

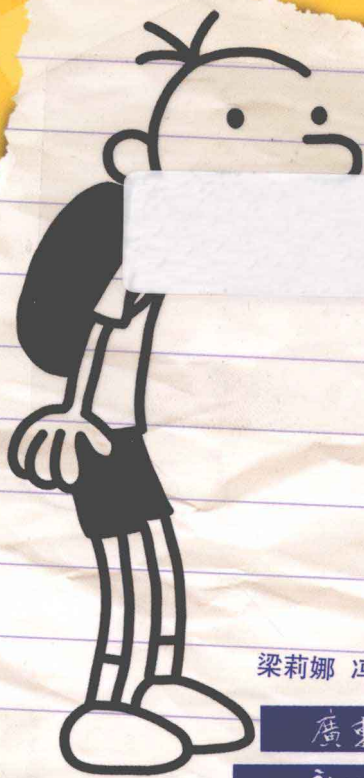
英语学习笔记 (2)

Diary of a Wimpy Kid

小屁孩日记

——谁“动”了“千年奶酪”

[美]杰夫·金尼 著



陈万如 译

梁莉娜 冯玉婷 注释

广东教育出版社

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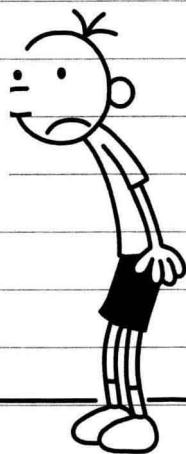
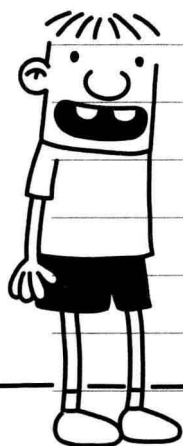
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格雷的“死党”
——罗利

格雷



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“小屁孩之父”杰夫·金尼致中国粉丝

中国的“哈屁族”：

你们好！

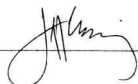
从小我就对中国很着迷，现在能给中国读者写信真是我的荣幸啊。我从来没想到自己会成为作家，更没想到我的作品会流传到你们的国家，一个离我家十万八千里的地方。

当我还是个小屁孩的时候，我和我的朋友们曾试着挖地洞，希望一直挖下去就能到地球另一端的中国。不一会儿，我们就放弃了这个想法（要知道，挖洞是件多辛苦的事儿啊！）；但现在通过我的这些作品，我终于到中国来了——只是通过另一种方式，跟我的想象有点不一样的方式。

谢谢你们让《小屁孩日记》在中国成为畅销书。我希望你们觉得这些故事是有趣的，也希望这些故事对你们是一种激励，让你们有朝一日也成为作家和漫画家。我是幸运的，因为我的梦想就是成为一个漫画家，而现在这个梦想实现了。不管你们的梦想是什么，我都希望你们梦想成真。

我希望有朝一日能亲身到中国看看。这是个将要实现的梦想！

希望你们喜欢《小屁孩日记》。再次感谢你们对这套书的喜爱！



杰夫

A Letter to Chinese Readers

Hello to all my fans in China!


I've had a fascination with China ever since I was a boy, and it's a real privilege to be writing to you now. I never could have imagined that I would become an author, and that my work would reach a place as far from my home as your own country.

When I was a kid, my friends and I tried to dig a hole in the ground, because we hoped we could reach China on the other side of the earth. We gave up after a few minutes (digging is hard!), but with these books, I'm getting to reach your country... just in a different way than I had imagined.

*Thank you so much for making **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** a success in your country. I hope you find the stories funny and that they inspire you to become writers and cartoonists. I feel very fortunate to have achieved my dream to become a cartoonist, and I hope you achieve your dream, too... whatever it might be.*

I hope to one day visit China. It would be a dream come true!

*I hope you enjoy the **Wimpy Kid** books. Thank you again for embracing my books!*

 Jeff

我这么酷的人竟然也被叫成
“小屁孩”，真是@#%&*……

DECEMBER

Wednesday

Well, if one good thing came out of the play, it's that I don't have to worry about the "Bubby" nickname anymore.

I saw Archie Kelly getting hassled in the hallway after fifth period today, so it looks like I can finally start to breathe a little easier.



Sunday

With all this stuff going on at school, I haven't even had time to think about Christmas. And it's less than ten days away.

十二月

星期三

嗯，要是说这次演出出了什么好事情，那就是我再也不用担心那个“波波”的外号了。

今天第五节课之后，我看到亚奇·凯利在走廊里麻烦缠身，看样子，我倒是终于可以松口气了。

图：嘿，波波！

猛地一推

星期日

学校的事没完没了，我连好好想一下圣诞节该怎么过都没有时间。现在离圣诞节只有十天不到了。

breathe a little easier

表示“放轻松”的意思。

【扩展】

① 形容一个人很紧张，屏住呼吸，英语会说“**hold one's breath**”。

例 The exciting story makes me hold my breath.
那个令人兴奋的故事让我屏住了呼吸。

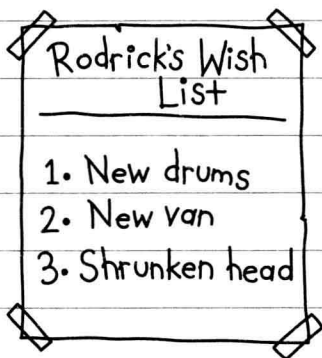
② 如果说一样东西非常激动人心，惊心动魄，我们也可以说“This is so **brehtaking**”。“**brehtaking**”就是“夺去了你的呼吸”，让你屏息以待。

③ **catch one's breath**表示“屏住呼吸，吸引住了”。

例 The painting is so beautiful that it caught my breath.

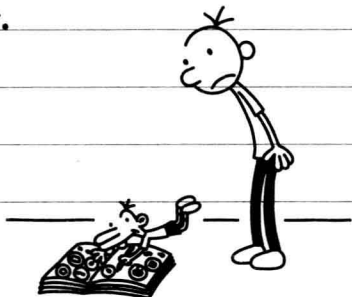
这幅画美得让我窒息。

In fact, the only thing that tipped me off that Christmas was coming was when Rodrick put his wish list up on the refrigerator.



I usually make a big wish list every year, but this Christmas, all I really want is this video game called Twisted Wizard.

Tonight Manny was going through the Christmas catalog, picking out all the stuff he wants with a big red marker. Manny was circling every single toy in the catalog. He was even circling really expensive things like a giant motorized car and stuff like that.



事实上，唯一一件让我嗅到
圣诞节气息的事情，是罗德里克
将他的愿望单贴到冰箱上去。

图：罗德里克的愿望单

1. 新鼓
2. 新的小货车
3. 变小的脑袋

每年我通常会列出一张长长的
愿望单，但今年圣诞，我想要的，
就只是这个叫“古怪法师”
的电子游戏。

今晚曼尼从头到尾翻遍整本
圣诞购物目录，用红色的记号笔
圈出他看中的东西。结果目录里
面的每件玩具都被画上了圈圈。
连巨型马达小汽车之类贵得要命
的东西他都圈了出来。

wish list

n. 愿望清单

【文化拓展】传说中，东方三博士在耶稣诞生后，送上了黄金、乳香、没（mò）药作为礼物。圣诞节在后来演变成一个家人共聚的节日，这个互相赠送礼物的传统仍得以保留下来。愿望清单是由接受礼物的一方写给送礼物的人，表达自己希望收到什么样的礼物；这通常都是大人让小孩子写的，希望能借节日满足小孩的愿望。除了圣诞节，人们还可以在其他典礼和重大事件中列出“wish list”，例如受洗礼、毕业典礼、婚礼、乔迁、生日或者慈善义卖等。

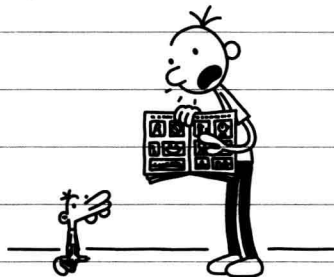
Christmas catalog

n. 圣诞购物目录

【文化拓展】虽然圣诞节本来是一个宗教色彩非常浓厚的节日，但在现代，这个节日已经慢慢成为一个与消费相关的节日了。通常在12月初，甚至在11月末，各大商场就开始着手大型圣诞树、圣诞灯饰的布置，以此来吸引顾客。而圣诞购物目录则涵盖了从圣诞树到圣诞礼物等各种应节商品，供顾客选择。而12月26日，也就是我们现在说的“Boxing Day”，就是一个完全商业化的节日：在这天，很多商场都会把圣诞产品拿出来做减价促销。

So I decided to step in and give him some good big-brotherly advice.

I told him that if he circled stuff that was too expensive, he was going to end up with a bunch of clothes for Christmas. I said he should just pick three or four medium-priced gifts so he would end up with a couple of things he actually wanted.



But of course Manny just went back to circling everything again. So I guess he'll just have to learn the hard way.

When I was seven, the only thing I really wanted for Christmas was a Barbie Dream House. And NOT because I like girls' toys, like Rodrick said.

看到他这样子，我决定插手进来，在这件事上给他一点大哥的金玉良言。

我跟他讲，要是他挑的东西太费钱，最后他的圣诞礼物就只会是几件衣服。我说他应该只挑三四件价钱一般般的礼物，那他就会收到几件自己真正想要的东西。

当然咯，曼尼只是翻回目录开头，从头开始在每件东西上面再画一个圈。我猜他得碰过壁之后才能学聪明。

七岁那年，我想要的唯一一件圣诞礼物，是芭比娃娃的梦幻屋。想要的原因，绝不是罗德里克所说的我喜欢女孩子的玩具。

learn the hard way

通过挫折困难学到某事，惨痛教训

【扩展】

① 如果我们说“**He did it the hard way**”，就是说他的成功得来不易，经历了很多挫折。与这种情况相反的表达是“**born with a silver spoon in his month**”，意思是“含着金钥匙出生”。

例 Mr. Wright is one of the most successful businessmen in the world, and like others, he did it the hard way.

怀特先生是最成功的商人之一，和其他人一样，他的成功是得来不易的。

② 英语中，表示“得到教训”还可以说“**learn a lesson**”，即上了一课。

例 He learns a lesson that it is wrong to be late for school.

他得到了一个教训，上学迟到是不对的。

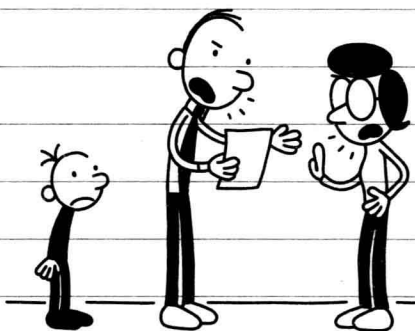
Barbie ['bɑ:rbɪ]

n. 芭比娃娃

【文化拓展】芭比娃娃于1959年在美国首次面世，后来成为世界畅销最久的玩具——这可能连她的创造者露丝·汉德勒（Ruth Handler）都没有预料到。这个28厘米高、长头发大眼睛的娃娃，和可口可乐、麦当劳一起成为美国文化的代言产品。芭比娃娃完美的身材比例，成为很多女孩的梦想。可是，近年来芭比娃娃也在社会上引起很大的争议：越来越多的人指责芭比娃娃是造成女性厌食症的其中一个帮凶。

I just thought it would be a really awesome fort for my toy soldiers.

When Mom and Dad saw my wish list that year, they got in a big fight over it. Dad said there was no way he was getting me a dollhouse, but Mom said it was healthy for me to "experiment" with whatever kind of toys I wanted to play with.



Believe it or not, Dad actually won that argument. Dad told me to start my wish list over and pick some toys that were more "appropriate" for boys.

But I have a secret weapon when it comes to Christmas. My Uncle Charlie always gets me whatever I want. I told him I wanted the Barbie Dream House, and he said he'd hook me up.

我只是觉得拿它来给我的玩具士兵做堡垒会很威风。

那年爸妈看到我的愿望单后，为这件事吵了一大架。老爸发话说，让他给我买一个洋娃娃的屋子，没门。但老妈说，不管我想玩的是哪种玩具，“试验”一下总是好的。

信不信由你，老爸居然赢了这场嘴皮子仗。他让我重新写愿望单，挑些更“适合”男孩的玩具。

但我有一件圣诞节秘密武器。不管我想要啥，查理叔叔总会送给我。我跟他说，我想要芭比娃娃的梦之屋，他就一口答应下来了。

awesome [ˈɔːsəm]

adj. 极好的，令人敬畏的

【扩展】awesome在现代英语口语中，本来是用来表示赞叹、惊讶的。但它也被认为是现代英语中最被滥用的词汇，国外甚至发起了一个叫作“反对awesome”的活动，来鼓励人们扩充词汇量，用别的词汇代替“awesome”。

那么有什么词汇可以表示“awesome”的意思呢？下面是一些建议：amazing, wonderful, fantastic, terrific, cool, astonishing, breathtaking, brilliant, excellent, impressive, 等等。

另外值得注意的是，语言学家之所以觉得“awesome”是被滥用了，更主要原因是，“awe”的原意其实是“害怕、恐怖”的意思，最开始是用来形容独裁者的。例如，“aweful”就是“糟糕、可怕”的意思。

secret weapon

秘密武器

“秘密武器”通常都不是指真的武器，而是指人生的关键时刻（turning point），面对很多挑战（challenge）时，所使用的最后手段。

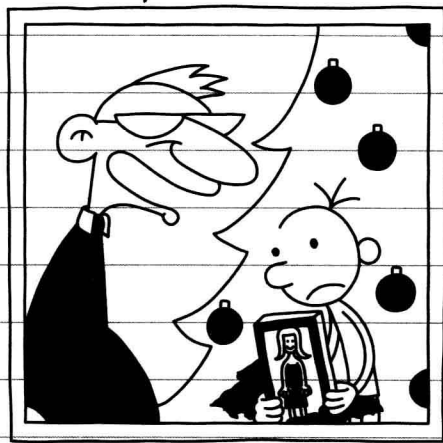
例 The confidence of the customer may be the secret weapon of the company.

消费者的信息就是这家公司的秘密武器。

【扩展】与“secret weapon”意思相近的词汇有“trump card”，就是“王牌”的意思。

On Christmas, when Uncle Charlie gave me my gift, it was NOT what I asked for. He must've walked into the toy store and picked up the first thing he saw that had the word "Barbie" on it.

So if you ever see a picture of me where I'm holding a Beach Fun Barbie, now at least you know the whole story.



Dad wasn't real happy when he saw what Uncle Charlie got me. He told me to either throw it out or give it away to charity.

But I kept it anyway. And OK, I admit maybe I took it out and played with it once or twice.

圣诞节那天，查理叔叔将礼物给我的时候，我却发现那并不是我向他要的那种。他准是走进玩具店之后，一手拿起他视线之内第一件有“芭比”这个词的东西。

所以，要是你什么时候看到一张我双手捧着一个“沙滩乐芭比娃娃”的照片，现在你至少知道前因后果了。

老爸看到查理叔叔给我的礼物时，老大不高兴。他叫我要么扔掉它，要么将它捐给慈善机构。

但我还是把它留在身边。好吧，我承认我可能拿它出来玩过一两回。

know the whole story

知道（事情的）来龙去脉

【扩展】我们在第（1）册里已经说过，“story”不仅有故事的意思，还有“事实，内情”的意思。所以，知道了整件事的来龙去脉，我们可以用“know the whole story”；如果说“It's a different story”，则表示“情况会不一样”。

例 Without your help, it will be a different story.

没有了你的帮助，情况肯定会不一样。

give it away to charity

把它捐给慈善机构

give (something) away可以表示“赠送”，也可以表示“泄露”。

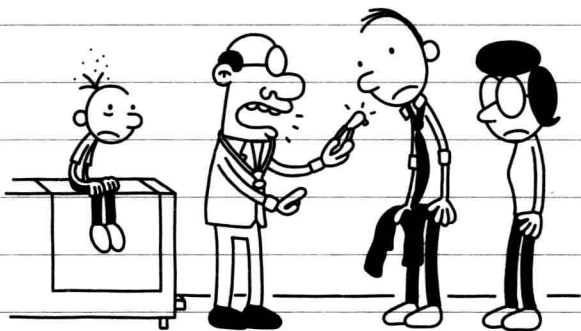
例 Sam has 10 books to give away.

森姆有10本书要捐出去。

例 She promised that she would never give away the secret.

她承诺自己绝不会泄露秘密。

That's how I ended up in the emergency room two weeks later with a pink Barbie shoe stuck up my nose. And believe me, Rodrick has never let me hear the end of THAT.



Thursday

Tonight me and Mom went out to get a gift for the Giving Tree at church. The Giving Tree is basically a Secret Santa kind of thing where you get a gift for someone who is needy.

Mom picked out a red wool sweater for our Giving Tree guy.

I tried to talk Mom into getting something a lot cooler, like a TV or a slushie machine or something like that.