



*The Most Profound
Fables in The World*

人类 最深刻的寓言

张艳玲 主编

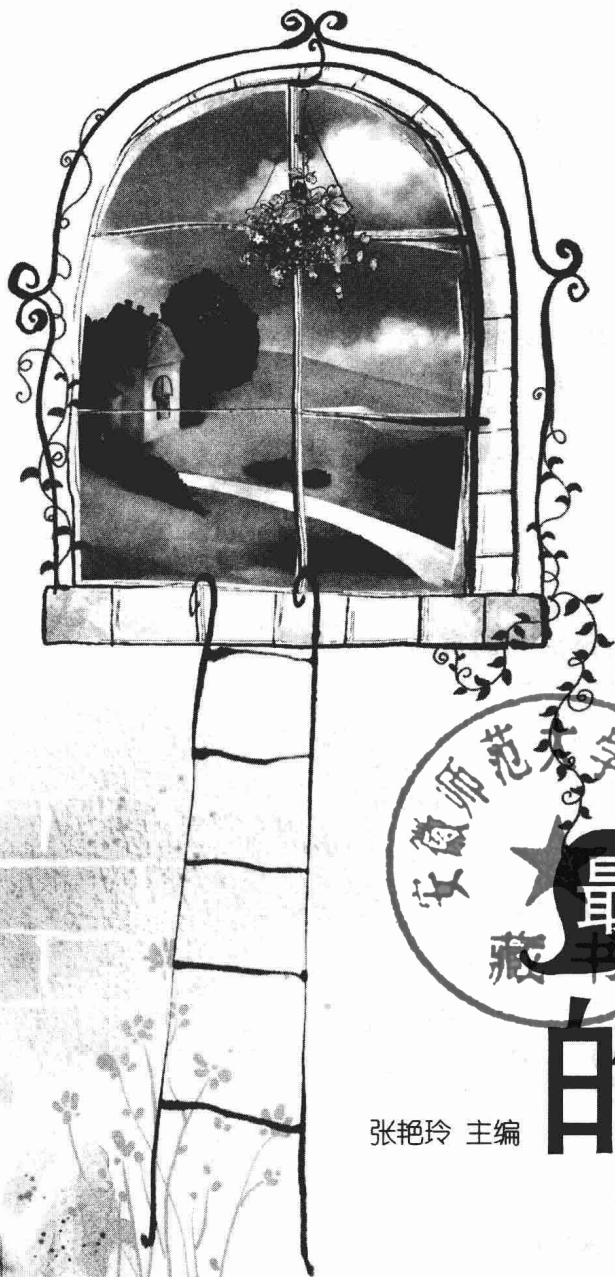
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快乐英语

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英汉对照



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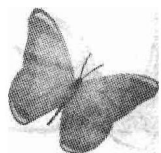
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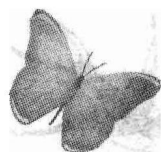
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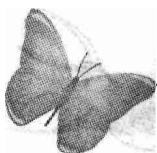
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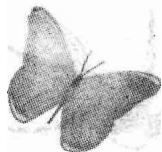
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第一篇 打开智慧之门

大儿子买来稻草，在地板上铺开来。

但他甚至连一半的空间都没有添满，更别说整个房间了。

父亲说：“儿子，这是没有用的，让我看看你弟弟怎么添满房间吧！”

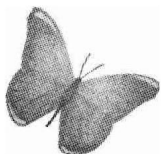
小儿子从包里拿出一根大蜡烛，

在房子中间的桌子上固定下来，点亮了。

蜡烛明亮的光芒充满了整个房间。

父亲很高兴，他称赞道：

“儿子，你有资格成为我的继承人，我相信你一定会合理地使用这笔财富。”



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The Tow Gardeners

Two brothers who were Gardeners, had a piece of land for their inheritance, of which each cultivated the half; united by a strict friendship they had every thing in common.

One of them, named John, of an inquisitive mind, and some oratorical powers, thought himself a great philosopher; therefore John passed his time in reading the almanac, in observing the weather, the weathercock, and the Wind. Presently, giving the rein to his sublime genius, he wished to discover how such millions of peas could be so quickly produced from a single one; and wherefore the seed of the Incident, which produced a large tree, should be smaller than the bean, which attained but two feet in height; and again, by what mysterious secret this bean, which was heedlessly sown in the earth, contrived to attain a proper position in its bosom, so as to shoot out a root below, while it elevated its stem above the surface.

While he was thus meditating and afflicting himself at not being able to penetrate these important secrets, he forgot to water his garden; his spinach and lettuces died for want of moisture; the north - wind killed his fig - trees, which he neglected to cover up.

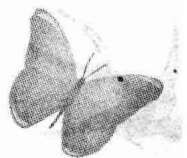
No fruit was sent to the market, no money came to his purse, and the poor philosopher, with his almanacs, had no resources but his brother.

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The latter was at work from the first dawn of day, singing at the top of his lungs; he grafted, and watered everything, from the peach - tree to the currant bush, without caring to discover that which he could not comprehend. He continued to sow, in order that he might reap. Consequently his garden thrived to a miracle; he had money, fruit and when John, in astonishment came to ask him how he was so successful. "Brother," said he, "here is the whole secret: I work, and you reflect; which is the more profitable? You are racking as your mind, while I am enjoying myself; which of us is the wiser?"



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两个园丁

两兄弟都是园丁，他们共同继承了一块土地，平分耕种，他们的感情很好，一起分享所有的东西。

其中一个叫约翰，他对什么都好奇，且具有演讲才能，自诩为伟大的哲学家。所以，他终日研读历书、观测天象、风向标和风。不久前，他的旷世才情使他异想天开，想探究为什么一粒豌豆能很快产出几百万颗豆子来；为什么可以长成参天大树的菩提树的种子竟然比只能长两尺高的蚕豆种子要小得多；又是哪股神秘的力量使得偶然撒播在土里的蚕豆，能找到合适的位置，生根发芽呢？

他为此冥思苦想，为这些疑惑不能解开而郁闷。他忘了给园子浇水，菠菜和莴苣都枯死了；没有保护起来的无花果树也经不起寒风的侵袭被冻死了。

他没有把水果拿到市场上去卖，腰包里也没钱了。这位穷困的“哲学家”，不得不向他的兄弟求助。

而他的兄弟，每天天刚破晓就下地劳动，还时常引吭高歌。他给果树嫁接，为园子里的每株植物浇水，从桃树到小葡萄丛，每一株都不落。对那些自己不理解的奥秘向来不费脑筋去冥思苦想。为了有个好收成，他不停地耕种。结果，他的园子繁茂似锦，水果和钞票都有了。当约翰诧异地前来取经时，他的兄弟却对他说：“兄弟，我注重劳动，而你注重思考，你说谁更能获利呢？你在冥思苦想时，我却在享受生活，你说哪一个更聪明呢？”

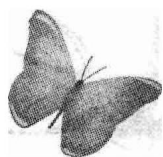
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1. cultivated 耕种的；栽培的
2. position 位置，地点；身份，地位
3. penetrate 穿过，透过；看破，识破
4. profitable 有利的；有益的





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Socrates To His Friends

Socrates having laid himself the foundation of a small house, one of the people, no matter who, amongst such passing remarks as are usual in these cases, asked, "Why do you, so famed as you are, build so small a house?"

"I only wish", he replied, "I could fill it with real friends."

苏格拉底致朋友

苏格拉底刚给自己的小房子打好地基，人们就像往常一样七嘴八舌地评论着。这时，有一个人，且不管他是谁吧，总之是在类似情况下喜欢评说几句的人，问道：“你名气这么大，为什么却盖这么小的房子？”

苏格拉底答道：“我只希望我这间小屋子，能装满真正的朋友。”



1. matter 事情，问题；重要性
2. famed 著名的，闻名的