

英语 365 夜(上)

家元 叶秀牧 选编



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邹家元 叶秀牧 - 选编

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1. What Did He Bark¹ for?

A little dog stood by an old well all morning “Bow-wow-wow!”² barked the little dog until his master Ken heard him. At last Ken went over to the well.

“Why do you stay here, my boy?” Ken asked. “And why are you barking?”

The little dog looked at him. “Bow-wow-wow!” he said to the master.

“Come here, Jack,” Ken called his friend. “This dog wants to tell us something. Maybe someone fell into the well.”

The men looked down into the well, where they saw only a little water. “Bring me a rope, Jack,” said Ken. “Someone may be down there, drowning.”³

Jack got a rope for Ken, who went deep down into the well.

A long time went by. Jack, who grew anxious, called: “Are you all right, Ken?”

“Yes,” answered Ken. “I’m on my way up. It’s a

1. bark [bɑ:k] *vi.* (狗)吠,叫

2. bow-wow-wow [bau-wau-wau] *int.* 汪!汪!汪!(狗吠声)

3. drowning [ˈdrauniŋ] (drown *vi.*) 溺死,淹死

hard climb."

At last he climbed to the top. Jack asked: "Did you find anything?"

Ken smiled. "Yes," he said, holding out a bone. "This is what the dog wanted to tell us!"

Ken gave the dog his bone, and he ran off with it.

"All that work, just for a bone!" said Jack.

"But it is a good bone," said Ken. "I would have barked, too!"

2. Love Story of A Wild Goose (I)

Each spring, a country boy named Jerry watched for wild geese. How wild and free they seemed! They were on the way to their summer homes in the North.

In the fall¹, Jerry saw and heard the geese again. They were going south to their winter homes.

Jerry's father kept ducks and geese on his farm. But the farm birds were fat and lazy. Jerry liked the wild ones better. He wished he had a wild goose.

One fall, he found one. It lay on the ground near the river. A hunter had shot it in the wing. At first Jerry thought the goose was dead. But when he touched it, the bird opened its eyes. Jerry picked up the big goose and carried it home. When his mother saw the bird, she said, "Poor traveler! you must stop here for a long rest."

"May I take care of him, Mother?" Jerry said.

"Yes," said his mother. "Put him in the barn. Give him water and food. He can stay with us until he is well."

1. fall [fɔ:l] n. 秋天

The wild goose, Traveler by name, stayed at the farm all winter. Traveler loved Jerry. He took food from Jerry's hand and followed him everywhere. He was also good friends with the farm dog and cat.

Jerry's father wanted Traveler to choose one of the farm geese as a mate¹. But Traveler did not care for any of them. One day in early spring, he walked down the road to the next farm. When Traveler came back, a pretty little gray goose was with him! Jerry's father paid the farmer for the little goose. Jerry named her Prissy, who was now wife of Traveler.

1. mate [meɪt] *n.* 伙伴

3. Love Story of a Wild Goose (2)

Prissy made a nest in the barn. She laid ten eggs in the nest. Day after day she sat on the eggs, keeping them warm. Traveler stayed by her. He tried to drive anyone away from the nest. Traveler and Prissy took turns going to the river for a bath.

Traveler's wing was well again. From that time on, Traveler flew all over the farm. Jerry was happy that the goose could fly again. But the boy was sad, too. He knew Traveler might want to fly away with the wild geese.

Jerry was right. In the fall, Traveler heard the first geese that passed over the farm. He started to shake all over. Then away he flew after the wild birds.

That night, Prissy would not eat. In two days she was a sick bird. She sat alone, with her head down. Her babies were grown up now. She had not made friends with the other geese on the farm. She wanted Traveler back.

In three days, he did come back! The call of the wild geese had been strong, but his love for Prissy was