



史上最美 英文


THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ENGLISH

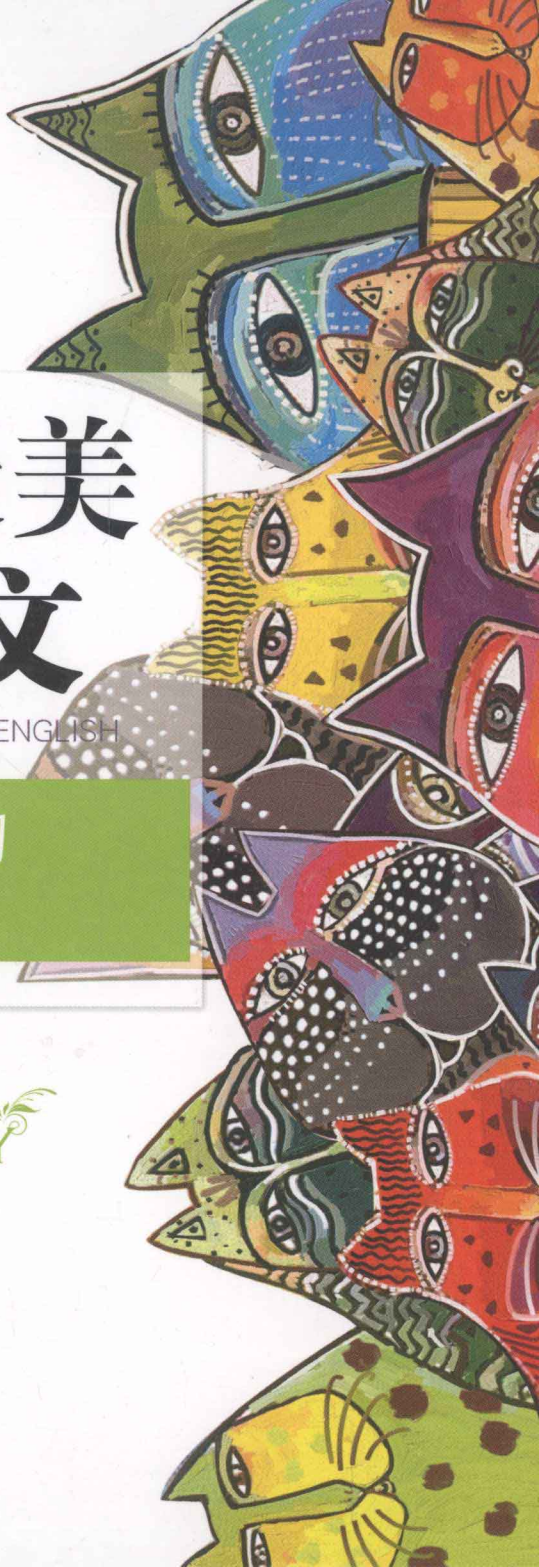
家有宠物

王春娜 / 编译

A PET IN THE FAMILY

从婴儿呱呱落地开始，
一切都开始改变，
唯一不变的是蕴涵在生活中的真理，
而真理就隐藏在普通的话语中。
徜徉在中英双语世界里，
品味生活中的点点滴滴。

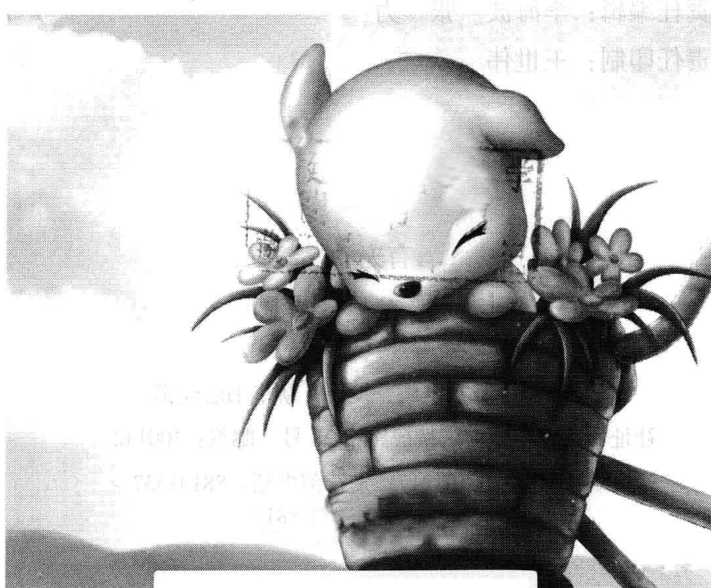
 经济科学出版社




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图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

家有宠物: 汉英对照/王春娜编译. —北京:
经济科学出版社, 2012

(史上最美英文)

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5141 - 2087 - 5

I. ①家… II. ①王… III. ①英语 - 汉语 - 对照读物
②故事 - 作品集 - 世界 IV. ①H319.4: I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2012) 第 139869 号

责任编辑: 李海波 张 力

责任印制: 王世伟

家有宠物

史上最美英文 (汉英对照)

王春娜 编译

经济科学出版社出版、发行 新华书店经销

社址: 北京市海淀区阜成路甲 28 号 邮编: 100142

总编部电话: 88191217 发行部电话: 88191537

网址: [www. esp. com. cn](http://www.esp.com.cn)

电子邮件: [esp@esp. com. cn](mailto:esp@esp.com.cn)

北京盛兰兄弟印刷装订有限公司印装

880 × 1230 32 开 11 印张 230000 字

2013 年 1 月第 1 版 2013 年 1 月第 1 次印刷

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5141 - 2087 - 5 定价: 27.50 元

(图书出现印装问题, 本社负责调换。电话: 88191657)

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前言

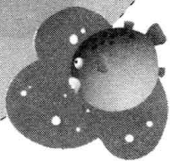


人生的苦乐全由自己去把握，去体验。对于深受现代文明之发达及其无可避免的压力的学生来说，怎样面对逆境是他们目前刻不容缓、迫在眉睫的严肃课题。

高尔基先生说过：“书籍是人类进步的阶梯。”书还能带给你许多重要的好处，也是获取精神食粮的最佳途径之一。用母语之外的语言阅读，可以拓展人生版图，感悟各国文化气息，提高人身素养，培养英语语感。

对于坎坷曲折的人生道路而言，本套英语书籍便是学生人生路上的最佳润滑剂。面对苦难，我们苦闷、彷徨、悲伤、绝望，甚至我们低下了曾经高贵骄傲的头。然而我们可否想到过，书籍可以给予我们希望和勇气，将慰藉缓缓注入我们干枯的心田，使黑暗的天空再现光芒？

“史上最美英文”系列书籍中，每篇文章的文字均取自国外最经典、最时尚、最感人的篇章，它语言优美、情感深厚、英文地道，让学子们在阅读这些动人的绝美篇章时，不仅可以作为学习地道英语的材料，而且可以启迪心智、丰富思想，更能够提升生活质量，丰富人生内涵，最后让你轻松提升英文领悟能力，体味英文之美，提高学习兴趣。

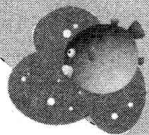


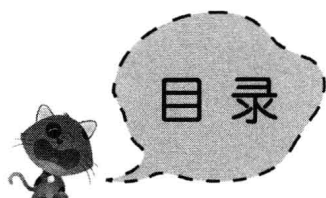
本系列书籍中列出了许多词汇，均是生活和学习中的常用词汇，可重点记忆，文章后还有一些知识链接，让你能用最短的时间、最有趣的方式强化知识。

如果你是一名英语爱好者，通过阅读本套书，你就可以学到很多知识，然后把这些知识应用到生活的方方面面。这套书籍将为你学习道路和人生道路点亮一盏明灯，照亮心灵之路。

大千世界，人生百态，伟大的作家往往能捕捉到哲理闪光的瞬间，凝聚睿智的理念。这些文字耐人寻味，震撼人心，希望读者能够在学习之余，在茶余饭后，在品读中英两种文字的同时，感受笔墨下的精神力量和人生真理。希望读者能得到片刻的心灵慰藉，且这种内化作用无疑是巨大的。

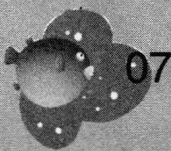
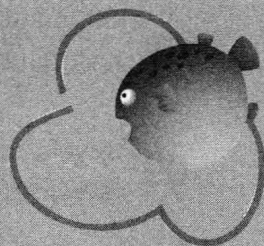
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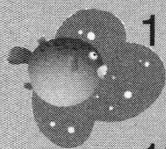
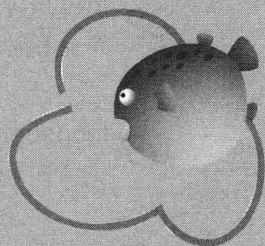
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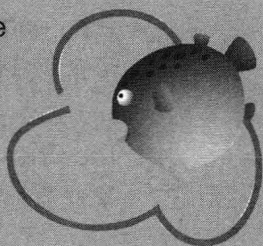
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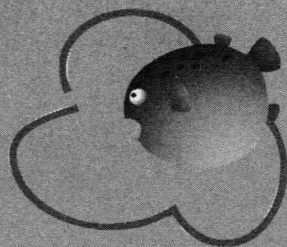
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01

Waiting at the Door

在门旁等候

By Barbara J. Crocker

宠物密语

尾 巴

一日，某人去其友人家做客，见友人家的狗很是奇怪，便问道：“为什么其他的狗摇尾巴时，总是左右摇摆，而你们家的狗是上下摇呢？”友人答曰：“这是由于我们家的住房十分紧张。”

My grandmother became a widow in 1970. Shortly after that, we went to the **animal shelter**^[1] to pick out a puppy to keep her company. Grandma decided on a little terrier that had a reddish-brown spot above each eye. Because of these spots, the dog was promptly named Penny.

Grandma and Penny quickly became very **attached to**^[2] each other, but that attachment grew much stronger about three years later when Grandma had a **stroke**^[3]. Grandma could no longer work, so when she came home from the hospital, she and Penny were constant companions.

After her stroke, it became a real problem for Grandma to let Penny in and out because the door was at the bottom of a flight of stairs. So a mechanism using a **rope**^[4] and **pulley**^[5] was installed from the back door to a handle at the top of the stairs. Grandma just had to pull the handle to open and close the

[1] **animal shelter** 动物收容所

[2] **attach to** 附属于; 使依恋; 贴上, 系上

[3] **stroke** n. 中风; 打, 击, 敲 v. 画短线于……

[4] **rope** n. 绳, 索; 内情, 规则 v. 捆, 扎, 缚

[5] **pulley** n. 滑轮; 滑车 v. 用滑轮升起

door. If the store was out of Penny's favorite dog food, Grandma would make one of us cook, Penny browned beef with diced potatoes in it. I can remember teasing my grandmother that she loved that dog better than she loved her family.

As the years passed, Grandma and Penny became **inseparable**^[1]. Grandma's old house could be filled to the **brim**^[2] with people, but if Grandma went to take her nap, Penny walked along beside her and stayed by her side until she awoke. As Penny aged, she could no longer jump up on the bed to lay next to Grandma, so she laid on the rug beside the bed. If Grandma went into the bathroom, Penny would **hobble**^[3] along beside her, wait outside the door and accompany her back to the bed or chair. Grandma never went anywhere without her faithful companion by her side.

The time came when both my grandmother and Penny's health were **failing**^[4] fast. Penny couldn't get around very well, and Grandma had been hospitalized several times. My uncle and I lived with Grandma, so Penny was never left alone, even when

[1] **inseparable** adj. 分不开的, 不可分离的 (+ from) n. 不可分离的事物

[2] **brim** n. (杯、碗等容器的) 边, 缘 v. 注满 (容器等)

[3] **hobble** v. 蹒跚, 跛行 n. 跛行, 缚住马脚的绳子

[4] **fail** n. 不及格 v. 失败, 不及格; 缺乏; 衰退

Grandma was in the hospital. During these times, Penny sat at the window looking out for the car bringing Grandma home and would excitedly wait at the door when Grandma came through it. Each homecoming was a grand **reunion**^[1] between the two.

On Christmas Day in 1985, Grandma was again taken to the hospital. Penny, as usual, sat watching out the window for the car bringing Grandma home. Two mornings later when the dog woke up, she couldn't seem to work out the **stiffness**^[2] in her **hips**^[3] as she usually did. The same morning, she began having **seizures**^[4]. At age fifteen, we knew it was time. My mother and aunt took her to the veterinarian and stayed with her until the end.

Now the big dilemma was whether to tell Grandma while she was still in the hospital or wait. The decision was made to tell her while she was in the hospital, because when we pulled up at the house, the first thing Grandma would look for was her beloved Penny watching out the window and then happily greeting her at the door. Grandma shed some tears but said she knew that it had

[1] **reunion** n. 再联合, 再会合; 团聚, 重聚

[2] **stiffness** n. 僵硬; 生硬, 不自然; 顽固

[3] **hip** n. 臀部, 屁股; 髋部; 髋关节 v. 给 (屋顶) 造屋脊 Int. (表示喝彩和欢呼) 加油! 好!

[4] **seizure** n. 抓住, 捉住, 夺取; 没收, 扣押; (中风、癫痫等的) 发作

to be done, so Penny wouldn't suffer.

That night while still in the hospital, Grandma had a **massive**^[1] heart attack. The doctors **frantically**^[2] worked on her, but could not **revive**^[3] her. After fifteen years of loving **companionship**^[4], Grandma and Penny passed away within a few hours of each other. God had it all worked out—Penny was waiting at door when Grandma came home.



文/芭芭拉·J·克罗克

1970年，爷爷去世，我奶奶成了寡妇。没过多久，我们和奶奶一起到动物保护所去，想在那里挑选一只小狗给奶奶做伴。奶奶决定要一只小猎犬。这小狗两只眼睛上面各有一块红褐色的斑点。因为这两个斑点，奶奶给小狗取名潘尼。

很快，奶奶就喜欢上潘尼了，潘尼也很喜欢奶奶。但3年后，奶奶中风，她和小狗就更加亲密。奶奶不能再像以前那样走来走

[1] **massive** adj. 大而重的，厚实的，给人深刻印象的

[2] **frantically** adv. 疯狂地；狂热地

[3] **revive** v. 使苏醒；恢复精力

[4] **companionship** n. 友谊；交往；伴侣关系

去。所以从医院回到家后，就和潘尼成了形影不离的伙伴。

奶奶中风之后，如何让潘尼自由出入成了一个难题，因为门在楼梯的下面。于是我们就请人给奶奶家里安装上一种带绳子和滑轮的装置。这种装置设在后门和楼梯上端的扶手上。奶奶只需要拉动扶手，就可以开门、关门。如果商店里潘尼喜欢吃的狗粮卖完了，奶奶会让我们给她做牛肉吃，牛肉要嫩煎，还要在牛肉里加上切碎的马铃薯。我还记得有一次给奶奶开玩笑，说她爱那狗胜过爱家里人。

随着日子一天天过去，奶奶和潘尼再也分不开了。奶奶家的老房子会来很多人，但只要奶奶想小憩一会儿，潘尼就会跟着她，并且一直待在她身边，直到奶奶醒来。随着潘尼一天天衰老，她不能再一跃跳上床躺在奶奶身旁，于是就躺在床附近的毯子上。如果奶奶洗澡，潘尼就一路蹒跚地跟着，然后在门外等奶奶，奶奶一出来，她就陪着奶奶回到床上躺着，或者陪奶奶到椅子上坐下。没有她的忠实伙伴在身边，奶奶哪里也不会去。

终于，奶奶和潘尼的身体迅速衰老下去。潘尼不能再四处走动，奶奶也住了好几次院。我就和叔叔一起住在奶奶家里。潘尼从来没有被扔下不管，即使是在奶奶住院的时候。那几次奶奶住院期间，潘尼总在窗边向外望，盼望来一辆车把奶奶送回来。只要奶奶真的坐车回来，她就赶快在门旁等候，非常兴奋。每次奶奶从医院回家都会上演她和潘尼盛大重聚的动人场景。

1985年圣诞节那天，奶奶再一次被送到医院。像往常一

样，潘尼坐在窗边向外凝望，盼着那辆送奶奶回来的车出现。两天后的早上，潘尼醒来，发现自己好像伸展不开僵硬的臀部和后腿，而以前，她总是活动几下就可以舒展开筋骨。就在同一天早上，她开始出现癫痫症状。潘尼 15 岁了，我们明白，是时候了。我妈妈和婶婶一起带着她到兽医那里，在那儿陪着潘尼，直到她生命的最后一刻。

我们真是进退两难：奶奶还在住院，是现在告诉她，还是等等再说？随后，我们还是决定马上告诉奶奶。因为每次接奶奶出院回家，车停在门口的时候，奶奶第一个要找的就是潘尼。她想看见她爱的潘尼在窗边向外凝望，然后，潘尼会兴高采烈地在门边欢迎她回家。奶奶知道潘尼的事情以后，哭了。但她说，必须这样做，这样潘尼就可以免受折磨。

那天晚上，还是在医院，奶奶的心脏骤停。医生们火速抢救，但没有挽回奶奶的生命。15 年相依相伴，奶奶和潘尼在几小时的时间里，相继去世。上帝安排的这一切——奶奶回家的时候，潘尼会在门旁等候。



1. 根据画线处的释义选择对应的选项。

(1) ...but that attachment grew much stronger about three years later when Grandma had a stroke.

- A. 附属 B. 依恋 C. 附件 D. 相关

(2) The same morning, she began having seizures.

- A. 夺取 B. 捕获物 C. 癫痫 D. 扣押

(3) Two mornings...couldn't seem to work out the stiffness...as she usually did.

- A. 解决；确定 B. 想出；制定出
C. 计算 D. 使筋疲力尽；耗尽

2. 写出下列关于 brown 的短语的释义。

(1) (as) brown as a berry _____

(2) browned-off _____

(3) do brown _____

(4) do up brown _____

(5) the brown _____