

美丽英文系列丛书

# 生活的韵律

*THE RHYTHM IN LIFE*

读懂亲情，或许你就感悟到了真正的人生。本书收录了数十个精彩的亲情故事，让读者在阅读中感悟亲情，收获感动。

余平姣◎编著

励志美文 英汉对照

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# The Gold Box

Author Unknown

We often learn the most from our children.

Some time ago a friend of mine punished his 3-year-old daughter for wasting a roll of gold **wrapping** paper. Money was tight, and he became **infuriated** when the child tried to decorate a box for no apparent reason.

Nevertheless, the little girl brought the gift to her father the next morning and said, “This is for you daddy.” He was embarrassed by his earlier over-reaction, but his anger flared again when he found that the box was empty.

He yelled at her, “Don’t you know that when you give someone a present, there’s supposed to be something inside of it?” The little girl looked up at him with tears in her eyes and said, “Oh daddy, it’s not empty. I blew kisses into the box. All for you, Daddy.”

The father was crushed. He put his arms around his little girl, and he begged her **forgiveness**. My friend told me that he kept that gold box by his bed for years. Whenever he was discouraged, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.

In a very real sense, each of us as parents has been given a gold container filled with **unconditional** love and kisses from our children. There is no more precious possession anyone could hold.



## 热词空间

Wrapping n. 包装纸；包装材料

infuriate v. 激怒

forgiveness n. 宽恕，饶恕

unconditional adj. 无条件的，绝对的，无限制的



# 金盒子

佚名

我们能从孩子身上学到很多东西。

不久前，我的一个朋友惩罚了他那3岁的女儿，因为他觉得她浪费了一卷包装金纸。当时家里的经济很拮据，当看到孩子毫无理由地装饰一个盒子时，他发怒了。

然而，第二天早上小姑娘把盒子递给父亲说：“爸爸，这是送给你的。”这时他对自己早先的偏激行为感到非常难堪，但是当他发现盒子空着的时候又发起火来了。

他对她喊道：“你不知道送礼物给别人时，里面应该有东西吗？”女孩很委屈，泪眼汪汪地抬头看着父亲说：“哦，爸爸，它不空。我向里面吹了许多吻。都是给你的，爸爸。”

父亲忍不住了，他揽着小女儿，请求她的原谅。我的朋友告诉我他把那个金盒子放在床边好多年。每当他气馁时，都会从中拿出一个想象的吻，记得女儿的爱。

从某种真实的意义上讲，我们每个做父母的都得到了一个金盒子，里面装着孩子无条件的爱和亲吻。这是我们持有的最珍贵的东西了。



The best man stumbles.

伟人也有犯错的时候。

# The Pearls

Author Unknown

The cheerful girl with **bouncy** golden curls was almost five. Waiting with her mother at the checkout stand, she saw them: A circle of glistening white pearls in a pink foil box. “Oh please, Mommy. Can I have them? Please, Mommy, please?” Quickly the mother checked the back of the little box and then looked back into the **pleading** blue eyes of her little girl’s upturned face.

“A dollar ninety-five. That’s almost \$2. If you really want them, I’ll think of some extra **chores** for you and in no time you can save enough money to buy them yourself. Your birthday’s only a week away and you might get another crisp dollar bill from Grandma.”

As soon as Jenny got home, she emptied her piggy bank and counted out 17 pennies. After dinner, she did more than her share of chores. She went to the neighbor, Mrs. McJames, and asked if she could pick dandelions for ten cents. On her birthday, Grandma did give her another new dollar bill and at last she had enough money to buy the necklace.

Jenny loved her pearls. They made her feel dressed up and grown up. She wore them everywhere——Sunday school, kindergarten, even to bed! The only time she took them off was when she went swimming or had a **bubble** bath. Mother had told her that if they got wet, they might turn her neck green.

Jenny had a very loving daddy, and every night when she was ready for bed he would stop whatever he was doing and come upstairs to read her a story. One night when he finished the story, he asked Jenny, “Do you love me?”

“Oh yes Daddy. You know that I love you.”

“Then may I have your pearls?”

“Oh, Daddy, not my pearls... But you can have Princess-the white horse from my collection. The one with the pink tail, remember, Daddy? The one you gave me. She’s my favorite.”

“That’s okay, honey. Daddy loves you. Good night.” And he brushed her cheek with a kiss.

About a week later, after the story time, Jenny’s daddy asked again,

“Do you love me?”

“Daddy, you know I love you.”

“Then will you give me your pearls?”

“Oh Daddy, not my pearls. But you can have my baby doll. The brand new one I got for my birthday. She is so beautiful and you can have the yellow blanket that matches her sleeper.”

“That’s okay, honey. Sleep well. God bless you, little one. Daddy loves you.” And as always, he brushed her cheek with a gentle kiss.

A few nights later when her Daddy came in, Jenny was sitting on her bed with her legs crossed Indian-style. As he came close, he noticed her chin was trembling and one silent tear rolled down her cheek.

“What is it Jenny? What’s the matter?”

Jenny didn’t say anything but lifted her little hand up to her daddy. When she opened it, there was her little pearl necklace. With a little **quiver**, she finally said, “Here Daddy. It’s for you.” With tears gathering in his own eyes, Jenny’s kind daddy reached out with one hand to take the prized necklace. With the other hand, he reached into his pocket and pulled out a blue velvet case. He handed the handsome velvet case to Jenny and told her, “Thank you for giving me your most prized possession that you even saved for all by yourself. Here Honey, I have this for you also. I wanted to trade you, but I was going to give these to you tonight either way.”

Jenny opened the blue velvet box. She's never seen such a beautiful box.  
Inside, the glistening white Sheen of genuine pearls struck her teary eyes.

### 热词空间

bouncy adj. 快活的，有弹性的，精神饱满的

pleading n. 辩论，诉讼手续，辩解

chores n. 家务杂事；零工

bubble n. 泡沫，幻想 v. 冒泡，沸腾，使冒泡，滔滔  
不绝地说

quiver n. 颤抖；箭袋；大群； v. 颤抖；发抖



# 珍珠

佚名

这位快乐的，拥有一头富有弹性的金色卷发的小女孩叫做珍妮，他今年有5岁了。和母亲等候在付款台前准备付款的时候，她看到了一串珍珠，这串闪闪发亮的珍珠被装在一个粉红色金属箔的盒子里。“喔，妈妈，求求你，我可以买下它们吗？求求你，妈妈。”母亲迅速地朝小盒子的后面瞥了一眼，然后转回来看着小姑娘祈求的双眼。

“要1美元95美分，几乎2美元了。如果你真的想要这串珍珠的话，我可以给你找些额外的家务活，你很快就能挣得足够的钱自己买了。还有一周的时间就是你的生日了，你奶奶可能会给你一张崭新的1美元的钞票。”

珍妮一回家就把倒出储钱罐里所有的钱，数了数，一共有17美分。晚饭后，她额外地做了些家务活。然后她去了邻居詹姆斯夫人那里，问能否以10美分的价格摘蒲公英。生日那天，奶奶真的又给了她一张1美元的新钞票，最后她有足够的钱买项链了。

珍妮非常喜欢她的珍珠项链，它们让她感觉自己打扮起来了，长大成人了。她到哪儿都戴着珍珠项链——上主日学校、幼儿园，甚至连睡觉时她都戴着它，只有游泳或洗泡泡浴的时候她才把它拿下来。因为母亲曾告诉过她，要是弄湿了，会把她的脖子染绿的。

珍妮有个可爱的父亲，每天晚上，在珍妮睡前，无论当时在做什么事情他都会停下来，然后来到楼上给珍妮读个故事。一天夜里，他读完一个故事后，问珍妮：“你爱我吗？”

“哦，是的，爸爸。你知道我爱你。”

“那你不能把你的珍珠项链送给我呢？”

“喔，爸爸，珍珠项链不行……但你可以要‘公主’，我收藏的白马，有粉红色尾巴的那个，你记得吗，爸爸？你给我的那个，那是我最喜欢的。”

“行，亲爱的。爸爸爱你。晚安。”他在她的脸颊上吻了一下。

大约一个星期之后，讲完故事后，珍妮的爸父亲又问道：

“你爱我吗？”

“爸爸，你知道我是爱你的。”

“那给我你的珍珠项链好吗？”

“喔，爸爸，珍珠项链不行，但是我可以把我的洋娃娃送给你，我过生日的时候收到的那个崭新的。她很漂亮，而且我还可以给你和她的睡衣相配的黄毛毯。”

“可以，亲爱的。好好睡觉，上帝会赐福于你，小姑娘。爸爸爱你。”和平时一样，他轻轻地亲了一下她的脸颊。

又过了几夜，当父亲走进珍妮卧室之时，珍妮正坐在床上，双腿像印度人那样盘着。他走近时注意到她的下巴微微颤动，一滴眼泪悄悄滚下面颊。

“怎么了，珍妮？发生什么了？”

珍妮没说什么，将小手举着向父亲伸去，然后张开手，里面是她的小珍珠项链。最后她有点颤抖地说：“给你，爸爸，这个给你。”父亲的眼里涌出泪水，一只手接过珍妮珍爱的项链，另一只手伸进口袋，从中掏出一只蓝色的天鹅绒盒子。他将可爱的天鹅绒盒子递给珍妮，告诉她：“谢谢你将自己攒钱买的最心爱的东西送给我。看，亲爱的，我也有东西要送给你，本来我是想用它和你交换的，可无论如何今天晚上都要给你了。”

珍妮从没有见过那么漂亮的盒子，他打开了蓝色的天鹅绒盒子，里面，真正的珍珠闪烁的白光吸引了她泪汪汪的双眼。



## The Target

My cooking has always been the target of family jokes. One evening, as I prepared dinner a bit too quickly, the kitchen filled with smoke and the smoke detector went off. Although both of my children had received fire-safety training at school, they did not respond to the alarm. Annoyed, I stormed through the house in search of them.

I found them in the bathroom, washing their hands. Over the loud buzzing of the smoke alarm, I asked them to identify the sound.

"It's the smoke detector," they replied in unison.

"Do you know what that sound means?" I demanded.

"Sure," my oldest replied. "Dinner's ready."

## 靶子

我的烧饭手艺向来是家庭笑话的攻击目标。一天晚上，晚餐我准备得有点儿快了，厨房里充满了烟，结果烟雾探查器报起警来。尽管我的两个孩子都在学校里接受过防火安全训练，可是他们并没有对报警声作出反应。我感到很恼火，满幢房子乱冲寻找他们。

我在洗澡间找到他们，发现他们正在洗手。我的声音盖过了烟雾警报的嗡嗡声，我叫他们辨别那声音。

"是烟雾探查器，"他们异口同声地说。

"你们知道那声音意味着什么吗？"我责问道。

"当然，"我的大孩子回答道，"晚饭准备好了。"



## Of Parents and Children

Francis Bacon

弗兰西斯·培根 (Francis Bacon, 1561—1626), 英国哲学家和科学家。他竭力倡导“读史使人明智, 读诗使人聪慧, 演算使人精密, 哲理使人深刻, 论理学使人有修养, 逻辑修辞使人善辩”。培根一生崇尚科学和知识, 一生追求真理。马克思称其为“英国唯物主义和整个现代实验科学的真正始祖”。他在逻辑学、美学、教育学方面也提出许多思想。著有《新工具》、《论说随笔文集》等。后者收入58篇随笔, 从各个角度论述广泛的人生问题, 精妙、有哲理, 拥有很多读者。

培根的其他著作有《学术的进步》(1605) 和《新工具》(1620) 等。培根尖锐地批判了中世纪经院哲学, 认为经院哲学和神学严重地阻碍了科学的发展和进步, 主张全面改造人类的知识, 让整个学术文化从经院哲学中解放出来, 实现伟大的复兴。他认为, 科学必须追求自然界事物的原因和规律。要达到这个目的, 就必须以感官经验为依据。他提出了唯物主义经验论的原则, 认为知识和观念起源于感性世界, 感觉经验是一切知识的源泉。要获得自然的科学知识, 就必须把认识建筑在感觉经验的基础上。他还提出了经验归纳法, 主张以实验和观察材料为基础, 经过分析、比较、选择、排斥, 最后得出正确的结论。

The joys of parents are secret; and so are their griefs, and fears: they cannot utter the one; nor they will not utter the other. Children sweeten labours; but they make **misfortunes** more bitter they increase the cares of life; but they mitigate the remembrance of death. The perpetuity by generation is common to