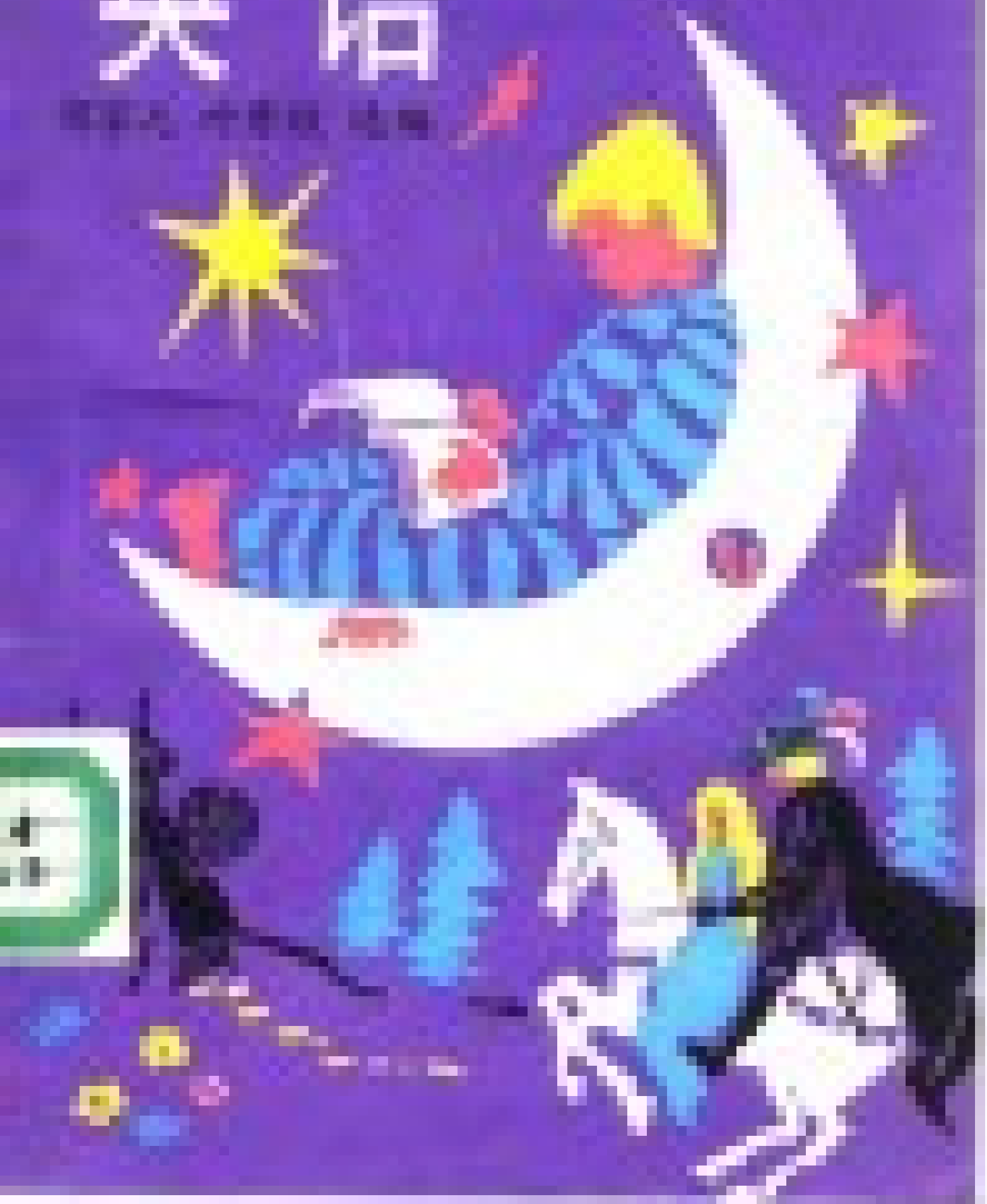


# 英语 365 夜 (下)

邹家元 叶秀牧 选编



# 英语 285 夜



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邹家元 叶秀牧 选编

复旦大学出版社

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## 245. A Dollar for a Donkey (1)

One day the Mullah, an important man in the village, found his donkey was gone when he wanted to go visit a friend. He was very angry and ran around to look for his donkey.

The Mullah ran about looking until he was too tired. He sat down to rest at his gate. A few friends came to join him.

"That no-good lazy donkey!" said he. "If I ever see her again, I'll sell her for a dollar!" Selling a donkey for a dollar was just a joke.

Just then the Mullah heard the sound of his donkey's feet. He looked around. There was his donkey. On her back rode a boy.

"Where did you find her?" asked the Mullah. "We couldn't find her anywhere."

"I knew where I would go if I were a donkey," said the boy. "I found her eating grass with the sheep and goats."

Suddenly, the Mullah looked to one side and saw one of his friends holding up a dollar. On the other side he saw another with a dollar.

"I'll buy your donkey," said the two,

"I was joking!" said the Mullah.

"You didn't sound as if you were joking," said the two.

## 246. A Dollar for a Donkey (2)

The Mullah couldn't break his word. That would be wrong for an important person in the village. He certainly didn't want to sell his donkey for a dollar. So he said, "Meet me at the donkey fair<sup>1</sup> on Saturday. I shall sell her at that time. I shall sell my donkey to the one who will treat her most kindly."

Everybody was kind to animals in the village. So the Mullah thought out a plan. He wanted to keep his word and also to keep his donkey.

On the night before the donkey fair, the Mullah bought a piece of rope. No one had any idea why the Mullah should want a piece of rope.

On Saturday, man and boy in the village came to the donkey fair.

They found a cat tied with a piece of rope to the tail of the Mullah's donkey! Beside them stood the Mullah, who looked happy.

"It is true, I'll sell my donkey for a dollar," said the Mullah. "Just one thing, though. My donkey and my cat are very good friends. They must not be parted."

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1. fair [fɛə] n. (定期) 集市



The kind man who buys my donkey must buy my cat also.”

“How much is your cat?” asked many voices.

“Oh, my cat is a very important animal,” said the Mullah. “Her father caught a mouse for a king. Her mother caught a mouse for the Queen. She is one of the finest of cats. For such a great cat I want one hundred dollars.”

The men laughed, and gave up the idea of owning the donkey.