

胡毓平 编译

英汉对照  
附赠音频

晨读夜诵 \* 每天读一点英语

# 小故事大道理 精华

Moment with English · Selected Reading of Witty Stories in English

英汉对照，10个主题，136篇哲理小故事  
配有生词详解、优质译文、流畅音频  
一句话点出小故事中的大道理  
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经典的哲理小故事  
颠扑不破的人生大道理  
读懂，领悟，践行  
让你成为更好的自己



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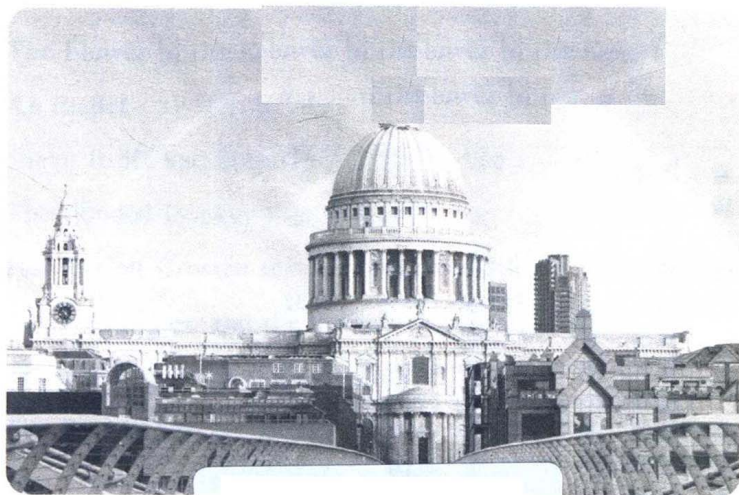
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# 绚烂的生命



扫一扫,听本部分音频

## The Perfect Dog

### 完美的狗狗

During summer vacations, I would **volunteer**<sup>①</sup> at the vet's, so I'd seen a lot of dogs. Minnie was by far the funniest-looking dog I'd ever seen. Thin curly hair barely covered her sausage-shaped body. Her bugged-out eyes always seemed surprised. And her tail looked like a rat's tail.

She was brought to the vet to be put to sleep because her owners didn't want her anymore. I thought Minnie had a sweet personality, though. "No one should judge her by her looks," I thought. So the vet **spayed**<sup>②</sup> her and gave her the necessary shots. Finally, I advertised Minnie in the local paper: "Funny-looking dog, well behaved, needs loving family."

When a young man called, I warned him that Minnie was strange looking. The boy on the phone told me that his grandfather's sixteen-year-old dog had just died. They wanted Minnie no matter what. I gave Minnie a good bath and **fluffed**<sup>③</sup> up what was left of her **scraggly**<sup>④</sup> hair. Then we waited for them to arrive.

At last, an old car drove up in front of the vet's. Two kids raced to the door. They **scooped**<sup>⑤</sup> Minnie into their arms and rushed her out to their grandfather, who was waiting in the car. I hurried behind them to see his reaction to Minnie.

① volunteer [ˌvɒləntɪə(r)] *vi.* 做志愿者

② spay [speɪ] *vt.* 切除(雌畜的)卵巢,做绝育

③ fluff [flʌf] *vt.* 弄松

④ scraggly ['skræɡli] *adj.* 蓬乱的

⑤ scoop [sku:p] *vt.* 抱起

Inside the car, the grandfather cradled Minnie in his arms and stroked her soft hair. She licked his face. Her rat tail wagged around so quickly that it looked like it might fly off her body. It was love at first lick.

“She’s perfect!” the old man exclaimed.

I was thankful that Minnie had found the good home that she deserved.

That’s when I saw that the grandfather’s eyes were a milky white color—he was blind.



每逢暑假,我都会去兽医诊所帮忙,因此见过不少狗。米妮是我见过的长相最滑稽的狗。它的身体像根香肠,身上的卷毛稀稀拉拉,连皮都露出来了。它的眼珠向外突出,所以看着总是一副很吃惊的样子。尾巴呢,和老鼠的差不多。

它的主人不想要它了,所以把它送到兽医这儿来,请兽医为它实施安乐死。可我觉得米妮很可爱。“怎么能‘以貌取狗’呢?”我心里这么想着。于是兽医给它做了绝育,打了疫苗。我还在本地的报纸上给米妮登了条广告:“长相有趣的狗狗,性格乖巧,寻找有爱的家庭!”

一个年轻人打电话过来,我提醒他米妮长相有点奇怪。电话那头的人和我讲,他爷爷养了16年的狗刚刚死了,他们不在乎米妮长什么样。我给米妮好好地洗了个澡,把它仅有的一点毛吹得蓬松些,就等着他们的到来。

终于,一辆旧车停在了兽医诊所的门前。两个孩子冲了进来,抱起米妮,又匆匆跑回车子。他们的爷爷正在车内等候。我连忙跟上他们,想看看老人有什么反应。

车子里,爷爷抱着米妮,轻抚着它柔软的毛。米妮舔着爷爷的脸,细长的尾巴飞快地摇着,快得好像马上就要从它身上掉下来了。这真是“一舔钟情”啊。

“就是它了!”老人喊道。

看到米妮找到了它应得的好归宿,我感激不已。

就在那时,我注意到那个爷爷的眼球是奶白色的——他是个盲人。

**寓意** 有时候,美好的东西眼睛不一定看得见,但是心可以看到。

## The Sweetest Melody

### 最动听的旋律

There was once a lonely girl who longed so much for love. One day while she was walking in the woods she found two starving songbirds.

She took them home and put them in a small cage. She cared them with love and the birds grew strong. Every morning they greeted her with a wonderful song. The girl felt great love for the birds.

One day the girl left the door to the cage open. The larger and stronger of the two birds flew from the cage. The girl was so frightened that he would fly away. As he flew close, she grasped him wildly. Her heart felt glad at her success in capturing him.

Suddenly she felt the bird go **limp**<sup>①</sup>. She opened her hand and stared in horror at the dead bird. Her **desperate**<sup>②</sup> love had killed him.

She noticed the other bird moving back and forth on the edge of the cage. She could feel his great need for freedom. He needed to soar into the clear, blue sky.

She lifted him from the cage and **tossed**<sup>③</sup> him softly into the air. The bird circled once, twice, three times. The girl watched delightedly at the bird's enjoyment. Her heart was no longer concerned with her loss.

She wanted the bird to be happy. Suddenly the bird flew closer and landed softly on her shoulder. It sang the sweetest melody that she had ever heard.

① limp [lɪmp] *adj.* 软弱的,无力的

② desperate ['despəreɪt] *adj.* 绝望的,不顾一切的

③ toss [tɒs] *vt.* 抛,扔

从前有个孤独的女孩，她很想得到爱。一天，她在树林里散步时，发现了两只饥饿的鸣鸟。

女孩把两只鸟带回家，放进鸟笼里。在女孩的悉心照料下，鸟儿们一天天强壮起来。每天早晨，它们都用美妙的歌声向她问好。女孩爱极了这两只鸟儿。

一天，女孩忘了把笼子的门关上，于是两只鸟中更大、更强壮的那只就从笼子里飞了出去。女孩非常害怕它会飞走。当它飞近她的身边时，她用力地一把抓住了它。看到鸟儿没有飞走，她感到欢欣不已。

突然，她感到鸟儿身体发软。摊开手一看，她惊恐地发现鸟儿已经死了。她不顾一切的爱害死了这只鸟。

这时，她看到另一只鸟正在笼边来回地飞着。她看得出来，它渴望自由，它想飞向那晴朗的蓝天。

女孩把那只鸟从笼子里拿了出来，轻轻地抛向空中。鸟儿在她的头顶上盘旋了一圈、两圈、三圈。看到鸟儿快乐的样子，女孩高兴极了，忘了自己失去了它。

她只希望这鸟儿快乐。突然，鸟儿朝她飞了过来，轻轻地落在她的肩上，唱起了她听过的最动听的旋律。

**寓意** 真正的爱是让对方得到幸福，而不是让对方给自己带来幸福。

# Jupiter and the Sheep

## 朱庇特与绵羊

A sheep was once forced to submit to much harm from the other animals. He therefore appeared before Jupiter, and begged him to lessen his misery.

Jupiter appeared willing, and said to the sheep, "I see plainly, my **pious**<sup>①</sup> creature, that I have created you too defenseless. Now choose how I had best remedy this fault. Shall I arm your jaws with terrible fangs and your feet with claws?"

"Oh, no!" exclaimed the sheep. "I will have nothing in common with the beasts of prey."

"Or," said Jupiter, "shall I make your bite poisonous?"

"Alas!" replied the sheep. "The poisonous snakes are so sadly **detested**<sup>②</sup>."

"Well, what shall I do? Shall I plant horns on your forehead, and give strength to your neck?"

"Nor that, gracious father; I should then **butt**<sup>③</sup> like the goat."

"At the same time you would be able to injure others, if I gave you the means of defending yourself."

"Should I, indeed?" sighed the sheep. "Oh! Then leave me, merciful father, as I am. For the power of injuring would, I am fearful, awake the desire of doing so; and it is better to suffer harm, than to **inflict**<sup>④</sup> it."

① pious [ˈpiəs] *adj.* 虔诚的; 敬神的

② detest [di'test] *vt.* 厌恶; 憎恨

③ butt [bʌt] *vi.* 以头抵撞

④ inflict [in'flikt] *vt.* 造成; 使遭受(损伤、痛苦等); 给予(打击等)

Jupiter blessed the pious sheep, who **ceased**<sup>①</sup> from that moment his complaints.

从前,有一只绵羊总是受到其他动物的伤害。于是它来到朱庇特面前,请求他减轻自己的痛苦。

朱庇特很乐意帮助它,于是他说:“我虔诚的羊儿,我知道我把你们创造得太软弱了。现在,你来选一个让我弥补这个错误的好办法吧。要我让你的嘴里长出獠牙,让你的脚上长出尖爪吗?”

“哦,不!”绵羊叫道,“我可不想和那些猛兽一样。”

“或者,”朱庇特说,“我也可以让你长出毒牙。”

“天哪!”绵羊回答说,“我可不想变成毒蛇那样令人厌恶的动物。”

“那我该怎么办呢?要不我让你的额头长出犄角,再让你的脖颈变得粗壮?”

“那也不行,仁慈的天父;那样的话,我就会像山羊一样用头乱撞。”

“假如我让你能够自卫,你自然会伤到别人。”朱庇特说。

“真的有必要那样吗?”绵羊叹息道,“哦!仁慈的天父,那我还是保持现在这样吧!因为我担心,如果我拥有了伤害他人的能力,就会产生这样做的欲望;我宁可受到伤害,也不要去伤害别人。”

最后,朱庇特祝福了这只虔诚的绵羊。从此以后,绵羊就再也不抱怨了。

**寓意** 真正的善良是宁可被人伤害,也不愿伤害他人。

① cease [si:s] vt. 停止