



轻松英语名作欣赏

小王子

The Little Prince

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry [法] 著



第四级
适合高一、
高二年级



附2张CD光盘

外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

关于故事和说故事的人

安东尼·德·圣埃克苏佩里 (1900~1944)

Antoine de Saint-Exupery



安东尼·德·圣埃克苏佩里出生在一个贵族家庭，度过了幸福的童年时光。1921年，圣埃克苏佩里加入法国空军，成了一名飞行员。退役后，他一边找工作一边为杂志撰稿。1926年，为了逃避平庸的生活，圣埃克苏佩里成为世界上第一条航空邮递专线的飞行员。他以这些飞行经历为基础，写出了《南方邮航》和《夜航》。后者还获得了费米娜奖*，在当时的文坛备受赞誉。圣埃克苏佩里坚信文学应当来源于日常生活，他的作品反映了他一边与艰难困苦作斗争一边寻找人生真谛的过程。

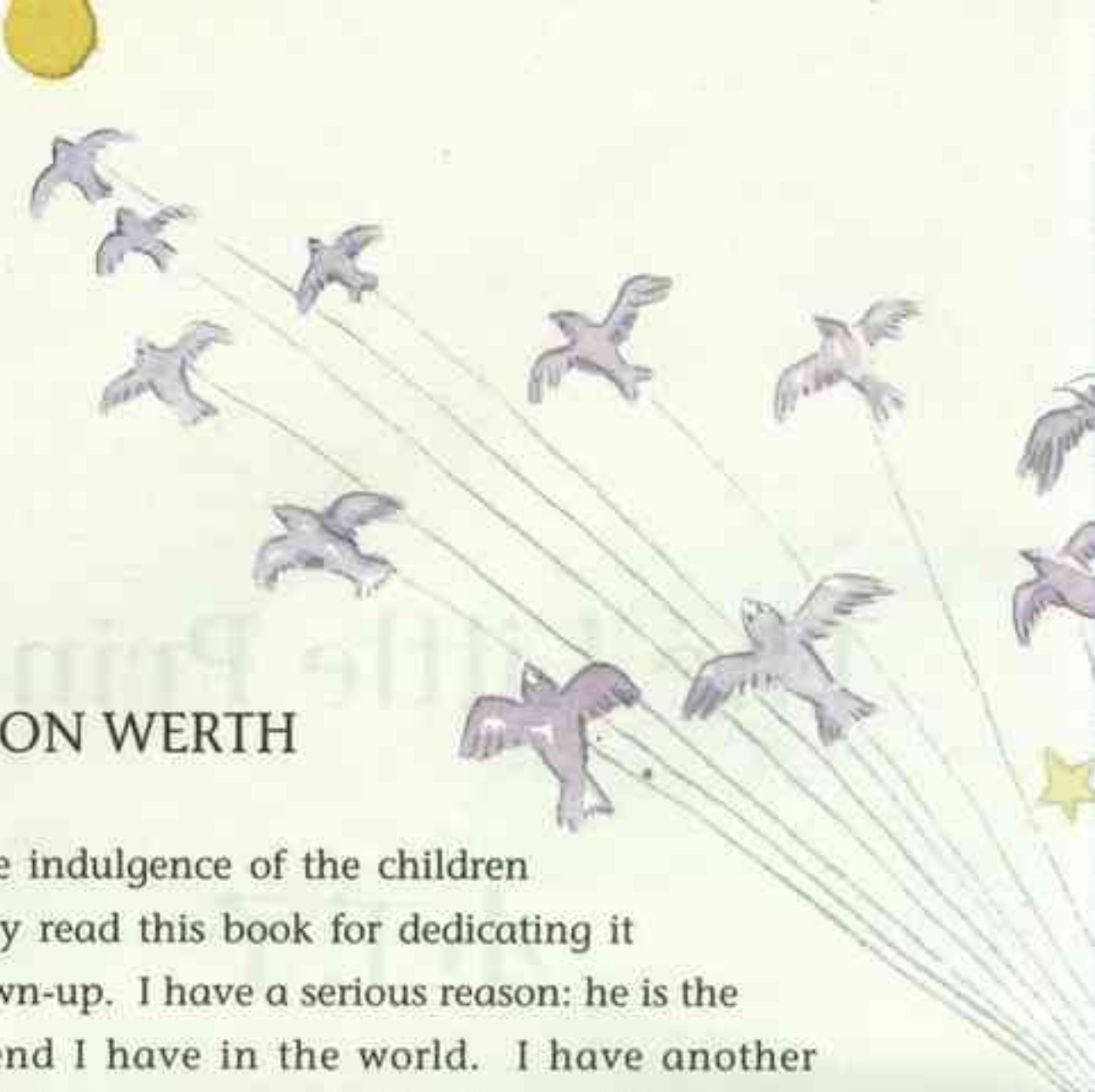
二战爆发后，他驾机执行侦察任务。德国占领法国后，他被迫流亡美国，在那里写下了《小王子》。1942年，圣埃克苏佩里再次应征入伍，加入了对抗同盟国的战争。1944年7月31日，他在执行一次侦察任务时被宣布失踪。他的失踪至今仍是一个未解的谜。如今，他的《小王子》以及多部其他作品都已成为世界文学史上广受喜爱的经典之作。

* 费米娜奖是法国最负盛名的文学奖之一，创办于1904年，其评委会全部由著名女作家组成。初创时意在奖励女性文学创作，但该奖后来把颁奖条件调整为“最富想象力”的作品。



《小王子》是流亡美国的圣埃克苏佩里在1943年写下的作品，是一部以成年人为对象的童话，每一个读过它的人都会因其奇妙的想象和诗意而感动。圣埃克苏佩里大量借用了自己作为飞行员的人生体验，包括迫降沙漠以及他在撒哈拉沙漠一个绿洲长达数年的生活经历。跟作者一样，故事的讲述者也是一位飞行员。在身陷茫茫沙漠、一筹莫展之时，他遇见了来自某个小行星的小王子。小王子被一朵美丽却脾气很坏的玫瑰花儿弄得心灰意冷，于是离家开始了旅行。长途跋涉之后，他来到了地球，遇上了一只狐狸。狐狸教给小王子一个道理：只有用心，你才能看见用眼睛无法看到的那些最重要的东西，小王子这才认识到了那朵玫瑰花的真正价值。通过对小王子旅途中所见到的形形色色人物的刻画，作者写出了生命真正的可贵之处。那些东西是大人们无法看见的，也是他们在长大的过程中易于忘却的。《小王子》体现了圣埃克苏佩里的观点：生命的真谛存在于我们同他人的关联之中。书中出自作者亲笔的优美插图更为这一故事增添了诗意和温馨的人情味。





CD1
Track 1


TO LEON WERTH

I ask the indulgence of the children who may read this book for dedicating it to a grown-up. I have a serious reason: he is the best friend I have in the world. I have another reason: this grown-up understands everything, even books about children. I have a third reason: he lives in France where he is hungry and cold. He needs cheering up. If all these reasons are not enough, I will dedicate the book to the child from whom this grown-up grew. All grown-ups were once children – although few of them remember it. And so I correct my dedication:

TO LEON WERTH WHEN HE WAS A LITTLE BOY

KEY WORDS

- indulgence *n.* 宽容
- dedicate to 题献 (一部著作给某人)
- grown-up *n.* 成年人
- serious *adj.* 重要的

- reason *n.* 理由
 - cheer up 振作起来
 - once *adv.* 曾经
 - correct *v.* 改正
- 



献给利昂·瓦尔特

请这本书的小读者们原谅，我把这本书献给了一位大人。我这么做有一个重要的理由：他是我在这个世界上最好的朋友。我还有一个理由：这位大人什么都懂得，连关于小孩子的书也懂得。我还有一个理由：他住在法国，饥寒交迫，需要振作起来。如果所有这些理由还不够的话，那么我就把这本书献给长成这位大人的那个小孩子。所有的大人原来都是小孩子——虽然他们大多已经不记得有这么回事了。好了，让我来把献词改一改：

献给小时候的利昂·瓦尔特



*In order to make his escape, I believe he took
advantage of a migration of wild birds.*



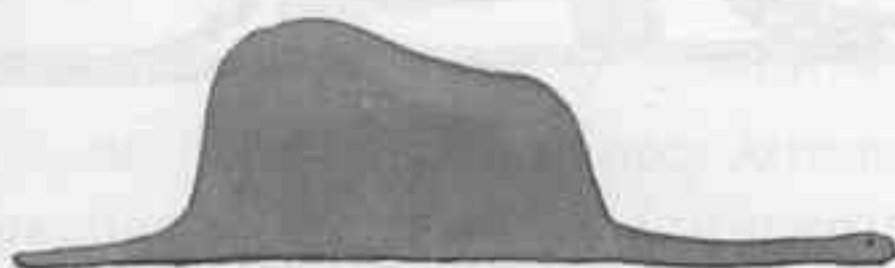
Once when I was six I saw a magnificent picture in a book about the jungle, called *True Stories*. It showed a boa constrictor swallowing a wild beast. Here is a copy of the picture.

In the book it said: "Boa constrictors swallow their prey whole, without chewing. Afterward they are no longer able to move, and they sleep for six months they need for digestion."

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> magnificent <i>adj.</i> 极好的 | <input type="checkbox"/> prey <i>n.</i> 被捕食的动物 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> boa constrictor 王蛇 (一种大蟒) | <input type="checkbox"/> whole <i>adv.</i> 整个地 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> swallow <i>v.</i> 吞下 | <input type="checkbox"/> chew <i>v.</i> 嚼, 咀嚼 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wild beast 野兽 | <input type="checkbox"/> afterward <i>adv.</i> 以后, 过后 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> copy <i>n.</i> 摹本 | <input type="checkbox"/> digestion <i>n.</i> 消化 |

In those days I thought a lot about jungle adventures, and eventually managed to make my first drawing, with a colored pencil. My drawing Number One looked like this:



I showed the grown-ups my masterpiece, and I asked them if my drawing scared them.

They answered, "Why should anyone be scared of a hat?"

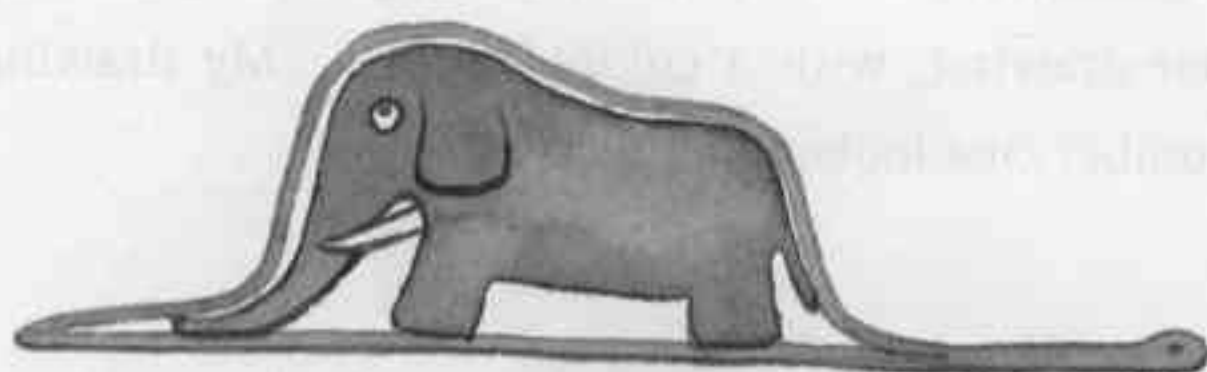
My drawing was not a picture of a hat. It was a picture of a boa constrictor digesting an elephant. Then I drew the inside of the boa constrictor, so the grown-ups could understand. They always need explanations.

KEY WORDS

- eventually *adv.* 终于
- manage to do 设法做到

- colored pencil 彩色铅笔
- masterpiece *n.* 杰作

My drawing Number Two looked like this:



The grown-ups advised me to put away my drawings of boa constrictors, outside or inside, and apply myself instead to geography, history, arithmetic, and grammar. That is why I gave up, at the age of six, a magnificent career as an artist. I had been discouraged by the failure of my drawing Number One and of my drawing Number Two.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> put away 放弃 | <input type="checkbox"/> grammar <i>n.</i> 文法 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> apply oneself to 使自己致力于 | <input type="checkbox"/> give up 放弃 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> geography <i>n.</i> 地理 | <input type="checkbox"/> career <i>n.</i> 职业 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> arithmetic <i>n.</i> 算术 | <input type="checkbox"/> discourage <i>v.</i> 使泄气 |

Grown-ups never understand anything by themselves, and it is exhausting for children to have to explain over and over again.

So then I had to choose another career. I learned to pilot airplanes. I have flown almost everywhere in the world. And, as a matter of fact, geography has been a big help to me. I could tell China from Arizona at first glance, which is very useful if you get lost during the night.

So I have met, in the course of my life, lots of serious people. I have spent lots of time with grown-ups. I have seen them at close range. . . which hasn't improved my opinion of them.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> by oneself 独自地 | <input type="checkbox"/> get lost 迷路 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> exhausting <i>adj.</i> 使精疲力竭的 | <input type="checkbox"/> course <i>n.</i> 过程 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pilot <i>v.</i> 驾驶 (飞机) | <input type="checkbox"/> range <i>n.</i> (听觉、视觉等的) 范围 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> as a matter of fact 事实上 | <input type="checkbox"/> improve <i>v.</i> 改进, 改善 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> at first glance 乍一看 | <input type="checkbox"/> opinion <i>n.</i> 印象 |

Whenever I encountered a grown-up who seemed to be intelligent, I would experiment on him with my drawing Number One, which I have always kept. I wanted to see if he really understood anything.

But he would always answer, "That's a hat." Then I wouldn't talk about boa constrictors or jungles or stars. I would put myself on his level and talk about bridge and golf and politics and neckties. And my grown-up was glad to know such a reasonable person.



KEY WORDS

- encounter *v.* 偶然碰到
- intelligent *adj.* 理解力强的

- experiment *v.* 进行试验
- reasonable *adj.* 明智的

So I lived all alone, without anyone I could really talk to, until I had to make a crash landing in the Sahara Desert six years ago. Something in my plane's engine had broken. Since I had neither a mechanic nor passengers in the plane with me, I was preparing to undertake the difficult repair job by myself. For me it was a matter of life or death: I had only enough drinking water for eight days.

The first night, then, I went to sleep on the sand a thousand miles from any inhabited country. I was more isolated than a man shipwrecked on a raft in the middle of the ocean. So you can imagine my surprise when I was awakened at daybreak by a funny little voice saying, "Please. . . draw me a sheep. . ."

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| □ crash landing 摔机着陆 (一种紧急着陆措施, 不放下起落架, 常造成飞机损毁) | □ undertake v. 承担 |
| □ Sahara Desert 撒哈拉沙漠 | □ inhabited adj. 有人居住的 |
| □ neither... nor... 既非……也非…… | □ isolated adj. 隔离的, 孤立的 |
| □ mechanic n. 技工, 机修工 | □ shipwrecked adj. 遭受海难的 |
| □ passenger n. 乘客 | □ raft n. 充气救生筏 |
| | □ awaken v. 唤醒 |
| | □ daybreak n. 黎明 |

“What?”

“Draw me a sheep. . .”

I leaped up as if I had been struck by lightning. I rubbed my eyes hard. I stared. And I saw an extraordinary little fellow staring back at me very seriously. Here is the best portrait I managed to make of him, later on.



*Here is the best portrait I managed to
make of him, later on.*

KEY WORDS

- leap up 突然跳起来
- strike v. 击中
- lightning n. 闪电
- rub v. 擦

- extraordinary adj. 特别的
- fellow n. 家伙
- portrait n. 肖像

But of course my drawing is much less attractive than my model. This is not my fault. My career as a painter was discouraged at the age of six by the grown-ups, and I had never learned to draw anything except boa constrictors, outside and inside.

So I stared wide-eyed at this apparition. Don't forget that I was a thousand miles from any inhabited territory. Yet this little fellow seemed to be neither lost nor dying of exhaustion, hunger, or thirst; nor did he seem scared to death. There was nothing in his appearance that suggested a child lost in the middle of the desert a thousand miles from any inhabited territory.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> attractive <i>adj.</i> 吸引人的 | <input type="checkbox"/> territory <i>n.</i> 地区, 地方 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wide-eyed <i>adj.</i> 睁大眼睛的 | <input type="checkbox"/> to death 极度 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> apparition <i>n.</i> 离奇出现的东西 | |

When I finally managed to speak, I asked him, "But. . . what are you doing here?"

And then he repeated, very slowly and very seriously, "Please. . . draw me a sheep. . ."

When you encounter an overpowering mystery, you don't dare disobey. Absurd as it seemed, a thousand miles from all inhabited regions and in danger of death, I took a piece of paper and a pen out of my pocket. But then I remembered that I had mostly studied geography, history, arithmetic, and grammar, and I told the little fellow (rather crossly) that I didn't know how to draw.

He replied, "That doesn't matter. Draw me a sheep."

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> repeat <i>v.</i> 重复 | <input type="checkbox"/> region <i>n.</i> 区域, 地方 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> overpowering <i>adj.</i> 无法抵抗的 | <input type="checkbox"/> mostly <i>adv.</i> 主要地, 大部分 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dare <i>v.</i> 敢 | <input type="checkbox"/> crossly <i>adv.</i> 脾气坏地 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> disobey <i>v.</i> 违反, 不服从 | <input type="checkbox"/> That doesn't matter. 没关系。 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> absurd <i>adj.</i> 荒谬的 | |

Since I had never drawn a sheep, I made him one of the only two drawings I knew how to make — the one of the boa constrictor from outside. And I was astounded to hear the little fellow answer:

“No! No! I don’t want an elephant inside a boa constrictor. A boa constrictor is very dangerous, and an elephant would get in the way. Where I live, everything is very small. I need a sheep. Draw me a sheep.”

So then I made a drawing.

He looked at it carefully, and then said, “No. This one is already quite sick. Make another.”

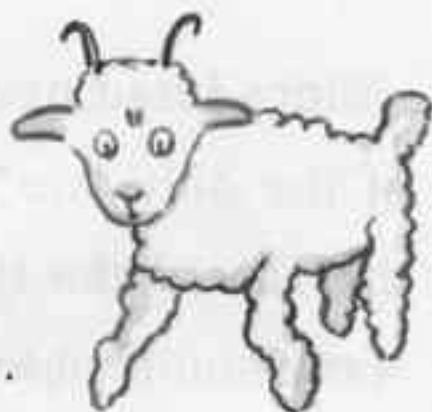


KEY WORDS

□ astounded *adj.* 大吃一惊的

□ get in the way 挡道的, 妨碍人的

I made another drawing. My friend gave me a kind, indulgent smile:



"You can see for yourself. . . that's not a sheep, it's a ram. It has horns. . ."

So I made my third drawing, but it was rejected, like the others:

"This one's too old. I want a sheep that will live a long time."



So then, impatiently, since I was in a hurry to start work on my engine, I scribbled this drawing, and added, "This is just the crate. The sheep you want is inside."

KEY WORDS

- ☐ for oneself 凭自己
- ☐ ram *n.* 公羊
- ☐ horn *n.* 角
- ☐ reject *v.* 拒绝

- ☐ impatiently *adv.* 不耐烦地
- ☐ scribble *v.* 乱涂, 乱画
- ☐ crate *n.* 板条箱

But I was amazed to see my young critic's face light up.

"That's just the kind I wanted! Do you think this sheep will need a lot of grass?"

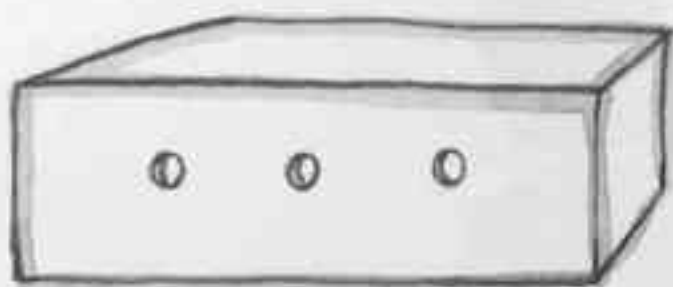
"Why?"

"Because where I live, everything is very small. . ."

"There's sure to be enough. I've given you a very small sheep."

He bent over the drawing. "Not so small as all that. . . Look! He's gone to sleep. . ."

And that's how I made the acquaintance of the little prince.



KEY WORDS

- amazed *adj.* 吃惊的
- critic *n.* 批评家
- light up (脸) 露喜色

- bend over 俯身
- make the acquaintance of 认识

It took me a long time to understand where he came from. The little prince, who asked me so many questions, never seemed to hear the ones I asked him.

It was things he said quite at random that, bit by bit, explained everything. For instance, when he first caught sight of my airplane (I won't draw my airplane; that would be much too complicated for me) he asked:

"What's that thing over there?"

"It's not a thing. It flies. It's an airplane. My airplane."

KEY WORDS

- ☐ come from 来自
- ☐ at random 随便地
- ☐ bit by bit 一点一点地

- ☐ for instance 例如
- ☐ catch sight of 看到
- ☐ complicated *adj.* 复杂的

And I was proud to tell him I could fly. Then he exclaimed:

“What! You fell out of the sky?”

“Yes,” I said modestly.

“Oh! That’s funny. . .” And the little prince broke into a lovely peal of laughter, which annoyed me a good deal. I like my misfortunes to be taken seriously. Then he added, “So you fell out of the sky, too. What planet are you from?”

KEY WORDS

- ☐ exclaim *v.* 呼喊
- ☐ modestly *adv.* 谦虚地
- ☐ break into 突然发出
- ☐ peal *n.* 响亮持久的声音
- ☐ annoy *v.* 使恼怒
- ☐ a good deal 非常
- ☐ misfortune *n.* 不幸
- ☐ planet *n.* 行星



That was when I had the first clue to the mystery of his presence, and I questioned him sharply.

"Do you come from another planet?"

But he made no answer. He shook his head a little, still staring at my airplane.

"Of course, *that* couldn't have brought you from very far. . ."

And he fell into a reverie that lasted a long while. Then, taking my sheep out of his pocket, he plunged into contemplation of his treasure.

You can imagine how intrigued I was by this hint about "other planets." I tried to learn more: "Where do you come from, little fellow? Where is this 'where I live' of yours? Where will you be taking my sheep?"

After a thoughtful silence he answered, "The good thing about the crate you've given me is that he can use it for a house after dark."

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> clue <i>n.</i> 线索 | <input type="checkbox"/> contemplation <i>n.</i> 沉思 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> presence <i>n.</i> 存在, 在场 | <input type="checkbox"/> treasure <i>n.</i> 宝贝 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shake one's head 摇头 | <input type="checkbox"/> intrigue <i>v.</i> 激起好奇心 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reverie <i>n.</i> 沉思, 出神 | <input type="checkbox"/> hint <i>n.</i> 线索 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> plunge into (专注而认真地) 开始从事 | <input type="checkbox"/> thoughtful <i>adj.</i> 沉思的 |

"Of course. And if you're good, I'll give you a rope to tie him up during the day. And a stake to tie him to."

This proposition seemed to shock the little prince.

"Tie him up? What a funny idea!"

"But if you don't tie him up, he'll wander off somewhere and get lost."

My friend burst out laughing again.

"Where could he go?"

"Anywhere. Straight ahead. . ."

Then the little prince remarked quite seriously, "Even if he did, everything's so small where I live!" And he added, perhaps a little sadly, "Straight ahead, you can't go very far."



KEY WORDS

- ☐ tie up 拴住
- ☐ stake *n.* 桩
- ☐ proposition *n.* 建议

- ☐ wander off 走失
- ☐ burst out 突然……起来
- ☐ remark *v.* 说

That was how I had learned a second very important thing, which was that the planet he came from was hardly bigger than a house!

That couldn't surprise me much. I knew very well that except for the huge planets like Earth, Jupiter, Mars, and Venus, which have been given names, there are hundreds of others that are sometimes so small that it's very difficult to see them through a telescope. When an astronomer discovers one of them, he gives it a number instead of a name. For instance, he would call it "Asteroid 325."

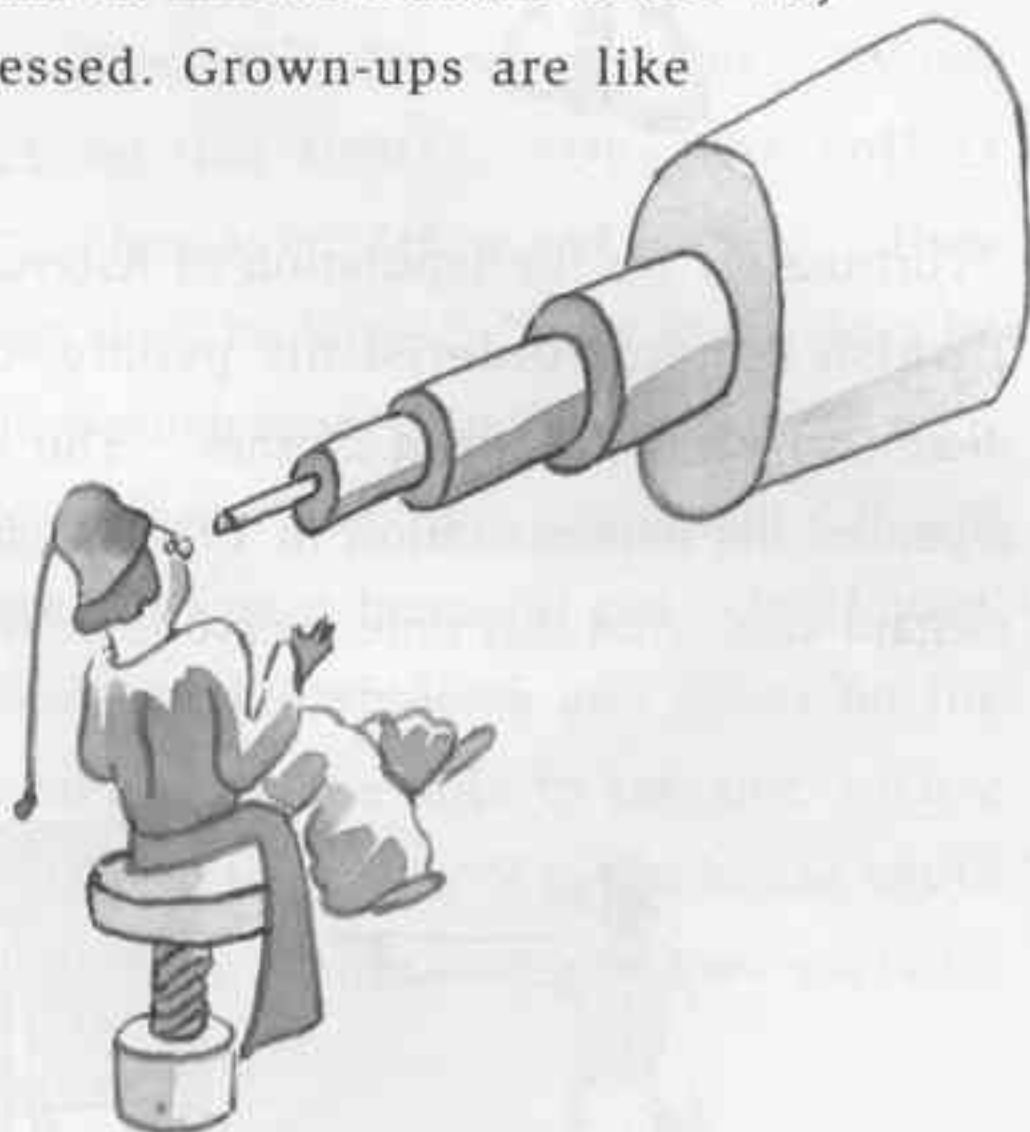
I have serious reasons to believe that the planet the little prince came from is Asteroid B-612.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ hardly *adv.* 几乎不
- ☐ Jupiter *n.* 木星
- ☐ Mars *n.* 火星
- ☐ Venus *n.* 金星

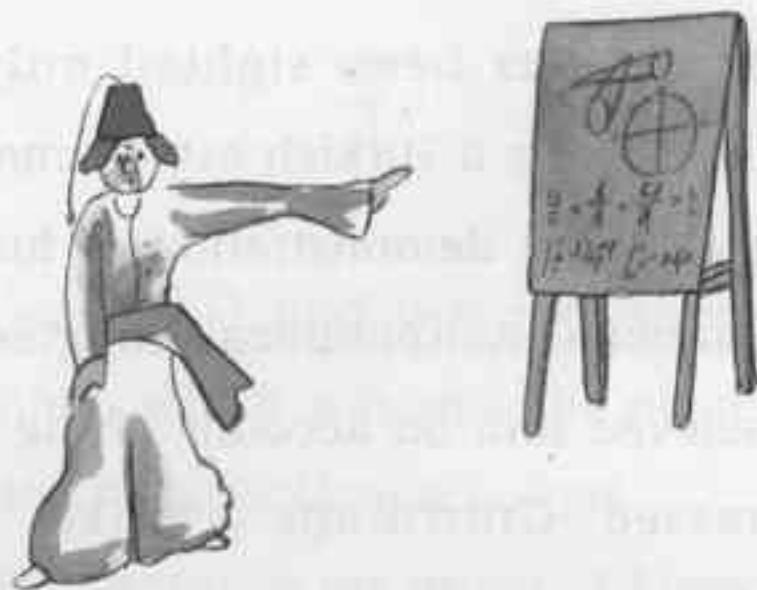
- ☐ telescope *n.* 望远镜
- ☐ astronomer *n.* 天文学家
- ☐ asteroid *n.* 小行星

This asteroid has been sighted only once by telescope, in 1909 by a Turkish astronomer, who had then made a formal demonstration of his discovery at an International Astronomical Congress. But no one had believed him on account of the way he was dressed. Grown-ups are like that.

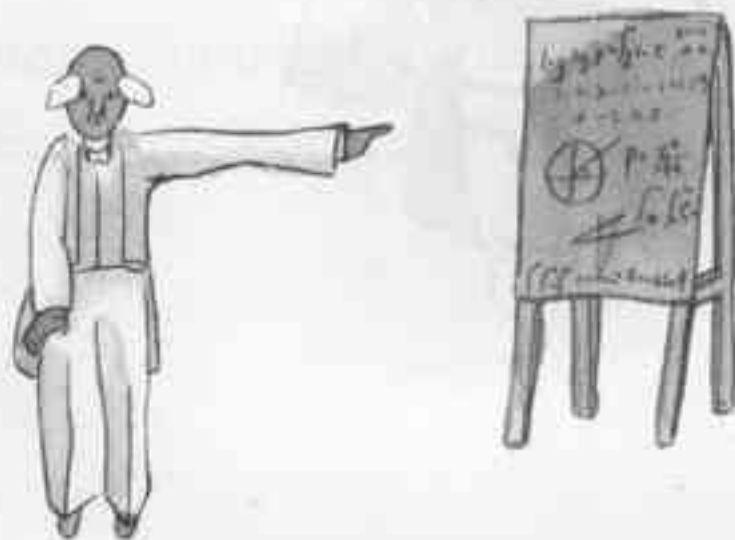


KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> sight <i>v.</i> 看到, 发现 | <input type="checkbox"/> demonstration <i>n.</i> 展示, 演示 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Turkish <i>adj.</i> 土耳其的 | <input type="checkbox"/> congress <i>n.</i> 大会 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> formal <i>adj.</i> 正式的 | <input type="checkbox"/> on account of 由于 |



Fortunately for the reputation of Asteroid B-612, a Turkish dictator ordered his people, on pain of death, to wear European clothes. The astronomer repeated his demonstration in 1920, wearing a very elegant suit. And this time everyone believed him.



KEY WORDS

- reputation *n.* 名誉, 名声
- dictator *n.* 独裁者
- on pain of death 违者处以死刑

- elegant *adj.* 优雅的
- suit *n.* (一套) 衣服

If I've told you these details about Asteroid B-612 and if I've given you its number, it is on account of the grown-ups. Grown-ups like numbers. When you tell them about a new friend, they never ask questions about what really matters. They never ask: "What does his voice sound like?" "What games does he like best?" "Does he collect butterflies?" They ask: "How old is he?" "How many brothers does he have?" "How much does he weigh?" "How much money does his father make?"

Only then do they think they know him. If you tell grown-ups, "I saw a beautiful red brick house, with geraniums at the windows and doves on the roof. . . , " they won't be able to imagine such a house. You have to tell them, "I saw a house worth a hundred thousand francs." Then they exclaim, "What a pretty house!"

KEY WORDS

- detail *n.* 细节, 详情
- weigh *v.* 重
- brick *n.* 砖
- geranium *n.* 天竺葵

- dove *n.* 鸽子
- worth *prep.* 值……钱
- franc *n.* 法郎

So if you tell them: "The proof of the little prince's existence is that he was delightful, that he laughed, and that he wanted a sheep. When someone wants a sheep, that proves he exists," they shrug their shoulders and treat you like a child!

But if you tell them: "The planet he came from is Asteroid B-612," then they'll be convinced, and they won't bother you with their questions. That's the way they are. You must not hold it against them. Children should be very understanding of grown-ups.

But, of course, those of us who understand life couldn't care less about numbers! I should have liked to begin this story like a fairy tale. I should have liked to say:



KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> proof <i>n.</i> 证据 | <input type="checkbox"/> bother <i>v.</i> 烦扰 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> existence <i>n.</i> 存在 | <input type="checkbox"/> hold against 对……不满 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> delightful <i>adj.</i> 讨人喜欢的 | <input type="checkbox"/> understanding <i>adj.</i> 宽容的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shrug <i>v.</i> 耸(肩) | <input type="checkbox"/> care <i>v.</i> 关心 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> treat <i>v.</i> 对待 | <input type="checkbox"/> fairy tale 童话 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> convinced <i>adj.</i> 信服的 | |

“Once upon a time there was a little prince who lived on a planet hardly any bigger than he was, and who needed a friend. . .” For those who understand life, that would sound much truer.

The fact is, I don't want my book to be taken lightly. Telling these memories is so painful for me. It's already been six years since my friend went away, taking his sheep with him. I try to describe him here, so I won't forget him. It's sad to forget a friend. Not everyone has had a friend. And I might become like the grown-ups who are no longer interested in anything but numbers. Which is still another reason why I've bought a box of paints and some pencils. It's hard to go back to drawing, at my age, when you've never made any attempts since the one of a boa from inside and the one of a boa from outside, at the age of six!

KEY WORDS

- once upon a time 从前
- sound v. 听起来
- painful adj. 痛苦的

- describe v. 描述, 描写
- paint n. 颜料
- attempt n. 努力, 尝试

I'll certainly try to make my portraits as true to life as possible. But I'm not entirely sure of succeeding. One drawing works, and the next no longer bears any resemblance. And I'm a little off on his height, too. In this one the little prince is too tall. And here he's too short. And I'm uncertain about the color of his suit. So I grope in one direction and another, as best I can. In the end, I'm sure to get certain more important details all*wrong. But here you'll have to forgive me. My friend never explained anything. Perhaps he thought I was like himself. But I, unfortunately, cannot see a sheep through the sides of a crate. I may be a little like the grown-ups. I must have grown old.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> true to life 逼真的 | <input type="checkbox"/> height <i>n.</i> 身高 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> entirely <i>adv.</i> 完全地 | <input type="checkbox"/> grope <i>v.</i> 摸索 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> work <i>v.</i> 起作用, 有效 | <input type="checkbox"/> direction <i>n.</i> 方向 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bear <i>v.</i> 具有 | <input type="checkbox"/> forgive <i>v.</i> 原谅 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> resemblance <i>n.</i> 相似之处 | (forgive-forgave-forgiven) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> off <i>adj.</i> 错误的 | |

The Little Prince on Asteroid B-612



Every day I'd learn something about the little prince's planet, about his departure, about his journey. It would come quite gradually, in the course of his remarks. This was how I learned, on the third day, about the drama of the baobabs.

This time, too, I had the sheep to thank, for suddenly the little prince asked me a question, as if overcome by a grave doubt.

"Isn't it true that sheep eat bushes?"

"Yes, that's right."

"Ah! I'm glad."

I didn't understand why it was so important that sheep should eat bushes.

But the little prince added:

"And therefore they eat baobabs, too?"

KEY WORDS

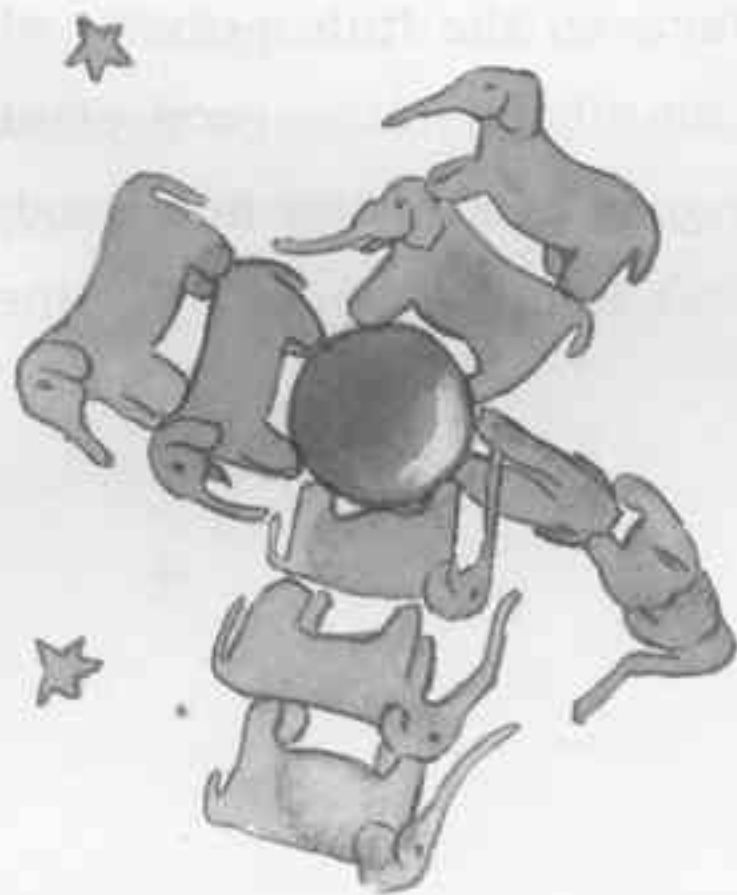
- departure *n.* 起程
- journey *n.* 旅程
- gradually *adv.* 逐渐地
- drama *n.* 戏剧性事件
- baobab *n.* 猴面包树

- overcome *v.* (感情等) 压倒
- grave *adj.* 认真的, 严肃的
- bush *n.* 灌木
- therefore *adv.* 因此

I pointed out to the little prince that baobabs are not bushes but trees as tall as churches, and that even if he took a whole herd of elephants back to his planet, that herd couldn't finish off a single baobab.

The idea of the herd of elephants made the little prince laugh.

"We'd have to pile them on top of one another."



KEY WORDS

- point out 指出
- herd *n.* 兽群

- finish off 完全吃光
- pile *v.* 堆叠

But he observed perceptively:

“Before they grow big, baobabs start out by being little.”

“True enough! But why do you want your sheep to eat little baobabs?”

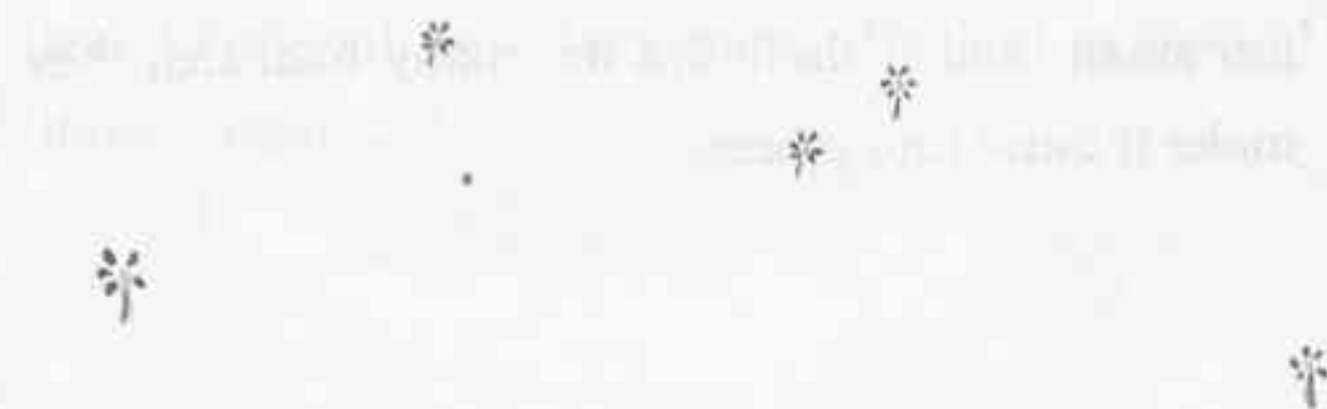
He answered, “Oh, come on! You know!” as if we were talking about something quite obvious. And I was forced to make a great mental effort to understand this problem all by myself.

And, in fact, on the little prince's planet there were — as on all planets — good plants and bad plants. The good plants come from good seeds, and the bad plants from bad seeds. But the seeds are invisible.

KEY WORDS

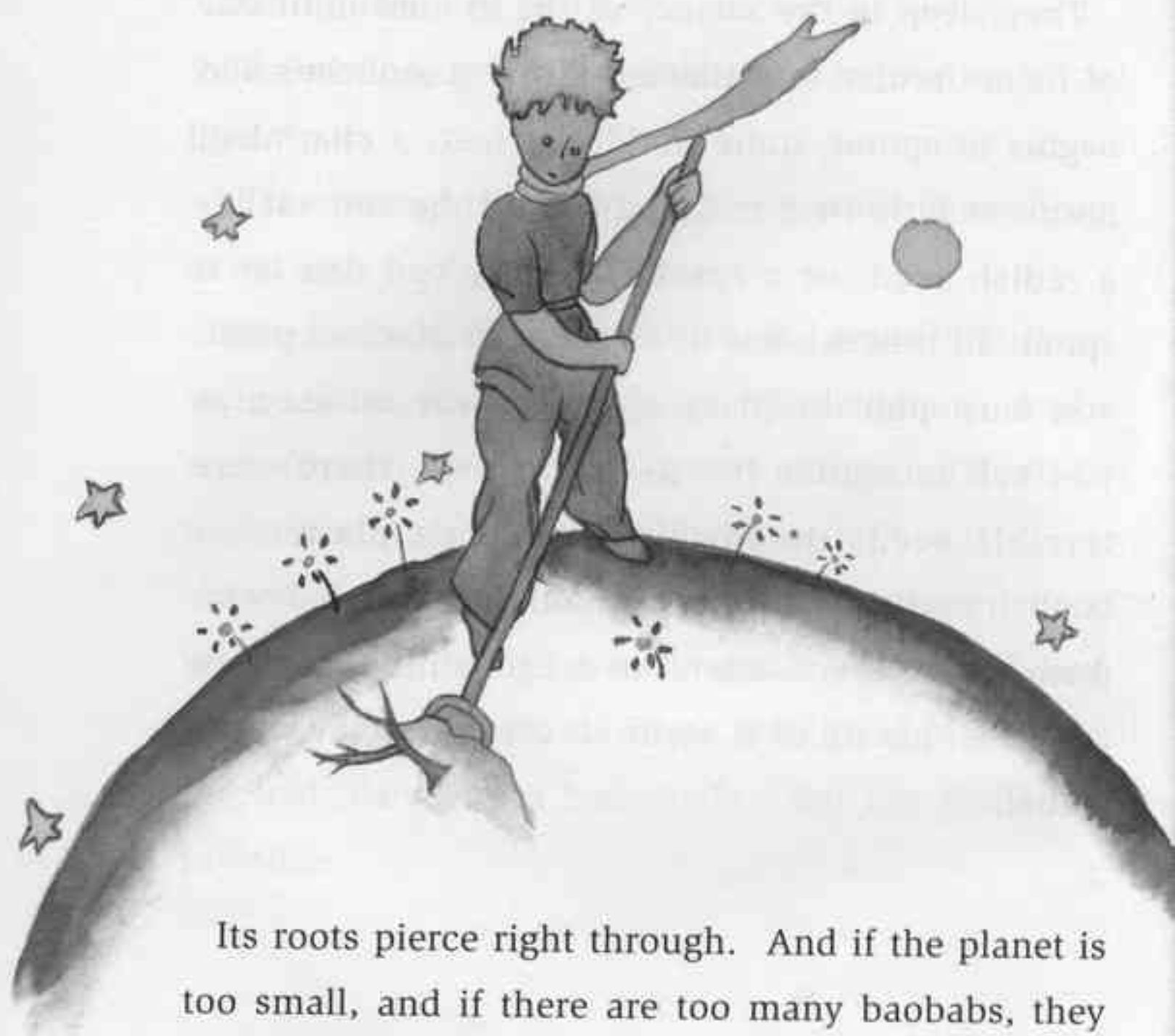
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> observe <i>v.</i> 说 | <input type="checkbox"/> mental <i>adj.</i> 精神的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> perceptively <i>adv.</i> 有洞察力地 | <input type="checkbox"/> seed <i>n.</i> 种子 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> obvious <i>adj.</i> 明显的 | <input type="checkbox"/> invisible <i>adj.</i> 看不见的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> be forced to 被迫 | |

They sleep in the secrecy of the ground until one of them decides to wake up. Then it stretches and begins to sprout, quite timidly at first, a charming, harmless little twig reaching toward the sun. If it's a radish seed, or a rosebush seed, you can let it sprout all it likes. But if it's the seed of a bad plant, you must pull the plant up right away, as soon as you can recognize it. As it happens, there were terrible seeds on the little prince's planet. . . baobab seeds. The planet's soil was infested with them. Now if you attend to a baobab too late, you can never get rid of it again. It overgrows the whole planet.



KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> secrecy <i>n.</i> 秘密 | <input type="checkbox"/> recognize <i>v.</i> 认出 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> stretch <i>v.</i> 舒展 | <input type="checkbox"/> as it happens 碰巧 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sprout <i>v.</i> 萌芽 | <input type="checkbox"/> soil <i>n.</i> 土壤 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> timidly <i>adv.</i> 羞怯地 | <input type="checkbox"/> be infested with 遍布 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> harmless <i>adj.</i> 无害的 | <input type="checkbox"/> attend to 处理 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> twig <i>n.</i> 嫩枝 | <input type="checkbox"/> get rid of 除去 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> radish <i>n.</i> 萝卜 | <input type="checkbox"/> overgrow <i>v.</i> 长得大过 |



Its roots pierce right through. And if the planet is too small, and if there are too many baobabs, they make it burst into pieces.

KEY WORDS

□ pierce v. 穿入, 透入

□ burst into pieces 胀破, 弄碎

"It's a question of discipline," the little prince told me later on. "When you've finished washing and dressing each morning, you must tend your planet. You must be sure you pull up the baobabs regularly, as soon as you can tell them apart from the rosebushes, which they closely resemble when they're very young. It's very tedious work, but very easy."

And one day he advised me to do my best to make a beautiful drawing, for the edification of the children where I live.

"If they travel someday," he told me, "it could be useful to them. Sometimes there's no harm in postponing your work until later. But with baobabs, it's always a catastrophe. I knew one planet that was inhabited by a lazy man. He had neglected three bushes. . ."

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> discipline <i>n.</i> 纪律 | <input type="checkbox"/> postpone <i>v.</i> 推迟 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tend <i>v.</i> 照顾, 照料 | <input type="checkbox"/> catastrophe <i>n.</i> 灾难 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tell... apart 区分, 辨别 | <input type="checkbox"/> inhabit <i>v.</i> 居住 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tedious <i>adj.</i> 单调乏味的 | <input type="checkbox"/> neglect <i>v.</i> 忽视, 忽略 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> edification <i>n.</i> 教诲, 启迪 | |

So, following the little prince's instructions, I have drawn that planet. I don't much like assuming the tone of a moralist. But the danger of baobabs is so little recognized, and the risks run by anyone who might get lost on an asteroid are so considerable, that for once I am making an exception to my habitual reserve. I say, "Children, watch out for baobabs!"

It's to warn my friends of a danger of which they, like myself, have long been unaware that I worked so hard on this drawing. The lesson I'm teaching is worth the trouble. You may be asking, "Why are there no other drawings in this book as big as the drawing of the baobabs?" There's a simple answer: I tried but I couldn't manage it. When I drew the baobabs, I was inspired by a sense of urgency.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> instructions <i>n.</i> 指示 | <input type="checkbox"/> habitual <i>adj.</i> 惯常的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> assume <i>v.</i> 采取 | <input type="checkbox"/> reserve <i>n.</i> 寡言 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tone <i>n.</i> 语气 | <input type="checkbox"/> warn of 警告 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> moralist <i>n.</i> 说教者 | <input type="checkbox"/> worth the trouble 值得这样的麻烦 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> considerable <i>adj.</i> 相当大的 | <input type="checkbox"/> inspire <i>v.</i> 激励 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> exception <i>n.</i> 例外 | <input type="checkbox"/> urgency <i>n.</i> 紧急 |



The Baobabs



O Little Prince!

Gradually, this was how I came to understand your sad little life. For a long time your only entertainment was the pleasure of sunsets. I learned this new detail on the morning of the fourth day, when you told me:

"I really like sunsets. Let's go look at one now. . ."

"But we have to wait. . ."

"What for?"

"For the sun to set."

At first you seemed quite surprised, and then you laughed at yourself. And you said to me, "I think I'm still at home!"

Indeed. When it's noon in the United States, the sun, as everyone knows, is setting over France. If you could fly to France in one minute, you could watch the sunset. Unfortunately France is much too far. But on your tiny planet, all you had to do was move your chair a few feet. And you would watch the twilight whenever you wanted to. . . .

"One day I saw the sun set forty-four times!" And a little later you added, "You know, when you're feeling very sad, sunsets are wonderful. . ."

"On the day of the forty-four times, were you feeling very sad?"

But the little prince didn't answer.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ entertainment *n.* 乐趣
- ☐ pleasure *n.* 快乐, 乐事
- ☐ sunset *n.* 日落

- ☐ tiny *adj.* 微小的
- ☐ twilight *n.* 黄昏

On the fifth day, thanks again to the sheep, another secret of the little prince's life was revealed to me. Abruptly, with no preamble, he asked me, as if it were the fruit of a problem long pondered in silence:

"If a sheep eats bushes, does it eat flowers, too?"

"A sheep eats whatever it finds."

"Even flowers that have thorns?"

"Yes. Even flowers that have thorns."

"Then what good are thorns?"

I didn't know. At that moment I was very busy trying to unscrew a bolt that was jammed in my engine. I was quite worried, for my plane crash was beginning to seem extremely serious, and the lack of drinking water made me fear the worst.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ reveal *v.* 透露
- ☐ abruptly *adv.* 突然地
- ☐ with no preamble 开门见山地
- ☐ ponder *v.* 沉思, 考虑

- ☐ thorn *n.* 刺
- ☐ unscrew *v.* 旋开
- ☐ bolt *n.* 螺栓
- ☐ jam *v.* 卡住

“What good are thorns?”

The little prince never let go of a question once he had asked it. I was annoyed by my jammed bolt, and I answered without thinking.

“Thorns are no good for anything — they’re just the flowers’ way of being mean!”

“Oh!” But after a silence, he lashed out at me, with a sort of bitterness.

“I don’t believe you! Flowers are weak. They’re naive. They reassure themselves whatever way they can. They believe their thorns make them frightening. . .”



KEY WORDS

- let go of 放过
- mean *adj.* 刻薄的
- lash out 猛烈抨击
- bitterness *n.* 不满情绪

- naive *adj.* 天真的
- reassure *v.* 使安心
- frightening *adj.* 可怕的

I made no answer. At that moment I was thinking, "If this bolt stays jammed, I'll knock it off with the hammer." Again the little prince disturbed my reflections.

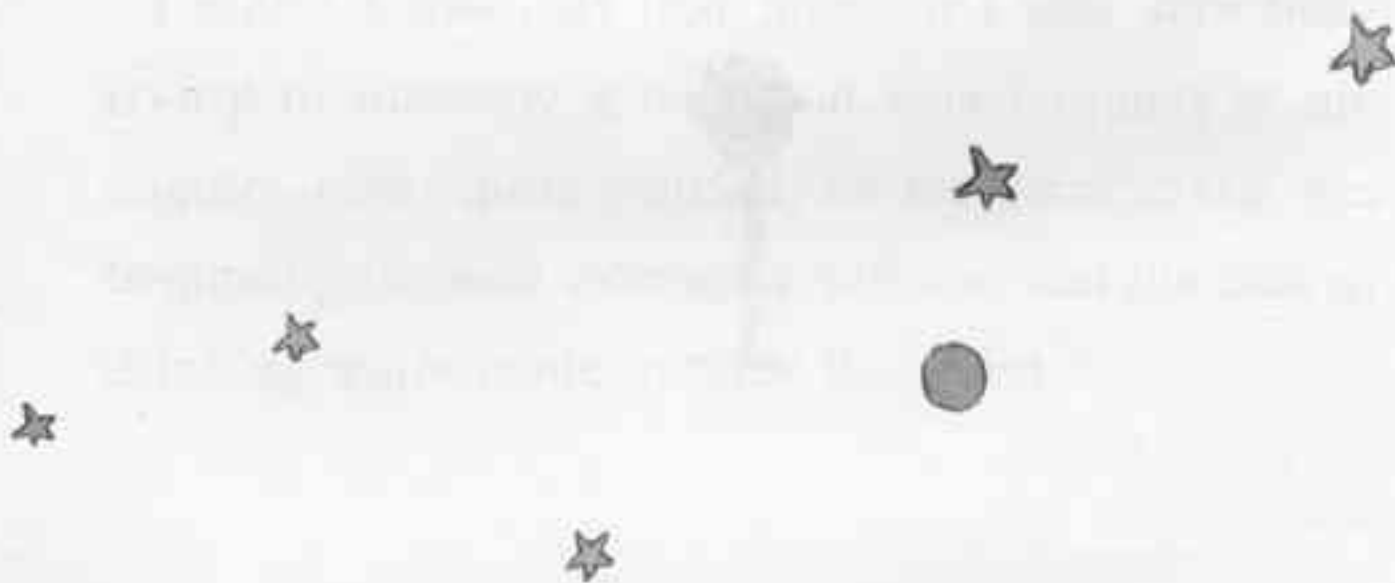
"Then you think flowers. . ."

"No, not at all. I don't think anything! I just said whatever came into my head. I'm busy here with something serious!"

He stared at me, astounded.

"Something serious!"

He saw me holding my hammer, my fingers black with grease, bending over an object he regarded as very ugly.



KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> knock off 敲掉, 打掉 | <input type="checkbox"/> grease <i>n.</i> 润滑油 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> disturb <i>v.</i> 打扰 | <input type="checkbox"/> bend over 俯身 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reflection <i>n.</i> 深思, 考虑 | <input type="checkbox"/> regard as 认为 |

"You talk like the grown-ups!"

That made me a little ashamed. But he added, mercilessly:

"You confuse everything. . . You've got it all mixed up!" He was really very annoyed. He tossed his golden curls in the wind. "I know a planet inhabited by a red-faced gentleman. He's never smelled a flower. He's never looked at a star. He's never loved anyone. He's never done anything except add up numbers. And all day long he says over and over, just like you, 'I'm a serious man! I'm a serious man!' And that puffs him up with pride. But he's not a man at all — he's a mushroom!"

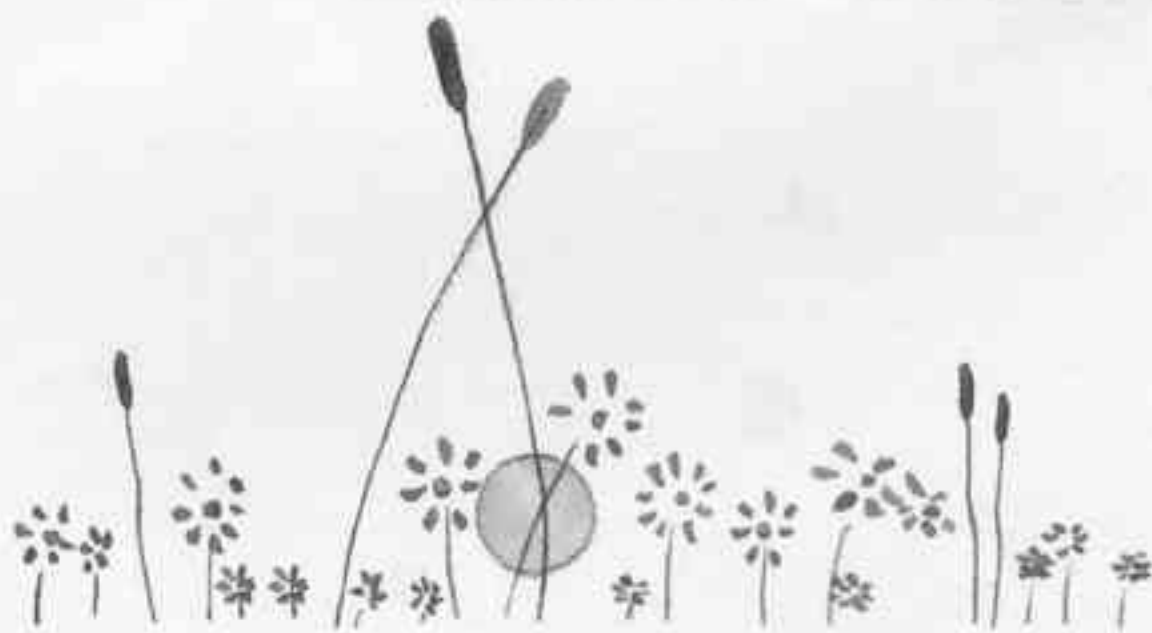
KEY WORDS

- ☐ ashamed *adj.* 惭愧的
- ☐ mercilessly *adv.* 无情地
- ☐ mix up 弄乱
- ☐ toss *v.* 甩

- ☐ add up 把……加起来
- ☐ puff up 趾高气扬
- ☐ mushroom *n.* 蘑菇

"He's a what?"

"A mushroom!" The little prince was now quite pale with rage. "For millions of years flowers have been producing thorns. For millions of years sheep have been eating them all the same. And it's not serious, trying to understand why flowers go to such trouble to produce thorns that are good for nothing? It's not important, the war between the sheep and the flowers? It's no more serious and more important than the numbers that fat red gentleman is adding up?"



KEY WORDS

- pale *adj.* 苍白的
- rage *n.* 愤怒

- all the same 仍然
- go to trouble 不怕费事

“Suppose I happen to know a unique flower, one that exists nowhere in the world except on my planet, one that a little sheep can wipe out in a single bite one morning, just like that, without even realizing what he’s doing — that isn’t important?” His face turned red now, and he went on. “If someone loves a flower of which just one example exists among all the millions and millions of stars, that’s enough to make him happy when he looks at the stars. He tells himself, ‘My flower’s up there somewhere. . .’ But if the sheep eats the flower, then for him it’s as if, suddenly, all the stars went out. And that isn’t important?”

KEY WORDS

- suppose *v.* 假定
- happen to 碰巧, 恰好
- unique *adj.* 唯一的

- wipe out 消灭
- bite *n.* 一口
- go out 熄灭

He couldn't say another word. All of a sudden he burst out sobbing. Night had fallen. I dropped my tools. What did I care about my hammer, about my bolt, about thirst and death? There was, on one star, on one planet, on mine, the Earth, a little prince to be consoled! I took him in my arms. I rocked him. I told him, "The flower you love is not in danger. . . I'll draw you a muzzle for your sheep. . . I'll draw you a fence for your flower. . . I. . ."



I didn't know what to say. How clumsy I felt! I didn't know how to reach him, where to find him. . . . It's so mysterious, the land of tears.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ sob *v.* 呜咽
- ☐ console *v.* 安慰
- ☐ rock *v.* 轻轻摇晃

- ☐ muzzle *n.* (动物的) 口套
- ☐ fence *n.* 栅栏, 篱笆
- ☐ clumsy *adj.* 笨拙的



I soon learned to know that flower better. On the little prince's planet, there had always been very simple flowers, decorated with a single row of petals so that they took up no room at all and got in no one's way. They would appear one morning in the grass, and would fade by nightfall. But this one had grown from a seed brought from who knows where, and the little prince had kept a close watch over a sprout that was not like any of the others. It might have been a new kind of baobab. But the sprout soon stopped growing and began to show signs of blossoming.

KEY WORDS

- decorated with 装饰着……的
- row *n.* 一排
- petal *n.* 花瓣
- take up 占据

- fade *v.* 枯萎
- nightfall *n.* 黄昏
- blossom *v.* 开花

The little prince, who had watched the development of an enormous bud, realized that some sort of miraculous apparition would emerge from it, but the flower continued her beauty preparations in the shelter of her green chamber, selecting her colors with the greatest care and dressing quite deliberately, adjusting her petals one by one. She had no desire to emerge all rumpled, like the poppies. She wished to appear only in the full radiance of her beauty. Oh yes, she was quite vain! And her mysterious adornment had lasted days and days. And then one morning, precisely at sunrise, she showed herself.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> enormous <i>adj.</i> 巨大的 | <input type="checkbox"/> adjust <i>v.</i> 调节 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bud <i>n.</i> 芽 | <input type="checkbox"/> rumpled <i>adj.</i> 弄皱了的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> miraculous <i>adj.</i> 神奇的 | <input type="checkbox"/> poppy <i>n.</i> 罂粟 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> emerge <i>v.</i> 出现 | <input type="checkbox"/> radiance <i>n.</i> 光辉 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shelter <i>n.</i> 保护, 庇护 | <input type="checkbox"/> vain <i>adj.</i> 虚荣的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> chamber <i>n.</i> 房间 | <input type="checkbox"/> adornment <i>n.</i> 装饰 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> deliberately <i>adv.</i> 不慌不忙地 | <input type="checkbox"/> precisely <i>adv.</i> 正好 |

And after having labored so painstakingly, she yawned and said, "Ah! I'm hardly awake. . . Forgive me. . . I'm still all untidy. . ."

But the little prince couldn't contain his admiration.

"How lovely you are!"

"Aren't I?" the flower answered sweetly. "And I was born the same time as the sun. . ."

The little prince realized that she wasn't any too modest, but she was so dazzling!

"I believe it is breakfast time," she had soon added. "Would you be so kind as to tend to me?"

And the little prince, utterly abashed, having gone to look for a watering can, served the flower.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ labor v. 劳动
- ☐ painstakingly adv. 辛苦地
- ☐ yawn v. 打哈欠
- ☐ contain v. 控制, 抑制
- ☐ dazzling adj. 艳丽的
- ☐ utterly adv. 完全地
- ☐ abashed adj. 窘迫的





She had soon begun tormenting him with her rather touchy vanity. One day, for instance, alluding to her four thorns, she remarked to the little prince, "I'm ready for tigers, with all their claws!"

"There are no tigers on my planet," the little prince had objected, "and besides, tigers don't eat weeds."

"I am not a weed," the flower sweetly replied.

"Forgive me. . ."



KEY WORDS

- torment *v.* 折磨
- touchy *adj.* 过于敏感的
- vanity *n.* 虚荣
- allude *v.* 暗指, 影射

- claw *n.* 爪
- object *v.* 反对
- weed *n.* 野草

"I am not at all afraid of tigers, but I have a horror of drafts. You wouldn't happen to have a screen?"

"A horror of drafts. . . that's not a good sign, for a plant," the little prince had observed. "How complicated this flower is. . ."

"After dark you will put me under glass. How cold it is where you live — quite uncomfortable. Where I come from—" But she suddenly broke off. She had come here as a seed. She couldn't have known anything of other worlds.

Humiliated at having let herself be caught on the verge of so naive a lie, she coughed two or three times in order to put the little prince in the wrong. "That screen?"

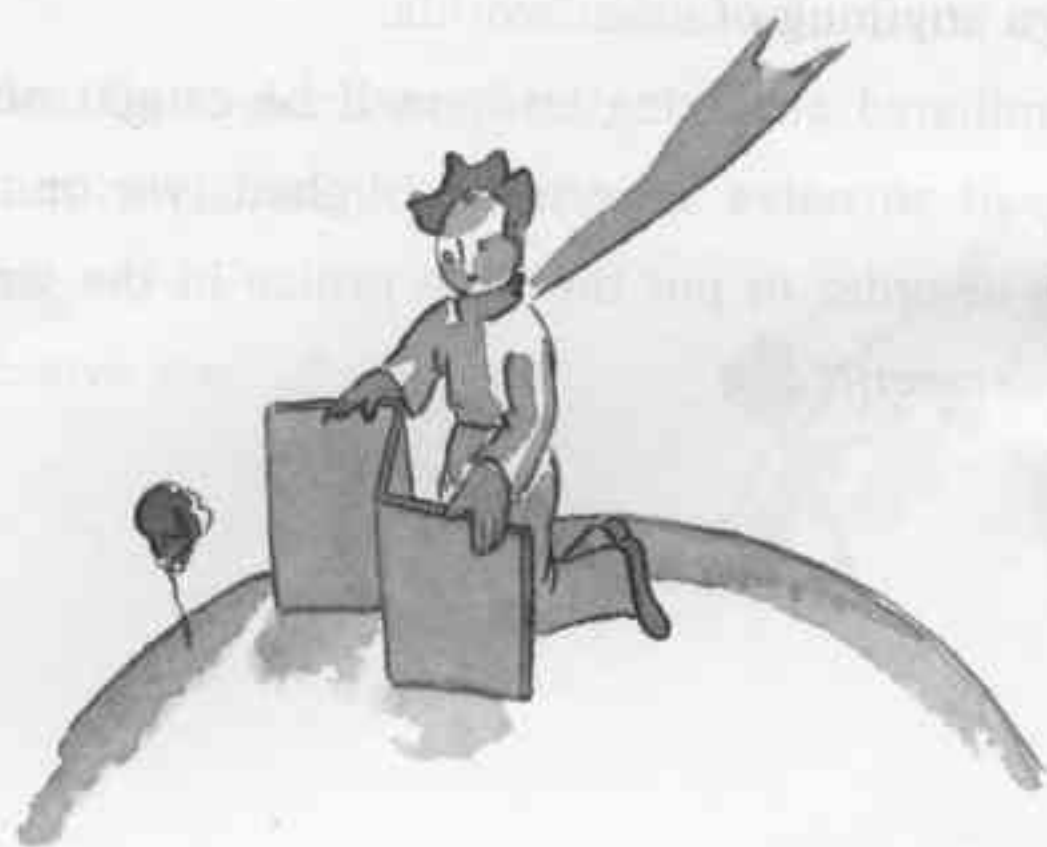
KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> draft <i>n.</i> 风 | <input type="checkbox"/> humiliate <i>v.</i> 使丢脸 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> screen <i>n.</i> 屏风 | <input type="checkbox"/> on the verge of 接近于 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> horror <i>n.</i> 恐惧 | <input type="checkbox"/> cough <i>v.</i> 咳嗽 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> break off 突然住口 | <input type="checkbox"/> put... in the wrong 归罪于..... |

"I was going to look for one, but you were speaking to me!"

Then she made herself cough again, in order to inflict a twinge of remorse on him all the same.

So the little prince, despite all the goodwill of his love, had soon come to mistrust her. He had taken seriously certain inconsequential remarks and had grown very unhappy.



KEY WORDS

- inflict *v.* 强加
- twinge *n.* 内疚
- remorse *n.* 自责
- goodwill *n.* 善意

- mistrust *v.* 不信任
- inconsequential *adj.* 不重要的, 微不足道的

"I shouldn't have listened to her," he confided to me one day. "You must never listen to flowers. You must look at them and smell them. Mine perfumed my planet, but I didn't know how to enjoy that. The business about the tiger claws, instead of annoying me, ought to have moved me. . ."

And he confided further, "In those days, I didn't understand anything. I should have judged her according to her actions, not her words. She perfumed my planet and lit up my life. I should never have run away! I ought to have realized the tenderness underlying her silly pretensions. Flowers are so contradictory! But I was too young to know how to love her."

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> confide <i>v.</i> 倾诉 | <input type="checkbox"/> underlying <i>adj.</i> 在下面的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> perfume <i>v.</i> 使充满香气 | <input type="checkbox"/> pretension <i>n.</i> 虚荣, 做作 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> further <i>adv.</i> 更进一步地 | <input type="checkbox"/> contradictory <i>adj.</i> 矛盾的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> judge <i>v.</i> 判断 | |

In order to make his escape, I believe he took advantage of a migration of wild birds. On the morning of his departure, he put his planet in order. He carefully raked out his active volcanoes. The little prince possessed two active volcanoes, which were very convenient for warming his breakfast.

He also possessed one extinct volcano. But, as he said, "You never know!"

So he raked out the extinct volcano, too. If they are properly raked out, volcanoes burn gently and regularly, without eruptions. Volcanic eruptions are like fires in a chimney.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ make one's escape 逃脱
- ☐ take advantage of 利用
- ☐ migration *n.* 迁徙
- ☐ put in order 收拾整齐
- ☐ rake out 耙出
- ☐ active volcano 活火山

- ☐ convenient *adj.* 方便的
- ☐ possess *v.* 拥有
- ☐ extinct volcano 死火山
- ☐ properly *adv.* 适当地, 恰当地
- ☐ eruption *n.* 爆发
- ☐ chimney *n.* 烟囱

Of course, on our Earth we are much too small to rake out our volcanoes. That is why they cause so much trouble.

The little prince also uprooted, a little sadly, his last baobab shoots. He believed he would never be coming back. But all these familiar tasks seemed very sweet to him on this last morning. And when he watered the flower one last time, and put her under glass, he felt like crying.

"Good-bye," he said to the flower.

But she did not answer him.

"Good-bye," he repeated.

The flower coughed. But not because she had a cold.



KEY WORDS

□ uproot *v.* 连根拔起

□ shoot *n.* 芽

□ familiar *adj.* 熟悉的

□ task *n.* 工作

□ feel like 想要(做)

"I've been silly," she told him at last. "I ask your forgiveness. Try to be happy."

He was surprised that there were no reproaches. He stood there, quite bewildered, holding the glass bell in midair. He failed to understand this calm sweetness.

"Of course I love you," the flower told him. "It was my fault you never knew. It doesn't matter. But you were just as silly as I was. Try to be happy. . . Put that glass thing down. I don't want it anymore."

"But the wind. . ."



KEY WORDS

□ reproach *n.* 责备

□ bewildered *adj.* 困惑的,
不知所措的

□ midair *n.* 半空中

"My cold isn't that bad. . . The night air will do me good. I'm a flower."

"But the animals. . ."

"I need to put up with two or three caterpillars if I want to get to know the butterflies. Apparently they're very beautiful. Otherwise who will visit me? You'll be far away. As for the big animals, I'm not afraid of them. I have my own claws." And she naively showed her four thorns.

Then she added, "Don't hang around like this; it's irritating. You made up your mind to leave. Now go."

For she didn't want him to see her crying. She was such a proud flower. . . .

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> do good 有益于 | <input type="checkbox"/> otherwise <i>adv.</i> 另外 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> put up with 忍受, 容忍 | <input type="checkbox"/> hang around 闲荡 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> caterpillar <i>n.</i> 毛虫 | <input type="checkbox"/> irritating <i>adj.</i> 恼人的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> get to know 接触到 | <input type="checkbox"/> make up one's mind 决定 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> apparently <i>adv.</i> 显然地 | |



He carefully raked out his active volcanoes.

He happened to be in the vicinity of Asteroids 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, and 330. So he began by visiting them, to keep himself busy and to learn something.

The first one was inhabited by a king. Wearing purple and ermine, he was sitting on a simple yet majestic throne.

"Ah! Here's a subject!" the king exclaimed when he caught sight of the little prince.

And the little prince wondered, "How can he know who I am if he's never seen me before?" He didn't realize that for kings, the world is extremely simplified: All men are subjects.

KEY WORDS

- vicinity *n.* 邻近, 接近
- ermine *n.* 白鼬皮
- majestic *adj.* 庄严的
- throne *n.* 王座

- subject *n.* 臣民
- catch sight of 看见
- extremely *adv.* 非常地
- simplified *adj.* 简单的



“Approach the throne so I can get a better look at you,” said the king, very proud of being a king for someone at last.

The little prince looked around for a place to sit down, but the planet was covered by the magnificent ermine cloak. So he remained standing, and since he was tired, he yawned.

"It is a violation of etiquette to yawn in a king's presence," the monarch told him. "I forbid you to do so."

"I can't help it," answered the little prince, quite embarrassed. "I've made a long journey, and I haven't had any sleep. . ."

"Then I command you to yawn," said the king. "I haven't seen anyone yawn for years. For me, yawns are a curiosity. Come on, yawn again! It is an order."

"That intimidates me. . . I can't do it now," said the little prince, blushing deeply.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> approach <i>v.</i> 靠近, 接近 | <input type="checkbox"/> can't help it 忍不住 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cloak <i>n.</i> 大氅, 披风 | <input type="checkbox"/> embarrassed <i>adj.</i> 尴尬的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> remain <i>v.</i> 保持不变 | <input type="checkbox"/> command <i>v.</i> 命令 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> violation <i>n.</i> 违反 | <input type="checkbox"/> curiosity <i>n.</i> 稀奇的东西 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> etiquette <i>n.</i> 礼节 | <input type="checkbox"/> intimidate <i>v.</i> 恐吓 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> monarch <i>n.</i> 君主 | <input type="checkbox"/> blush <i>v.</i> 脸红 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> forbid <i>v.</i> 禁止, 不许 (forbid-forbade-forbidden) | |

"Well, well!" the king replied. "Then I . . . I command you to yawn sometimes and sometimes to . . ."

He was sputtering a little, and seemed annoyed.

For the king insisted that his authority be universally respected. He would tolerate no disobedience, being an absolute monarch. But since he was a kindly man, all his commands were reasonable.

"If I were to command," he would often say, "if I were to command a general to turn into a seagull, and if the general did not obey, that would not be the general's fault. It would be mine."

"May I sit down?" the little prince timidly inquired.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ sputter *v.* 结结巴巴、语无伦次地说话
- ☐ insist *v.* 坚持
- ☐ authority *n.* 权威
- ☐ universally *adv.* 普遍地
- ☐ tolerate *v.* 忍受, 容忍

- ☐ disobedience *n.* 不服从
- ☐ absolute *adj.* 专制独裁的
- ☐ reasonable *adj.* 合理的
- ☐ general *n.* 将军
- ☐ seagull *n.* 海鸥
- ☐ inquire *v.* 询问

"I command you to sit down," the king replied, majestically gathering up a fold of his ermine robe.

But the little prince was wondering. The planet was tiny. Over what could the king really reign? "Sire. . .," he ventured, "excuse me for asking. . ."

"I command you to ask," the king hastened to say.

"Sire. . . over what do you reign?"

"Over everything," the king answered, with great simplicity.

"Over everything?"

With a discreet gesture the king pointed to his planet, to the other planets, and to the stars.

"Over all that?" asked the little prince.

KEY WORDS

- gather up 收拢
- fold *n.* 褶
- reign *v.* 统治
- sire *n.* 陛下

- venture *v.* 斗胆说
- hasten *v.* 赶紧, 急忙
- discreet *adj.* 慎重的

“Over all that. . . ,” the king answered.

For not only was he an absolute monarch, but a universal monarch as well.

“And do the stars obey you?”

“Of course,” the king replied. “They obey immediately. I tolerate no insubordination.”

Such power amazed the little prince. If he had wielded it himself, he could have watched not forty-four but seventy-two, or even a hundred, even two hundred sunsets on the same day without ever having to move his chair! And since he was feeling rather sad on account of remembering his own little planet, which he had forsaken, he ventured to ask a favor of the king:

“I’d like to see a sunset. . . . Do me a favor, your majesty. . . . Command the sun to set. . . .”



KEY WORDS

- insubordination *n.* 不服从
- wield *v.* 行使, 运用

- forsake *v.* 遗弃, 抛弃
(forsake-forsook-forsaken)
- favor *n.* 恩惠, 善意的行为

"If I commanded a general to fly from one flower to the next like a butterfly, or to write a tragedy, or to turn into a seagull, and if the general did not carry out my command, which of us would be in the wrong, the general or me?"

"You would be," said the little prince, quite firmly.

"Exactly. One must command from each what each can perform," the king went on. "Authority is based first of all upon reason. If you command your subjects to jump in the ocean, there will be a revolution. I am entitled to command obedience because my orders are reasonable."

"Then my sunset?" insisted the little prince, who never let go of a question once he had asked it.

KEY WORDS

- tragedy *n.* 悲剧
- carry out 执行, 实施
- firmly *adv.* 坚定地

- be based upon 基于
- revolution *n.* 革命
- be entitled to 有权

"You shall have your sunset. I shall command it. But I shall wait, according to my science of government, until conditions are favorable."

"And when will that be?" inquired the little prince.

"Well, well!" replied the king, first consulting a large calendar. "Well, well! That will be around. . . around. . . that will be tonight around seven-forty! And you'll see how well I am obeyed."

The little prince yawned. He was regretting his lost sunset. And besides, he was already growing a little bored. "I have nothing further to do here," he told the king. "I'm going to be on my way!"

"Do not leave!" answered the king, who was so proud of having a subject. "Do not leave; I shall make you my minister!"

KEY WORDS

- according to 根据, 依照
- condition *n.* 条件
- favorable *adj.* 适宜的
- consult *v.* 查阅

- regret *v.* 为……感到遗憾
- besides *adv.* 此外, 而且
- minister *n.* 大臣

"A minister of what?"

"Of. . . of justice."

"But there's no one here to judge!"

"You never know," the king told him. "I have not yet explored the whole of my realm. I am very old, I have no room for a carriage, and it wearies me to walk."

"Oh, but I've already seen for myself," said the little prince, leaning forward to glance one more time at the other side of the planet. "There's no one over there, either. . ."

"Then you shall pass judgment on yourself," the king answered. "That is the hardest thing of all. It is much harder to judge yourself than to judge others. If you succeed in judging yourself, it's because you are truly a wise man."

KEY WORDS

- Minister of Justice 司法大臣
- explore v. 实地查看
- realm n. 王国
- room n. 空间
- carriage n. 马车

- weary v. 使疲劳
- lean forward 探身过去
- glance n. 扫视
- pass judgment on 对……作出审判

"But I can judge myself anywhere," said the little prince. "I don't need to live here."

"Well, well!" the king said. "I have good reason to believe that there is an old rat living somewhere on my planet. I hear him at night. You could judge that old rat. From time to time you will condemn him to death. That way his life will depend on your justice. But you'll pardon him each time for economy's sake. There's only one rat."

"I don't like condemning anyone to death," the little prince said, "and now I think I'll be on my way."

"No," said the king.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ condemn v. 判(某人)刑
- ☐ depend on 决定于

- ☐ pardon v. 赦免
- ☐ for one's sake 出于……的考虑

The little prince, having completed his preparations, had no desire to aggrieve the old monarch. "If Your Majesty desires to be promptly obeyed, he should give me a reasonable command. He might command me, for instance, to leave before this minute is up. It seems to me that conditions are favorable. . ."

The king having made no answer, the little prince hesitated at first, and then, with a sigh, took his leave.

"I make you my ambassador," the king hastily shouted after him. He had a great air of authority.

"Grown-ups are so strange," the little prince said to himself as he went on his way.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ aggrieve *v.* 使悲痛
- ☐ Your Majesty 陛下
- ☐ promptly *adv.* 迅速地
- ☐ hesitate *v.* 犹豫

- ☐ sigh *n.* 叹气
- ☐ ambassador *n.* 大使
- ☐ hastily *adv.* 慌忙地

The second planet was inhabited by a very vain man.

"Ah! A visit from an admirer!" he exclaimed when he caught sight of the little prince, still at some distance. To vain men, other people are admirers.

"Hello," said the little prince. "That's a funny hat you're wearing."

"It's for answering acclamations," the very vain man replied. "Unfortunately, no one ever comes this way."

"Is that so?" said the little prince, who did not understand what the vain man was talking about.

"Clap your hands," directed the man.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> admirer <i>n.</i> 仰慕者 | <input type="checkbox"/> clap one's hands 拍手 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> at some distance 有一些距离 | <input type="checkbox"/> direct <i>v.</i> 命令, 指示 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> acclamation <i>n.</i> 喝彩 | |

The little prince clapped his hands, and the vain man tipped his hat in modest acknowledgment.

"This is more entertaining than the visit to the king," the little prince said to himself. And he continued clapping. The very vain man continued tipping his hat in acknowledgment.

After five minutes of this exercise, the little prince tired of the game's monotony. "And what would make the hat fall off?" he asked.

But the vain man did not hear him. Vain men never hear anything but praise.

KEY WORDS

- tip *v.* 脱(帽)打招呼
- acknowledgment *n.* 答谢的表示
- entertaining *adj.* 有趣的
- tire of 厌烦
- monotony *n.* 单调
- praise *n.* 赞扬, 赞美



"Do you really admire me a great deal?" he asked the little prince.

"What does that mean — *admire*?"

"To *admire* means to acknowledge that I am the handsomest, the best-dressed, the richest, and the most intelligent man on the planet."

"But you're the only man on your planet!"

"Do me this favor. Admire me all the same."

"I admire you," said the little prince, with a little shrug of his shoulders, "but what is there about my admiration that interests you so much?" And the little prince went on his way.

"Grown-ups are certainly very strange," he said to himself as he continued on his journey.

KEY WORDS

- a great deal 非常
- acknowledge v. 承认
- drunkard n. 酒鬼
- brief adj. 短暂的
- plunge v. 陷入

- depression n. 沮丧, 消沉
- sink v. 陷入
(sink-sank-sunk)
- gloomy adj. 阴沉的, 阴郁的
- expression n. 表情, 脸色



The next planet was inhabited by a drunkard. This visit was a very brief one, but it plunged the little prince into a deep depression.

"What are you doing there?" he asked the drunkard, whom he found sunk in silence before a collection of empty bottles and a collection of full ones.

"Drinking," replied the drunkard, with a gloomy expression.

"Why are you drinking?" the little prince asked.

"To forget," replied the drunkard.

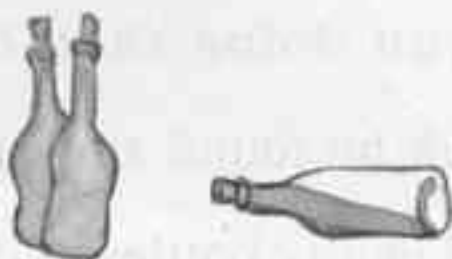
"To forget what?" inquired the little prince, who was already feeling sorry for him.

"To forget that I'm ashamed," confessed the drunkard, hanging his head.

"What are you ashamed of?" inquired the little prince, who wanted to help.

"Of drinking!" concluded the drunkard, withdrawing into silence for good. And the little prince went on his way, puzzled.

"Grown-ups are certainly very, very strange," he said to himself as he continued on his journey.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ feel sorry for 为……难过
- ☐ ashamed *adj.* 羞耻的
- ☐ confess *v.* 忏悔
- ☐ hang one's head 低头

- ☐ conclude *v.* 结束
- ☐ withdraw *v.* 缩回
- ☐ for good 永久的
- ☐ puzzled *adj.* 迷惑的

The fourth planet belonged to a businessman. This person was so busy that he didn't even raise his head when the little prince arrived.

"Hello," said the little prince. "Your cigarette's gone out."

"Three and two make five. Five and seven, twelve. Twelve and three, fifteen. Hello. Fifteen and seven, twenty-two. Twenty-two and six, twenty-eight. No time to light it again. Twenty-six and five, thirty-one. Whew! That amounts to five-hundred-and-one million, six hundred-twenty-two thousand, seven hundred thirty-one."

"Five-hundred million what?"

KEY WORDS

- ☐ belong to 属于
- ☐ light v. 点着
(light-lit-lit)

- ☐ amount to 总计



“Hmm? You’re still there? Five-hundred-and-one million. . . I don’t remember. . . I have so much work to do! I’m a serious man. I can’t be bothered with trifles! Two and five, seven. . .”

KEY WORDS

□ trifle *n.* 琐事, 小事

"Five-hundred-and-one million what?" repeated the little prince, who had never in his life let go of a question once he had asked it.

The businessman raised his head.

"For the fifty-four years I've inhabited this planet, I've been interrupted only three times. The first time was twenty-two years ago, when I was interrupted by a beetle that had fallen onto my desk from god knows where. It made a terrible noise, and I made four mistakes in my calculations. The second time was eleven years ago, when I was interrupted by a fit of rheumatism. I don't get enough exercise. I haven't time to take strolls. I'm a serious person. The third time. . . is right now! Where was I? Five hundred-and-one million. . ."

"Million what?"

KEY WORDS

- interrupt *v.* 打断, 打扰
- beetle *n.* 甲虫
- god knows 天晓得
- calculation *n.* 计算

- fit *n.* (病的) 发作, 阵发
- rheumatism *n.* 风湿病
- take a stroll 散步, 溜达



The businessman realized that he had no hope of being left in peace.



"Oh, of those little things you sometimes see in the sky."

"Flies?"

"No, those little shiny things."

"Bees?"

"No, those little golden things that make lazy people daydream. Now, I'm a serious person. I have no time for daydreaming."

"Ah! You mean the stars?"

"Yes, that's it. Stars."

"And what do you do with five-hundred million stars?"



KEY WORDS

- in peace 不被打扰的
- fly *n.* 苍蝇

- shiny *adj.* 闪耀的
- daydream *v.* 做白日梦

"Five-hundred-and-one million, six-hundred-twenty-two thousand, seven hundred thirty-one. I'm a serious person, and I'm accurate."

"And what do you do with those stars?"

"What do I do with them?"

"Yes."

"Nothing. I own them."

"You own the stars?"

"Yes."

"But I've already seen a king who —"

"Kings don't own. They 'reign' over. . . It's quite different."

"And what good does owning the stars do you?"

"It does me the good of being rich."

"And what good does it do you to be rich?"

"It lets me buy other stars, if somebody discovers them."

KEY WORDS

□ accurate *adj.* 精确的

□ own *v.* 拥有

The little prince said to himself, "This man argues a little like my drunkard." Nevertheless he asked more questions. "How can someone own the stars?"

"To whom do they belong?" retorted the businessman grumpily.

"I don't know. To nobody."

"Then they belong to me, because I thought of it first."

"And that's all it takes?"

"Of course. When you find a diamond that belongs to nobody in particular, then it's yours. When you find an island that belongs to nobody in particular, it's yours. When you're the first person to have an idea, you patent it and it's yours. Now I own the stars, since no one before me ever thought of owning them."

KEY WORDS

- nevertheless *adv.* 不过
- retort *v.* 反驳
- grumpily *adv.* 脾气粗暴地

- in particular 特别
- patent *v.* 得到……的专利权

★

★

★

“That’s true enough,” the little prince said. “And what do you do with them?”

“I manage them. I count them and then count them again,” the businessman said. “It’s difficult work. But I’m a serious person!”

The little prince was still not satisfied. “If I own a scarf, I can tie it around my neck and take it away. If I own a flower, I can pick it and take it away. But you can’t pick the stars!”

“No, but I can put them in the bank.”

“What does that mean?”

“That means that I write the number of my stars on a slip of paper. And then I lock that slip of paper in a drawer.”

“And that’s all?”

“That’s enough!”

KEY WORDS

- enough *adv.* 充分地
- manage *v.* 管理
- pick *v.* 摘

- take away 带走, 拿走
- slip *n.* 片, 纸片
- drawer *n.* 抽屉

"That's amusing," thought the little prince. "And even poetic. But not very serious." The little prince had very different ideas about serious things from those of the grown-ups. "I own a flower myself," he continued, "which I water every day. I own three volcanoes, which I rake out every week. I even rake out the extinct one. You never know. So it's of some use to my volcanoes, and it's useful to my flower, that I own them. But you're not useful to the stars."

The businessman opened his mouth but found nothing to say in reply, and the little prince went on his way.

"Grown-ups are certainly quite extraordinary," was all he said to himself as he continued on his journey.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ amusing *adj.* 有趣的, 逗笑的 ☐ be of some use 有些用处
☐ poetic *adj.* 富有诗意的

The fifth planet was very strange. It was the smallest of all. There was just enough room for a street lamp and a lamplighter. The little prince couldn't quite understand what use a street lamp and a lamplighter could be up there in the sky, on a planet without any people and not a single house. However, he said to himself, "It's quite possible that this man is absurd, but he's less absurd than the king, the very vain man, the businessman, and the drunkard. At least his work has some meaning. When he lights his lamp, it's as if he's bringing one more star to life, or one more flower. When he puts out his lamp, that sends the flower or the star to sleep. Which is a fine occupation. And therefore truly useful."

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> street lamp 路灯 | <input type="checkbox"/> put out 熄灭 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lamplighter <i>n.</i> 点灯人 | <input type="checkbox"/> fine <i>adj.</i> 美好的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> absurd <i>adj.</i> 荒谬的 | <input type="checkbox"/> occupation <i>n.</i> 职业 |

When the little prince reached this planet, he greeted the lamplighter respectfully.

"Good morning. Why have you just put out your lamp?"

"Orders," the lamplighter answered. "Good morning."

"What orders are those?"

"To put out my street lamp. Good evening."

And he lit his lamp again.

"But why have you just lit your lamp again?"

"Orders."

"I don't understand," said the little prince.

"There's nothing to understand," said the lamplighter. "Orders are orders. Good morning."

And he put out his lamp. Then he wiped his forehead with a red-checked handkerchief.

KEY WORDS

- greet *v.* 问候, 招呼
- respectfully *adv.* 尊敬地
- wipe *v.* 擦

- forehead *n.* 前额
- red-checked *adj.* 红格子图案的
- handkerchief *n.* 手帕



— "It's a terrible job I have."



"It's a terrible job I have. It used to be reasonable enough. I put the lamp out mornings and lit it after dark. I had the rest of the day for my own affairs, and the rest of the night for sleeping."

"And since then orders have changed?"

"Orders haven't changed," the lamplighter said. "That's just the trouble! Year by year the planet is turning faster and faster, and orders haven't changed!"

"Which means?"

"Which means that now that the planet revolves once a minute, I don't have an instant's rest. I light my lamp and turn it out once every minute!"



KEY WORDS

- ☐ used to 曾经 (表示过去的事实或状态)
- ☐ affair *n.* 事情

- ☐ year by year 一年又一年地
- ☐ revolve *v.* 旋转
- ☐ instant *n.* 瞬息, 顷刻

"That's funny! Your days here are one minute long!"

"It's not funny at all," the lamplighter said. "You and I have already been talking to each other for a month."

"A month?"

"Yes. Thirty minutes. Thirty days! Good evening." And he lit his lamp.

The little prince watched him, growing fonder and fonder of this lamplighter who was so faithful to orders. He remembered certain sunsets that he himself used to follow in other days, merely by shifting his chair. He wanted to help his friend.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ fond of 喜欢的
- ☐ faithful *adj.* 忠实的

- ☐ merely *adv.* 仅仅, 只
- ☐ shift *v.* 移动

“You know. . . I can show you a way to take a rest whenever you want to.”

“I always want to rest,” the lamplighter said, for it is possible to be faithful and lazy at the same time.

The little prince continued, “Your planet is so small that you can walk around it in three strides. All you have to do is walk more slowly, and you’ll always be in the sun. When you want to take a rest just walk. . . and the day will last as long as you want it to.”

“What good does that do me?” the lamplighter said, “when the one thing in life I want to do is sleep?”

“Then you’re out of luck,” said the little prince.

“I am,” said the lamplighter. “Good morning.” And he put out his lamp.

KEY WORDS

- take a rest 休息
- stride *n.* 大步

- out of luck 运气不好

"Now that man," the little prince said to himself as he continued on his journey, "that man would be despised by all the others, by the king, by the very vain man, by the drunkard, by the businessman. Yet he's the only one who doesn't strike me as ridiculous. Perhaps it's because he's thinking of something beside himself." He heaved a sigh of regret and said to himself, again, "That man is the only one I might have made my friend. But his planet is really too small. There's not room for two. . . ."

What the little prince dared not admit was that he most regretted leaving that planet because it was blessed with one thousand, four hundred forty sunsets every twenty-four hours!

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> despise v. 轻视 | <input type="checkbox"/> heave a sigh 叹口气 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> strike v. 使认为 | <input type="checkbox"/> admit v. 承认 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ridiculous adj. 荒谬的, 可笑的 | <input type="checkbox"/> be blessed with 有幸得到, 具有 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> beside prep. 在……旁边 | |

The sixth planet was ten times bigger than the last. It was inhabited by an old gentleman who wrote enormous books.

"Ah, here comes an explorer," he exclaimed when he caught sight of the little prince, who was feeling a little winded and sat down on the desk. He had already traveled so much and so far!

"Where do you come from?" the old gentleman asked him.

"What's that big book?" asked the little prince. "What do you do with it?"

"I'm a geographer," the old gentleman answered.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ enormous *adj.* 庞大的
- ☐ explorer *n.* 探险家

- ☐ winded *adj.* 喘气的
- ☐ geographer *n.* 地理学家

"And what's a geographer?"

"A scholar who knows where the seas are, and the rivers, the cities, the mountains, and the deserts."

"That is very interesting," the little prince said. "Here at last is someone who has a real profession!" And he gazed around him at the geographer's planet. He had never seen a planet so majestic. "Your planet is very beautiful," he said. "Does it have any oceans?"

"I couldn't say," said the geographer.

"Oh," the little prince was disappointed. "And mountains?"

"I couldn't say," said the geographer.

"And cities and rivers and deserts?"

"I couldn't tell you that, either," the geographer said.

KEY WORDS

□ scholar *n.* 学者
□ profession *n.* 职业

□ gaze around 四下张望
□ majestic *adj.* 壮丽的

"But you're a geographer!"

"That's right," said the geographer, "but I'm not an explorer. There's not one explorer on my planet. A geographer doesn't go out to describe cities, rivers, mountains, seas, oceans, and deserts. A geographer is too important to go wandering about. He never leaves his study. But he receives the explorers there. He questions them, and he writes down what they remember. And if the memories of one of the explorers seem interesting to him, then the geographer conducts an inquiry into that explorer's moral character."

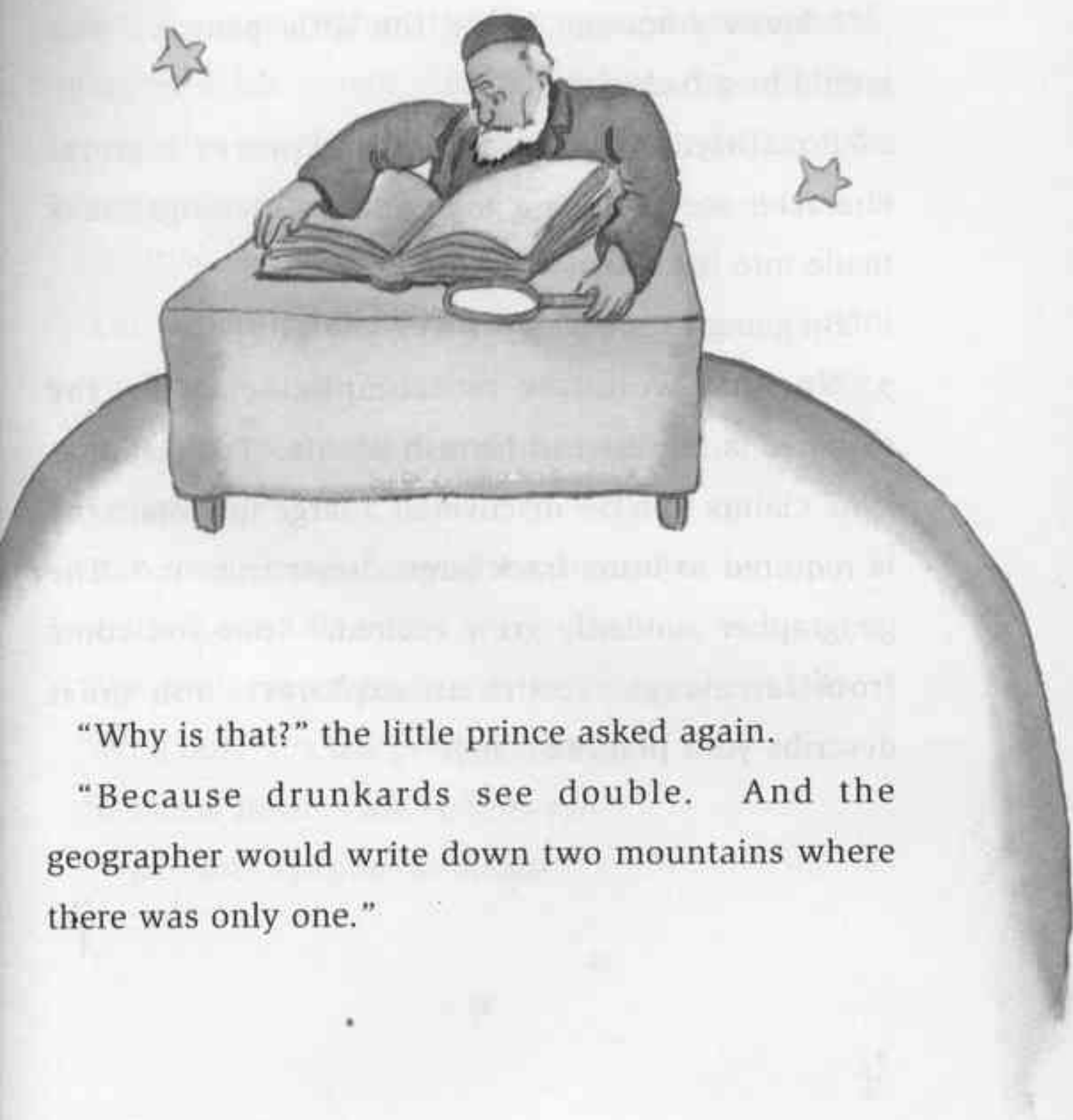
"Why is that?"

"Because an explorer who told lies would cause disasters in the geography books. As would an explorer who drank too much."

KEY WORDS

- wander about 四处游荡
- study *n.* 书房
- receive *v.* 接待, 接见
- conduct *v.* 进行
- inquiry *n.* 调查

- moral *adj.* 道德上的
- character *n.* 品质
- cause *v.* 引起
- disaster *n.* 灾难



"Why is that?" the little prince asked again.

"Because drunkards see double. And the geographer would write down two mountains where there was only one."

"I know someone," said the little prince, "who would be a bad explorer."

"Possibly. Well, when the explorer's moral character seems to be a good one, an investigation is made into his discovery."

"By going to see it?"

"No, that would be too complicated. But the explorer is required to furnish proofs. For instance, if he claims to have discovered a large mountain, he is required to bring back large stones from it." The geographer suddenly grew excited. "But you come from far away! You're an explorer! You must describe your planet for me!"

KEY WORDS

- ☐ investigation *n.* 调查
- ☐ discovery *n.* 发现
- ☐ require *v.* 要求

- ☐ furnish *v.* 提供
- ☐ proof *n.* 证据
- ☐ claim *v.* 声称

And the geographer, having opened his logbook, sharpened his pencil. Explorers' reports are first recorded in pencil; ink is used only after proofs have been furnished.

"Well?" said the geographer expectantly.

"Oh, where I live," said the little prince, "is not very interesting. It's so small. I have three volcanoes, two active and one extinct. But you never know."

"You never know," said the geographer.

"I also have a flower."

"We don't record flowers," the geographer said.

"Why not? It's the prettiest thing!"

"Because flowers are ephemeral."

"What does *ephemeral* mean?"

KEY WORDS

- logbook *n.* 日志
- sharpen *v.* 削尖
- record *n.* 记录

- expectantly *adv.* 期待地
- ephemeral *adj.* 朝生暮死的

"Geographies," said the geographer, "are the finest books of all. They never go out of fashion. It is extremely rare for a mountain to change position. It is extremely rare for an ocean to be drained of its water. We write eternal things."

"But extinct volcanoes can come back to life," the little prince interrupted. "What does *ephemeral* mean?"

"Whether volcanoes are extinct or active comes down to the same thing for us," said the geographer. "For us what counts is the mountain. That doesn't change."

"But what does *ephemeral* mean?" repeated the little prince, who had never in all his life let go of a question once he had asked it.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> go out of fashion 过时 | <input type="checkbox"/> eternal <i>adj.</i> 永恒的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> rare <i>adj.</i> 罕见的 | <input type="checkbox"/> come back to life 复活 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> position <i>n.</i> 位置 | <input type="checkbox"/> come down to 可归结为 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> drain <i>v.</i> 排干 | <input type="checkbox"/> count <i>v.</i> 有价值 |

"It means, 'which is threatened by imminent disappearance.'"

"Is my flower threatened by imminent disappearance?"

"Of course."

"My flower is ephemeral," the little prince said to himself, "and she has only four thorns, with which to defend herself against the world! And I've left her all alone where I live!"

That was his first impulse of regret. But he plucked up his courage again. "Where would you advise me to visit?" he asked.

"The planet Earth," the geographer answered. "It has a good reputation."

And the little prince went on his way, thinking about his flower.

KEY WORDS

- threaten *v.* 威胁
- imminent *adj.* 即将来临的
- disappearance *n.* 消失

- impulse *n.* 一时的念头
- pluck up one's courage 鼓起勇气

The seventh planet, then, was the Earth.

The Earth is not just another planet! It contains one hundred and eleven kings (including, of course, the African kings), seven thousand geographers, nine hundred thousand businessmen, seven-and-a-half million drunkards, three-hundred-eleven million vain men; in other words, about two billion grown-ups.

To give you a notion of the Earth's dimensions, I can tell you that before the invention of electricity, it was necessary to maintain, over the whole of six continents, a veritable army of four-hundred-sixty-two thousand, five hundred and eleven lamplighters.

KEY WORDS

- contain *v.* 容纳
- notion *n.* 概念
- dimension *n.* 大小
- maintain *v.* 维持

- continent *n.* 洲
- veritable *adj.* 真正的
- an army of 许多

Seen from some distance, this made a splendid effect. The movements of this army were ordered like those of a ballet. First came the turn of the lamplighters of New Zealand and Australia; then these, having lit their street lamps, would go home to sleep. Next it would be the turn of the lamplighters of China and Siberia to perform their steps in the lamplighters' ballet, and then they too would vanish into the wings. Then came the turn of the lamplighters of Russia and India. Then those of Africa and Europe. Then those of South America, and of North America. And they never missed their cues for their appearances onstage. It was awe-inspiring.

Only the lamplighter of the single street lamp at the North Pole and his colleague of the single street lamp at the South Pole led carefree, idle lives: They worked twice a year.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> splendid <i>adj.</i> 壮丽的, 辉煌的 | <input type="checkbox"/> awe-inspiring <i>adj.</i> 令人钦佩的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ordered <i>adj.</i> 有条理的, 整齐的 | <input type="checkbox"/> colleague <i>n.</i> 同事 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ballet <i>n.</i> 芭蕾舞 | <input type="checkbox"/> lead <i>v.</i> 度过 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vanish <i>v.</i> 消失 | (lead-led-led) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wing <i>n.</i> (舞台的) 侧面 | <input type="checkbox"/> carefree <i>adj.</i> 无忧无虑的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> miss one's cue 错过上场提示 | <input type="checkbox"/> idle <i>adj.</i> 闲散的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> onstage <i>adj.</i> 台上的 | |

Trying to be witty leads to lying, more or less. What I just told you about the lamplighters isn't completely true, and I risk giving a false idea of our planet to those who don't know it. Men occupy very little space on Earth. If the two billion inhabitants of the globe were to stand close together, as they might for some big public event, they would easily fit into a city block that was twenty miles long and twenty miles wide. You could crowd all humanity onto the smallest Pacific islet.

Grown-ups, of course, won't believe you. They're convinced they take up much more room. They consider themselves as important as the baobabs.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ witty *adj.* 富于机智的
- ☐ risk *v.* 冒……的危险
- ☐ occupy *v.* 占用, 占据
- ☐ globe *n.* 地球
- ☐ fit into 容纳于
- ☐ crowd *v.* 塞满, 堆满

- ☐ humanity *n.* 人
- ☐ Pacific *n.* 太平洋
- ☐ islet *n.* 小岛
- ☐ convinced *adj.* 确信的, 深信的
- ☐ take up 占据
- ☐ consider *v.* 认为



*The little prince was quite surprised
not to see anyone.*

So you should advise them to make their own calculations – they love numbers, and they'll enjoy it. But don't waste your time on this extra task. It's unnecessary. Trust me.

So once he reached Earth, the little prince was quite surprised not to see anyone. He was beginning to fear he had come to the wrong planet, when a moon-colored loop uncoiled on the sand.

"Good evening," the little prince said, just in case.

"Good evening," said the snake.

"What planet have I landed on?" asked the little prince.

"On the planet Earth, in Africa," the snake replied.



KEY WORDS

- extra *adj.* 额外的
- loop *n.* 环

- uncoil *v.* 展开, 解开
- just in case 以防万一

"Ah! . . . And are there no people on Earth?"

"It's the desert here. There are no people in the desert. Earth is very big," said the snake.

The little prince sat down on a rock and looked up into the sky.

"I wonder," he said, "if the stars are lit up so that each of us can find his own, someday. Look at my planet — it's just overhead. But so far away!"

"It's lovely," the snake said. "What have you come to Earth for?"

"I'm having difficulties with a flower," the little prince said.

"Ah!" said the snake.

And they were both silent.

KEY WORDS

- overhead *adj.* 在头顶上的 □ have difficulty with 与……闹别扭



"You're a funny creature, no thicker than a finger."

"Where are the people?" The little prince finally resumed the conversation. "It's a little lonely in the desert. . ."

"It's also lonely with people," said the snake.

The little prince looked at the snake for a long time. "You're a funny creature," he said at last, "no thicker than a finger."

"But I'm more powerful than a king's finger," the snake said.

The little prince smiled.

"You're not very powerful. . . You don't even have feet. You couldn't travel very far."

"I can take you further than a ship," the snake said. He coiled around the little prince's ankle, like a golden bracelet.

KEY WORDS

- resume *v.* 重新开始
- conversation *n.* 交谈
- creature *n.* 动物
- thick *adj.* 粗

- further *adv.* 更远地
- ankle *n.* 脚踝
- bracelet *n.* 镯子

"Anyone I touch, I send back to the land from which he came," the snake went on. "But you're innocent, and you come from a star. . ."

The little prince made no reply.

"I feel sorry for you, being so weak on this granite earth," said the snake. "I can help you, someday, if you grow too homesick for your planet. I can—"

"Oh, I understand just what you mean," said the little prince, "but why do you always speak in riddles?"

"I solve them all," said the snake.

And they were both silent.

KEY WORDS

□ innocent *adj.* 无辜的

□ granite *n.* 花岗岩

□ homesick *adj.* 想家的

□ speak in riddles 像说谜语一样说话

The little prince crossed the desert and encountered only one flower. A flower with three petals – a flower of no consequence. . .

“Good morning,” said the little prince.

“Good morning,” said the flower.

“Where are the people?” the little prince inquired politely.

The flower had one day seen a caravan passing.

“People? There are six or seven of them, I believe, in existence. I caught sight of them years ago. But you never know where to find them. The wind blows them away. They have no roots, which hampers them a good deal.”

“Good-bye,” said the little prince.

“Good-bye,” said the flower.

KEY WORDS

- consequence *n.* 重要的地位
- caravan *n.* 沙漠的商队
- hamper *v.* 妨碍
- a good deal 非常，极其



The little prince climbed a high mountain. The only mountains he had ever known were the three volcanoes, which came up to his knee. And he used the extinct volcano as a footstool. "From a mountain as high as this one," he said to himself, "I'll get a view of the whole planet and all the people on it. . . ." But he saw nothing but rocky peaks as sharp as needles.

"Hello," he said, just in case.

"Hello. . . hello. . . hello. . . , " the echo answered.

"Who are you?" asked the little prince.

"Who are you. . . who are you. . . who are you. . . , " the echo answered.

KEY WORDS

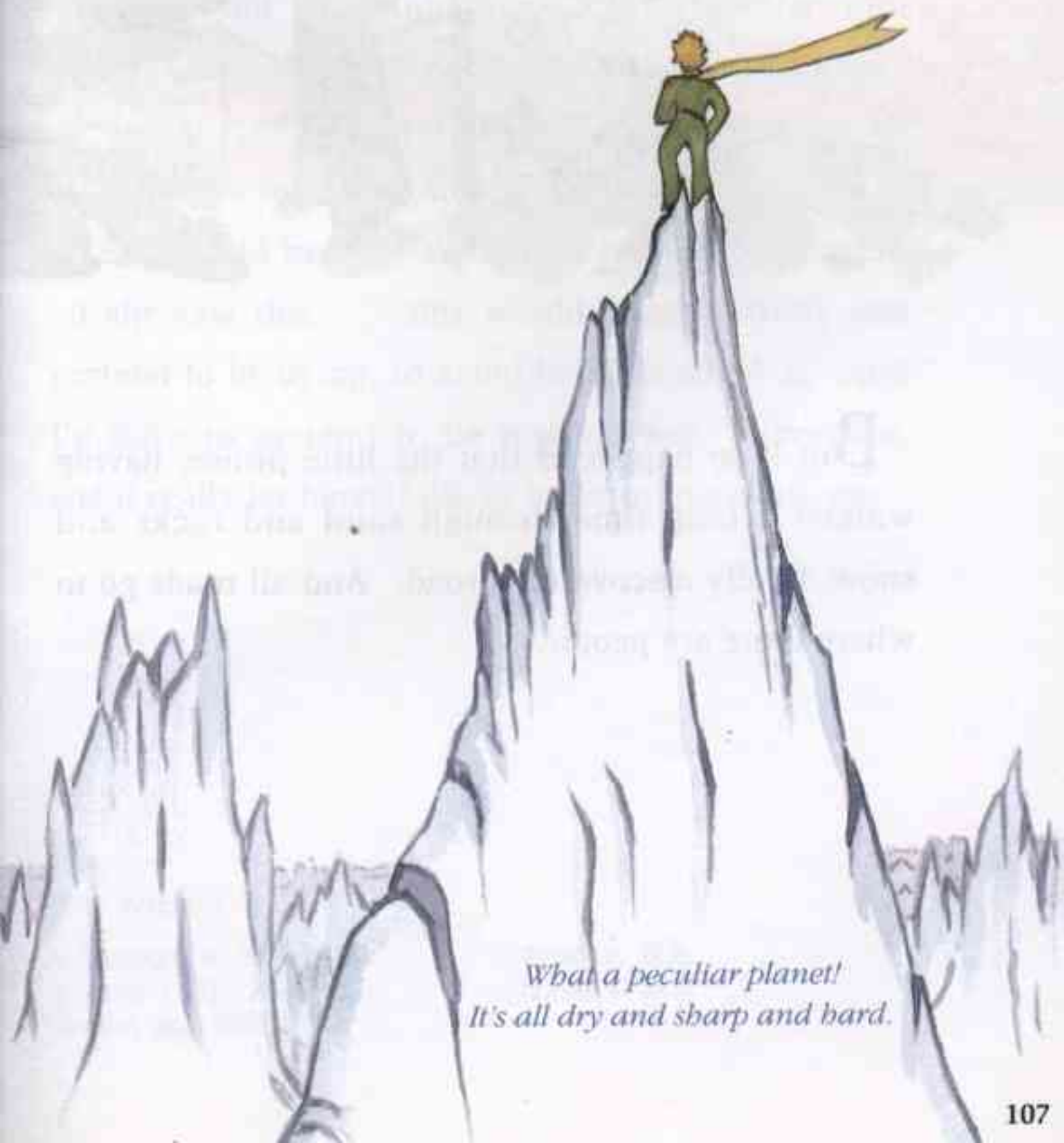
- knee *n.* 膝盖
- footstool *n.* 脚凳
- rocky *adj.* 岩石构成的
- peak *n.* 山顶

- needle *n.* 针
- echo *n.* 回声
- peculiar *adj.* 奇怪的
- imagination *n.* 想象力

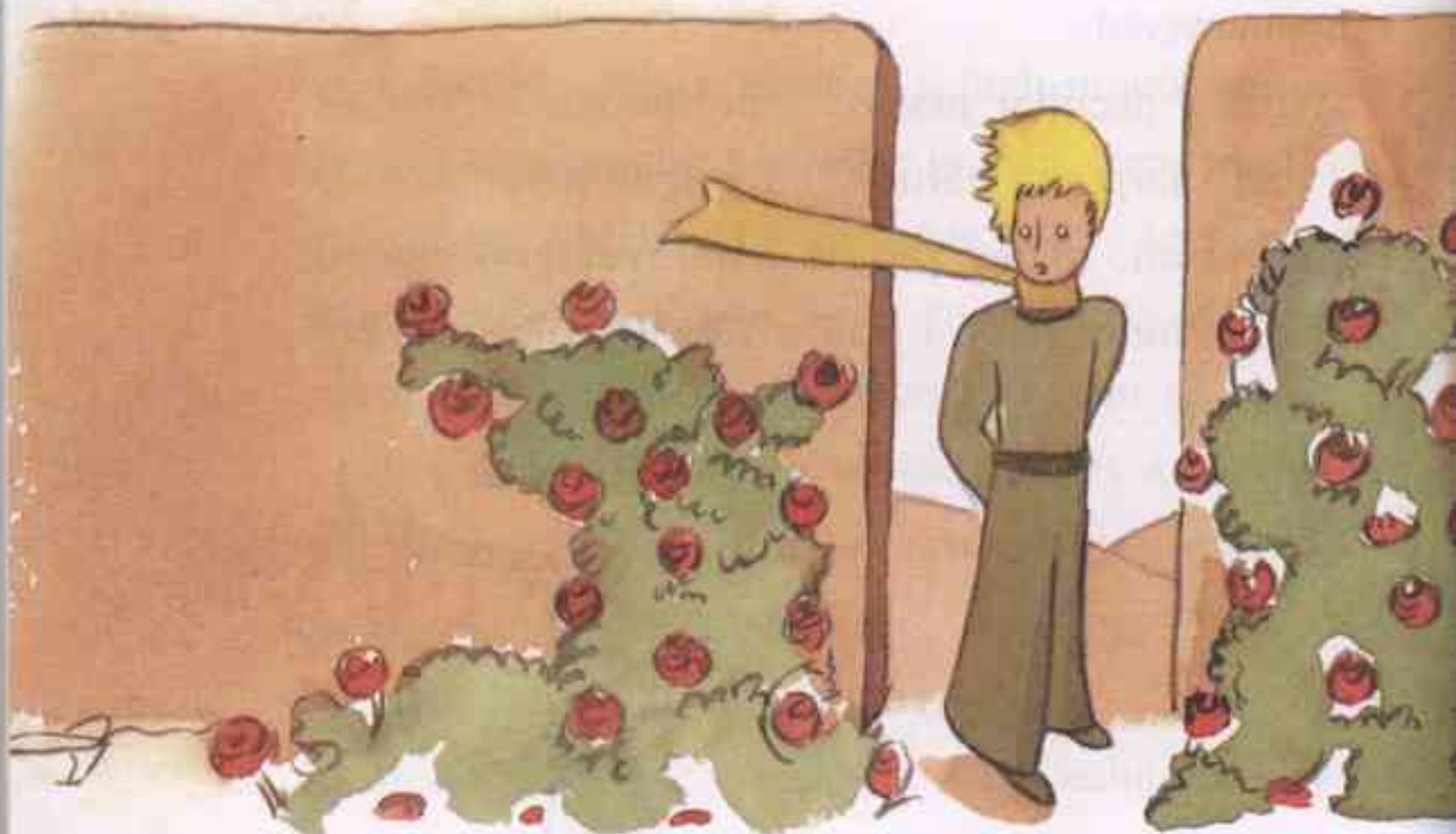
"Let's be friends. I'm lonely," he said.

"I'm lonely. . . I'm lonely. . . I'm lonely. . . ," the echo answered.

"What a peculiar planet!" he thought. "It's all dry and sharp and hard. And people here have no imagination. They repeat whatever you say to them. Where I live I had a flower: She always spoke first. . ."



*What a peculiar planet!
It's all dry and sharp and hard.*



But it so happened that the little prince, having walked a long time through sand and rocks and snow, finally discovered a road. And all roads go to where there are people.

"Good morning," he said.

It was a blossoming rose garden.

"Good morning," said the roses.

The little prince gazed at them. All of them looked like his flower.

"Who are you?" he asked, astounded.

"We're roses," the roses said.

"Ah!" said the little prince.

And he felt very unhappy. His flower had told him she was the only one of her kind in the whole universe. And here were five thousand of them, all just alike, in just one garden!

"She would be very annoyed," he said to himself, "if she saw this. . . She would cough terribly and pretend to be dying, to avoid being laughed at. And I'd have to pretend to be nursing her; otherwise, she'd really let herself die in order to humiliate me."

KEY WORDS

- blossom v. 长满花
- gaze v. 盯, 凝视
- alike adj. 相同的

- avoid v. 避免
- nurse v. 照料

And then he said to himself, "I thought I was rich because I had just one flower, and all I own is an ordinary rose. That and my three volcanoes, which come up to my knee, one of which may be permanently extinct. It doesn't make me much of a prince. . . ." And he lay down in the grass and wept.



And he lay down in the grass and wept.

It was then that the fox appeared.

"Good morning," said the fox.

"Good morning," the little prince answered politely, though when he turned around he saw nothing.

"I'm here," the voice said, "under the apple tree."

"Who are you?" the little prince asked. "You're very pretty. . ."

"I'm a fox," the fox said.

"Come and play with me," the little prince proposed. "I'm feeling so sad."

"I can't play with you," the fox said. "I'm not tamed."

KEY WORDS

- ordinary *adj.* 平凡的, 普通的
- permanently *adv.* 永远地
- weep *v.* 哭泣
(weep-weep-weep)

- politely *adv.* 有礼貌地
- propose *v.* 建议, 提议
- tame *v.* 驯服



“Ah! Excuse me,” said the little prince. But upon reflection he added, “What does *tamed* mean?”

“You’re not from around here,” the fox said. “What are you looking for?”

“I’m looking for people,” said the little prince. “What does *tamed* mean?”

KEY WORDS

□ upon reflection 思考之后

□ look for 寻找

"People," said the fox, "have guns and they hunt. It's quite troublesome. And they also raise chickens. That's the only interesting thing about them. Are you looking for chickens?"

"No," said the little prince, "I'm looking for friends. What does *tamed* mean?"

"It's something that's been too often neglected. It means, 'to create ties'. . ."

"To create ties?"

"That's right," the fox said. "For me you're only a little boy just like a hundred thousand other little boys. And I have no need of you. And you have no need of me, either. For you I'm only a fox like a hundred thousand other foxes. But if you tame me, we'll need each other. You'll be the only boy in the world for me. I'll be the only fox in the world for you. . ."

KEY WORDS

- gun *n.* 枪
- hunt *v.* 打猎
- troublesome *adj.* 讨厌的

- raise *v.* 饲养
- tie *n.* 联系, 关系

"I'm beginning to understand," the little prince said.
"There's a flower. . . I think she's tamed me. . ."

"Possibly," the fox said. "On Earth, one sees all kinds of things."

"Oh, this isn't on Earth," the little prince said.

The fox seemed quite intrigued. "On another planet?"

"Yes."

"Are there hunters on that planet?"

"No."

"Now that's interesting. And chickens?"

"No."

"Nothing's perfect," sighed the fox.



But he returned to his idea. "My life is monotonous. I hunt chickens; people hunt me. All chickens are just alike, and all men are just alike. So I'm rather bored. But if you tame me, my life will be filled with sunshine. I'll know the sound of footsteps that will be different from all the rest. Other footsteps send me back underground. Yours will call me out of my burrow like music. And then, look! You see the wheat fields over there? I don't eat bread. For me wheat is of no use whatever. Wheat fields say nothing to me. Which is sad. But you have hair the color of gold. So it will be wonderful, once you've tamed me! The wheat, which is golden, will remind me of you. And I'll love the sound of the wind in the wheat. . ."

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| □ monotonous <i>adj.</i> 单调的 | □ whatever <i>adj.</i> 丝毫的, 任何的 |
| □ be filled with 充满着 | □ wheat <i>n.</i> 小麦 |
| □ footstep <i>n.</i> 脚步声 | □ remind... of 让……想起了 |
| □ burrow <i>n.</i> 洞穴 | |

The fox fell silent and stared at the little prince for a long while. "Please. . . tame me!" he said.

"I'd like to," the little prince replied, "but I haven't much time. I have friends to find and so many things to learn."

"The only things you learn are the things you tame," said the fox. "People haven't time to learn anything. They buy things ready-made in stores. But since there are no stores where you can buy friends, people no longer have friends. If you want a friend, tame me!"

"What do I have to do?" asked the little prince.



KEY WORDS

□ ready-made *adj.* 现成的

□ store *n.* 商店

"You have to be very patient," the fox answered. "First you'll sit down a little ways away from me, over there, in the grass. I'll watch you out of the corner of my eye, and you won't say anything. Language is the source of misunderstandings. But day by day, you'll be able to sit a little closer. . ."

The next day the little prince returned.

"It would have been better to return at the same time," the fox said. "For instance, if you come at four in the afternoon, I'll begin to be happy by three. The closer it gets to four, the happier I'll feel. By four I'll be all excited and worried; I'll discover what it costs to be happy! But if you come at any old time, I'll never know when I should prepare my heart. . . There must be rites."

"What's a *rite*?" asked the little prince.

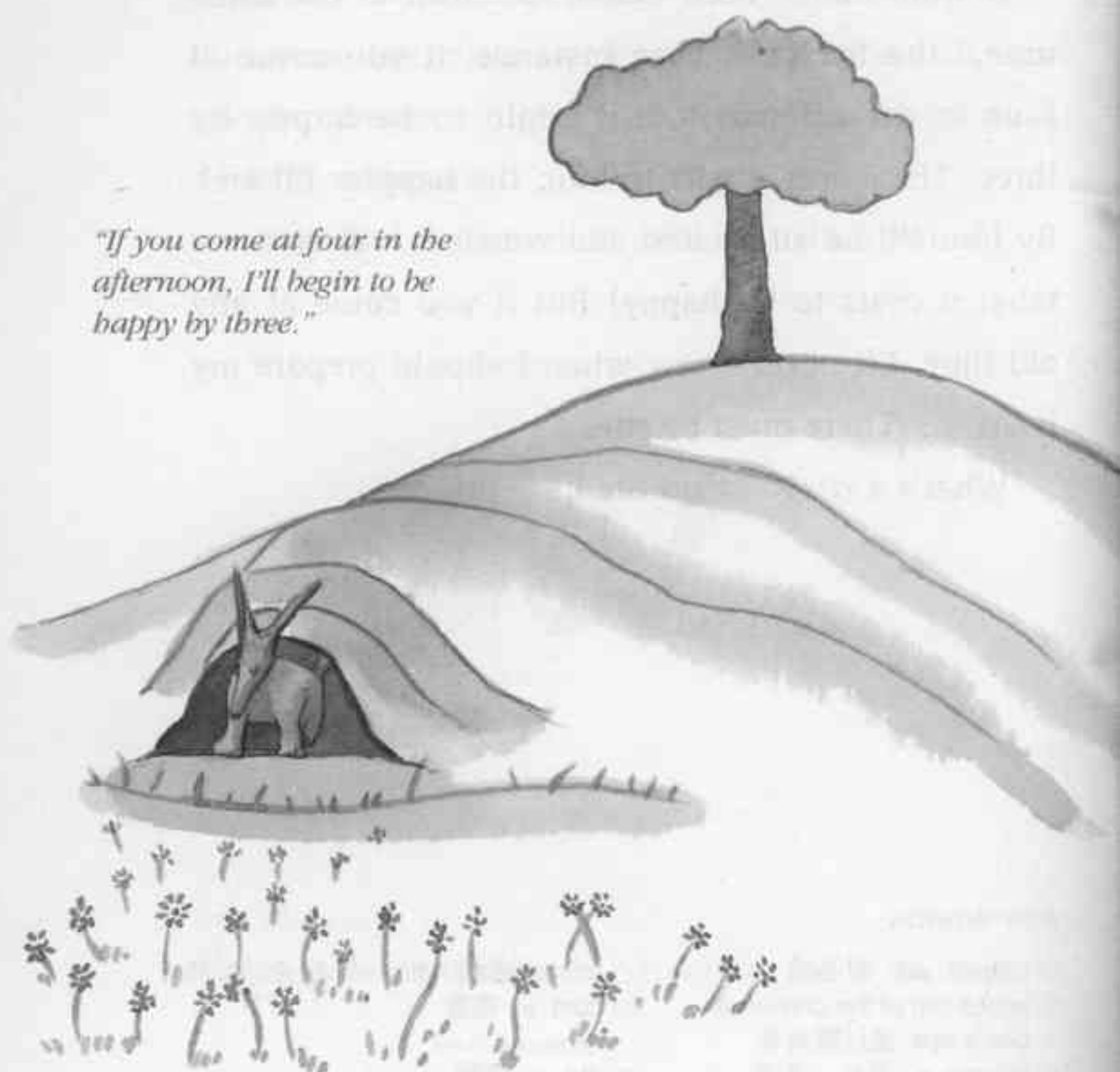
KEY WORDS

- patient *adj.* 耐心的
- watch out of the corner of one's eye 透过眼角看
- source *n.* 源头, 来源

- misunderstanding *n.* 误会, 误解
- cost *v.* 花费
(cost-cost-cost)
- rite *n.* 惯例

"That's another thing that's been too often neglected," said the fox. "It's the fact that one day is different from the other days, one hour from the other hours. My hunters, for example, have a rite. They dance with the village girls on Thursdays.

"If you come at four in the afternoon, I'll begin to be happy by three."



“So Thursday’s a wonderful day: I can take a stroll all the way to the vineyards. If the hunters danced whenever they chose, the days would all be just alike, and I’d have no holiday at all.”

That was how the little prince tamed the fox. And when the time to leave was near:

“Ah!” the fox said. “I shall weep.”

“It’s your own fault,” the little prince said. “I never wanted to do you any harm, but you insisted that I tame you. . .”

“Yes, of course,” the fox said.

“But you’re going to weep!” said the little prince.

“Yes, of course,” the fox said.

KEY WORDS

- all the way to 一直到
- vineyard *n.* 葡萄园

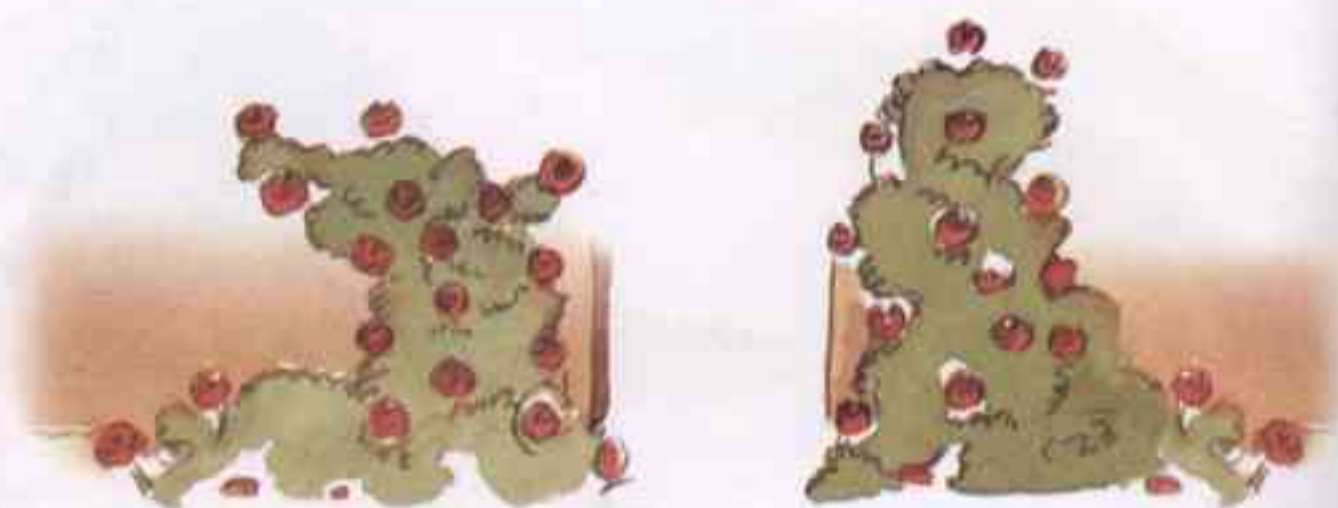
- do harm 伤害

"Then you get nothing out of it?"

"I get something," the fox said, "because of the color of the wheat." Then he added, "Go look at the roses again. You'll understand that yours is the only rose in all the world. Then come back to say good-bye, and I'll make you the gift of a secret."

The little prince went to look at the roses again.

"You're not at all like my rose. You're nothing at all yet," he told them. "No one has tamed you and you haven't tamed anyone. You're the way my fox was. He was just a fox like a hundred thousand others. But I've made him my friend, and now he's the only fox in all the world."



And the roses were humbled.

"You are lovely, but you're empty," he went on. "One couldn't die for you. Of course, an ordinary passerby would think my rose looked just like you. But my rose, all on her own, is more important than all of you together, since she's the one I've watered. Since she's the one I put under glass. Since she's the one I sheltered behind a screen. Since she's the one for whom I killed the caterpillars (except the two or three for butterflies). Since she's the one I listened to when she complained, or when she boasted, or even sometimes when she said nothing at all. Since she's *my* rose."

And he went back to the fox.

"Good-bye," he said.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ be humbled 感到自惭
- ☐ passerby *n.* 过路人
- ☐ shelter *v.* 遮蔽

- ☐ complain *v.* 抱怨
- ☐ boast *v.* 自夸

“Good-bye,” said the fox. “Here is my secret. It’s quite simple: One sees clearly only with the heart. Anything essential is invisible to the eyes.”

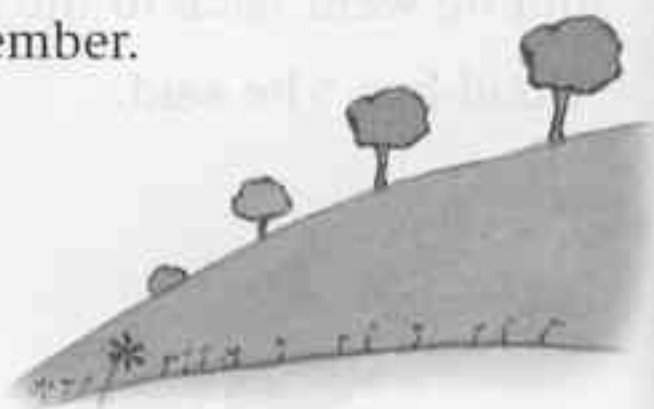
“Anything essential is invisible to the eyes,” the little prince repeated, in order to remember.

“It’s the time you spent on your rose that makes your rose so important.”

“It’s the time I spent on my rose. . . ,” the little prince repeated, in order to remember.

“People have forgotten this truth,” the fox said. “But you mustn’t forget it. You become responsible forever for what you’ve tamed. You’re responsible for your rose. . . .”

“I’m responsible for my rose. . . ,” the little prince repeated, in order to remember.



KEY WORDS

□ essential *adj.* 非常重要的

□ responsible *adj.* 有责任的

“Good morning,” said the little prince.

“Good morning,” said the railway switchman.

“What is it that you do here?” asked the little prince.

“I sort the travelers into bundles of a thousand,” the switchman said. “I dispatch the trains that carry them, sometimes to the right, sometimes to the left.”

And a brightly lit express train, roaring like thunder, shook the switchman’s cabin.

“What a hurry they’re in,” said the little prince. “What are they looking for?”

“Not even the engineer on the locomotive knows,” the switchman said.

And another brightly lit express train thundered by in the opposite direction.

KEY WORDS

- railway *n.* 铁路
- switchman *n.* 扳道工
- sort *v.* 分类
- bundle *n.* 一大批
- dispatch *v.* 分派

- roar *v.* 吼叫, 咆哮
- cabin *n.* 小木屋
- locomotive *n.* 机车, 火车头
- thunder *v.* 轰隆隆地移动

"Are they coming back already?" asked the little prince.

"They're not the same ones," the switchman said. "It's an exchange."

"They weren't satisfied, where they were?" asked the little prince.

"No one is ever satisfied where he is," the switchman said.

And a third brightly lit express train thundered past.

"Are they chasing the first travelers?" asked the little prince.

"They're not chasing anything," the switchman said. "They're sleeping in there, or else they're yawning. Only the children are pressing their noses against the windowpanes."

"Only the children know what they're looking for," said the little prince. "They spend their time on a rag doll and it becomes very important, and if it's taken away from them, they cry. . ."

"They're lucky," the switchman said.

KEY WORDS

□ chase *v.* 追赶

□ windowpane *n.* 窗玻璃

□ rag doll 布娃娃

□ take away from 拿走

“Good morning,” said the little prince.

“Good morning,” said the salesclerk. This was a salesclerk who sold pills invented to quench thirst. Swallow one a week and you no longer feel any need to drink.

“Why do you sell these pills?”

“They save so much time,” the salesclerk said. “Experts have calculated that you can save fifty-three minutes a week.”

“And what do you do with those fifty-three minutes?”

“Whatever you like.”

“If I had fifty-three minutes to spend as I liked,” the little prince said to himself, “I’d walk very slowly toward a water fountain. . .”

KEY WORDS

- pill *n.* 药丸
- quench *v.* 消除
- thirst *n.* 渴, 口渴

- expert *n.* 专家
- fountain *n.* 泉水



It was now the eighth day since my crash landing in the desert, and I'd listened to the story about the salesclerk as I was drinking the last drop of my water supply.

"Ah," I said to the little prince, "your memories are very pleasant, but I haven't yet repaired my plane. I have nothing left to drink, and I, too, would be glad to walk very slowly toward a water fountain!"

KEY WORDS

- drop *n.* 滴
- supply *n.* 补给

- pleasant *adj.* 令人愉快的

"My friend the fox told me —"

"Little fellow, this has nothing to do with the fox!"

"Why?"

"Because we're going to die of thirst."

The little prince didn't follow my reasoning, and answered me, "It's good to have had a friend, even if you're going to die. Myself, I'm very glad to have had a fox for a friend."

"He doesn't realize the danger," I said to myself. "He's never hungry or thirsty. A little sunlight is enough for him. . ."

But the little prince looked at me and answered my thought. "I'm thirsty, too. . . Let's find a well. . ."

I made an exasperated gesture. It is absurd looking for a well, at random, in the vastness of the desert. But even so, we started walking.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> have nothing to do with 与……无关 | <input type="checkbox"/> well <i>n.</i> 井 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> follow <i>v.</i> 听懂, 领会 | <input type="checkbox"/> exasperated <i>adj.</i> 恼怒的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reasoning <i>n.</i> 推论, 推理 | <input type="checkbox"/> at random 胡乱地, 随意地 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> danger <i>n.</i> 危险 | <input type="checkbox"/> vastness <i>n.</i> 广阔, 辽阔 |

When we had walked for several hours in silence, night fell and stars began to appear. I noticed them as in a dream, being somewhat feverish on account of my thirst. The little prince's words danced in my memory.

"So you're thirsty, too?" I asked.

But he didn't answer my question. He merely said to me, "Water can also be good for the heart. . ."

I didn't understand his answer, but I said nothing. . . I knew by this time that it was no use questioning him.

He was tired. He sat down. I sat down next to him. And after a silence, he spoke again. "The stars are beautiful because of a flower you don't see. . ."



KEY WORDS

- notice *v.* 注意到
- somewhat *adv.* 稍微, 有点
- feverish *adj.* 发烧的

- on account of 由于
- merely *adv.* 仅仅, 只
- by this time 到现在

I answered, "Yes, of course," and without speaking another word I stared at the ridges of sand in the moonlight.

"The desert is beautiful," the little prince added.

And it was true. I've always loved the desert. You sit down on a sand dune. You see nothing. You hear nothing. And yet something shines, something sings in that silence. . . .

"What makes the desert beautiful," the little prince said, "is that it hides a well somewhere. . ."

I was surprised by suddenly understanding that mysterious radiance of the sands. When I was a little boy I lived in an old house, and there was a legend that a treasure was buried in it somewhere.

KEY WORDS

□ ridge *n.* 脊
□ dune *n.* 沙丘

□ legend *n.* 传说

Of course, no one was ever able to find the treasure, perhaps no one even searched. But it cast a spell over that whole house. My house hid a secret in the depths of its heart. . . .

"Yes," I said to the little prince, "whether it's a house or the stars or the desert, what makes them beautiful is invisible!"

"I'm glad," he said, "you agree with my fox."

As the little prince was falling asleep, I picked him up in my arms, and started walking again. I was moved.

It was as if I was carrying a fragile treasure. It actually seemed to me there was nothing more fragile on Earth.



KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> cast a spell over 施加魔力 | <input type="checkbox"/> be moved 感动 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> in the depths of 在……的深处 | <input type="checkbox"/> fragile <i>adj.</i> 脆弱的 |

By the light of the moon, I gazed at that pale forehead, those closed eyes, those locks of hair trembling in the wind, and I said to myself, "What I'm looking at is only a shell. What's most important is invisible. . ."

As his lips parted in a half smile, I said to myself, again, "What moves me so deeply about this sleeping little prince is his loyalty to a flower — the image of a rose shining within him like the flame within a lamp, even when he's asleep. . . ." And I realized he was even more fragile than I had thought. Lamps must be protected: a gust of wind can blow them out. . . .

And walking on like that, I found the well at daybreak.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ forehead *n.* 前额
- ☐ lock *n.* 一绺头发
- ☐ tremble *v.* 颤抖
- ☐ part *v.* 分开

- ☐ loyalty *n.* 忠诚
- ☐ flame *n.* 火焰
- ☐ gust *n.* 一阵强风
- ☐ blow out 吹灭

The little prince said, "People start out in express trains, but they no longer know what they're looking for. Then they get all excited and rush around in circles. . ." And he added, "It's not worth the trouble. . ."

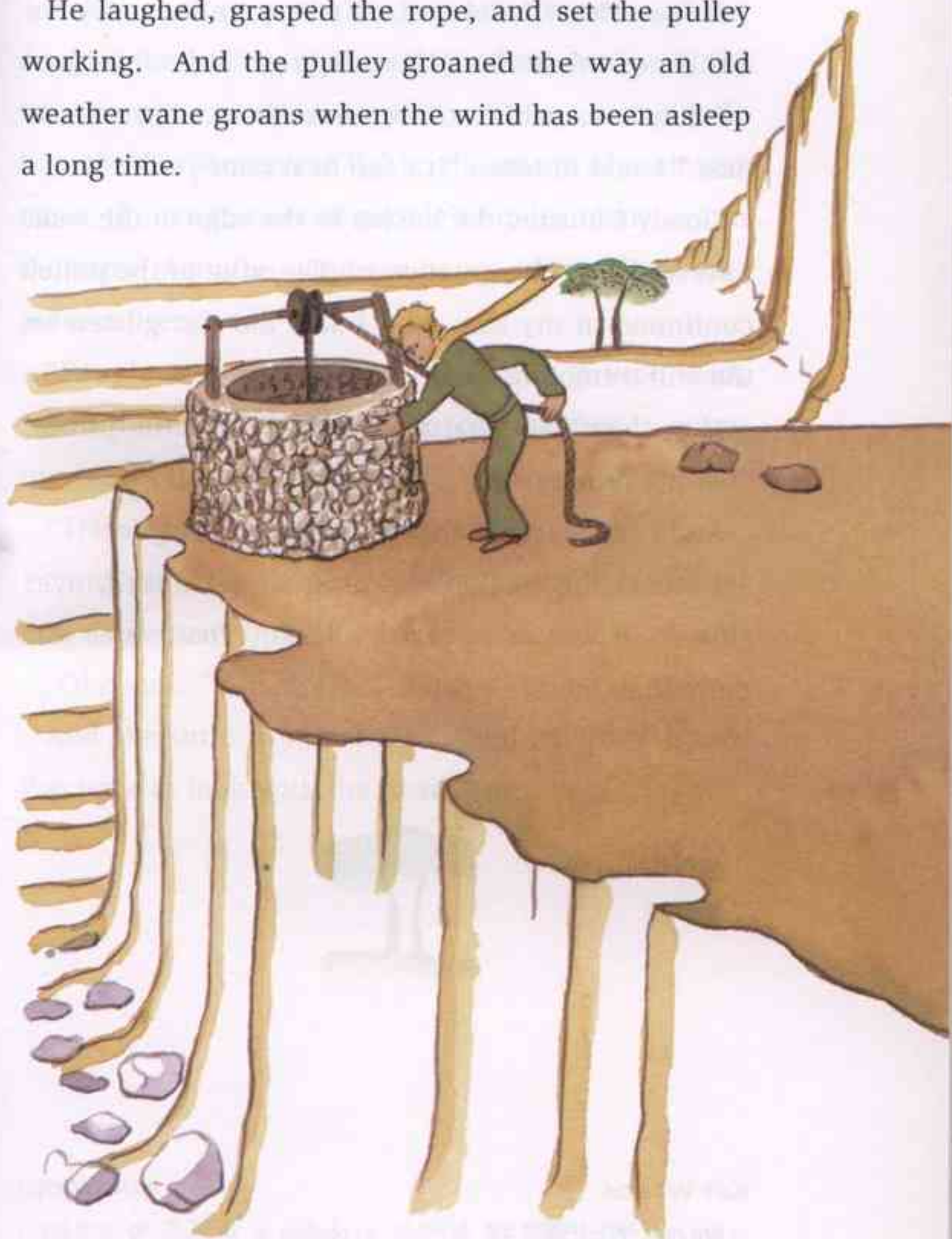
The well we had come to was not at all like the wells of the Sahara. The wells of the Sahara are no more than holes dug in the sand. This one looked more like a village well. But there was no village here, and I thought I was dreaming.

"It's strange," I said to the little prince, "everything is ready: the pulley, the bucket, and the rope. . ."

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> worth the trouble 值得这么麻烦 | <input type="checkbox"/> pulley <i>n.</i> 轱辘 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> hole <i>n.</i> 洞 | <input type="checkbox"/> grasp <i>v.</i> 抓住 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dig <i>v.</i> 挖, 掘 (dig-dug-dug) | <input type="checkbox"/> groan <i>v.</i> 呻吟 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> weather vane 风向标 |

He laughed, grasped the rope, and set the pulley working. And the pulley groaned the way an old weather vane groans when the wind has been asleep a long time.



He laughed, grasped the rope, and set the pulley working.

“Hear that?” said the little prince. “We’ve awakened this well and it’s singing.”

I didn’t want him to tire himself out. “Let me do that,” I said to him. “It’s too heavy for you.”

Slowly I hoisted the bucket to the edge of the well. I set it down with great care. The song of the pulley continued in my ears, and I saw the sun glisten on the still-trembling water.

“I’m thirsty for that water,” said the little prince. “Let me drink some. . .”

And I understood what he’d been looking for!

I raised the bucket to his lips. He drank, eyes closed. It was as sweet as a feast. That water was more than merely a drink.



KEY WORDS

- tire out 使十分疲劳
- hoist v. 提起
- edge n. 边, 边缘

- glisten v. 闪光
- still-trembling adj. 动荡不停的
- feast n. 盛宴

It was born of our walk beneath the stars, of the song of the pulley, of the effort of my arms. It did the heart good, like a present. When I was a little boy, the Christmas-tree lights, the music of midnight mass, the tenderness of people's smiles made up, in the same way, the whole radiance of the Christmas present I received.

"People where you live," the little prince said, "grow five thousand roses in one garden. . . yet they don't find what they're looking for. . ."

"They don't find it," I answered.

"And yet what they're looking for could be found in a single rose, or a little water. . ."

"Of course," I answered.

And the little prince added, "But eyes are blind. You have to look with the heart."

KEY WORDS

- be born of 来源于
- blind *adj.* 看不见的
- mass *n.* 弥撒

I had drunk the water. I could breathe easy now. The sand, at daybreak, is honey-colored. And that color was making me happy, too. Why then did I also feel so sad?

"You must keep your promise," said the little prince, sitting up again beside me.

"What promise?"

"You know. . . a muzzle for my sheep. . . I'm responsible for this flower!"

I took my drawings out of my pocket. The little prince glanced at them and laughed as he said, "Your baobabs look more like cabbages."

"Oh!" I had been so proud of the baobabs!

"Your fox. . . his ears. . . look more like horns. . . and they're too long!" And he laughed again.

"You're being unfair, my little prince," I said. "I never knew how to draw anything but boas from the inside and boas from the outside."

KEY WORDS

□ breathe *v.* 呼吸

□ cabbage *n.* 卷心菜

□ keep one's promise 信守承诺

□ unfair *adj.* 不公平的

"Oh, that'll be all right," he said. "Children understand."

So then I drew a muzzle. And with a heavy heart I handed it to him. "You've made plans I don't know about. . ."

But he didn't answer. He said, "You know, my fall to Earth. . . Tomorrow will be the first anniversary. . ." Then, after a silence, he continued. "I landed very near here. . ." And he blushed.

And once again, without understanding why, I felt a strange grief. However, a question occurred to me: "Then it wasn't by accident that on the morning I met you, eight days ago, you were walking that way, all alone, a thousand miles from any inhabited region? Were you returning to the place where you fell to Earth?"

KEY WORDS

- hand *v.* 交, 递
- anniversary *n.* 周年纪念
- grief *n.* 忧伤

- occur *v.* 被想起, 被想到
- by accident 偶然

The little prince blushed again.

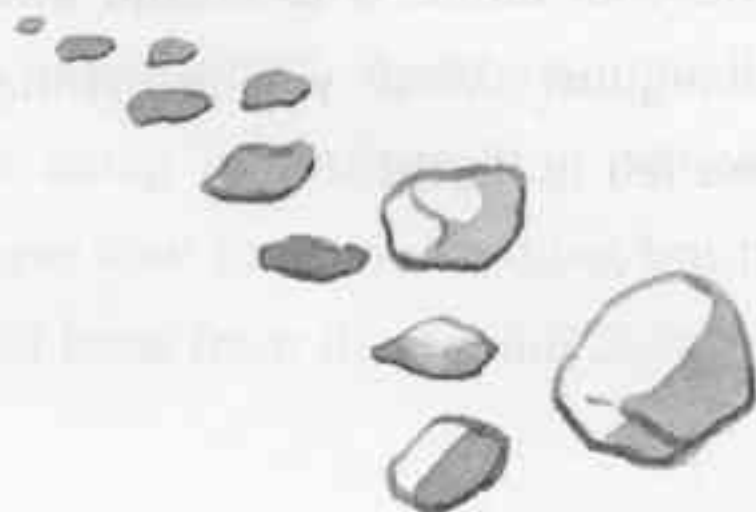
And I added, hesitantly, "Perhaps on account. . . of the anniversary?"

The little prince blushed once more. He never answered questions, but when someone blushes, doesn't that mean "yes"?

"Ah," I said to the little prince, "I'm afraid. . ."

But he answered, "You must get to work now. You must get back to your engine. I'll wait here. Come back tomorrow night."

But I wasn't reassured. I remembered the fox. You risk tears if you let yourself be tamed.



KEY WORDS

□ hesitantly *adv.* 迟疑地

Beside the well, there was a ruin, an old stone wall. When I came back from my work the next evening, I caught sight of my little prince from a distance. He was sitting on top of the wall, legs dangling. And I heard him talking. "Don't you remember?" he was saying. "This isn't exactly the place!" Another voice must have answered him then, for he replied, "Oh yes, it's the right day, but this isn't the place. . ."

I continued walking toward the wall. I still could neither see nor hear anyone, yet the little prince answered again: "Of course. You'll see where my tracks begin on the sand. Just wait for me there. I'll be there tonight."

I was twenty yards from the wall and still saw no one.

KEY WORDS

- ruin *n.* 废墟
- dangle *v.* 垂着摆动

- track *n.* 足迹
- yard *n.* 码 (=0.9144米)

Then the little prince said, after a silence, "Your poison is good? You're sure it won't make me suffer long?"

I stopped short, my heart pounding, but I still didn't understand.

"Now go away," the little prince said. "I want to get down from here!"

Then I looked down toward the foot of the wall, and gave a great start! There, coiled in front of the little prince, was one of those yellow snakes that can kill you in thirty seconds.

As I dug into my pocket for my revolver, I stepped back, but at the noise I made, the snake flowed over the sand like a trickling fountain, and without even hurrying, slipped away between the stones with a faint metallic sound.

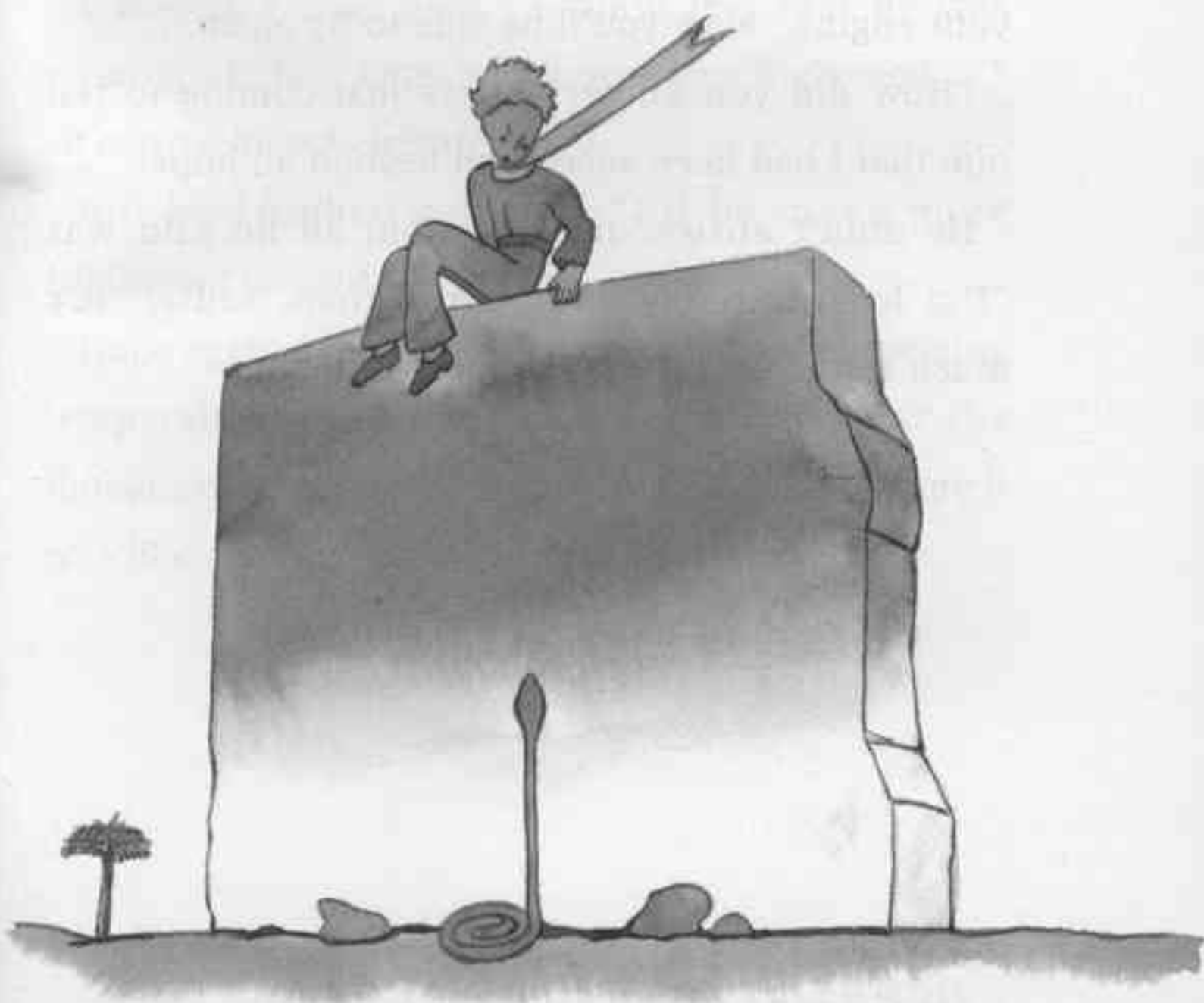
KEY WORDS

- poison *n.* 毒
- suffer *v.* 受痛苦
- pound *v.* (心) 剧跳
- give a start 惊跳
- revolver *n.* 左轮手枪

- trickle *v.* 涓流, 细流
- slip away 滑走
- faint *adj.* 微弱的
- metallic *adj.* 金属的

I reached the wall just in time to catch my little prince in my arms, his face white as snow.

"What's going on here? You're talking to snakes now?"



"Now go away... I want to get down from here!"

I had loosened the yellow scarf he always wore. I had moistened his temples and made him drink some water. And now I didn't dare ask him anything more. He gazed at me with a serious expression and put his arms round my neck. I felt his heart beating like a dying bird's, when it's been shot. He said to me:

"I'm glad you found what was the matter with your engine. Now you'll be able to fly again. . ."

"How did you know?" I was just coming to tell him that I had been successful beyond all hope!

He didn't answer my question; all he said was "I'm leaving today, too." And then, sadly, "It's much further. . . It's much more difficult."



KEY WORDS

- loosen *v.* 解开, 松开
- moisten *v.* 弄湿

- temple *n.* 太阳穴

I realized that something extraordinary was happening. I was holding him in my arms like a little child, yet it seemed to me that he was dropping headlong into an abyss, and I could do nothing to hold him back.

His expression was very serious now, lost and remote. "I have your sheep. And I have the crate for it. And the muzzle. . ." And he smiled sadly.

I waited a long time. I could feel that he was reviving a little. "Little fellow, you were frightened. . ." Of course he was frightened!

But he laughed a little. "I'll be much more frightened tonight. . ."

Once again I felt chilled by the sense of something irreparable. And I realized I couldn't bear the thought of never hearing that laugh again. For me it was like a spring of fresh water in the desert.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ headlong *adv.* 头向前地
- ☐ abyss *n.* 深渊
- ☐ remote *adj.* 超然的
- ☐ revive *v.* 恢复精力
- ☐ chilled *adj.* 冷的

- ☐ irreparable *adj.* 无法挽回的
- ☐ bear *v.* 忍受
(bear-bore-born)
- ☐ spring *n.* 泉

"Little fellow, I want to hear you laugh again. . ."

But he said to me, "Tonight, it'll be a year. My star will be just above the place where I fell last year. . ."

"Little fellow, it's a bad dream, isn't it? All this conversation with the snake and the meeting place and the star. . ."

But he didn't answer my question. All he said was, "The important thing is what can't be seen. . ."

"Of course. . ."

"It's the same as for the flower. If you love a flower that lives on a star, then it's good, at night, to look up at the sky. All the stars are blossoming."

"Of course. . ."

"It's the same for the water. The water you gave me to drink was like music, on account of the pulley and the rope. . . You remember. . . It was good."

"Of course. . ."



"At night, you'll look up at the stars. It's too small, where I live, for me to show you where my star is. It's better that way. My star will be. . . one of the stars, for you. So you'll like looking at all of them. They'll all be your friends. And besides, I have a present for you." He laughed again.

"Ah, little fellow, little fellow, I love hearing that laugh!"

"That'll be my present. Just that. . . It'll be the same as for the water."

"What do you mean?"

"People have stars, but they aren't the same. For travelers, the stars are guides. For other people, they're nothing but tiny lights. And for still others, for scholars, they're problems. For my businessman, they were gold. But all those stars are silent stars. You, though, you'll have stars like nobody else."

KEY WORDS

□ guide *n.* 向导, 指导的事物

□ though *conj.* 然而, 不过

“What do you mean?”

“When you look up at the sky at night, since I’ll be living on one of them, since I’ll be laughing on one of them, for you it’ll be as if all the stars are laughing. You’ll have stars that can laugh!”

And he laughed again.

“And when you’re consoled (everyone eventually is consoled), you’ll be glad you’ve known me. You’ll always be my friend. You’ll feel like laughing with me. And you’ll open your window sometimes just for the fun of it. . . And your friends will be amazed to see you laughing while you’re looking up at the sky. Then you’ll tell them, ‘Yes, it’s the stars; they always make me laugh!’ And they’ll think you’re crazy. It’ll be a nasty trick I played on you. . .”



KEY WORDS

- console *v.* 安慰
- eventually *adv.* 最后

- nasty *adj.* 讨厌的
- trick *n.* 恶作剧

And he laughed again.

"And it'll be as if I had given you, instead of stars, a lot of tiny bells that know how to laugh. . ."

And he laughed again. Then he grew serious once more. "Tonight. . . you know. . . don't come."

"I won't leave you."

"It'll look as if I'm suffering. It'll look a little as if I'm dying. It'll look that way. Don't come to see that; it's not worth the trouble."

"I won't leave you."

But he was anxious. "I'm telling you this. . . on account of the snake. He mustn't bite you. Snakes are nasty sometimes. They bite just for fun. . ."

"I won't leave you."

But something reassured him. "It's true they don't have enough poison for a second bite. . ."

KEY WORDS

□ look as if 看起来好像

□ anxious *adj.* 焦急不安的

□ bite *v.* 咬
(bite-bit-bit)

That night I didn't see him leave. He got away without making a sound. When I managed to catch up with him, he was walking fast, with determination. All he said was, "Ah, you're here." And he took my hand. But he was still anxious. "You were wrong to come. You'll suffer. I'll look as if I'm dead, and that won't be true. . ."

I said nothing.

"You understand. It's too far. I can't take this body with me. It's too heavy."

I said nothing.

"But it'll be like an old abandoned shell. There's nothing sad about an old shell. . ."

I said nothing.

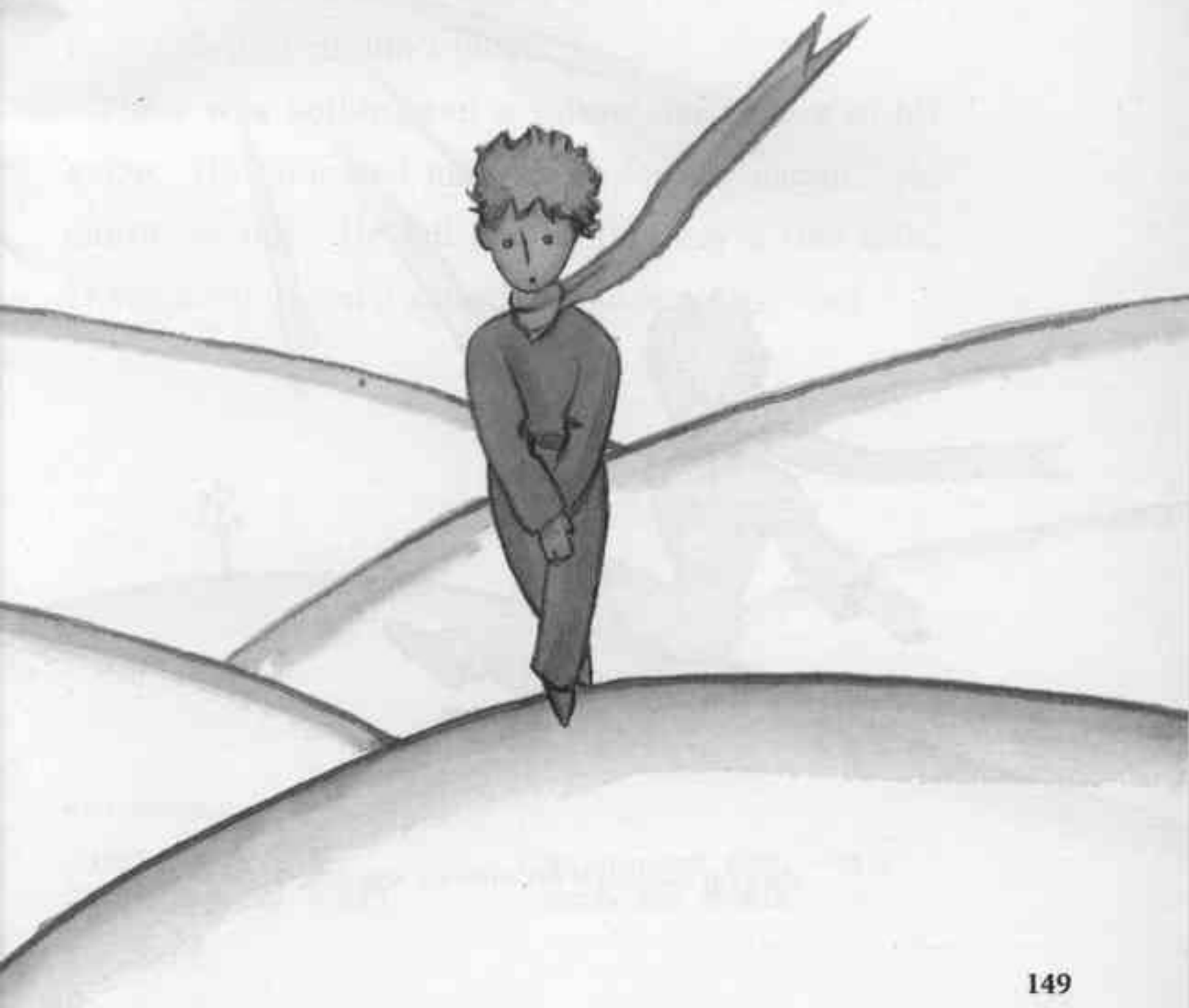
KEY WORDS

- ☐ catch up with 赶上
- ☐ determination *n.* 坚定
- ☐ abandoned *adj.* 被抛弃的

- ☐ disheartened *adj.* 沮丧的
- ☐ rusty *adj.* 生锈的
- ☐ pour *v.* 倒

He was a little disheartened now. But he made one more effort.

"It'll be nice, you know. I'll be looking at the stars, too. All the stars will be wells with a rusty pulley. All the stars will pour out water for me to drink. . ."



I said nothing.

"And it'll be fun! You'll have five-hundred million little bells; I'll have five-hundred million springs of fresh water. . ." And he, too, said nothing, because he was weeping. . . .



And he sat down because he was frightened.

"Here's the place. Let me go on alone."

And he sat down because he was frightened.

Then he said:

"You know. . . my flower. . . I'm responsible for her. And she's so weak! And so naive. She has four ridiculous thorns to defend her against the world. . ."

I sat down, too, because I was unable to stand any longer.

He said, "There. . . That's all. . ."

He hesitated a little longer, then he stood up. He took a step. I couldn't move.

There was nothing but a yellow flash close to his ankle. He remained motionless for an instant. He didn't cry out. He fell gently, the way a tree falls. There wasn't even a sound, because of the sand.

KEY WORDS

□ flash *n.* 闪光

□ motionless *adj.* 不动的

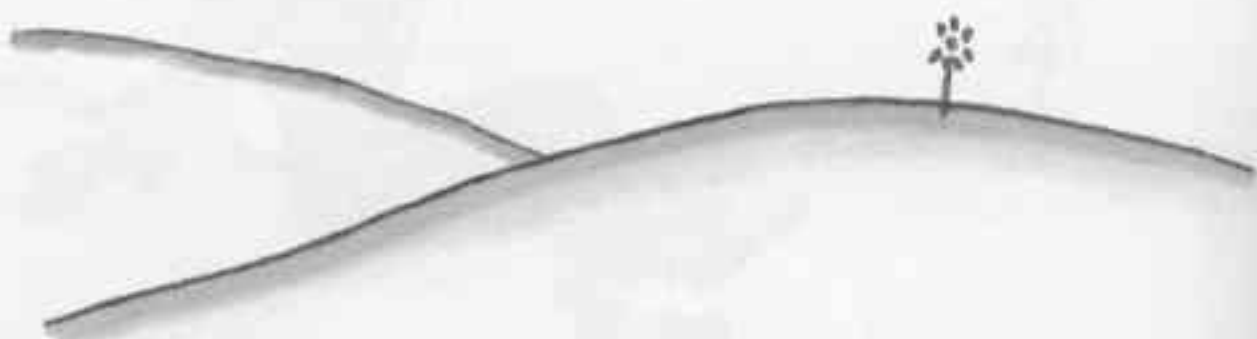
□ for an instant 片刻, 一瞬间

□ gently *adv.* 缓慢地

And now, of course, it's been six years already. . . I've never told this story before. The friends who saw me again were very glad to see me alive. I was sad, but I told them, "It's fatigue."

Now I'm somewhat consoled. That is. . . not entirely. But I know he did get back to his planet because at daybreak I didn't find his body. It wasn't such a heavy body. . . And at night I love listening to the stars. It's like five-hundred million little bells. . . .

But something extraordinary has happened. When I drew that muzzle for the little prince, I forgot to put in the leather strap. He could never have fastened it on his sheep.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ fatigue *n.* 疲劳
- ☐ somewhat *adv.* 稍微
- ☐ entirely *adv.* 完全地

- ☐ leather strap 皮带子
- ☐ fasten *v.* 系牢
- ☐ distracted *adj.* 注意力分散的

And then I wonder, "What's happened there on his planet? Maybe the sheep has eaten the flower. . ."

Sometimes I tell myself, "Of course not! The little prince puts his flower under glass, and he keeps close watch over his sheep. . ." Then I'm happy. And all the stars laugh sweetly.

Sometimes I tell myself, "Anyone might be distracted once in a while, and that's all it takes! One night he forgot to put her under glass, or else the sheep got out without making any noise, during the night. . ." Then the bells are all changed into tears!

It's all a great mystery. For you, who love the little prince, too. As for me, nothing in the universe can be the same if somewhere, no one knows where, a sheep we never saw has or has not eaten a rose. . .

Look up at the sky. Ask yourself, "Has the sheep eaten the flower or not?"

And you'll see how everything changes. . .

And no grown-up will ever understand how such a thing could be so important!

.

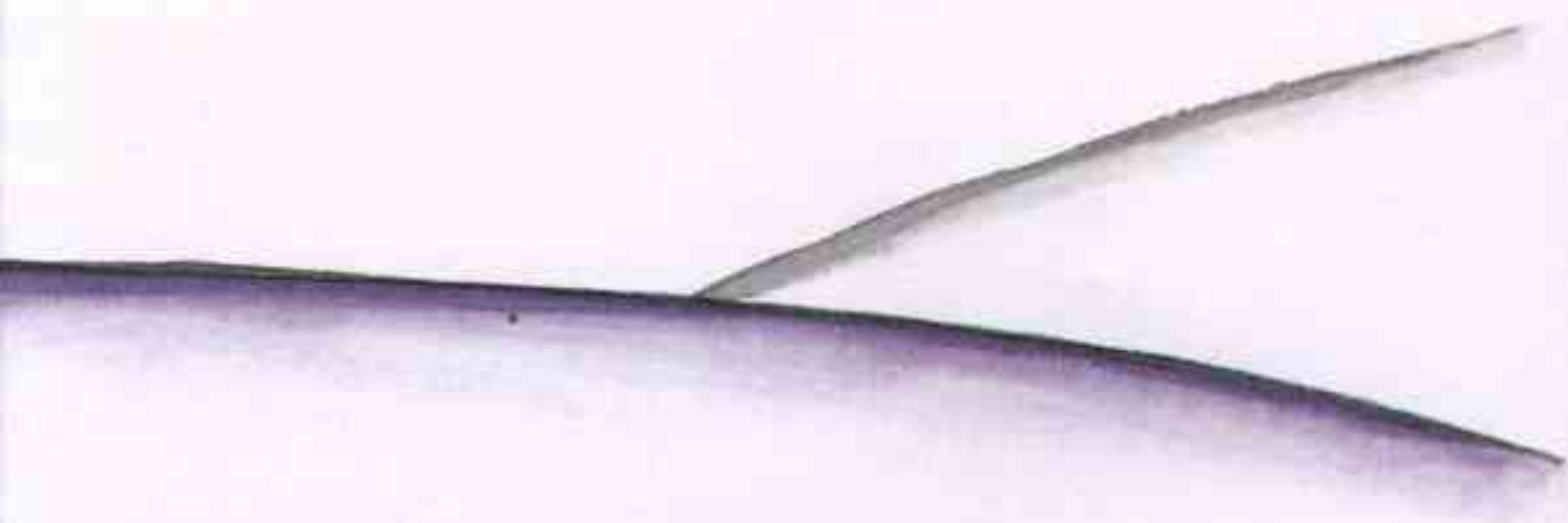
For me, this is the loveliest and the saddest landscape in the world. It's the same landscape as the one on the preceding page, but I've drawn it one more time in order to be sure you see it clearly. It's here that the little prince appeared on Earth, then disappeared.

Look at this landscape carefully to be sure of recognizing it, if you should travel to Africa someday, in the desert. And if you happen to pass by here, I beg you not to hurry past. Wait a little, just under the star! Then if a child comes to you, if he laughs, if he has golden hair, if he doesn't answer your questions, you'll know who he is. If this should happen, be kind! Don't let me go on being so sad: send word immediately that he's come back. . . .

KEY WORDS

- ☐ preceding *adj.* 前面的
- ☐ happen to 碰巧

- ☐ immediately *adv.* 立即, 马上
- ☐ word *n.* 消息, 信息



p. 4-5

六岁那年，我在一本书里看到一张很棒的画。那本书是讲热带丛林的，书名叫《真实的故事》。画上的一条大蟒蛇正在吞掉一头野兽。那幅画照原样描下来是这样的。

那本书上说：“大蟒蛇将捕获的猎物囫囵吞下，不加咀嚼。之后它便无法动弹，于是就睡上六个月来消化食物。”

那时候，我脑子里老想着丛林冒险，最后终于用彩色铅笔画出了生平第一幅画。我的作品一号是这样的：



我把自己的杰作拿去给大人们看，问他们是不是被我的画吓着了。

他们回答：“谁会被一顶帽子吓着呢？”

我画的才不是什么帽子，而是一条正在消化一头大象的大蟒蛇。于是，我把蟒蛇肚子里的东西也画了出来，好让大人能明白。”大人总是需要你给他们作进一步的解释。

p. 6-7

我的作品二号是这样的。

大人们建议我不要再画大蟒蛇了，不管是外面还是里面都不要再画了，还是专心去学地理、历史、算术和文法吧。就是因为这个，我在六岁那年放弃了画家这个美妙的职业。绘画作品一号和二号的失败让我泄了气。

大人自己总是什么都弄不明白，小孩子就只好一遍又一遍地跟他们解释，真是累人。

就这样，我只好选择了别的职业。后来我去学驾驶飞机，几乎飞遍了全世界。老实说，地理确实帮了我很大的忙，让我一眼就能把中国和美国的亚利桑那区别开来。当你在夜空中迷失方向的时候，这可是非常有用的。

在以往的经历中，我遇到过很多一本正经的人。我跟大人相处了不少时间，也近距离地观察过他们……对他们的印象却没有什么改观。

p. 8-9

每次碰见一个看上去很聪明的大人，我都会拿出我的作品一号来考考他——这幅画我总是随身带着。我想知道他是否真的懂得一些东西。

可是，被我问到的人总是回答：“那是顶帽子。”这时候我就不会再跟他谈什么大蟒蛇、热带丛林和星星了。我会把自己摆到他那个水平，跟他谈谈桥梁啦，高尔夫啦，政治啦，领带啦。这位大人就会很高兴，觉得自己结识了一个明白事理的人。

我就这样孤独地生活着，没有人可以让我真正敞开心扉与之交谈，这样的状况一直持续到了六年之前。当时在撒哈拉沙漠里，我的飞机引擎出了故障，我只好紧急迫降。飞机上只有我一个人，没有技师也没有乘客，于是我准备自己解决修理飞机这个难题。对我来说，这是个生死攸关的问题：我的



饮用水只够维持八天了。

第一天夜里，我一个人睡在荒漠里，跟任何一个有人烟的地方都隔着至少一千英里。我比海难后坐着救生筏在茫茫大海中漂流的人还要孤独。所以你就可以想象，黎明时分被一个声音叫醒的时候，我有多么惊奇。那是一个奇怪的、小小的声音：“劳驾……请给我画一只绵羊好吗……”

p. 10-11

“什么？”

“给我画一只绵羊……”

我一跃而起，就像被闪电击中了一样。我使劲儿揉了揉眼睛，盯着说话的人。我看见一个很不寻常的小家伙也在盯着我看，神情很是认真。后来我凭记忆尽量准确地画下了他的样子。

当然了，我的画远没有模特本人那么好看。这不能怪我，因为我当画家的前程在六岁的时候就被大人们断送了。除了大蟒蛇的外面和里面，我没有学着画过任何别的东西。

我就这么睁大眼睛看着眼前这个突然冒出来的小家伙。别忘了，我跟任何一个有人烟的地方都隔着至少一千英里呢。可是，看样子眼前这个小家伙并没有迷路，也没有饥渴交迫、奄奄一息，脸上更没有害怕的神情。瞧他的样子，一点儿也不像一个迷失在荒漠中、跟任何一个有人烟的地方都隔着至少一千英里的小孩子。

p. 12-13

我终于缓过神来，可以开口说话了，于是问他：“可是……你在这里做什么呢？”

他非常认真地把刚才的话慢慢重复了一遍：“劳驾……请给我画一只绵羊……”

当遇上某个强大的神秘事物的时候，你是不敢有所违拗的。尽管眼前的情况实在很怪异——跟任何一个有人烟的地方都隔着至少一千英里，还面临着死亡的威胁——我还是从口袋掏出了一张纸和一支钢笔。可是我马上想起来，我学的主要是地理、历史、算术和文法，于是我（略带恼怒地）告诉这个小家伙，我不知道该怎么画。

他回答：“没关系。给我画一只绵羊吧。”

我从来没有画过绵羊，而且只会画两张画，于是就给他画了其中的一张——从外面看的大蟒蛇。小家伙的反应让我大吃一惊：“不！不！我不想要肚子里有大象的蟒蛇。大蟒蛇非常危险，大象又太占地方。在我住的地方，每一样东西都很小。我要一只绵羊，给我画一只绵羊吧。”

于是我就画了一只绵羊。

他仔细地看了看，说：“不行，这只绵羊已经病得很厉害了，再画一只吧。”



p. 14-15

我又画了一张，我的小朋友和气又宽容地冲我笑了笑：“你

自己也看得出来……那不是绵羊，是一只公羊。它长着角呢……”

于是我就画了第三张。可是，跟前两张一样，这一张还是没有通过：“这只羊太老了。我想要一只可以活很久很久久的绵羊。”

我急着去修引擎，所以就很不耐烦地随手乱涂了一张。我对他说：“我画的是一个箱子，你想要的绵羊就在箱子里头。”

没想到，我的小批评家脸上却有了神采，让我很是惊诧。

“这就是我想要的绵羊！你说这只羊会不会需要很多草？”

“为什么问这个？”

“因为在我住的地方，每一样东西都很小……”

“草肯定会够的。我给你画的是一只很小很小的羊。”

他低头看着画。“没有那么小……看啊！他睡着了……”

就这样，我认识了小王子。

3

p. 16-17

我花了很长的时间才弄明白他到底是从哪儿来的。小王子问了我很多问题，却似乎对我问他的问题充耳不闻。

通过他随口说的一些话，我才一点一点地知道了他的情况。比如，第一次看见我的飞机时（我可不打算把我的飞机画出来，画飞机对我来说太复杂了），他问道：“那边那个是什么东西？”

“那可不是什么东西。它能飞，是一架飞机，我的飞机。”

我很骄傲地告诉他我能飞，然后他大叫起来：“什么！你是从天上掉下来的？”

“是的。”我很谦虚地说道。

“哦！真有趣……”小王子突然发出一串清脆的笑声。这让我很恼火，因为我希望别人能严肃地看待我的不幸。然后他又说：“这么说，你也是从天上掉下来的。你来自哪个星球？”

p. 18-19

我就是在那个时候得到了关于他身世的第一条线索，于是赶紧问道：“你是从别的星球来的？”

可是他没有回答。他还是盯着我的飞机，微微摇了摇头：“当然啦。坐这个东西，你是不可能来自很远的地方的……”

接着，他久久地陷入了沉思。再往后，他从口袋里掏出我画的绵羊，专注地凝视起他的宝贝。

你可以想象，在得到了“外星球”这条线索之后，我变得多么地好奇。我千方百计地想再多问出点儿什么：“小家伙，你是从哪儿来的？你说的‘我住的地方’在哪里？你要把我的绵羊带到哪儿去呢？”

他若有所思地沉默了片刻，然后回答道：“你给我的那个箱子挺好的，天黑了以后可以给他当房子。”

“当然可以。你要是乖的话，我可以给你一根绳子，你



白天的时候可以把他拴起来，还可以给你一根桩子，好把他拴在上头。”

这个提议似乎让小王子吓了一跳。

“把他拴起来？多怪的念头！”

“可是，如果你不把他拴起来的话，他就会到处乱走，会走丢的。”

我的朋友又大笑起来。

“他能去哪儿呢？”

“哪儿都有可能啊。一直往前……”

听了这话，小王子正色说道：“就算他跑了也不要紧。在我住的地方，每一样东西都那么小！”接着，他似乎有一点点伤感：“一直往前走，你也走不了多远的。”

4

p. 20-21

就这样，我又知道了第二件很重要的事情，小王子居住的那个星球比一座房子大不了多少！

对我来说，这倒没什么好奇怪的。我很清楚地知道，除了地球、木星、火星、金星这些有名字的大行星之外，天上还有成百上千颗其他的小行星，有些小得用望远镜都看不见。如果某位天文学家发现了其中的一颗，他就会给这颗行星起一个编号，而不是名字。举例来说，他可以叫新发现的小行星“325号小行星”。

我有充分的理由相信，小王子来自B-612号小行星。

这颗小行星只被人观测到一次。那是在1909年，一位土耳其天文学家通过望远镜看到了它，然后在一次国际天文大会上正式公布了这一发现。但是，就因为他穿的那身衣服，没有人相信他的发现。大人们就是这个样子的。

p. 22-23

后来，有一个土耳其独裁者命令他的臣民都要穿欧式的衣服，违者将被处死。对于B-612号小行星的声誉来说，这是件好事。1920年，那位天文学家将自己的发现又重复了一遍。这一回，他穿着一身非常优雅的西装，所有的人就都相信他了。

我这么详细地跟你们讲关于B-612号小行星的这些事情，还告诉你们它的编号，全都是因为那些大人。大人们就喜欢数字。如果你告诉他们，你新交了一个朋友，他们肯定不会问那些真正要紧的问题。他们不会问：“他的声音怎么样？他最喜欢玩什么游戏？他采集蝴蝶标本吗？”他们只会问：“他几岁了？他有几个兄弟？他有多重？他父亲一个月挣多少钱？”

只有这样，他们才会觉得自己对你的朋友有了了解。如果你告诉大人们：“我看见了一幢漂亮的红砖房子，窗台上摆着天竺葵，屋顶上还有鸽子……”他们是想象不出这幢房子的样子的。你得这样告诉他们：“我看见了一幢值十万法郎的房子。”这时他们就会惊叹：“多漂亮的房子啊！”

p. 24-25

所以，如果你告诉大人们：“小王子存在的证据就是他讨人喜欢，很爱笑，还想要一只绵羊。一个人想要一只绵羊，就凭这一点就足以证明他的存在了。”



他们只会耸耸肩，把你当个小孩子看待！

可是，如果你告诉他们：“他来自B-612号小行星。”他们就会相信你，不会再拿他们那些问题来烦你了。他们就是这个样子，你也别怪他们。小孩子得对大人宽容点儿。

不过，当然了，我们这些理解生活的人对数字是毫不关心的！我本来打算像讲童话那样开始这个故事：“从前有一个小王子，他住在一颗小行星上，这颗小行星比他本人大不了多少，他想要一个朋友……”对那些真正理解生活的人来说，这个开头听起来要真实得多。

实际的情形是，我不希望自己的书受人轻视。对我来说，讲述这些回忆是很痛苦的。六年前，我的朋友带着他的绵羊离我而去。现在我之所以努力地想要把他描述出来，是因为我不想把他忘掉。忘掉一个朋友是件很让人伤心的事情，因为不是每个人都有过朋友。我有可能也会变得像那些大人一样，对数字以外的任何东西都不再有兴趣。就是因为这个，我才去买了一盒颜料和几支铅笔。在我这样的年龄，想要重拾画笔可不是件容易的事。更何况自从六岁那年画了从外面看的大蟒蛇和大蟒蛇肚子里面的样子之后，我就再也没摸过画笔了。

p. 26-27

我当然会尽量把小王子画得逼真，但却对此没有十足的把握。前一张画得还行，下一张就一点儿都不像了。而且，我也记不太清他到底有多高了。这一张上的小王子画得太高，那一张上的又太矮了。还有，他衣服的颜色我也不是很确定。这样一来，我只能尽我所能地这样那样都试试。到最后，我敢肯定自己把很多的重要细节都搞错了。可是，在这一点上你们得原谅我。我的朋友从来不跟我讲清楚任何事情，也许他觉得我跟他是一样的吧。可要命的是，我从箱子外边是看不到里头有绵羊的。也许，我已经有点儿像大人了吧。我肯定已经老了。

5

p. 28-29

每天，我都能对小王子的那个星球、他的离开以及他的旅程增加一些了解，全都是从他讲的话里一点一点知道的。就这样，到第三天上，我知道了猴面包树的事情。

这一次又是多亏那只绵羊。当时，小王子突然显得非常疑惑，他问我：

“绵羊吃灌木的，是吧？”

“对，没错。”

“啊！那就好。”

我还没弄明白为什么绵羊吃灌木会那么重要，小王子又说道：“那他们也吃猴面包树喽？”

我跟他说，猴面包树不是灌木，而是长得像教堂那么高的大树，就算他把一整群大象带回他的星球，它们也吃不掉哪怕一棵猴面包树的。

听到我说一群大象，小王子又笑了：“我们得把它们一只一只



地擦起来才行。”

p. 30-31

他很有见地地说：“猴面包树也是从小长大的。”

“是啊！可你为什么让你的绵羊吃小猴面包树呢？”

他回答：“哦，得了吧！你也知道的呀！”好像我们正在谈论一件再明白不过的事情一样。我只好努力自个儿揣摩这个问题。

当然，就跟其他任何星球一样，小王子的星球上也有好的植物和不好的植物。好的植物是好的种子长出来的，不好的植物是不好的种子长出来的。问题在于，你看不见种子。

它们在隐秘的地下睡觉，直到有一颗种子决定醒来。它舒展着身体，开始发芽，害羞地向着太阳伸出迷人而无害的嫩枝。如果这是一颗萝卜籽或玫瑰花籽，那你就让它尽情地发芽好了。可是，如果这是一棵不好的植物的种子，那你认出它之后就得马上把它拔掉。在小王子的星球上正好有一些很坏的种子，那就是猴面包树的种子。那个星球的土壤里满是猴面包树的种子。要是有一棵猴面包树长了出来而你又没有及时处理的话，以后你就没法除掉它了，它会长得比整个星球都要大呢。

p. 32-33

猴面包树会不停地往下扎根。如果一个很小的星球上长了太多的猴面包树，它们会把整个星球弄碎的。

“这件事情不能马虎，”小王子后来告诉我，“每天早上洗漱完毕、穿好衣服之后，你就得去照料你的星球。你必须定期把猴面包树拔掉，在你能分出哪个是猴面包树哪个是玫瑰的时候就马上拔。在小的时候，这两样东西长得很像。这个活儿挺单调的，不过倒是很容易。”

有一天，他建议我尽力画一幅美丽的画，用来教育我自己星球上的小孩子。

他告诉我：“将来他们要是外出游历，这会对他们有帮助的。有些时候，把工作推迟一下也不会有什么害处，可如果那是猴面包树的话，就会有一场灾难了。我知道有那么一个星球，上面住着一个很懒的人，他没有理会三棵小树……”

p. 34-35

于是，我按照小王子的指点把那个星球画了出来。我不想带上说教的腔调，可确实很少有人能意识到猴面包树的危险性，而对于流落到一颗小行星上去的人来说这风险太大了。所以这次我居然一反常态，打破了沉默寡言的习惯，说：“孩子们，小心猴面包树啊！”

为了提请我的朋友们注意到这种危险——跟我一样，他们也一直没有意识到这种危险的存在，我花了很大的力气来画这幅画。我要给大家上的这一课非常重要，值得我这样的付出。你也许会问：“为什么这本书里别的画都没有猴面包树这幅画那么大呢？”答案很简单：我试过了，可是没做到。在画猴面包树的时候，我被一种紧迫感激励着。





p. 35-37

哦，小王子！慢慢地，我了解了你短短的伤感人生。很久以来，你唯一的乐趣就是欣赏日落。我是在第四天的早上知道这个新的细节的，当时你告诉我：“我真的很喜欢日落。我们现在就去看一次日落吧……”

“可是我们得等……”

“等什么？”

“等太阳下山啊。”

一开始你显得很惊讶，然后就开始笑自己。你跟我说：“我还以为是在自己家里呢！”

是啊。大家都知道，美国是中午的时候，法国的太阳正在下山，如果能在一分钟之内飞到法国去，你就可以看到日落。可惜法国实在太远了。可是，在你那个小小的星球上，你只需要把椅子挪几英尺就可以了。你可以随时看到日落……

“有一天，我看了四十四次日落！”过了一小会儿你又说道：“你瞧，当你非常伤心的时候，日落美极了……”

“在看了四十四次日落的那一天，你非常伤心吗？”

可是，小王子没有回答我的问题。

7

p. 38-39

第五天，还是多亏了那只绵羊，我又发现了关于小王子生活的一个秘密。他忽然问了我一个问题，看样子已经酝酿了很久：“既然绵羊会吃灌木，那它会不会也吃花儿呢？”

“绵羊找到什么就吃什么。”

“连长刺的花儿也吃？”

“是的，连长刺的花儿也吃。”

“那刺又有什么用呢？”

我不知道，当时我正忙着把卡在引擎里的一个螺丝拧下来。我很担心，因为我开始意识到自己的飞机摔得很厉害，而饮用水又缺乏。我已经开始做最坏的打算了。

“刺有什么用呢？”

小王子提了问题之后，得不到答案就不罢休。我被那个卡着的螺丝弄得心烦意乱，于是想都没想就回答了他。

“刺没什么用——那是花儿们刻薄的表现。”

“哦！”可是，片刻的沉默之后，他开始忿忿不平地反驳我。

“我不相信你说的话！花儿都很脆弱，也很天真。她们只是想尽量让自己安心，她们相信她们的刺能吓跑别人……”

p. 40-41

我没有搭腔。那会儿我正在想：“如果这个螺丝还卡在这儿弄不下来的话，

我就拿锤子把它砸下来。”小王子又一次打断了我的思绪。

“那你觉得花儿……”

“不，我没觉得，我什么事情都没觉得！我只是想到什么就说什么。这会儿我有正经事儿要做。”

他非常困惑地看着我。

“正经事儿！”

他看着我，我握着锤子，手指上黑乎乎的满是油，俯身对着一件在他看来非常丑陋的东西。

“你说话就跟那些大人一样！”

听了他的话，我觉得有点儿羞愧，可他马上又毫不留情地说：“你们什么都不清楚……你们把事情弄得一团糟！”他看起来非常气恼，在风中甩了甩金色的卷发。“我知道有一个星球，上面住着一个红脸的先生。他从来不闻花香，从来不看星星，也从来没有爱过谁。除了把那些数字加起来以外，他什么事情都不做。他就像你一样，整天一遍又一遍地说：‘我是个正经的人！我是个正经的人！’这样，他就觉得自己很了不起。可是，其实他根本就不是人——他是一朵蘑菇！”

p. 42-43

“他是什么？”

“蘑菇！”到了这会儿，小王子气得脸都发白了。“几百万年以来，花儿们一直都长着刺；几百万年以来，绵羊们还是照样吃她们。那么，为什么花儿还要费那么大劲儿长出毫无用处的刺来呢？把这一点弄明白难道不是正经事儿吗？绵羊和花儿之间的战争难道不重要吗？难道说，这些东西都不如那个红脸的胖先生加来加去的那些数字正经、重要吗？”

“假如说，我刚巧知道有一朵独一无二的花儿，除了我的星球之外，别处都没有，一只小绵羊哪天早上一口就能把她咬下来，就那样，那只羊甚至都没意识到自己做了什么——这难道不重要？”他的脸现在红润了一些，接着说道：“如果一个人爱上一朵花儿，而在亿万星球当中，只有一个星球上有这样的花儿，那么只要望着星星，他就感觉非常幸福。他告诉自己：‘我的花儿就在上面的某个地方……’可是，如果绵羊把花儿吃掉了，对他来说那就跟所有星星突然之间都熄灭一样，这难道不重要吗？”

p. 44-45

他再也说不出话，接着突然开始呜咽起来。夜幕降临了。我扔掉手里的工具。干吗还要在乎什么锤子、螺丝、干渴和死亡呢？在某个星球，某个行星，就在我的行星，就在地球上，有一个小王子需要我来安慰！我把他抱在怀里轻轻地晃着，告诉他：“你爱的花儿不会有危险的……我给你的绵羊画一个嘴套……给你的花儿画一道篱笆……我……”

我不知道该说什么了，心里觉得自己真笨！我不知道怎样才能靠近他，去哪里才能找到他……眼泪的世界太神秘了。



长着很多形状简单的花儿，那些花儿只有一层花瓣，所以占不了多少空间，也不会碍事。她们早上从草丛里钻出来，黄昏之前就凋谢了。可是，这朵花的种子却不知道是从哪儿来的，发出的芽跟其他的花儿都不一样。小王子特别关注这棵芽，担心它是一种新的猴面包树。可是，这棵芽很快就停止了生长，看样子像是要开花了。

p. 46-47

小王子一直观察着这个巨大的花苞，觉得会有神奇的东西从里面出来。然而，花儿继续在她那个绿色的小房间里梳妆打扮。她非常用心地为自己挑选颜色，不慌不忙地穿上衣裙，又一片一片地安排花瓣的位置。她可不打算像那些罂粟花一样，皱巴巴地就亮了相。她要光彩照人地出现在人前。哦，没错，她就是这么虚荣！她神秘的装扮过程持续了一天又一天。终于，有一天早上，就在太阳升起的那一刻，她开放了。

那么精心打扮过后，她打着哈欠说道：“啊！我还没完全清醒呢……请原谅……我……我还很邋遢……”

可小王子却难掩自己对她的赞美之情。

“你真漂亮！”

“是吗？”花儿用甜美的声音说道，“而且我是和太阳同时出生的……”

小王子意识到，她真是一点儿也不谦虚，可她是那么地让人目眩神迷！

“我想，该到早餐时间了，”她很快又说道，“你能好心地照顾我吗？”

小王子窘得不行，赶忙跑去找了个水壶，开始给花儿浇水。

p. 48-49

很快，她那易感的虚荣就开始折磨小王子了。比如有一天，她跟小王子说——其实是在炫耀自己那四根刺：“我已经准备好了对付老虎，还有他们的利爪。”

“我的星球上没有老虎，”小王子反驳道，“而且，老虎也不吃草啊。”

“我不是草。”花儿用甜美的声音回答道。

“请原谅……”

“我一点儿都不怕老虎，但却很怕风，你难道没有屏风吗？”

“怕风……对于一颗植物来说，这可不是什么好兆头，”小王子说道，“这朵花儿可真麻烦……”

“天黑以后，你得拿玻璃把我罩起来。你住的这个地方真冷——很不舒服。我来的那个地方——”她忽然停住了。她来这儿的时候还只是一颗种子，不可能知道其他星球的事情。

居然差一点儿就说了这么幼稚的一个谎，花儿觉得自己很没面子。她咳嗽了两三下，好把责任推到小王子头上。“屏风呢？”

p. 50-51

“我正打算去找一个过来，可你又在跟我说话。”

于是她又咳了起来，好让他觉得内疚。

就这样，尽管小王子深爱着花儿，但他还是很快就不再相信她了。他把一些无关紧要的话都当了真，因此变得很不开心。

“我不该听她说那些话，”有一天，他向我倾诉道，“你永远都不该听花儿讲话，应该只看着她们，闻她们的香气。我的花儿让我的星球充满香气，可我却不知道怎样去欣赏。老虎爪子的事儿，我不应该觉得烦，应该很感动才对……”

他继续吐露着心声：“那时候，我什么都不懂。我应该通过她的行动，而不是她的话来评判她。她让我的星球充满香气，给我的生活带来了光明。我不应该离开她的！我本应该知道，在愚蠢的虚荣下面，她其实非常温柔。花儿都是那么地自相矛盾！可我那时太年轻了，不知道怎样去爱她。”

9

p. 52-53

我想，小王子是跟着一群迁徙的野鸟离开自己的星球的。出发的那天早晨，他把自己的星球收拾得井井有条，还仔细地把他的活火山通了通。小王子有两座活火山，所以热起早饭来很方便。

他还有一座死火山，可是，正如小王子自己说的那样：“谁知道会发生什么事呢？”

所以他把死火山也通了通。只要把火山口通好，火山就会燃烧得很温和、很有规律，也就不会爆发了。其实啊，火山爆发就跟烟囱里着火一样。

当然，在地球上我们人类的个子太小，没法去通火山。就因为这样，火山才给我们带来了那么多的麻烦。

小王子还略带伤感地最后一次拔掉了猴面包树的芽。他想自己再也不会回来了。最后的这个早上，这些熟悉的工作在他眼里都显得那么亲切可爱。最后一次给花儿浇水、替她罩上玻璃罩的时候，他都要哭出来了。

“再见了。”他对花儿说。

可是花儿没有回应。

“再见了。”他又说了一遍。

花儿咳了起来，可这并不是因为她感冒了。

p. 54-55

“我太傻了，”最后她终于开口了，“我想请求你的原谅。你一定要过得开心啊。”

花儿居然没有责备自己，这让小王子觉得很奇怪。他呆呆地站着，手里拿着那个玻璃罩。这种平静的甜蜜是他所无法理解的。

“我当然是爱你的，”花儿告诉他，“可你却从来都不知道，这都怪我。没关系的。可是你也跟我一样傻。一定要过得开心……把那个玻璃罩放下吧，我不需要它了。”

“可是风……”

“我的感冒没那么严重……夜晚的空气对我有好处。我毕竟是一朵花。”

“可是那些动物……”

“要是想跟蝴蝶交朋友的话，那我就得先忍受那么两三只毛毛虫。蝴蝶很漂亮。除了他们，还有谁会来看我



呢？你要去很远的地方了。那些大动物嘛，我也没什么好怕的。我自己也有爪子。”她很天真地给他看了看自己的四根刺。

接着她又说：“别再这样晃来晃去让人烦了。你已经决定要走了，那就快走吧。”

其实，她是不想让小王子看见自己哭。她是那么骄傲的一朵花儿……

10

p. 56-57

小王子的星球离325、326、327、328、329和330号小行星都很近，于是他先去拜访这几个星球，一方面让自己有点儿事情做，一方面也可以学一些东西。

第一个星球上住着一位国王。他穿着镶白鼯皮的紫红色袍子，坐在一个简单却又气派的王座上。

“啊！我的臣民来了！”国王看见了小王子，大声说道。

小王子好奇地想：“他从来没见过我，怎么知道我是谁呢？”他不知道，对于一个国王来说，这个世界非常简单：所有的人都是他的臣民。

p. 58-59

“过来，让我好好看看你。”国王说。他非常自豪，因为他终于成了某个人的国王。

小王子看了看身边，想找个地方坐下来。可是，整个星球都被国王那件华丽的鼯皮大氅给盖住了，所以他只好继续站着。他已经很累了，于是就打了个哈欠。

“在国王面前打哈欠是严重的失礼行为，”国王对他说，“我不允许你这么

做。”

“可我忍不住了啊，”小王子觉得很不好意思，“我赶了很久的路，一直都没有睡觉……”

“那我就命令你打哈欠，”国王说，“我已经好多年没见过人打哈欠了。对我来说，哈欠是个稀罕的东西。快，继续打哈欠！这是命令。”

“您这样说我很害怕……我现在打不出来了。”小王子满脸通红地说道。

p. 60-61

“好吧，好吧！”国王说，“那我……我命令你有时候打哈欠有时候……”

国王有些语无伦次了，看样子很是烦恼。

这是因为他认为所有人都得遵从他的权威。他是一位独裁的君主，无法容忍任何违逆。好在他又是一位善良的人，所以他的命令都是合情合理的。

“如果我命令，”他经常这么说，“如果我命令一位将军变成一只海鸥，而他没有执行的话，那不是这位将军的错，而是我的错。”

“我可以坐下吗？”小王子小心地问了一句。

“我命令你坐下。”国王说着，庄严地把白鼯皮袍子一边的下摆往里拉了拉。

不过，小王子还是很好奇。这个星球只有这么一点儿大，那么国王统治



的到底是什么呢？“陛下……”他大着胆子问道，“我想冒昧地问……”

“我命令你提问。”国王赶忙说道。

“陛下……您统治的是什么呢？”

“统治一切。”国王非常言简意赅地答道。

“统治一切？”

国王慎重地指了指自己的行星，又指了指其他行星，接着又指了指那些恒星。

“所有这一切？”小王子问。

p. 62-63

“所有这一切……”国王回答。

因为他不只是位独裁的君主，还是全宇宙的君主。

“那些恒星也遵从您的命令？”

“当然，”国王回答，“它们对我唯令是从。我是不会容忍任何违逆行为的。”

国王竟然拥有这么大的权力，小王子觉得很吃惊。如果让他来行使这样的权力，那他一天就不只看四十四次日落了，他要看七十二次，甚至是一百次，而且不需要挪动椅子！他想起了那个被自己抛弃的小小星球，感到很伤心，于是就壮起胆子请国王帮自己一个忙。

“我想看一次日落……请帮帮我，陛下……命令太阳落山吧……”

“如果我命令一位将军像蝴蝶一样从一朵花儿飞到另一朵花儿上，或者要他写一部悲剧出来，或者要他变成一只海鸥，而这位将军没有执行我的命令，那么我们两个当中谁有错？将军还是我？”

“是您有错。”小王子很坚定地说道。

“正确。命令应当是可以执行的，”国王继续说道，“权威首先要建立在理性的基础上。如果你命令你的臣民往大海里跳，那就肯定会引发一场革命。我有权命令别人服从我，那是因为我的命令都是合理的。”

“那我想看的日落呢？”小王子继续问道。提出问题之后，他是不会轻易放弃的。

p. 64-65

“你可以看到你的日落，我会命令太阳落山的。不过，根据我的统治方法，我得等到条件合适的时候。”

“什么时候才算条件合适呢？”小王子问。

“嗯，嗯！”国王回应着，先拿过一本巨大的日历看了看。“嗯，嗯！应该是……应该是……是今天晚上七点四十分左右！你就等着看我的命令是怎样被服从的吧。”

小王子打了个哈欠。他为没看成日落而感到遗憾，也已经有点儿烦了。“我在这儿没别的事情了，”他对国王说，“我要继续上路了！”

“别走！”国王说，他正在为终于有了一个臣民而自豪不已呢。“别走。我让你做我的大臣！”

“什么大臣？”

“司法大臣。”

“可这里没有人需要审判啊！”

“这说不准，”国王告诉他，“我还没有实地查看过我的整个王国呢。我上

了年纪，可这里没有能放下一辆马车的地方，而走路对我来说又太累了。”

“哦，可是我已经看过了。”小王子说着，探过身去把星球的另外一面又看了一遍。“那边也没有人……”

“那你可以审判你自己啊，”国王说，“这是最困难的一件事。跟审判别人比起来，审判自己要难得多。如果你能够成功地审判自己，那就证明你的确是一位智者。”

p. 66-67

“可我在哪里都可以审判自己，”小王子说，“用不着住在这里。”

“好吧！”国王说，“我有充分的理由相信，在我这个星球上的某个地方住着一只很老的老鼠。夜里我能听到他的声音。你可以去审判那只老鼠，可以一次又一次地判他死刑。这一来，他的生命就取决于你的判决了。不过，出于经济的考虑，每次你都得赦免他，因为这里只有一只老鼠。”

“我不想判任何人死刑，”小王子说，“我想我现在得走了。”

“不行。”国王说。

小王子已经做好了准备，但却不想让老国王伤心。“如果陛下希望令出即行，那就应当给我下达一个合理的命令。比方说，你可以命令我，在这一分钟过去之前离开这里。在我看来，条件已经很合适了……”

国王没有回答。小王子一开始有点儿犹豫，然后叹了口气，离开了。

“我让你当我的大使。”国王急忙在他身后嚷道，气势威严极了。

“大人们就是这么奇怪。”小王子一边走，一边自言自语。

11

p. 68-69

第二个星球上住着一个非常自负的人。

“啊！一个仰慕者来拜访我啦！”他一看见小王子就嚷了起来，那会儿他们还隔着好远呢。对于自负的人来说，别人都是仰慕者。

“你好，”小王子说，“你戴的帽子挺好玩的。”

“这是在别人为我喝彩时回礼用的，”非常自负的人说道，“可惜的是，还没有人到这儿来过呢。”

“是吗？”小王子说，压根儿没听明白那自负的人在说什么。

“拍拍手。”自负的男人说。

小王子拍了拍手，自负的人非常谦逊地脱帽致谢。

“这比拜访国王有意思多了。”小王子心想。于是他接着拍手，非常自负的人也接着脱帽致谢。

像这样操练了五分钟之后，小王子被这个单调的游戏弄烦了。“那么，怎样才能让帽子掉下来呢？”他问道。

自负的人没有听到他的话。除了赞美的话之外，自负的人什么都听不到。

p. 70-71

“你真的很仰慕我吗？”他问小王子。

“那是什么意思——仰慕？”



“仰慕就是承认我是这个星球上长得最英俊，穿得最漂亮，最富有，也最有智慧的人。”

“可你是这个星球上唯一的一个人啊！”

“帮我这个忙吧。不管怎样，仰慕我就行了。”

“我仰慕你，”小王子说着，耸了耸肩膀，“可是，为什么我的仰慕让你这么有兴趣呢？”之后，小王子继续上路了。

“大人们真的是非常奇怪。”他一边继续赶路，一边自言自语。

12



下一个星球上住着一个酒鬼。这一次拜访的时间很短，但却让小王子陷入了极度的沮丧。

小王子看见酒鬼沉默地对着一堆空酒瓶和一堆装满的酒瓶，于是问：“你在干吗？”

“喝酒。”酒鬼脸色阴沉地说道。

p. 72-73

“你为什么要喝酒呢？”小王子问。

“为了忘记。”酒鬼说。

“忘记什么呢？”小王子很为对方感到难过。

“忘记自己是可耻的。”酒鬼低下头忏悔道。

“你为什么感到可耻呢？”小王子很希望能帮上点儿忙。

“为喝酒感到可耻！”说完这句话，酒鬼又陷入长久的沉默。小王子继续上路，心里非常困惑。

“大人们真是非常非常奇怪。”他一边继续赶路，一边自言自语。

13

第四个星球属于一个商人。商人非常忙碌，小王子来的时候，他甚至都没时间抬头看上一眼。

“你好，”小王子说，“你的烟已经灭了。”

“三加二等于五。五加七，十二。十二加三，十五。你好。十五加七，二十二。二十二加六，二十八。没时间去点它。二十六加五，三十一。哟！加在一起是五亿零一百六十二万两千七百三十一。”

“五亿什么东西？”

p. 74-75

“啊？你怎么还没走？五亿零一百万……我不记得了……我有很多事要做！我是个正经人，不会去操心这些小事情！二加五等于七……”

“五亿零一百万什么东西？”小王子继续问道，他对自己提出的问题是不会轻易放弃的。

商人抬起了头。

“我在这个星球上住了五十四年，一共只被打扰过三次。第一次是在二十二年之前，一只甲虫掉到了我的桌子上，鬼才晓得它是打哪儿来的。它吵得

厉害，害我算错了四次。第二次是十一年前，当时我的风湿病发作了。我缺乏锻炼，也没有时间去散步。我可是个正经人。第三次……就是现在了！我算到哪儿了？五亿零一百万……”

“一百万什么？”

p. 76-77

商人意识到要想清静是没指望了。

“哦，就是空中的那些小东西，你有时候能看见的。”

“苍蝇？”

“不是，是一些会发光的小东西。”

“蜜蜂？”

“不是，是那些金色的小东西，会让懒人做白日梦的小东西。可我是一个正经人，没有时间做白日梦。”

“啊！你是说星星？”

“对，没错，星星。”

“那你要拿五亿颗星星干吗呢？”

“是五亿零一百六十二万两千七百三十一个。”

我是个正经人，非常讲究精确。”

“你要拿那些星星来做什么？”

“你是问我拿它们做什么吗？”

“是的。”

“不做什么。它们是属于我的。”

“你拥有那些星星？”

“是的。”

“可我见过一个国王，他——”

“国王是不拥有任何东西的，他们只‘统治’……那完全是两码事。”

“拥有这些星星对你有什么好处呢？”

“好处就是让我富有。”

“富有对你又有什么好处呢？”

“那我就可以去买别的星星，如果有人发现了别的星星的话。”

p. 78-79

小王子心想：“这个人说话跟酒鬼倒是有点儿像。”不过他还是接着问了下去：“人怎么能拥有星星呢？”

“那它们该属于谁呢？”商人粗声粗气地反问道。

“我不知道。谁也不属于吧。”

“那它们就是属于我的，因为我最先想到了这一点。”

“这样就可以了吗？”

“当然。如果你找到了一颗没有主人的钻石，那它就是你的了。如果你找到一个不属于任何人的岛屿，那它也是你的了。如果你最先想到了一个点子，把它申请了专利，它也就是你的了。现在我拥有这些星星，因为在我之前没人想过要拥有它们。”

“那倒是真的，”小王子说，“你要拿它们做什么呢？”

“我管理它们，一遍又一遍地计算它们的数目，”商人说，“这是个很有难



度的工作。不过，我可是个正经人！”

这个回答还是不能让小王子完全满意。“如果我有一条围巾，我可以把它围在脖子上带走。如果我拥有一朵花儿，我也可以把它摘下来带走。可你不能把星星摘下来呀！”

“是不能。不过，我可以把它们存到银行里去。”

“什么意思？”

“就是说，我在一张纸上写下我拥有的星星数目，然后把这张纸锁到抽屉里。”

“这样就行了？”

“就行了！”

p. 80-81

“这真有趣，”小王子想，“而且还挺有诗意，但却并不怎么正经。”在什么才算正经事这个问题上，小王子跟大人们有着不同的看法。“我有一朵花儿，”他接着说道，“我每天都会给她浇水。我还有三个火山，我每星期都要把它们通一通，就连那个死火山也不落下。你说不准会发生什么事。这样，我拥有它们这个事实对我的火山来说是有用的，对我的花儿来说也是有用的。可是，你对你的星星来说却没有用。”

商人张了张嘴，但却找不出话来回答。小王子继续上路了。

“大人们真奇怪。”赶路的时候，他就说了这么一句话。

14

第五个星球非常奇怪，它比别的星球还要小，上面只能容纳一盏路灯和一个点灯的人。小王子很想不通，在茫茫太空中这样一个没有人也没有房子的星球上，弄一盏路灯和一个点灯人会有什么用处。不过他想：“这个人也许很荒唐，但却比国王、非常自负的人、商人和酒鬼要好多了。至少，他的工作还是有些意义的。他每次点亮路灯，就像把一颗星星或一朵花儿唤醒；每次他熄灭路灯，就是让花儿和星星睡下。这是一件很好的工作，也确实很有用。”

p. 82-83

到达这个星球的时候，小王子礼貌地向点灯人打招呼。

“早上好！你刚刚为什么要把灯熄灭呢？”

“那是命令，”点灯人说，“早上好。”

“什么样的命令呢？”

“熄灭我的路灯。晚上好。”

说着，他又点亮了路灯。

“那你为什么又把灯点亮呢？”

“命令。”

“我不明白。”小王子说。

“你用不着明白，”点灯人说，“命令就是命令。早上好。”

说完，他再次熄灭了路灯，拿一块红格子手帕擦了擦额头。



p. 84-85

“我这份工作很糟糕。以前我的工作还是很正常的，早上熄灭路灯，天黑之后再点亮。其余的时间里呢，白天我可以做自己的事情，晚上就可以睡觉。”

“那后来命令变了？”

“命令一直都没有变，”点灯人说，“麻烦就在这儿！这个星球转得一年比一年快，而命令却一直没有变！”

“那意味着什么？”

“那意味着这个星球现在一分钟转一圈，所以我就一刻都不得休息。每一分钟，我都得把路灯点亮再熄灭。”

“真有趣！这里的一天只有一分钟那么长！”

“一点儿都不有趣，”点灯人说，“就在我们说话的这段时间，一个月已经过去。”

“一个月？”

“是啊，也就是三十分钟，三十天！晚上好。”他点上了灯。

小王子看着他，心里越来越喜欢这位忠于职守的点灯人。他想起来，以前自己也会不停挪动椅子追赶落日。他想帮助他的朋友。

p. 86-87

“你看……我可以告诉你一个办法，让你想休息的时候就可以休息。”

“我一直都想休息。”点灯人说，人可以既忠于职守又想偷懒。

小王子接着说：“你的星球这么小，你跨上三大步就能绕上一圈了。只要慢慢地走，你就可以一直待在太阳底下。想休息的时候，你就走路……这样，你想要白天有多长，它就能有多长。”

“那样做对我有什么好处呢？”点灯人说，“我现在唯一想做的事情就是睡觉啊。”

“那你的运气实在是太不好了。”小王子说。

“我的运气是不好。”点灯人说。接着，他说了句“早上好”，又把灯给熄灭了。

“这个人，”小王子一边继续赶路，一边想，“这个人会被其他那几人，国王、非常自负的人、酒鬼，还有商人瞧不起，可他却是唯一一个没让我觉得荒谬可笑的人。也许是因为他还能想着自己身边的事情吧。”他遗憾地又叹了口气。“我有可能交朋友的只有这个人，可他的星球实在是太小了，装不下两个人……”

小王子不敢承认的是，离开这个星球的最大遗憾在于那里每二十四小时都有一千四百四十四次日落！

15

p. 88-89

第六个星球比第五个星球大十倍，上面住着一位老绅士。他写了很多很多的书。

“啊，来了个探险家。”看见小王子的时候，他叫了起来。小王子觉得有点儿喘不过气来，于是就在桌子上坐了下来。他已经赶了那么久的路，走了那么远了！

“你是从哪里来的？”老绅士问他。

“那本大书是写什么？”小王子问，“你拿它做什么呢？”

“我是一个地理学家。”老绅士答道。

“地理学家是做什么的？”

“是有学问的人，他知道海洋、河流、城市、山脉和沙漠的位置。”

“真有意思，”小王子说，“我终于见到一个有真正职业的人了！”他环视周围，看了看地理学家的星球。他以前还从来没有见过这么宏伟壮丽的星球。

“你的星球真漂亮，”他说，“上面有海洋吗？”

“我说不好。”地理学家说。

“哦，”小王子很失望，“那么山脉呢？”

“我说不好。”地理学家说。

“那有没有城市、河流和沙漠呢？”

“我还是说不好。”地理学家说。



p. 90-91

“可你是地理学家呀！”

“没错，”地理学家说，“但我不是探险家。我的星球上一个探险家都没有，而地理学家是不用出门去描述那些城市、河流、山脉、海洋和沙漠的。地理学家非常重要，不能到处乱跑。他从来不出书房的门，但却会在书房里接见探险家，问他们问题，把他们记得的东西写下来。如果地理学家认为某个探险家的记忆很有趣的话，他就会对这个探险家的人品展开调查。”

“为什么？”

“因为撒谎的探险家会给地理书带来灾难，就跟酒鬼探险家一样。”

“为什么？”小王子又问。

“因为酒鬼们看到的東西都是重影的。这样一来，如果某个地方实际上只有一座山，地理学家却会记录下两座山。”

p. 92-93

“我认识一个人，”小王子说，“他要是当探险家肯定是个蹩脚的探险家。”

“也许吧。呃，如果探险家的人品没问题，那就要对他的发现展开考察。”

“到实地去看吗？”

“不，那样太复杂了。不过，探险家必须提供证据。举例来说，如果他说自己发现了一座大山，就得从那里带一些大石头回来。”地理学家忽然兴奋起来，“你就来自很远的地方！你是一个探险家！你得给我说说你的星球！”

地理学家打开自己的日志，削好了铅笔。探险家的报告先是用铅笔记录下来的，到提供了证据之后才会用到钢笔。

“怎么样？”地理学家满怀期待地说道。

“哦，我住的那个地方，”小王子说，“不是很有趣。那个地方很小。我有三座火山，两座活火山，一座死火山。不过你说不准会发生什么。”

“是说不准。”地理学家说。

“我还有一朵花儿。”

“我们不记录花儿。”地理学家说。

“干吗不记呢？那可是最漂亮的东西啊！”

“因为花儿是朝生暮死的。”

“朝生暮死是什么意思？”

p. 94-95

“地理学书籍，”地理学家说，“是所有书籍当中最好的，从来不会有过时的问题。山脉是不可能改变位置的，大海也是不可能枯竭的。我们记录的都是永恒的事物。”

“可是，死火山也可能复活呀，”小王子打断了他，“朝生暮死是什么意思？”

“对我们来说，火山是死是活都无关紧要，”地理学家说，“对我们来说，要紧的是那座山，那个是不会改变的。”

“可是，朝生暮死到底是什么意思呢？”小王子继续问道。对于自己提出的问题，他是从来不会轻易放弃的。

“它的意思是，‘很快就会消失’。”

“我的花儿很快就会消失？”

“当然啦。”

“我的花儿是朝生暮死的，”小王子想道，“她只有四根刺，只能靠这个来保护自己，抵御外面的一切！而我却把她独个儿留在了那里！”

这是他头一回感到后悔。不过，他很快又重新鼓起了勇气。“那你说，接下来我应该去哪里呢？”他问道。

“地球，”地理学家答道，“人们对那个星球评价很高。”

小王子又上路了，心里想着他的花儿。

16

p. 96-97

第七个星球就是地球了。

地球可不仅是另一个普通的星球！地球上有一百一十一位国王（当然也包括那些非洲国王在内）、七千位地理学家、九十万个商人、七百五十万个酒鬼，还有三亿一千一百万个自负的人。换句话说，地球上大约有二十亿个大人。

为了让你对地球的大小有个概念，我可以这样来跟你形容：在电被发明之前，地球的六个大洲上得有四十六万两千五百一十一个点灯人，简直是一支庞大的军队。

从远处看，这可是一派辉煌的景象。这支军队整齐划一，就像在演一出芭蕾舞剧。首先上场的是新西兰和澳大利亚的点灯人。点亮路灯之后，这些人就回家睡觉去了。接下来轮到中国和西伯利亚的



点灯人来表演他们的舞步，他们随后也退到了后台。再下来轮到了俄国和印度的点灯人，跟着是非洲和欧洲的点灯人，再往后是南美洲和北美洲的点灯人。他们从来都不会错过自己的上场提示。这样的场面真让人叹为观止。

只有北极的点灯人和他在南极的同事过着无忧无虑的闲散生活，他们只需要照看自己那个极点上唯一的一盏路灯就行了。一年当中，他们只需要工作两次。

17

p. 98-99

要想让自己显得机智幽默，多多少少都得撒点儿谎。刚才我跟你说的点灯人的事就不完全是真的，很可能让那些不了解地球的人对我们的星球产生错误的印象。其实，人类在地球上只占据很少的一点空间。如果让地球上的二十亿居民像参加某些公共集会时那样一个紧挨一个地站在一起，很容易就能把他们全装到一个二十英里见方的街区里头去。同样，你也可以把所有这些人都塞到太平洋最小的岛上去。

当然，大人们是不会相信你的。他们深信自己占据的空间要比这多得多，认为自己就跟猴面包树一样重要。

p. 100-101

这时候，你就应该建议他们自己来计算一下——他们喜欢数字，会喜欢这么做的。不过，你可别在这件多余的工作上浪费时间。没必要的，相信我。

所以刚来到地球的时候，小王子很奇怪自己为什么一个人都没看见。正当他开始担心自己走错了地方的时候，沙地上的一个月色的圆环慢慢地伸直了。

“晚上好。”小王子为保险起见打了声招呼。

“晚上好。”蛇说道。

“请问，我降落的地方是哪个星球？”小王子问。

“地球，这里是非洲。”蛇回答道。

“啊！……地球上没有人吗？”

“这里是沙漠，沙漠里是没有人的。地球很大。”蛇说。

小王子在一块石头上坐了下来，抬头望着天空。

“我在想，”小王子说，“星星闪着光，是不是为了让我们每个人最终都能找到自己的那颗。看我的那颗星——就在头顶上，不过离得那么远！”

“它很可爱，”蛇说，“你来地球做什么呢？”

“我跟一朵花儿吵架了。”小王子说。

“啊！”蛇说。

这之后，他们俩都没有再说话。

p. 102-103

“地球上的人都在哪儿呢？”最后还是小王子先打破了沉默，“在沙漠里还真是有些孤单呢……”

“跟人在一起的时候一样孤单。”蛇说。

小王子久久地看着蛇。“你真是个奇怪的动物，”最后他说道，“只有手指



那么粗。”

“可我的力量比国王的手指还要大。”蛇说。

小王子笑了起来。

“你没那么有力量……你没有脚，都走不了多远。”

“我可以把你带到很远的地方，比轮船的航程还要远。”蛇说。他绕在小王子的脚踝上，就像一只金色的镯子。

p. 104-105

“我碰了谁，就会把他送回到他当初来的地方，”蛇接着说道，“可你是无辜的，而且来自别的星球……”

小王子没有作声。

“我真替你感到难过。在这个满是岩石的地球上，你是那么脆弱，”蛇说，“我可以帮助你。有一天，等你想念你的星球，想要回家的时候，我可以——”

“哦，我知道你的意思了，”小王子说，“可是，为什么你说的话总是像谜语一样呢？”

“因为我已经解开了所有的谜。”蛇说。

接下来，他们俩都没有再说话。

18

小王子穿过沙漠，一路上只看见了一朵花儿。那是一朵三瓣的花儿——一朵无足轻重的花儿……

“早上好。”小王子说。

“早上好。”花儿说。

“人都在哪儿？”小王子很有礼貌地问道。

曾经有一天，花儿看见过一个路过的商队。

“人？我知道这世上有那么六七个人。我好几年前见过他们。不过，你根本不知道上哪儿去找他们，风把他们刮跑了。他们没有根，这对他们非常不利。”

“再见。”小王子说。

“再见。”花儿说。

19

p. 106-107

小王子爬上了一座很高的山。他以前就知道自己那三座火山，高度都只到他的膝盖。他拿那座死火山当脚凳。“站在这么高的一座山上，”他想，“我就可以看到整个星球和星球上所有的人了……”可是，他只看到了像针尖一样锋利的石峰。

“你好。”他说，不知道周围有没有人。

“你好……你好……你好……”回声说道。

“你是谁？”小王子问。

“你是谁……你是谁……你是谁……”回声答道。

“我们交个朋友吧，我很孤独。”小王子说。



“我很孤独……我很孤独……我很孤独……”回声答道。

“多么奇怪的星球啊！”他想，“所有的一切都又干又硬又锋利。这里的人一点儿想象力也没有，只会重复你对他们说过的话。在我住的地方，我有一朵花儿，每次说话总是她先开口……”

20

p. 108-109

小王子走了很久很久，穿过沙漠、石堆，还有雪地。最后，他发现了一条路，而所有的路都会通向有人的地方。

“早上好。”小王子说。

那是一个开满玫瑰的花园。

“早上好。”花儿们说。

小王子看着她们。她们个个看上去都很像他的花儿。

“你们是谁？”小王子感到很震惊。

“我们是玫瑰花。”花儿们说。

“啊！”小王子说。

他觉得很不开心。他的花儿跟他说过，她是整个宇宙中独一无二的，除了她之外，世上就再没有这样的花儿了。可眼前就有五千朵这样的花儿，看上去全都一模一样，仅仅是在一个园子里！

“她肯定会很生气的，”小王子想，“如果她看到这些话……为了不被嘲笑，她一定会拼命地咳嗽，假装要死去的样子。我呢，就得假装着去照顾她。要不然，她真的会让自己死掉，就为了羞辱我。”

p. 110-111

然后他又想：“我只拥有一朵花儿，只拥有一朵普通的玫瑰，而我还以为自己很富有。不过是一朵花儿，还有三座只到我膝盖的火山，其中有一个还是彻底休眠了的。我有的就这么点儿东西，根本不像什么王子……”想到这里，他倒在草地上哭了。

21

就在这个时候，狐狸出现了。

“早上好。”狐狸说。

“早上好。”小王子很有礼貌地答道，尽管他回头的时候什么也没看到。

“我在这里，”那个声音说道，“在苹果树底下。”

“你是谁？”小王子问，“你真漂亮……”

“我是狐狸。”狐狸说。

“过来跟我一起玩吧，”小王子提议说，“我正觉得伤心呢。”

“我不能跟你一起玩，”狐狸说，“我还没有被驯服呢。”



p. 112-113

“啊！对不起。”小王子说。他想了想，然后说道：“驯服是什么意思？”

“你不是这儿的人吧，”狐狸说，“你在找什么呢？”

“我在找人，”小王子说，“驯服是什么意思？”

“人有枪，”狐狸说，“而且打猎，真是挺烦人的。他们还养鸡，那是他们做的唯一一件有趣的事情。你是在找鸡吗？”

“不是的，”小王子说，“我在找朋友。驯服是什么意思？”

“那是常常被人忽略的一样东西。它的意思是：‘创造关联’。”

“创造关联？”

“对，”狐狸说，“在我看来，你只是一个小男孩，跟别的成千上万个小男孩没什么不同。我不需要你，你也不需要我。而在你看来，我只是一只狐狸，跟别的成千上万只狐狸也没什么不同。可是，如果你驯服了我的话，我们就会彼此需要对方了。对我来说，你会是这个世界上唯一的一个小男孩，而我对你来说也会是这个世界上唯一的一只狐狸……”

p. 114-115

“我开始明白了，”小王子说，“有一朵花儿……我想，她已经把我驯服了……”

“很有可能，”狐狸说，“在地球上什么事情都有。”

“哦，我说的不是在地球上。”小王子说。

狐狸露出一副很好奇的样子：“你是说在别的星球上？”

“是的。”

“那个星球上有猎人吗？”

“没有。”

“有意思。那么有鸡吗？”

“没有。”

“没有十全十美的事情啊。”狐狸叹了口气。

不过，他很快又回到了正题。“我的生活非常单调。我抓鸡，人又来抓我。所有的鸡都是一个样子，所有的人也都是一个样子，所以我觉得很烦。可是，如果你驯服了我的话，我的生活就会充满阳光。我能从众多脚步声中分辨出你的脚步声。听到别人的脚步声，我会跑回地下躲起来，而你的脚步声却会像音乐一般将我从洞里召唤出来。还有，你看！看见那边那片麦田了吗？我从来不吃面包，所以麦子对我来说一点儿用处也没有，麦田也对我毫无意义，这真是叫人难过。可你的头发是金色的，所以要是你驯服了我的话，那就真的太棒了！那些麦子也是金色的，看见它们就会让我想起你。我还会爱上风吹过麦子的声音……”

p. 116-117

狐狸没有再说下去，只是久久地看着小王子。“请你……驯服我吧！”他说。

“我是愿意这样做的，”小王子回答道，“可是我没有多少时间。我得去找朋友，还有很多东西要学。”

“只有驯服了一样东西之后，你才算真的了解它，”狐狸说，“现在的人没有时间去了解东西，他们在商店里买现成的东西。哪个商店里都没有朋友卖，所以人就不再有朋友了。如果你想要一个朋友的话，那就驯服我吧！”

“我该怎么做呢？”小王子问。

“你得非常有耐心，”狐狸说，“刚开始，你得坐得离我远一点儿，就在那

边的草地上。我会从眼角偷偷地瞟你。你什么也不要说，因为语言是一切误解的源头。不过，每一天你都可以坐得更近一些……”

第二天，小王子又回到了这个地方。

“如果你能在同一个时间回来会更好，”狐狸说，“比方说，如果你每天下午四点过来的话，我从三点开始就会感到很开心。时间越接近四点，我就越开心。到四点的时候，我就会又兴奋又担心，我会发现开心也要有代价！可是，如果你来的时间没有准儿，那我就不知道该在什么时候准备心情……得有个惯例才行呢。”

“什么是惯例？”小王子问。

p. 118-119

“那是另外一样经常被人忽略的东西，”狐狸说，“因为有了这个东西，某一天才会与其他日子有所不同，某一个小时也才会与其他小时有所不同。比如说，我的那些猎人们就有一个惯例。每逢星期四，他们会去跟村里的姑娘们跳舞。

“所以，星期四是个好日子；我可以一直溜达到葡萄园那边去。要是猎人们想跳舞的时候就跳舞的话，那每一天就都是一样的了，我也就不会有什么节日了。”

就这样，小王子驯服了狐狸。分手的时候快到了。

“啊！”狐狸说，“我会哭的。”

“那得怪你自己，”小王子说，“我从没想过要伤害你，可你自己却非要我驯服你……”

“是的，没错。”狐狸说。

“可是你要哭了！”小王子说。

“是的，没错。”狐狸说。

p. 120-121

“那么说，你什么也没有得到吗？”小王子说。

“我得到了，”狐狸说，“因为那些麦子的颜色。”然后他又说：“再去看看那些玫瑰吧。你会明白你的花儿的确是世界上独一无二的玫瑰。然后，你再回来跟我道别，我要告诉你一个秘密作为礼物。”

小王子又去看了那些玫瑰。

“你们根本就不像我的玫瑰。你们什么也不是，”他对她们说，“你们没有被驯服，也没有驯服别人。你们就跟我的狐狸以前一样，那时他跟成千上万只其他狐狸没有区别。可是，现在我已经把他变成了我的朋友，他现在是这个世界上独一无二的狐狸了。”

玫瑰们都很羞愧。

“你们很可爱，可你们都是没有意义的，”他接着说，“没有人会愿意为你们而死。当然，一个普通的过路人也许会觉得我的玫瑰看起来跟你们很像。可是，我的玫瑰比你们所有这些花儿加在一起更重要。因为我为她浇过水，把她放在玻璃罩子底下，拿屏风帮她挡风。我还为她杀过虫（除了会变成蝴



蝶的那两三只毛虫以外)。我听她抱怨，听她夸耀自己。有时候她什么也不说，我也在听着，就因为她是我的玫瑰。”

然后，他回到了狐狸那里。

“再见。”他说。

p. 122-123

“再见，”狐狸说，“告诉你我的秘密吧。很简单：人只有用心才能看得清楚。那些最重要的东西都是眼睛无法看到的。”

“那些最重要的东西都是眼睛无法看到的。”小王子重复着这句话，好把它记在心里。

“你花在她身上的时间使你的玫瑰变得重要。”

“我花在她身上的时间使我的玫瑰变得重要……”小王子重复着这句话，好把它记在心里。

“人们已经忘记了这个道理，”狐狸说，“可是你不应该忘记。你对你驯服的东西永远都负有责任。你对你的花儿负有责任……”

“我对我的花儿负有责任……”小王子重复着这句话，好把它记在心里。

22

“早上好。”小王子说。

“早上好。”铁路扳道工说。

“你在做什么？”小王子问。

“我把旅客分成好多组，每组一千人，”扳道工说，“我把载着他们的火车送出去，有时候往右，有时候往左。”

这时候，一列灯火通明的特快列车轰隆隆地呼啸而过，扳道工的小木屋被震得晃了起来。

“他们真是行色匆匆啊，”小王子说，“他们要去找什么呢？”

“这个嘛，就连机车上的司机都不知道呢。”扳道工说。

又一列灯火通明的特快列车朝相反的方向呼啸而过。

p. 124-125

“他们这么快就回来了吗？”小王子问。

“不是刚才那些人，”扳道工说，“那是一列对开火车。”

“他们对自己待的地方不满意吗？”小王子问。

“没有人对自己待的地方满意。”扳道工说。

又一列灯火通明的特快列车从他们身边呼啸而过。

“他们是去追第一列火车上的旅客吗？”小王子问。

“他们什么也不追，”扳道工说，“他们在上面睡觉，要不就是在打哈欠。只有小孩子们会把鼻子紧紧地贴在车窗玻璃上。”

“只有小孩子知道自己要找什么，”小王子说，“他们会花时间去陪一个布娃娃，然后那个娃娃对他们来说就会非常重要，如果把娃娃从他们身边拿走，他们就会哭……”

“他们真幸运。”扳道工说。

“早上好。”小王子说。

“早上好。”推销员说。这个推销员在卖一种解渴药丸。只要吞下一颗这种药丸，你一星期都不会感到口渴。

“你为什么要卖这些药丸呢？”

“因为它们能帮人节省很多时间，”推销员说，“根据专家们的计算，每星期可以节省五十三分钟。”

“那五十三分钟可以用来做什么呢？”

“想做什么就做什么呗。”

“如果给我五十三分钟让我做自己想做的事情，”小王子心想，“我会很慢很慢地向一个泉眼走去……”



p. 126-127

我的飞机紧急迫降在沙漠上到现在已经是第八天了。听小王子给我讲推销员的故事的时候，我正好喝下了自己的最后一滴水。

“啊，”我对小王子说，“你的回忆真是令人愉快，可是我还没修好飞机呢。我已经没东西可喝了，我也想很慢很慢地向一个泉眼走过去呢！”

“我的狐狸朋友告诉我——”

“小家伙，这跟狐狸没关系！”

“为什么？”

“因为我们就要渴死了。”

小王子没有跟上我的逻辑，他这样回答我：“曾经有过一个朋友是件多好的事啊，就算马上就要死了也没关系。我自己就很高兴有过一个狐狸朋友。”

“他没有意识到危险，”我想，“他不会饿，也不会渴。对他来说，一点儿阳光就足够了……”

可小王子却看着我，回应着我的想法：“我也渴了……我们去找一口井吧……”

我做了一个恼怒的手势。在浩瀚的沙漠中漫无目的地找一口井，这也太不可思议了。尽管如此，我们还是出发了。

p. 128-129

我们默默地走了好几个小时，夜幕降临，星星开始钻了出来。我看着星星，感觉像是在做梦。因为口渴，我觉得有点儿发烧。小王子的那些话在我的脑海里跳跃着。

“那么说，你也渴了？”我问。

可是他没有回答我，只是说了句：“水对心灵也是有好处的……”

我没有听懂他的回答，但却什么也没说……我已经知道，问他也没有用。

小王子累了，于是坐了下来，我也挨着他坐下。沉默片刻之后，他又开口了：“星星很美，因为上面有你看不见的一朵花儿……”

我答了声“是的，没错”，然后没再说话，只是望着月光下隆起的沙脊。

“沙漠真美。”小王子又说了一句。

的确很美。我一直都很喜欢沙漠。坐在沙丘上的时候，你一无所见，一无所闻。可是，这片寂寥之中却有什么在闪耀，有什么在吟唱……

“沙漠之所以美丽，”小王子说，“是因为沙漠的某个地方藏着一口井……”

我忽然明白了沙漠中神秘的闪光是什么了，并为自己的这一发现震惊不已。小时候我住在一所老房子里，传说房子里的某个地方埋着宝藏。

p. 130-131

当然，从来没有人找到过这个宝藏，也许根本就没有人去找过。然而，这个传说却给整座房子施加了魔力。我的房子深处藏着一个秘密……

“是的，”我对小王子说，“不管是房子、星星，还是沙漠，它们之所以美丽，是因为某些眼睛无法看到的東西！”

“我真高兴，”小王子说，“你的想法跟我的狐狸一样。”

小王子睡着了。我把他抱在怀里，继续往前走，心里充满了感动。

恍惚之间，我觉得自己抱着一件脆弱的珍宝。在我看来，世界上没有比这更脆弱的东西了。

借着月光，我端详着他苍白的额头，紧闭的眼睛，还有在风中颤抖的发绀。我对自己说：“我现在看着的不过是一个外壳，而那些最重要的东西是眼睛无法看到的。”

看见他微笑着半张了一下嘴唇，我又对自己说道：“这个熟睡的小王子，他最让我心动的是他对一朵花儿的忠诚——那朵玫瑰的形象在他身体里闪耀，就像一盏明灯里的火焰，哪怕是在他睡着的时候……”我发现，他甚至比我想的还要脆弱。灯必须精心照料：一阵风就能把它们熄灭……

就这样走啊走，黎明的时候我找到了那口井。

25

p. 132-133

小王子说：“人们坐着特快列车出发，但却不知道自己在找什么。他们兴冲冲地转着圈……”然后他又说：“这么做根本就不值得……”

我们找到的这口井一点儿都不像撒哈拉沙漠里的井。撒哈拉沙漠里的井不过就是在沙子里挖出来的一个个洞而已。这口井看起来更像是哪个村子里的井，可这里根本就没有村子。我觉得自己也许是在做梦。

“真是奇怪，”我对小王子说，“什么都给准备好了：辘轳、水桶，还有绳子……”

他笑着抓过绳子，开始转动辘轳。辘轳低吟起来，那声音就像一个很久没转动过的风向标。

p. 134-135

“听到了吗？”小王子说，“我们把这口井唤醒了，它正在歌唱呢。”

我不想让他累着。“让我来吧，”我对他说，“对你来说这太沉了。”

我把水桶慢慢地提到井沿，然后小心翼翼地把



它放好。辘轳的歌声在我耳边回响，我看见阳光在动荡不停的水面上闪耀。

“我好想喝水啊，”小王子说，“给我喝一点儿吧……”

我知道他在找什么！

我把水桶举到他嘴边，他闭上双眼喝了起来。这水就像一场盛宴般甜美，绝不仅仅是可以喝的东西。

因为我们在星光下的跋涉、辘轳的歌唱，还有我双手的劳作，这水才会如此甘甜。这水就像礼物一样慰藉着心灵。我想起了小时候收到的圣诞礼物，它的熠熠光彩来自圣诞树上的彩灯、午夜弥撒的音乐和人们温柔的微笑，道理跟眼前的水一样。

“你住的这个地方的人，”小王子说，“在一个园子里种了五千朵玫瑰……可他们还是没有找到自己寻找的东西……”

“他们没有找到。”我回答说。

“其实，他们寻找的东西就在一朵玫瑰或者几口水里……”

“没错。”我说。

小王子接着又说：“可是，靠眼睛是看不到的，你得用心去看才行。”

p. 136-137

喝完水之后，我可以自如地呼吸了。黎明时分的沙漠是蜜色的，这样的颜色让我很快活。可我为什么还是那么伤心呢？

“你得兑现你的承诺。”小王子说。他又坐回到了我的身边。

“什么承诺？”

“你知道的……给我的绵羊画一个嘴套……我对这朵花儿负有责任！”

我从口袋里掏出了自己的那些画。小王子瞟了一眼，笑着说：“你画的猴面包树就像卷心菜一样。”

“哦！”我原来还很为自己的猴面包树自豪呢！

“你画的狐狸……他的耳朵……就像两个角……而且太长了！”他又笑了起来。

“你这样说不公平，我的小王子，”我说，“除了蟒蛇的外面和里面之外，我根本就不知道怎么画别的东西。”

“哦，那没关系，”他说，“小孩子会明白的。”

于是我就画了一个嘴套，然后心情沉重地把画递给了他。“你心里有了什么打算吧，我不知道的打算……”

可是他没有回答。他说：“你知道，从我降落到地球算起……明天就是第一个周年纪念了……”沉默片刻之后，他又说道：“我降落的地方就在这附近……”说到这儿，他的脸红了。

又一次，我莫名地感到一阵奇怪的忧伤。不过，我还是想到了一个问题：“八天之前的那个早上，我碰见了你，那时你独自走在一个跟任何有人烟的地方都隔着至少一千英里的地方。这么说，那并不是偶然的？你是要回到你在地球上降落的地方去吗？”

p. 138-139

小王子的脸又红了。

我又迟疑着加了一句：“莫非是为了……周年纪念？”

小王子又红了脸。他从来不回答别人的问题，可当一个人脸红的时候，



那不就是在回答“是”吗？

“啊，”我对他说，“我恐怕……”

可他却岔开了话题：“你现在得去干活儿，修你的机器了。我在这里等你。明天晚上回这里来吧。”

可我还是不放心，不由得想起了那只狐狸，如果你让自己被人驯服的话，就得冒流泪的风险。

26

水井边上有一座废墟，是一堵古老的石墙。第二天晚上，我干完活儿回到这里的时候，老远就看见了我的小王子。他坐在墙头上，垂着的双腿晃来晃去。我听见他在说话。“你不记得了吗？”他说，“这不是那个地方！”应该是有另一个声音回答了他的话，因为他接着又说：“哦，是的，是这一天，但却不是这个地方……”

我往墙那边走去，但却还是看不见那个人，也听不到他讲话。不过，小王子又说话了：“当然。你可以看到我的脚印开始的地方。就在那儿等我吧，我今晚会过去的。”

我距离那堵墙只有二十码的距离，但还是没看见那个人。

p. 140-141

沉默片刻之后，小王子说道：“你的毒管用吗？你确信我不会痛苦很久？”

我突然停住了脚步，心跳得非常厉害，但还是没弄明白这是怎么回事。

“你走开吧，”小王子说，“我要从这边下来！”

我往墙根望去，一下子惊得跳了起来！就在小王子面前的地上，墙根处盘着一条黄色的蛇，是那种能在三十秒之内致你于死地的蛇。

我伸手到口袋里去掏手枪，往后退去。可是，听到我的动静之后，蛇就像一股泉水一般潜入了沙子里，从容地从石头缝中滑了出去，只发出了轻微的金属般的铿锵声。

我赶忙走到墙边，正好来得及接住我的小王子，他的脸色煞白。

“怎么回事？你现在还跟蛇聊起天来了？”

p. 142-143

我解开他一直戴着的那条黄围巾，拿点水弄湿了他的太阳穴，又给他喝了一些水。现在，我不敢再问他什么问题了。他表情严肃地看着我，伸出双手搂住我的脖子。我感觉到他的心跳，就像一只被枪击中后生命垂危的小鸟一样。他对我说：“我很高兴你找出了机器的毛病，你现在又能飞起来了……”

“你怎么知道的？”我过来正是要告诉他，在绝望之后我终于成功了！

他没有回答，只是说：“我今天也要走了。”然后他又伤心地说道：“我的路要远得多……也难得多……”

我意识到某件不寻常的事情正在发生。我抱着他，就像抱着一个小孩，可我却感觉到他正在向深渊急速坠落，而我却无法将他留住。

他的表情非常严肃、失神而超然。“我有了你给我的绵羊，还有一个箱子给他住，还有嘴套……”说到这儿，他忧伤地笑了。

我等了很长时间，感觉到他恢复了一点。“小家伙，你害怕了……”他当

然会害怕！

可他又是微微一笑：“今天晚上我会更害怕的……”

我心头又是一凉，知道有些东西已经无法挽回了。我意识到自己接受不了这样的想法——以后我再也听不到这样的笑声了。对我来说，这笑声就像是沙漠里的一股清泉。

p. 144-145

“小家伙，我还想听你笑呢……”

可他却说：“到今天晚上，我来地球就满一年了。我的星球会在我去年降落的那个地方的正上方。”

“小家伙，这只是个恶梦，对不对？你跟蛇之间的对话，你们会面的地方，那颗星星……”

可他没有回答我，只是说：“重要的是那些看不见的东西……”

“是的……”

“对花儿来说，道理也是一样的。如果你爱上了一朵花儿，她住在一颗星星上，夜里抬头仰望星空就是很美的事情，仿佛所有的星星上都开满了花。”

“是的……”

“水也是这样。你给我喝的水就像音乐，因为那个辘轳和那根绳子……你记得的……那有多美。”

“是的……”

“以后到了夜里，你可以抬头看星星。我住的星球太小了，没法给你指出来。这样其实更好。我的星星对你来说会是……好多星星中的一颗。这一来，你就会愿意去看所有的星星，他们都会成为你的朋友。还有，我还有件礼物要给你。”他又笑了起来。

“啊，小家伙，小家伙，我喜欢听你这样笑！”

“这就是我的礼物。就是这个……就像水一样。”

“什么意思？”

“每个人都拥有这些星星，可星星对不同的人来说是不一样的。对旅行者来说，星星是指引。对有些人来说，星星只不过是一些微微的亮光。而对另外一些人，对学者来说，星星是他们要解决的难题。对我见过的那个商人来说，星星是金子。不过，他们的那些星星都是沉默的。而你，你拥有的星星是别的人都没有的。”

p. 146-147

“什么意思？”

“夜里，你可以抬头看天空，而我就住在其中的一颗星星上，我会在其中的一颗星星上笑。这样，对你来说，所有的星星就都在笑了。你拥有的是会笑的星星！”

说到这里，他又笑了起来。

“当你平静下来的时候（每个人最终都会平静下来的），你会很高兴认识了我。你会一直跟我做朋友，会想要跟我一块儿笑。有时候你会打开窗户，只是为了好玩……当你抬起头，一边看天空一边笑的时候，你的朋友们会很吃惊，这时你就可以告诉他们：‘是的，’



这些星星，它们总是能让我发笑！’他们会觉得你疯了。这就是我对你的恶作剧……”

说到这里，他又笑了起来。

“这就好像我给你的不是星星，而是许多会笑的小铃铛……”

他又笑了起来，接着又变得非常严肃。“今天晚上……你知道……你不要来。”

“我不会离开你的。”

“我看上去会很痛苦，就像要死去一样。看起来会是那样的。不要来看，不用那么麻烦。”

“我不会离开你的。”

可是他急了。“我告诉你这个……是因为那条蛇。不能让他咬你。蛇有时候很讨厌，咬人只是为了好玩。”

“我不会离开你的。”

这时他想起了什么，于是安下心来。“倒也是，他们的毒素不够多，没法咬第二口的……”

p. 148-149

那天晚上，我没有看到他离开，他走的时候一点儿声响都没有。等我费了好大的劲儿追上他时，他正在坚决地快步朝前走。他只说了一句“啊，你来了”，然后就抓住了我的手。不过，他还是很紧张。“你不该来。你会难过的。我看起来就像死了，可那并不是真的……”

我没说话。

“你知道，路太远了。我不能带上这个身体，太重了。”

我没说话。

“不过，我的身体就像一个被丢掉的旧壳子，一个旧壳子没什么好让人伤心的……”

我还是一言不发。

他有些灰心了，但还是又做了一次努力。

“你知道，事情会很顺利的。我也会看着星星，而所有的星星都会变成水井，上面带着生锈的轱辘。所有的星星都会倒出水来给我喝……”

p. 150-151

我一言不发。

“会很有趣的！你会有五亿个小铃铛，我会有五亿眼清泉……”到这会儿，他也不说话了，因为他已经哭了……

“到了。让我自己过去吧。”

他坐了下来，因为他很害怕。

然后他说：“你知道……我的花儿……我对她负有责任。她是那么娇弱！而且那么天真。她只有四根可笑的刺，就靠这来保护她自己……”

我也坐了下来，因为我已经站不住了。

他说：“就这样……别再过来了……”

他又迟疑了一会儿，然后站起身来。他往前迈了一步，我却无法动弹。

他脚踝边闪过一道黄光。他呆呆地站了片刻，没有叫出来。然后，他像一颗树一样慢慢倒了下去。周围都是沙子，他倒下的时候没有发出声音。

p. 152-153

当然，到现在六年已经过去了……我从来没跟人讲过这个故事。朋友们看见我活着都很开心。我却很伤心，可我只是对他们说：“是因为太累了。”

现在，我多少比以前平静一些了，当然还没有……完全平静下来。不过，我知道他的确已经回到了他自己的星球，因为黎明的时候我没有找到他的尸体。他的身体还不是重得让他无法带走……到了晚上，我喜欢听星星们的声音，就像五亿个小铃铛……

可是，有件不寻常的事情又发生了。给小王子画那个嘴套的时候，我忘了在上面加皮带子。那样的话，他是没法把嘴套绑在绵羊嘴上的。

于是我就想：“在他的星球上发生了什么呢？也许绵羊已经把花儿吃掉了……”

有时我会告诉自己：“当然不会！小王子把他的花儿放在玻璃罩子底下，而且他会看紧绵羊的……”这样一想，我就高兴了，所有的星星也都甜蜜地笑了起来。

有时我会告诉自己：“谁都会有偶尔疏忽的时候，那就全完了！或许有天晚上他忘了把花儿放到玻璃罩子底下，或者绵羊在夜里悄悄地溜了出来……”这样一想，所有的铃铛就全都变成了泪珠！

p. 154-155

这是个天大的谜题，对我、对同样喜欢小王子的你来说都是如此。对我来说，在无人知晓的某个地方，我们从未见过的一只绵羊是否把一朵玫瑰给吃了，是件关系到整个宇宙的大事情。

抬头仰望天空，问问自己：“绵羊有没有吃掉花儿呢？”

然后，你就会看到一切都有了改变……

大人们永远也不会理解为什么这样一件事情会如此重要！

p. 156-157

在我看来，这是世界上最可爱也最伤感的景色。前面那一页画的是同样的景色，可我把它又画了一遍，好让你看得清楚。这是小王子在地球上出现的地方，也是他后来消失的地方。

仔细地看看这幅景象吧，记住它，也许有一天你会去非洲的沙漠旅行，如果你碰巧经过这里，请你不要匆匆而过。请停留片刻，就在那颗星下！然后，如果有小孩子向你走过来，如果他在笑，如果他有金色的头发，如果他不回答你的问题，那你就知道他是谁了。如果这一切真的发生了的话，请行行好！不要让我继续这样伤心下去了：马上捎个信给我，告诉我他回来了……



责任编辑：周 晶

封面设计：高 鹏



简易优美的英语读物
撼动心灵的文学世界

轻松英语名作欣赏

第一级 适合小学高年级、初一

第二级 适合初二、初三

第三级 适合初三、高一

第四级 适合高一、高二

第五级 适合高二、高三

绘声绘色悦读经典



一个学术性教育性
出版机构

网址: <http://www.fltrp.com>

 **다락원**

ISBN 978-7-5600-6210-5



9 787560 062105 >

定价: 25.90 元

(附2张CD光盘)