



每天读点英文

最启迪人的英文故事

Everyday English Snack

许小凡◎编译

✿ (汉英对照) ✿

生活与人生的思考、优美与经典的搭配
阅读与学习的组合，单词释义，佳句欣赏，心灵私语

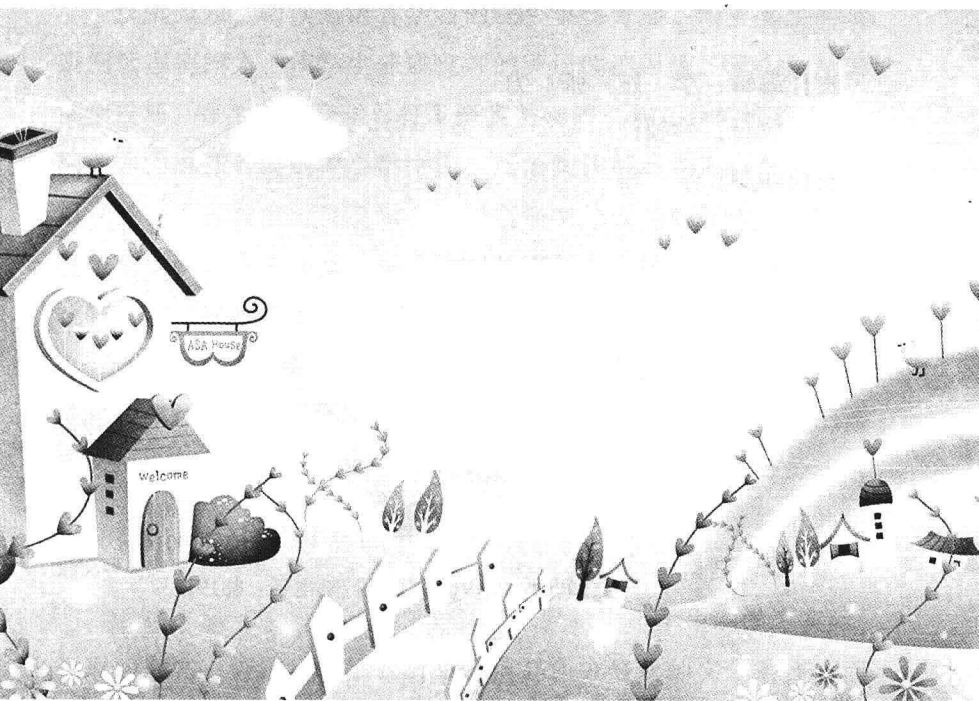
—— 零距离的英语阅读新方式 ——

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前 言

如今，英语学习成为当今社会学习的一个热点，不管是幼儿还是成人，都在积极努力地学好这一门第二母语。在全球化日益成为国际主流的今天，英语在世界上任何角落里被人们当作沟通的桥梁，它的重要性已经不言而喻。

众所周知，阅读是语言学习的一个重要方面。培养学生的英语阅读理解能力，使学生养成良好的英语阅读习惯，掌握正解的阅读技巧，是为其终身学习打下坚实基础的一种必要的课程训练。因此作为求知若渴的中小学生们，英语阅读都不失为一种英语学习、了解英语国家历史文化、增强自身文化底蕴的好方法。阅读优美而正确的英文文章，可以提高阅读能力，扩大词汇量，开阔视野，了解更多西方国家的风俗习惯。

然而，以英语作为母语的国家，其广阔的历史背景，浩渺的文化积累往往令人目不暇接。对中小学生们来说，面对如此多的西方经典文学，他们往往感到手足无措，不知道如何来选择这些名作，怎样有效、无障碍地进行阅读，怎么更好地掌握其中的精髓……这些成了中小学生们在进行英语阅读路上的绊脚石。

因此本套《每天读点英文》丛书，紧扣中小学生的学习实际，选取的散文、诗歌、小说、故事不仅是西方经典的文学著作，而且篇幅适中，单词难易度不大，且对有难度的单词加以注释，着重培养学生搜集和处理信息，获取新知识和分析问题的能力。所选短文和单词均由资深英语阅读者与老师一起精心设计完成，契合中小学生学习英语的实际需要。

本套丛书语言浅显、生动、地道，以英文注释的形式出版，既保留了英文的原汁原味，中英文双语注释又为中小学生在阅读英文时扫除了语言障碍，能够充分调动他们的阅读兴趣，使英语阅读更轻松。希望这套书能够成为帮助孩子在壮阔的英文学习的海洋中提供指导，让孩子们发自内心地爱上英文，体味英文之美。



Chapter 1 An Open Gate

第一章 开启心灵的窗口

<i>The Dreamer</i>	3
追梦人	
<i>If the Dream Is Big Enough, the Facts Don't Count</i>	8
心中有梦,风雨不折	
<i>The Language of the Heart</i>	13
心灵的语言	
<i>I Would Pick More Daisies</i>	18
我会多采撷雏菊	
<i>More Than a Picasso</i>	21
比毕加索更伟大	
<i>The Smile</i>	27
微笑	
<i>The Marks of Life</i>	34
生命的印记	

目录 contents

If It Comes Back 40

倘若鸟儿回还

Attitude Is Everything 50

态度决定一切

Words from A Father 55

我还会选你做我的儿子

My Miraculous Family 64

生命的奇迹

Keep Walking in Sunshine 76

轮椅上的快乐人生

Chapter 2 A Grain of Sand



第二章 聆听美丽的寓言

Free to Soar 83

有线的自由

A Handful of Clay 87

— 撮黏土

The Farmer's Donkey	95
---------------------------	----

农夫的驴子

Jonathan Livingston Seagull	98
-----------------------------------	----

海鸥乔纳森

The Two Roads	109
---------------------	-----

两条路

When the Wind Blows	113
---------------------------	-----

当风吹起

Put the Glass Down	117
--------------------------	-----

放下玻璃杯

The Fishermen	120
---------------------	-----

垂钓者

The Root of Life	124
------------------------	-----

成长的树根



Chapter 3 Moments That Change Life

第三章 那久违的瞬间感悟

Yellow Post-Its	131
-----------------------	-----

岁月的便条

目录 contents

Enthusiasm Takes You Further	137
------------------------------------	-----

热情成就未来

Trusting the Unknown	142
----------------------------	-----

信念的一跃

A Story of Two Proverbs	151
-------------------------------	-----

两条谚语的故事

I Owe Everything to My Mom	155
----------------------------------	-----

我所有的一切皆归功于母亲

Love Is Like a Broken Arm	159
---------------------------------	-----

爱如断臂

Love without Measure	164
----------------------------	-----

爱就是无限度地去爱

Peeling Away Artifice for the Pure Original	168
---	-----

回归童真

Chapter 4 To the Mountaintop



第四章 追寻前人的脚步

I Live Entirely in My Music 175

我沉醉在音乐之中

Abraham Lincoln Didn't Quit 180

永不退缩的林肯总统

Michael Dell's Dream 185

戴尔的梦想

The CEO of the New York Times 198

《纽约时报》总裁

Chemist Leo Baekeland—the Father of Plastic 202

他发明了塑料——化学家利奥·贝克兰

The God in Youth: Michael Jordan 212

少年轶事——迈克尔·乔丹

Stay Hungry, Stay Foolish 217

求知若饥，虚心若愚

<i>How a Simple Idea Became a Huge Business—Starbucks and Me</i>	234
--	-----

我怎样白手起家——我与星巴克



Chapter 5 A Flower for love

第五章 奉献一枝爱的花朵

<i>Hanover Square</i>	249
-----------------------------	-----

汉诺威广场

<i>Never Give up on People You Love</i>	257
---	-----

永不放弃你所爱的人

<i>Christmas Morning</i>	262
--------------------------------	-----

另一种快乐

<i>Forgotten and Forgiven</i>	269
-------------------------------------	-----

妈妈的小甜饼

<i>Marty Had a Little Lamb</i>	276
--------------------------------------	-----

马蒂有只小羊羔

<i>The Circus</i>	281
-------------------------	-----

父亲之间的默契

A Gift of New Life	285
--------------------------	-----

来自新生命的礼物

A Gift of Laughter	291
--------------------------	-----

来自笑声的礼物

A Thanksgiving Story	301
----------------------------	-----

感恩节的故事

Chapter 1 An Open Gate

第一章 开启心灵的窗口

I'm still determined to be cheerful and happy, in whatever situation I may be, for I have also learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances.

——Martha Washington(1732-1802)

无论境遇如何,我仍然选择愉快地生活,因为从经历中我已得知大多欢愉与痛苦并不取决于客观环境。境由心生。

——玛莎·华盛顿(1732~1802 年)

追梦人

The Dreamer

佚名 / Anonymous



When I was nine years old living in a small town in North Carolina, I found an ad for selling greeting cards in the back of a children's **magazine**. I thought to myself I can do this. I begged my mother to let me send for the kit. Two weeks later when the kit arrived, I ripped off the brown paper wrapper, **grabbed** the cards and dashed from the house. Three hours later, I returned home with no card and a pocket full of money **proclaiming**, "Mama, all the people couldn't wait to buy my cards!" A salesperson was born.

magazine n. 杂志;
弹药库;胶卷盒

grab v. 攫取;霸占;
n. 攫取;霸占;夺取之物

proclaim vt. 宣告,
公布;声明;表明;
赞扬

When I was twelve years old, my father took me to see Zig Zigler. I remember sitting in that dark auditorium

listening to Mr. Zigler raise everyone's spirits up to the ceiling, I left there feeling like I could do anything. When we got to the car, I turned to my father and said. "Dad, I want to make people feel like that." My father asked me what I meant. "I want to be a **motivational** speaker just like Mr. Zigler," I replied. A dream was born.

motivational adj. 动机的; 激发性的; 有关动机的

Recently, I began **pursuing** my dream of motivating others. After a four-year relationship with a major fortune 100 company beginning as a sales trainer and ending as a regional sales manager, I left the company at the height of my career. Many people were **astounded** that I would leave after earning a six-figure income. And they asked why I would risk everything for a dream.

astound vt. 使惊讶; 使震惊

I made my decision to start my own company and leave my secure position after attending a regional sales meeting. The vice-president of our company **delivered** a speech that changed my life. He asked us, "If a genie would grant you three wishes what would they be?" After giving us a moment to write down the three wishes. He then asked us, "why do you need a genie?" I would never forget the empowerment I felt at that moment.

deliver v. 交付; 发表; 递送; 履行

I realized that everything I had **accomplished**—the graduate degree, the successful sales career, speaking engagements, training and managing for a fortune 100

accomplish vt. 完成; 实现; 达到

company had prepared me for this moment. I was ready and did not need a genie's help to become a motivational speaker.

When I tearfully told my boss my plans this incredible leader whom I respect so much replied, “**Precede** with reckless abandon and you will be successful.”

precede v. 领先,
在...之前; 优于, 高于

Having made that decision, I was immediately tested. One week after I gave notice, my husband was laid off from his job. We had recently bought a new home and needed both incomes to make the monthly **mortgage** payment and now we were down to no income. It was tempting to turn back to my former company, knowing they wanted me to stay but I was certain that if I went back, I would never leave. I decided I still wanted to move forward rather than end up with a mouth full of “if onlys”, “later on”. A motivational speaker was born.

mortgage vt. 抵押;
n. 抵押

When I held fast to my dream, even during the tough times, the miracles really began to happen. In a short time period my husband found a better job. We didn't miss a mortgage payment. And I was able to book several speaking **engagements** with new clients. I discovered the incredible power of dreams. I loved my old job, my peers and the company I left, but it was time to get on with my dream. To celebrate my success I had a local artist paint my new office as a garden. At the top of one

engagement n. 婚
约; 约会; 交战; 诺
言