每逢有人去世时，人们认为他们的灵魂从我们的世界去了灵魂的国界，在那儿他们会获得永生，人们觉得在死亡之河上有一座桥连接着这两个世界，但谁也不知道到底会发生什么事儿。

很久以前，一个人死后又醒了过来。他非常高兴自己又活了过来，他讲了一个不寻常的故事。

“我走了很长一段路，”他说道，“一直来到一条宽阔的、水流湍急的河边。我知道应该过河，但河岸很陡峭，河水又很深。后来我看到远处有一座窄窄的小桥，另一端是一个大土堆。”

“我走到桥上，桥动了起来，桥居然是活的。原来那个大土堆是一只巨大的乌龟，桥是它的长尾巴。我就向前跑，想以最快的速度过桥，但乌龟抬起头看着我，它有一双闪闪发光的红眼睛，两排锋利的牙齿。它晃了晃龟壳，抬起尾巴，把我掀到了水里。”

“河水把我卷入水底，就像一条黑暗的隧道，布满了锋利岩石，我被扎得遍体鳞伤。但一会儿我又浮到了水面上，看到我们那边的河岸上有一些人。他们在打猎，收柴禾。我觉得认识他们中的一些人——那是一些早就去世的朋友。可能他们正在去往灵魂国界的路上休息，或者他们也过不了河。”

“河流又把我向前冲去，冲进了海里。海浪很大，但盐水却治愈了我的伤口。潮水把我推到了岸边，我在沙滩上醒了过来，悬崖遮蔽着我。我找了些淡水和食物，休息了一下。体力恢复后，我爬上悬崖，根据太阳判断方向回到了家。”

人们听了他的故事既惊奇又害怕。“那我们该怎么办啊？”一个人问道，“等我们死了，如果那只怪物乌龟阻止我们，我们怎样才能到达灵魂国界啊？”

有人建议他们去找住在邻村的巫医问一下。巫医想了想说：“必须找一个从伟大的神灵那里获得了力量的勇敢之士去砍掉乌龟的尾巴。”

大家都看着巫医，松了一口气，因为巫医就是那个能和伟大的神灵对话的人，而不是他们。“好吧，”巫医说道，“我派我的灵魂去河那儿寻找那只乌龟。当我睡着的时候，就让我的灵魂走吧。你们要把斧子放在我手里，我好准备战斗。”

大家向巫医保证一定办到，也确实办到了，巫医的灵魂就上路了。他到达了河边，爬上一棵树，在上面观察着其他的灵魂，他们都企图从乌龟的尾巴上过河。每一次乌龟都把他們掀翻下去，被水冲走了。

巫医从树上爬下来，像风一样轻轻游走。他跑到河岸，跳上了那条巨大的尾巴。乌龟想把他掀下去，但巫医跑得太快了，他一下子就跳到了乌龟的大壳上，抡起斧子砍掉了乌龟的尾巴。

乌龟后腿一蹬直起身来，扭动着身子倒向一边，想把巫医摔下去压在身下。但巫医从它身下挣脱出来，跳到了一边。然后，他又用斧子砍掉了乌龟那长着锋利牙齿的头。巫医看到战斗结束了，便很高兴地在河岸上坐着休息了一会儿。

他知道如果灵魂要到达河的另一边，仍然需要一条过河的路。于是他看了看旁边的树，砍倒一棵树干又高又直的，树倒了下来，搭在河的两岸，便成了一座可以安全过河的桥。

乌龟的身体仍然在龟壳里瑟缩，巫医觉得乌龟非常可怜。他相信那是伟大的神灵让它这么做的，不是乌龟的错。

他环顾四周，看到一条蛇因为树被砍倒受到了惊扰，蜷缩在地上。蛇甩动着尾巴，向他吐着舌头。巫医砍下蛇头，捡起来，又用斧刃削掉它的毒牙，把蛇头接在乌龟的脖子上，用他疗伤的力量把蛇头和乌龟的身体结合到一起。

最后他治好了乌龟被砍掉尾巴的地方的伤口。他不想再给乌龟接上长尾巴，担心伟大的神灵又会利用它，就选了一块干净的木桩接在它的壳下面。

这就是乌龟有一个像蛇一样的头，没有牙齿，长着一截又粗又短的尾巴的缘故。

