

Best Selected English Readings

名家精选读本

小说卷

朱振武 / 主编

为什么读经典?

---卡尔维诺

经典是人类的精神财富,阅读是拥有它的唯一方式。

阅读改变了我的人生,让我从中获益良多,现在我想把这份乐趣传递出去,大家可以由此出发,让阅读进入你们的人生,施展它的魔力。

——朱振武

朱振武教授

著名翻译家、主持翻译了《达·芬奇密码》、《天使与魔鬼》、《数字城堡》、《骗局》等丹·布朗系列小说。



名家精选读本

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阅读改变人生

小的时候,我喜欢读各种各样的中文书。后来这种兴趣转到了英语阅 读上,发现同样有无穷的乐趣,而且一发不可收拾。现在想起来也的确 是受益无穷。从我在文科上的学习经历来看,谁的阅读量大,谁的水平 就高、谁的综合能力和整体素质就强。阅读可以改变一个人的人生。以 《达·芬奇密码》、《天使与魔鬼》、《数字城堡》和《骗局》等著名小 说称道于世的美国当红作家丹。布朗就认为他的成功秘诀是建立在大量的 阅读基础之上的。

一般的本科毕业生乃至研究生至少都有十年左右的英语学习经历, 但他 们的英语大都没有形成起码的或较好的应用能力。其实,粗通一门外语, 根本用不了十多年的时光。语言不同于数、理、化等学科、语言重在培养 感觉和灵性。我经常对我的学生讲: "英语是用会的,不是学会的。"对 于一个生活在非英语环境中的中国学生,怎样做到在使用中学习英语呢? 一个最有效的办法就是坚持大量阅读。阅读可以提高多方面的素养、提高 听、说、读、写、译等多方面的能力, 可以学习多方面的知识, 可以非常 有效地复习、巩固所学语言知识点。阅读在给你带来快感的同时, 从根本 上也提高了你的语言感受力。

这是一套六卷本的分类精选的英语阅读提高丛书, 主要特点如下:

- (1) 经典性: 本丛书所选小说、诗歌、散文等作品大都为历久弥新的 经典作品,多出自名家之手,经典作品是人生的精神宝藏,阅读这些作品 会使人们更觉受益匪浅。
- (2) 知识性: 本丛书包含了各种文体和多方面内容,包括文化、历 史、地理、科普、议论、记叙、散文、传记、演讲、寓言等,让读者领略 到实际应用中的英语, 而不是试题中的支离破碎的英语。

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- (3) 趣味性:本丛书所选文章力除呆板的说教类型,让读者在轻松愉悦的氛围中获取语言学习的乐趣。
- (4) 可诵性: 选文均短小精悍、流畅上口,且含蓄凝练,很适合背诵,读者可以有侧重地或选择自己偏爱的内容反复吟诵,培养英语思维。

每本书在编排上依文章难度不同划分为三部分:千里之行,始于足下; 山重水复,柳暗花明;面向大海,春暖花开。希望这种渐进式学习能帮你 逐步体验到阅读的不同层次。

此外,我们在注释中有意识地加入了单词及短语的用法描述,希望能像梳辫子似地为你理清头绪,能够按图索骥,顺藤摸瓜,避免学用词法和句法知识时常见的"描述语法"所带来的模棱两可现象和"规定语法"带来的生硬刻板现象,也避免了读罢一篇文章或无所适从,或囫囵吞枣,或只见树木不见森林的现象。总之,希望本丛书能够从思维角度帮助你提高英语水平,这也是本丛书的编写初衷。

阅读改变了我的人生,让我从中获益良多,现在我想把这份乐趣传递出去,大家可以由此出发,让阅读进入你们的人生,施展它的魔力。

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朱振武 2009年仲夏于上海



★ 千里之行 始于足下 To Begin Your Journey

- 2/ 1. The Origin of Different Languages 不同语言的由来
- 4/ 2. The Secret of Happiness 幸福的秘密
- 8/ 3. The Island of Feelings 情感的小岛
- 10/ 4. Sea Princess (An Excerpt) 海的女儿 (节选)
- 14/ 5. Paris in the Springtime 春日巴黎
- 18/ 6. The Creation of the World 世界的创立
- 22/ 7. Angels and Demons (Prologue) 天使与魔鬼(楔子)
- 26/ 8. Lessons in Baseball 棒球的启示

★ 山重水复 柳暗花明 To Broaden Your Eyes

34/ 1. Sounds of Home 乡音

40/ 2. Zoo 动物园

名家精选读本 Best Selected English Readings

- 46/ 3. Blackbirds 乌鸫
- 52/ 4. A Perfect Wife 完美的妻子
- 58/ 5. First Love 初恋
- 64/ 6. Cannibal Dreams 食人者的梦想
- 72/ 7. Angels and Demons (Face) 天使与魔鬼(写在前面)
- 76/ 8. BB Gun 气枪
- 84/ 9. The Carriage 马车
- 92/ 10. Gloves 手套
- 98/ 11. The Last Tape 最后的录音带
- 104/ 12. Tiger Treasure 虎口藏宝
- 112/ 13. Broken Promises 失信的诺言
- 118/ 14. The Darning-Needle 织补针

★ 面向大海 春暖花开 To Rise From Obscurity

128/ 1. The Shepherd's Daughter 牧羊人的女儿

134/ 2. The Waste Land 荒地

142/ 3. The Test 考试

150/ 4. Finders Keepers 谁捡到就是谁的

156/ 5. Attempted Assassination 暗杀

164/ 6. Two Loaves of Bread 两条面包

172/ 7. Digital Fortress (An Excerpt) 数字城堡 (节选)

178/ 8. Letter in the Wallet 钱包里的信

- 186/ 9. The Shepherdess and the Sweep 牧羊女和扫烟囱的人
- 196/ 10. The Selfish Giant 自私的巨人
- 206/ 11. News of the Engagement 订婚的消息
- 216/ 12. A Clean, Well-Lighted Place 一个干净明亮的地方
- 228/ 13. A Handful of Dates 一把椰枣
- 238/ 14. The Tell-Tale Heart 泄密的心
- 250/ 15. Little Claus and Big Claus (An Excerpt) 小克劳斯和大克劳斯(节选)
- 262/ 16. The Cask of Amontillado 一桶艾门提拉多白葡萄酒
- 278/ 17. The Last Leaf 最后一片叶子
- 292/ 18. The Da Vinci Code (Prologue) 达·芬奇密码(楔子)
- 300/ 19. The Mark on the Wall 墙上的斑点

名家精选读本 Best Selected English Readings

小说卷

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66 千里之行 始于足下"

TO BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY

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the LORD confused the language of

the face of the whole earth.

Broken on



这是一个选自《圣经》的小故事。人类自从偷食了生命树上的智慧之果后,便开始拥有了智慧。为了不被分散,能够更团结,古时的人就幻想建造一座通天之塔——巴别塔。不管巴别塔能不能通天,最难能可贵的是人类追求团结的共存之心。





The Origin of Different Languages 不同语言的由来



Now the whole world had one language and a common speech.

As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

They said to each other, "Come, let's make the bricks and bake them thoroughly²." They used brick instead of stone, and tar³ for mortar⁴.

Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be **scattered**⁵ over the face of the whole earth."

But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building.

The LORD said, "if as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and **confuse**⁶ their language so they will not understand each other."

So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city.

That is why it was called **Babel**⁷—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.



1.《圣经》是基督教的正式经典,又称《新旧约全书》。被奉为教义和神学的根本依据。内容主要包括历史、传奇、律法、诗歌、书函等。名称源于希腊文biblia,意为一组书卷,为复数词,拉丁化后成为单数词。《圣经》分为《旧约》与《新约》两大部分。"约"源于希腊文diathēkē,拉丁文作 testamentum, 意为盟约。

那时全世界只有一门书面语言和口头语言。

人们在向东迁徙的时候,在希纳尔发现了一个平原,就在那里定居了下来。 他们彼此商量着说:"来,让我们来做砖,并把砖烧透烧硬。"他们用砖 代替了石头,用柏油代替了灰泥。

然后他们又说: "来,让我们造一座自己的城市,再修一座可以通天的塔,这样我们就可以扬名,我们就不会被四处分散。"

但是上帝从天而降,看到了人们正在修建的城市和塔。

上帝说: "如果全人类都说同一门语言,他们就开始修城建塔,那么他们以后不是想做什么都能做成了吗?来,让我们下界将他们的语言弄乱,这样他们就不能理解彼此的话了。"

于是,上帝将他们驱散至世界各地。从此,他们停止了修城。

这就是为什么这座城被命名为巴别(意为混乱嘈杂)——因为上帝在那里搅乱了世界上的语言。同样也是在那里,上帝将人类分散至世界的每个角落。

- 2. thoroughly (completely, carefully, so that nothing is forgotten), adv. 彻底地, 十分地
- 3. tar n. 焦油,柏油; v. 覆盖 (或涂抹) 焦油 (或柏油)于 tar a road 用柏油铺路面
 - 4. mortar n. 灰泥;白,研钵 He ground the spices himself with a mortar and pestle. 他自己动手用研钵和杵把香料研成粉。
 - 5. scatter (to separate and go in different directions; disperse), v. 驱散; 撒播 scatter seeds on the field 把种子撒播在地里
 - 6. **confuse** (to make something unclear or incomprehensible), v. 混淆, 使混乱 Don't confuse the papers on his desk. 不要把他书桌上的书信文件弄乱了。
 - 7. Babel n. 巴别(圣经中的城市名);[常作 babel] 混乱,嘈杂 a babel of sounds 一片喧哗

Enlarge your vocabulary

instead of 代替

He ordered chicken instead of fish. 他点了鸡而不是鱼。→replace 代替 They are replacing the old windows with the new ones. 他们用新窗户代替了旧的。→substitute 取代 Only art can substitute for nature. 只有艺术才能取代自然。

make a name 扬名

make a choice 做个选择→make a fortune 赚大钱→make (或cut) a long story short 长话短说





这个童话用浅显易懂的语言讲述了一个孤女在仙女的帮助下得到幸福的故事。幸福不是什么地上难找天上难寻的得之不易的东西,它是如此的简单,简单到只用一句话就可以概括幸福的秘诀,即幸福是因为别人需要我们。

n



The Secret of Happiness 幸福的秘密

There is a wonderful **fable**¹ about a young orphan girl who had no family and no one to love her. One day, feeling **exceptionally**² sad and lonely, she was walking through a **meadow**³ when she noticed a small butterfly caught <u>unmercifully</u> in a thornbush. The more the butterfly <u>struggled</u> to free itself, the deeper the thorns cut into its **fragile**⁴ body. The young orphan girl carefully **released**⁵ the butterfly from its **captivity**⁶. Instead of flying away, the little butterfly changed into a beautiful fairy. The young girl rubbed her eyes in disbelief.

"For your wonderful kindness," the good fairy said to the girl, "I will grant you any wish you would like."



- 1. fable (a traditional short story that teaches a moral lesson), n. 寓言;神话,传说: Greek fable 希腊神话
- 2. exceptionally (used to emphasize a quality that you are describing), adv. 异常地、例外地
- 3. meadow n. 草地, 牧场; = meadowland
- 4. fragile (easily broken or damaged), adj. 脆弱的,易碎的 a fragile teacup 易碎的茶杯
- 5. release (to set free from confinement), v. 释放; n. 释放, 排放 release of gas from a balloon 气球的放气
- 6. captivity n. 囚禁,被关; [the Captivity] "巴比伦囚虏" (时期) (指公元前6世纪耶路撒冷陷落,大批犹太人被俘至巴比伦)

The fittle girl thought for a moment and then replical, "I want to be happy!"

The fairly said, "Very well," and leaned toward her and winspaned in her car. Then the

有这样一个美妙的寓言,讲述的是一个没有亲人、没有人爱的小孤女。一天,她感到特别伤心,特别孤独。当她穿过一个草坪时,看到在一片荆棘丛中有一只可怜的小蝴蝶撞到了刺上。蝴蝶越挣扎着想飞走,刺就越深地扎进了它娇嫩的身体里。小孤女走上前去,小心翼翼地把蝴蝶从刺丛中解救出来。可是小蝴蝶没飞走,却变成了一个美丽的仙女。小女孩使劲地揉了揉眼睛,不敢相信。

"为了感谢你的好心肠,"仙女对女孩说,"我将帮助你实现你的任何愿望。"

7. cally a 智惠 多常是的《精神之气》 cry to rady oneself 简直练[2. Subatom .ad. 网络社会。 擦点就 a translans fortune 一笔直满料零





The little girl thought for a moment and then replied, "I want to be happy!"

The fairy said, "Very well," and leaned toward her and whispered in her ear. Then the good fairy vanished.

As the little girl grew up, there was no one in the land as happy as she. Everyone asked her the secret of her happiness. She would only smile and answer, "The secret of my happiness is that I listened to a good fairy when I was a little girl."

When she was very old and on her deathbed, the neighbors all **rallied**⁷ around her, afraid that her **fabulous**⁸ secret of happiness would die with her. "Tell us, please," they begged, "tell us what the good fairy said."

The lovely old woman simply smiled and said, "she told me that everyone, no matter how secure they seemed, no matter how old or young, how rich or poor, had need of me."



- 7. rally v. 聚集; 重新振作 (精神元气等) try to rally oneself 强自振作
- 8. fabulous adj. 神话般的; 惊人的 a fabulous fortune 一笔巨额财富



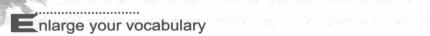
小女孩思考了片刻,回答道,"我想要幸福。"

仙女说, "好的。"她俯下身来,在小女孩耳朵边小声说了几句,接着就 消失了。

小女孩长大之后,比所有的人都要幸福快乐。每当有人问起她幸福的秘诀时,她总是笑着说,"我幸福的秘诀在于当我还是个小女孩的时候就听从了一个好心仙女的教导。"

当小女孩已经垂垂老已,在她临终之际,邻居们都围坐在她身旁,唯恐她那神奇的幸福秘诀会随她而去。"请告诉我们吧,"他们恳求她,"告诉我们那位好心的仙女到底跟你说了些什么?"

这位天真的老妇人笑着说道,"她跟我说,所有的人,不论他们看上去多么 无忧无虑,不论他们是衰老还是年轻,不论他们是富有还是贫穷,都很需要我。"



● unmercifully 不仁慈的; 无情的; 残酷的 and a second a s

mercy 仁慈; 怜悯→have mercy on 对……表示怜悯→show no mercy to sb. 对……无情→at the mercy of 受……支配 The housing policy leaves people at the mercy of wind and weather. 这项住房政策让人们饱受风霜雨雪的摧残。→mercy killing→euthanasia 安乐死

struggle to do 努力; 尽力

She is struggling to move on in the storm. 她在暴风中艰难地前进。→struggle on 挣扎着继续 We have lost two of our best players, but we are struggling on. 虽然我们已失掉了两位主力队员,但是我们仍然要坚持下去。

小说卷

anaquace こうち、おき anyonice a wedding to the papers る見が上を、記号 ** Smotty (Excessive pride in one's appearance or accord histometry)、m まちいら) its sti

事果最高以來也于出 zimmy in min



时间可以带走一切,也可以证明一切。因为在这个世界上,再没有比时间更永恒的事物了。财富、名誉……那些都不是爱情的归宿,爱又如何上得了他们的小船呢?要证明自己拥有真正的爱吗?那还得拿起时间这把尺子啊。

口



The Island of Feelings 情感的小岛

Once upon a time, there was an island where all the feelings lived: Happiness, Sadness, Knowledge, and all of others including Love. However, one day it was **announced**¹ that the island would sink, so all prepared their boats and left. Love was the only one who stayed. Love wanted to stay until it started sinking.

When Love was almost sinking, he decided to ask for help. Richness was passing by Love in a beautiful boat. Love said, "Richness, can you take me with you?"

Richness answered, "No, I can't. There is much gold and silver in my boat. There is no place in here for you."

Love decided to ask Vanity² who was also passing by, "Vanity, please help me!"

"I can't help you, Love. You are all wet and will probably damage³ my boat." Vanity answered.

Sadness was close by so Love asked for help, "Sadness, let me go with you."

"Oh Love, I am so sad that I prefer to go alone!"

Happiness passed by Love too, but she was so happy that she did not listen when Love called her!

Suddenly⁴, there was a voice, "Come Love, I will take you." It was an **elderly**⁵. Love became very happy that he even forgot to ask the name of the elderly.

When they arrived to the other side, Love asked Knowledge who was the elderly.

"It was Time."

"Time? But why did Time help me?"

"Because only Time is capable of understanding how great love is."

^{1.} announce ν. 宣布,通告 announce a wedding in the papers 在报纸上登结婚启事

^{2.} vanity (excessive pride in one's appearance or accomplishments), n. 虚荣 (心) do sth. out of vanity 出于虚荣心而做某事

从前有一个小岛,上面住着快乐、悲伤、知识,以及其他一切的情感,也包 括爱情。突然有一天,情感们得知小岛将要下沉了。于是,他们都准备好了小船, 打算弃岛而去。唯有爱情留了下来,他想一直呆到小岛开始下沉的时候才离开。

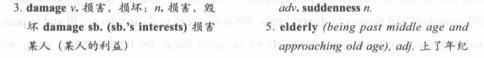
眼看小岛真的要下沉了,爱情决定寻求帮助。富裕划着一条漂亮的小船, 从爱情身旁经过。爱情说:"富裕啊,你能带上我一块儿走吗?"

富裕回答道: "不行,我的船上全是金银珠宝,已经腾不出地方啦。" 爱情又决定向身旁的虚荣寻求帮助。"虚荣啊,请帮帮我!"

"我没法帮你。你全身都湿了,说不定还会弄坏我的小船。"虚荣回答道。 悲伤也从旁边经过,于是爱情又向他求救,"悲伤啊,让我和你一块儿走吧。" "噢!爱情啊,我太悲伤了,我还是一个人走的好。"

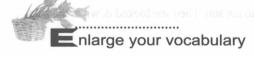
快乐也从旁边经过。但是她沉湎于快乐之中,根本就没有听见爱情在叫她。 突然,一个声音传来:"来吧,爱情,我带你走。"说话的是一位长者。 爱情非常高兴,连那位长者的姓名也忘了问。

- odnes"他是时间啊。" "evo ok odrbos ohr odros hiz bloo odzoka strola os ono
- half of "时间?。可时间为什么要帮助我呢?" all social possess and all sections of the section of



4. sudden adi. 突然的,忽然的, suddenly 的 an elderly gentleman 年长的绅士

adv. suddenness n.



prefer to 更喜欢

宁愿 He prefers dogs to cats. 比起猫而言,他更喜欢狗。→preferable 更可取的;更 好的 He finds novels infinitely preferable to poetry. 他喜爱小说胜于诗歌。→have a preference for 偏爱 She has a preference for sophisticated men. 她尤其偏爱成熟的男 人。→would rather do sth. than do sth. 宁愿 I would rather die than ask him for his autograph. 我宁愿去死也不愿去索取他的签名。 南非人民共同,以文章系统

