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Aesop

# The Aesop's Fables

## 【伊索寓言】

石艳蕊 译注

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中国科学文化音像出版社





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# The Aesop's Fables

## 《伊索寓言》

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## 世界名著英汉对照丛书

### 伊索寓言

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# 前言

## PREFACE

丛书编审 贺广贤

随着我国加入世贸,国际化进程进一步加快,不读书,不学习英文是站不住脚的,也不可能适应新时代。在新世纪里,我们特约了西安交通大学的英语专家教授及优秀教师联袂编写了这套“八哥世界名著英汉对照丛书”(附 CD),把当年教育熏陶过我们的感人肺腑、耳熟能详的佳作以英汉结合的方式推荐给年青的朋友们,为此我们感到无比的欣慰、宽释。

这里所编选的名著,都是脍炙人口的旷世之作,里面动人的故事让多少人感慨唏嘘,里面深邃的至理名言让多少人拍案叫绝。这套读物编排清晰、英汉对照、内容精练,符合现代人的阅读习惯。另外该书的录音由外籍教师播音员 Kevin 等人录制,语音地道纯正,同时配有与内容情节相吻合的背景音乐,使你在阅读名著、欣赏名著的同时不由自主地进入异国他乡,去领略那里的风土人情、历史掌故、文化习俗,在美妙的享受中学习地地道道的英语。

谈及读书,我国宋代与陆游齐名的大诗人尤袤深有感触地说:“饥读之以当肉,寒读之以当裘,孤寂而读之以当朋友,幽忧而读之以当琴瑟也。”倘若你有强烈的读书愿望,我们相信,这些书不仅能使你开窍明智,扩大视野,更能使你的英语水平有所提高,在知识和学业上都更进一层。

## 简介

《伊索寓言》产生于古希腊,是西方最早的寓言故事集。早在公元前五世纪,就被指定为雅典学生的必修课。没有读过伊索寓言的人则往往被认为是愚昧无知的人。

《伊索寓言》被翻译成多种语言,在全世界广为传播,许多故事已家喻户晓。它对世界文明产生了深远的影响。

《伊索寓言》的故事短小精悍,形象鲜明,语言精练,通俗易懂,所揭示的哲理发人深省,具有很高的文学价值。读英汉对照本,既可以了解西方文化,又有利于提高英语水平,何乐而不为呢!

编者



## 1 The Ants and the Grasshopper

有一天天气非常寒冷，蚂蚁把夏天储藏的谷子拉出来，准备晾一晾。一只饿得半死的蚱蜢走过来，乞求蚂蚁给它一小口食物救它一命。

“你今年夏天在干什么？”蚂蚁问。

“哦，那时我整日整夜都在忙着唱歌。”蚱蜢说。

“那好吧，既然你可以唱一夏天的歌，那你同样可以跳一冬天的舞呀。”蚂蚁们笑着关上了粮仓的门。

懒惰会引起物质上的短缺。

On a cold, **frosty** day the ants began dragging out some of the grain they had stored during the summer and began drying it. A grasshopper, halfdead with hunger, came by and asked the ants for a morsel to save his life.

“What did you do this past summer?” **responded** the ants.

“Oh,” said the grasshopper, “I kept myself busy by singing all day long and all night, too.”

“Well then,” remarked the ants, as they laughed and shut their storehouse, “since you kept yourself busy by singing all summer, you can do the same by dancing all winter.”

**Idleness brings want.**

### Notes:

grasshopper *n.* 蚱蜢

frosty *a.* 霜冻的; 严寒的

respond *v.* 回答; 响应

idleness *n.* 懒散, 懒惰



## 2 *The Flies and the Honey Jar*

## 2. 苍蝇与蜜罐

After a jar of honey was knocked over in a kitchen, the flies were attracted by its sweet smell and began eating the honey. Indeed, they swarmed all over it and did not (budge from the spot) until they had **devoured** every drop. However, their feet had become so **clogged** that they could not fly away, no matter how much they tried. **Stymied** by their own **voracious** appetites, they cried out, "What foolish creatures we are! We've thrown away our lives just for the sake of a little pleasure."

厨房里打翻了一罐蜜，苍蝇闻到甜味，都飞来吃蜜。它们密密麻麻地挤在蜜上，直到吃完了最后一滴才打算离开。可是，它们的脚却牢牢地粘住了，不论怎么使劲也飞不动。由于贪吃，它们受到惩罚，哭喊道：“我们多么愚蠢啊！就为了这一点美食，我们却付出了生命。”

### Notes:

devour *vt.* 狼吞虎咽地吃

clog *v.* 粘住

stymie *v.* 完全妨碍

voracious *a.* 贪婪的



### 3 鹰与狐狸

### 3 *The Eagle and the Fox*

一只鹰和一只狐狸是邻居，和睦地生活了很长时间。鹰巢在大树的顶端，狐狸的窝则在树下。一天，狐狸出门了。鹰没能给孩子们找到任何食物，于是，她从树上猛扑下来，抓起狐狸的一个幼仔回到巢里，心想自己住在高处，狐狸没法报复。她正准备把小狐狸分给

An eagle and a fox had lived together for a long time as good neighbors. The eagle's **nest** was on top of a high tree; the fox's **lair**, at the foot of it. One day, however, while the fox was away, the eagle could not find any food for her young ones. So she **swooped** down and carried off one of the fox's cubs to her nest, thinking that her lofty **dwelling** would protect her from the fox's **revenge**. She was about to divide

#### Notes:

nest *n.* 鸟巢

lair *n.* 兽穴

swoop *v.* 猛扑

dwelling *n.* 住所

revenge *n.* 报复





the cub among her **brood**, when the fox returned home and pleaded **fervently** for the return of her young cub. Since her **entreaties** were **in vain**, she ran to an **altar** in a neighboring field and snatched a torch from the fire that had been lit to **sacrifice** a goat. Then she returned to the tree and set it on fire. The flames and smoke soon caused the eagle to worry about her young ones and her own life as well, and she returned the cub safe and sound to his mother.

*The tyrant is never safe from those whom he oppresses.*

孩子们吃，这时狐狸回来了，恳求她还回自己的孩子。狐狸恳求了半天，却没用，于是跑到附近的祭坛，从火里抓起一支用来烤祭羊的火把，然后回来点燃了树。火焰和浓烟很快吓住了鹰，她担心自己和孩子会被烧死，赶紧把小狐狸完完整整地还给它的母亲。

压迫者终会受到被压迫者的反抗。

Notes:

brood *n.* 一窝(鸟,鸡等)

entreaty *n.* 乞求

altar *n.* 祭坛

tyrant *n.* 暴君

fervently *ad.* 热切地;热诚地

in vain 徒劳的

sacrifice *v.* 献祭;牺牲



## 4 吱吱嘎嘎的轮子

牛拉着车在颠簸的路上行走，轮子发出吱吱嘎嘎的响声，赶车人喊道：“畜生！拉车的牛一声不吭，你却叫个不停！”

抱怨得最响的人并不一定受累最多。

4 *The Creaking Wheels*

As some oxen were pulling a wagon along a bumpy road, the wheels began to **creak** and make a **tremendous** noise, whereupon the driver cried to the wagon, “Brute! Why do you groan when those creatures who are doing all the work are silent?”

*Those who cry the loudest are not always the ones who are hurt the most.*

## Notes:

creak *v.* 发出吱嘎声

wagon *n.* 四轮牛车或马车

tremendous *a.* 巨大的

whereupon *ad.* 因此，于是



## 5 *The Cock and the Jewel*

A cock was **scratching** the ground in a farmyard in search of food for himself and his hens, when he happened to turn up a jewel. Feeling quite sure that it was something precious, but not knowing exactly what to do with it, he remarked. "You're **undoubtedly** a very fine thing for those who **appreciate** your worth. But I'd rather have one grain of delicious **barley** than all the jewels in the world."

*The value of an object is in the eyes of the beholder.*

## 5 公鸡与宝石

公鸡在院子里刨地，想为母鸡和自己找点食物，却碰巧刨出了一颗宝石。它相信这一定很珍贵，却不知究竟能用它干什么，于是说：“毫无疑问，对于那些欣赏你价值的人，你是个宝物。但我宁愿要一粒美味的大麦，也不想要世上所有的宝石。”

一件物品在不同人的眼里有不同的价值。

### Notes:

scratch *v.* 抓, 搔

appreciate *v.* 欣赏

beholder *n.* 观看者

undoubtedly *ad.* 毫无疑问地

barley *n.* 大麦



## 6 月亮和母亲

一次,月亮让妈妈为自己做一件合身的小斗篷。妈妈问:“我怎样才能给你做得合身呢?现在你是新月,但很快就会变成满月,然后你又会变得既不是新月又不是满月。”

## 6 *The Moon and Her Mother*

The moon once asked her mother to make her a little **cloak** that would fit her well. “How can I make a cloak to fit you?” her mother asked. “Right now you’re a new moon, but soon you’ll turn into a full moon, and later you’ll become neither one nor the other.”

### Notes:

cloak *n.* 斗篷



## 7 *The Crab and Its Mother*

## 7 螃蟹与母亲

“Why do you walk so **crooked**, child?” said an old crab to her young one. “Walk straight!”

“你为什么弯弯曲曲地走路，孩子？”老螃蟹说：“直着走！”

“Mother,” the young crab replied. “show me the way, and when I see you moving straight ahead, I’ll try to follow.”

“妈妈”，孩子回答道，“你在前面走个样子给我看，如果你直着走，我会努力学的。”

*Actions speak louder than words.*

事实胜于雄辩。

### Notes:

crooked *a.* 弯曲的



## 8 乌龟与鹰

乌龟不满意自己卑微的地位,整日像蜗牛那样在地上慢慢地爬。它羡慕鸟儿可以在云中自由地翱翔。它想,只要自己能到天上,一定会像飞得最棒的鸟儿那样飞翔。于是,有一天它请求鹰教它飞行,它愿意把海里所有的财宝作为回报。



## 8 *The Tortoise and the Eagle*

A tortoise was dissatisfied with his lowly life and with crawling about on the ground at a snail's pace. He envied the bird, who could **soar** high into the clouds whenever they desired. He thought that, if he could but once get up into the air, he would be able to fly with the best of them. So, one day he offered an eagle all the treasures in the ocean if he would only teach him how to fly.

### Notes:

soar v. 翱翔



The eagle **declined** and assured him that the tortoise's desire to fly was not only **absurd** but impossible. However, the tortoise kept insisting and **pleading** so that the eagle eventually agreed to do the best he could for him. he said. "Now, spread your legs!" But before the tortoise could say one word to him in response, he **plunged** straight down, hit a rock, and was dashed to pieces.

*Demand your own way, demand your own ruin.*

鹰没有答应它的请求,告诉它乌龟想要飞的愿望是荒唐而且不实际的。可是,乌龟不停地请求,最后鹰答应要尽力帮助它。鹰把乌龟带到高空,就在松开它的一刹那,喊道:“现在展开你的腿!”但乌龟还没来得及回答它,就坠到了岩石上,摔得粉身碎骨。

一意孤行会招致自我毁灭。

Notes:

decline v. 拒绝

plead v. 恳求

ruin n. 毁灭

absurd a. 荒唐的

plunge v. 一头冲进,掉进



## 9 母鸡与猫

9 *The Hen and the Cat*

听说母鸡生病在家,猫同情地来拜访她。他走近她,说道:“我的朋友,你还好吗?我能为你做些什么?你需要什么吗?尽管告诉我好了,我会给你想要的任何东西。打起精神来,不要惊慌。”

“谢谢你,”母鸡说,“如果你走开,我相信我会很快好起来的。”

不邀自到的客人最好早早告辞。

Hearing that a hen was **laid up** sick in her nest, a cat paid a visit out of **sympathy**. After creeping up to her, he said, “How are you, my dear friend? What can I do for you? Do you need anything? Just tell me, and I'll bring you anything in the world you want. Just keep up your spirits, and don't be **alarmed**.”

“Thank you,” said the hen. “Just be good enough to leave me, and I'm sure that I'll soon get well again.”

*Uninvited guests are often most welcome when they leave.*

**Notes:**

laid up 使卧病在床

sympathy *n.* 同情alarmed *a.* 受惊吓的





## 10 *The Ass and the Grasshopper*

## 10 驴与蚱蜢

After hearing some grasshoppers chirping, an ass was enchanted by their music and wanted to acquire the same melodic charms. When he asked them what they ate to sing so sweetly, they told him that they dined on nothing but dew. Consequently, the ass followed the same diet, but he soon died of hunger.

听了蚱蜢的鸣叫,驴迷上这美妙的声音,也想唱出同样优美的曲调。他问他们吃了什么才得以唱得如此甜美,他们说,除了露水什么也没吃。于是,驴也只吃露水,但很快就饿死了。

*One man's meat is another man's poison.*

对某些人有益的东西,对其他人则有害。

### Notes:

chirp *v.* 唧唧叫  
acquire *v.* 获得  
diet *n.* 饮食

enchant *v.* 使着迷  
melodic *a.* 有旋律的,调子美妙的  
poison *n.* 毒药