

美丽英文系列丛书

故事里的光辉

THE GLORY OF STORIES

寓言，是一种具有哲理性和讽刺意义的故事。通常是把深刻的道理寄于简单的故事之中，借此喻彼，借小喻大，借古喻今，语言简洁锋利。

励志美文 英汉对照

余平姣◎编著



企业管理出版社

ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT PUBLISHING HOUSE

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The Bat and the Weasels

A bat who fell upon the ground and was caught by a Weasel pleaded to be spared his life. The Weasel refused, saying that he was by nature the enemy of all birds. The Bat assured him that he was not a bird, but a mouse, and thus was set free. Shortly afterwards the Bat again fell to the ground and was caught by another Weasel, whom he likewise entreated not to eat him. The Weasel said that he had a special hostility to mice. The Bat assured him that he was not a mouse, but a bat, and thus a second time escaped.

It is wise to turn circumstances to good account.

热词空间

weasel n. 黄鼠狼, 鼬

v. 告密

plead vi. 恳求; 申诉, 答辩, 辩护

refuse v. 拒绝, 不接受, 不同意

n. 废物, 垃圾

enemy n. 敌人, 仇敌, 敌军

entreat vt. 恳求

assured a. 自信的, 确定的

蝙蝠与黄鼠狼

蝙蝠掉落在地上,被黄鼠狼叼去,他请求饶命。黄鼠狼说绝不会放过他,自己生来痛恨鸟类。蝙蝠说他是老鼠,不是鸟,便被放了。后来蝙蝠又掉落了下来,被另一只黄鼠狼叼住,他再三请求不要吃他。这只黄鼠狼说他痛恨一切鼠类。蝙蝠改口说自己是鸟,并非老鼠,又被放了。这样,蝙蝠两次改变了自己的名字,终于死里逃生。

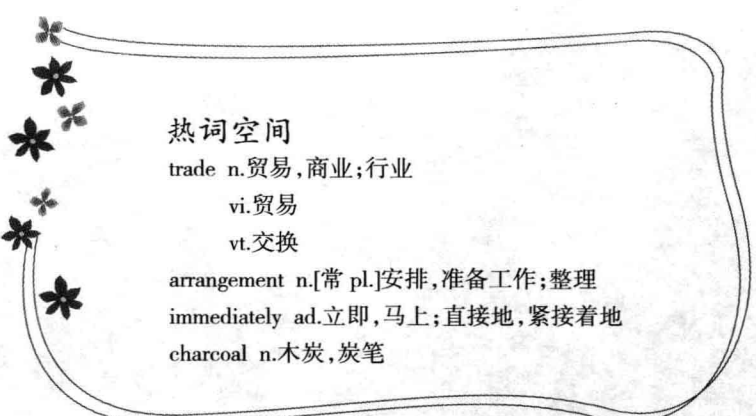
这个故事说明,我们遇事要随机应变方能避免危险。



The Charcoal-Burner and the Fuller

A charcoal-burner carried on his **trade** in his own house. One day he met a friend, a Fuller, and entreated him to come and live with him, saying that they should be far better neighbors and that their housekeeping expenses would be lessened. The Fuller replied, "The **arrangement** is impossible as far as I am concerned, for whatever I should whiten, you would **immediately** blacken again with your **charcoal**."

Like will draw like.



热词空间

trade n. 贸易, 商业; 行业

vi. 贸易

vt. 交换

arrangement n. [常 pl.] 安排, 准备工作; 整理

immediately ad. 立即, 马上; 直接地, 紧接着地

charcoal n. 木炭, 炭笔

烧炭人与漂布人

烧炭人在一所房子里干活,看见有一个漂布人搬迁到他的旁边来住时,满怀高兴地走上去劝他与自己同住,并解释说这样彼此更亲密,更方便,还更省钱。漂布人却回答说:“也许你说的是真话,但完全不可能办到,因为凡我所漂白的,都将被你弄黑。”

这故事说明,不同类的人难相处。





The crow and the pitcher

A crow felt very thirsty. He looked for water everywhere. Finally, he found a pitcher.

But there was not a lot of water in the pitcher. His beak could not reach it. He tried again and again, but still could not touch the water.

When he was about to give up, an idea came to him. He took a pebble and dropped it into the pitcher. Then he took another and dropped it in.

Gradually, the water rose, and the crow was able to **drink** the water.

热词空间

pitcher n. 有把的大罐, 瓶状体, 投手, 摊贩

gradually ad. 逐渐地

drink vt. vi. 喝、饮; 吸、吸收

n. 饮料; 喝酒、酗酒

口渴的乌鸦

一只乌鸦口渴了，到处找水喝。终于，他找到了一个大水罐。

然而，水罐里面的水并不多，他的尖嘴够不到水面，他试了一次又一次，都没有成功。

就在他想放弃的时候，他突然想到一个主意。乌鸦叼来了一块小石子投到水罐里，接着又叼了一块又一块石头放进去。

渐渐地，水面升高了。乌鸦高兴地喝到了水。

The smaller the mind the greater the conceit.

思想越狭隘，自负越膨胀。

——伊索

The Fawn and His Father

A young **fawn** once said to his Father, "You are larger than a dog, and swifter, and more used to running, and you have your **horns** as a **defense**; why, then, O, Father! Do the hounds frighten you so?" He smiled, and said: "I know full well, my son, that all you say is true. I have the advantages you **mention**, but when I hear even the bark of a single dog I feel ready to faint, and fly away as fast as I can."

No arguments will give **courage** to the coward.

热词空间

fawn n. 小鹿, 小动物 vi. 奉承讨好

horn n. (牛等的)角; 号角, 喇叭, 警报器

defense n. 防御, 保卫;

[pl.] 防御工事; 辩护

mention vt. n. 提及, 说起

courage n. 勇气, 胆量

小鹿与他的父亲

有一天,小鹿对公鹿说道:“父亲,你怎么还怕狗呢?你比他高大,比他跑得更快,而且还有很大的角用于自卫。”公鹿笑着说:“孩子,你说得都对,可我只知道一点,一听到狗的叫声,我就会不由自主地立刻逃跑。”

激励那些天生胆小、软弱的人毫无用处。

To speak less of one's self than what one really is, is folly, not modesty; and to take that for current pay which is under a man's value, is pusillanimity and cowardice.

贬低自己不是谦虚,而是愚蠢;为掉价的报酬而接受贬低,是懦弱,是胆小。

——蒙田