

英汉对照

青闰 听泉 宣碧 编译

系与列自然

燕鸥满天 The Terns in Iceland





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编者的话

经过精心策划,我们隆重推出"人与自然系列丛书":《爱风的女孩》、《紫丁香的回忆》、《牛仔的梦想》、《燕鸥满天》、《午夜秋千》和《春天的承诺》共六本。

我们之所以把这个系列叫作"人与自然",是因为我们想在设定的特殊背景下,充分展现人与自然的融融亲情和相互间千丝万缕的联系,让读者朋友从中领略到一种源于自然、归于自然的感召力和神秘感。

这里有人与飞禽走兽、花草虫鱼的亲情友爱, 有人与山川湖泊、日月星辰的息息相通,也有人 征服自然的勇敢和机智,具有极强的亲合力和包 容性。

我们这里所选译的文章长短不一,由易到难,循序渐进,逐步提高;它们的风格多彩多姿,或优美隽永,或汪洋恣肆,或科学严谨,或撼人心魄,或催人泪下,或励人心志,或生动有趣……可谓色彩缤纷,美不胜收。

为了帮助读者朋友准确快捷地领会原文、最大限度地汲取英语精华,本系列丛书采取英汉对照的形式进行编排,并对疑难词加注音标和词义。 在翻译上,我们力求准确到位,再现原作神韵, 使读者既能学到地道纯正的英语,又能管窥到汉语的博大精深。同时,我们还配制了精美贴切的 情景图片,使您能赏心悦目、乐在其中。 本书在翻译过程中得到了丹冰、慕容韵、云中君、常飞雁等教授的悉心指导,在此深表谢忱。

> 青 闰 2005年10月21日

前言

《燕鸥满天》是"人与自然系列丛书"的第四本,采用英汉对照和生词注解的方式编排。

本书共选译文章十九篇,这些文章故事性强, 文字流畅,原汁原味,情节引人入胜。

有人鸟相亲、细致入微的:燕鸥满天、红尾鹰、一只名叫橄榄的鸽子;

有惊天动地、九死一生的: 命在悬崖、鏖战 太平洋旋风、师生风暴行、冲出火山、沙漠骄阳;

有鲜为人知、扣人心弦的: 浣熊 T65、神秘的灰鲸、金眼雪虎、警犬奥尔登;

有温馨体贴、意味深长的: 夜色家园、信守 诺言、父亲的藏红花、童年的小溪、一束黄花。

这些故事像一只只神奇灵动的手拨动着你的 心弦,使你魂牵梦绕、久久回味,并从中呼吸到 清新自然纯净的英语空气,充满自信地跃上第四 级台阶。

> 青闰 2005年10月21日

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A Pigeon Named Olive

Jouncing¹ down a twisty trail on our Arizona cattle ranch one morning, we suddenly came across thousands of mourning doves. They were lined up like clothespins along miles of telephone wires, their bead-bright eyes riveted on ore pickup loaded with grain.

"Dumbest birds on earth," Bill grumbled as he pulled up beside a cattle-feed trough.

"Daddy, why do you always call them dumb?" asked Jaymee, our eight-year-old daughter.

"Because they're always out to kill themselves," Bill said. "They fly into windowpanes and break their necks. They lean over too far and drown in stock tanks. And they build nests with holes so big they wouldn't hold a Ping-Pong ball, let alone an egg."

"Then how come there are so many?" Jaymee asked as Bill ripped open a sack and began to pour. He never had time to answer.

Alerted by the clatter of grain, scores of doves swooped² down in a frenzied quest. Some lit on the cows' horns, others blanketed their backs. But most settled around our cattle.

iounce vi. 上下震荡; 颠簸

² swoop vi. 飞扑; 猛扑

一只名叫橄榄的鸽子

一天早上,我们正沿着 我们在亚利桑那州的牧场 的一条曲曲弯弯的路颠簸 行驶,突然遇到了数千只哀 鸣的鸽子。它们像衣夹一样



成行排列在数英里的电话线上,圆溜溜的亮眼盯着我们装有谷物的轻型货车。

"世界上最笨的鸟,"比尔一边将车子停靠在 喂牛的一个饲料槽边,一边咕哝道。

"爸爸, 你为什么总是说它们笨呀?"我们8岁的女儿杰米问。

"因为它们总是去自杀,"比尔说,"它们飞向窗玻璃,撞断了脖子。它们将身体倾得太厉害,淹死在蓄水箱里。还有它们搭鸟巢,漏洞大得连个乒乓球都卡不住,更别说一只鸽蛋了。"

"那它们怎么有这么多呢?"杰米问。比尔 撕开一个袋子,开始撒谷子。他根本没时间来回 答。

看到撒的谷子,几十只鸽子猛扑下来疯狂觅 食。有的落在牛角上,有的飞落站满了牛背。但 大多数都停落在牛群周围。 "Daddy!" Jaymee screamed. "That cow's standing on a dove's wing!"

Bill hurried toward the cow and twisted her tail until she shifted her weight. "Dumb bird," he muttered. The dove was free, but one wing lay on the ground, severed at the shoulder.

The pathetic creature flapped its remaining wing and spun in circles until it mercifully lay still. Thank God, I thought with relief. It's dead. After all, there was nothing we could do for a bird with one wing.

Then Bill nudged the dove with the toe of his boot, and it flipped onto its back, wild-eyed with pain. "It's alive, Daddy!" Jaymee cried. "Do something!"

Bill leaned down, wrapped the tiny, broken creature in his red handkerchief and handed it to Jaymee.

"What are we going to do, Mama?" she asked, her brow creased² with worry. She was forever rescuing kittens, rabbits and squirrels. But this was different: this was a grotesquely³ wounded bird.

"We'll put it in a box and give it water and grain," I said. The rest would be up to God.

¹ pathetic /pəˈθetik/ a. 可怜的; 可悲的

² crease /kri:s/ vi. 起皱

³ grotesquely /grəu'teskli/ ad. 奇异地

"爸爸!"杰米尖叫道,"那头牛踩在了一只 鸽子的翅膀上了!"

比尔赶忙奔向那头牛,拽它的尾巴,直到它移开庞大的身躯。"笨鸟,"他嘟哝道。那只鸽子虽然挣脱,但一个翅膀却躺在地上,从肩膀处折断了。

可怜的鸽子拍打着剩下的那只翅膀,团团乱转,直到最后它可怜巴巴地躺在那里一动不动。 感谢上帝,我宽慰地想。它死了。毕竟,我们对 一只仅剩一个翅膀的鸟儿无能为力。

之后,比尔用靴尖轻触那只鸽子。鸽子扑扇扇翅膀仰卧在那里,眼睛因痛苦而狂乱。"它还活着,爸爸!"杰米喊道。"快救救它!"

比尔俯下身,用红手帕裹住那只折断翅膀的 小鸽子,将它递给杰米。

"妈妈,我们怎么办?"她问,因担忧而紧锁眉头。她经常拯救小猫、兔子和松鼠。但这次不同:那是一只受了重伤的小鸟。

"我们把它放进一只盒子,给它水和粮食," 我说。接下来就只能听天由命了。 When we got home, Jaymee put the bird into a shoebox filled with dried grass, and set the box near the wood stove for warmth.

"What are you going to name it?" asked her ten-year-old sister, Becky.

"Olive," Jaymee answered.

"Why Olive?"

"Because Noah's dove flew all the way back to the ark with an olive branch—and that wasn't so dumb."

While the girls were in school that day, I lathered the hideous wound with antibiotic salve. Poor thing, I thought, looking at the small, ghost-like creature. Certain it would die, I closed the lid. We'd done everything we could.

The next morning we heard a stirring in the box. "Olive's eating!" Jaymee shouted.

We put the bird in a wire-mesh cage filled with leaves and twigs. In the sudden shock of light and space, Olive sensed freedom and flapped her wing, repeatedly hurling⁴ herself against the mesh screen.

¹ lather /ˈlɑːðə, ˈlæðə/ vt. 在…上涂

² hideous /'hidiəs/ a. 可怕的

³ antibiotic / æntibai'ətik/ salve 抗菌药膏

⁴ hurl vt. 力掷

我们一回到家,杰米就把那只鸟搁进了一个 填满干草的鞋盒里,并把盒子放在木炭炉附近取 暖。

"你给它起什么名字呢?"10岁的姐姐贝凯问。

- "橄榄,"杰米回答。
- "为什么叫橄榄?"

"因为诺亚的鸽子衔着橄榄枝一路飞回了那个大船——而且它不是很笨。"

那天姑娘们上学去时,我给那道可怕的伤口 涂上抗菌药膏。可怜的东西,看着这个幽灵般的 小东西,我想。当然,它一定会死掉的,我合上 了盖子。我们已经做了力所能及的一切。

第二天早上,我们听见盒子里一阵响动。"橄 榄在吃东西!"杰米大声喊道。

我们把那只鸟放进一个塞满树叶和小树枝的铁丝笼里。突然有了光线和空间,橄榄感觉自由起来,就扑扇着翅膀,反复撞在网屏上。

