



安托萬·德·聖-修伯里  
小王子

Antoine de Saint-Exupery  
The Little Prince

## 小王子

## 献给莱翁·维尔特

请孩子们原谅我把这本书献给了一个大人。我有一条正当的理由：这个大人是我在世界上最好的朋友。我另有一条理由：这个大人什么都懂；即使儿童读物也懂。我还有第三条理由：这个大人住在法国，忍冻挨饿。他很需要有人安慰。

要是这些理由还不够充分，我就把这本书献给这个大人曾经做过的孩子。每人大人都是从做孩子开始的。（然而，记得这事的又有几个呢？）因此，我把我的献词改为：

## 献给童年时代的莱翁·维尔特

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当我还只有六岁的时候，在一本描写原始森林的名叫《真实的故事》的书中，看到了一副精彩的插画，画的是一条蟒蛇正在吞食一只大野兽。页头上就是那副画的摹本。

## 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.

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Once when I was six years old I saw a magnificent picture in a book, called True Stories from Nature, about the primeval forest. It was a picture of a boa constrictor in the act of swallowing an animal. Here is a copy of the drawing.

## The Little Prince

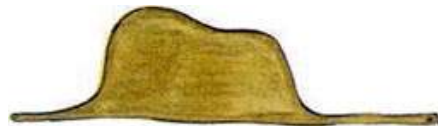


这本书中写道：“这些蟒蛇把它们的猎获物不加咀嚼地囫囵吞下，尔后就不能再动弹了；它们就在长长的六个月的睡眠中消化这些食物。”

In the book it said: “Boa constrictors swallow their prey whole, without chewing it. After that they are not able to move, and they sleep through the six months that they need for digestion.”

当时，我对丛林中的奇遇想得很多，于是，我也用彩色铅笔画出了我的第一副图画。我的第一号作品。它是这样的：

I pondered deeply, then, over the adventures of the jungle. And after some work with a colored pencil I succeeded in making my first drawing. My Drawing Number One. It looked something like this:



我把我的这副杰作拿给大人看，我问他们我的画是不是叫他们害怕。

I showed my masterpiece to the grown-ups, and asked them whether the drawing frightened them.

他们回答我说：“一顶帽子有什么可怕的？”

But they answered: “Frighten? Why should any one be frightened by a hat?”

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我画的不是帽子，是一条巨蟒在消化着一头大象。于是我又把巨蟒肚子里的情况画了出来，以便让大人们能够看懂。这些大人总是需要解释。我的第二号作品是这样的：

My drawing was not a picture of a hat. It was a picture of a boa constrictor digesting an elephant. But since the grown-ups were not able to understand it, I made another drawing: I drew the inside of a boa constrictor, so that the grown-ups could see it clearly. They always need to have things explained. My Drawing Number Two looked like this:



大人们劝我把这些画着开着肚皮的，或闭上肚皮的蟒蛇的图画放在一边，还是把兴趣放在地理、历史、算术、语法上。就这样，在六岁的那年，我就放弃了当画家这一美好的职业。

The grown-ups' response, this time, was to advise me to lay aside my drawings of boa constrictors, whether from the inside or the outside, and devote myself instead to geography, history, arithmetic, and grammar. That is why, at the age of six, I gave up what might have been a magnificent career as a painter.

我的第一号、第二号作品的失败，使我泄了气。这些大人们，靠他们自己什么也弄不懂，还得老是不不断地给他们作解释。这真叫孩子们腻味。

I had been disheartened by the failure of my Drawing Number One and my Drawing Number Two. Grown-ups never understand anything by themselves, and it is tiresome for children to be always and forever explaining things to them.

后来，我只好选择了另外一个职业，我学会了开飞机，世界各地差不多都飞到过。的确，地理学帮了我很大的忙。

So then I chose another profession, and learned to pilot airplanes. I have flown a little over all parts of the world; and it is true that geography has been very useful to me.

我一眼就能分辨出中国和亚里桑那。要是夜里迷失了航向，这是很有用的。

At a glance I can distinguish China from Arizona. If one gets lost in the night, such knowledge is valuable.

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这样，在我的生活中，我跟许多严肃的人有过很多的接触。我在大人们中间生活过很长时间。我仔细地观察过他们，但这并没有使我对他们的看法有多大的改变。

当我遇到一个头脑看来稍微清楚的大人时，我就拿出一一直保存着的我那第一号作品来测试测试他。我想知道他是否真的有理解能力。

可是，得到的回答总是：“这是顶帽子。”

我就不和他谈巨蟒呀，原始森林呀，或者星星之类的事。我只得迁就他们的水平，和他们谈些桥牌呀，高尔夫球呀，政治呀，领带呀这些。于是大人们就十分高兴能认识我这样一个通情达理的人。

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我就这样孤独地生活着，没有一个能真正谈得来的人，一直到六年前在撒哈拉沙漠上发生了那次故障。

In the course of this life I have had a great many encounters with a great many people who have been concerned with matters of consequence. I have lived a great deal among grown-ups. I have seen them intimately, close at hand. And that hasn't much improved my opinion of them.

Whenever I met one of them who seemed to me at all clear-sighted, I tried the experiment of showing him my Drawing Number One, which I have always kept. I would try to find out, so, if this was a person of true understanding.

But, whoever it was, he, or she, would always say: "That is a hat."

Then I would never talk to that person about boa constrictors, or primeval forests, or stars. I would bring myself down to his level. I would talk to him about bridge, and golf, and politics, and neckties. And the grown-up would be greatly pleased to have met such a sensible man.

||

So I lived my life alone, without anyone that I could really talk to, until I had an accident with my plane in the Desert of Sahara, six years ago.

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我的发动机里有个东西损坏了。当时由于我既没有带机械师也没有带旅客，我就试图独自完成这个困难的维修工作。

Something was broken in my engine. And as I had with me neither a mechanic nor any passengers, I set myself to attempt the difficult repairs all alone.

这对我来说是个生与死的问题。我随身带的水只够饮用一星期。

It was a question of life or death for me: I had scarcely enough drinking water to last a week.

第一天晚上我就睡在这远离人间烟火的大沙漠上。我比大海中伏在小木排上的遇难者还要孤独得多。

The first night, then, I went to sleep on the sand, a thousand miles from any human habitation. I was more isolated than a shipwrecked sailor on a raft in the middle of the ocean.

而在第二天拂晓，当一个奇怪的小声音叫醒我的时候，你们可以想见我当时是多么吃惊。这小小的声音说道：

Thus you can imagine my amazement, at sunrise, when I was awakened by an odd little voice. It said:

“请你给我画一只羊，好吗？”

“If you please — draw me a sheep!”

“啊！”

“What!”

“给我画一只羊……”

“Draw me a sheep!”

我象是受到惊雷轰击一般，一下子就站立起来。我使劲地揉了揉眼睛，仔细地看了看。我看见一个十分奇怪的小家伙严肃地朝我凝眸望着。

I jumped to my feet, completely thunderstruck. I blinked my eyes hard. I looked carefully all around me. And I saw a most extraordinary small person, who stood there examining me with great seriousness.

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这是后来我给他画出来的最好的一副画像。

Here you may see the best portrait that, later, I was able to make of him.



可是，我的画当然要比他本人的模样逊色得多。这不是我的过错。六岁时，大人们使我对我的画家生涯失去了勇气，除了画过开着肚皮和闭着肚皮的蟒蛇，后来再没有学过画。

But my drawing is certainly very much less charming than its model. That, however, is not my fault. The grown-ups discouraged me in my painter's career when I was six years old, and I never learned to draw anything, except boas from the outside and boas from the inside.

我惊奇地睁大着眼睛看着这突然出现的小家伙。你们不要忘记，我当时处在远离人烟千里之外的地方。而这个小家伙给我的印象是，他既不象迷了路的样子，也没有半点疲乏、饥渴、惧怕的神情。

Now I stared at this sudden apparition with my eyes fairly starting out of my head in astonishment. Remember, I had crashed in the desert a thousand miles from any inhabited region. And yet my little man seemed neither to be straying uncertainly among the sands, nor to be fainting from fatigue or hunger or thirst or fear.

他丝毫不象是一个迷失在旷无人烟的大沙漠中的孩子。当我在惊讶之中终于又能说出话来时候，对他说道：

Nothing about him gave any suggestion of a child lost in the middle of the desert, a thousand miles from any human habitation. When at last I was able to speak, I said to him:



## 小王子

“唉，你在这儿干什么？”

“But — what are you doing here?”

可是他却不慌不忙地好象有一件重要的事一般，对我重复地说道：

And in answer he repeated, very slowly, as if he were speaking of a matter of great consequence:

“请……给我画一只羊……”

“If you please — draw me a sheep...”

当一种神秘的东西把你镇住的时候，你是不敢不听从它的支配的，在这旷无人烟的沙漠上，面临死亡的危险的情况下，尽管这样的举动使我感到十分荒诞，我还是掏出了一张纸和一支钢笔。

When a mystery is too overpowering, one dare not disobey. Absurd as it might seem to me, a thousand miles from any human habitation and in danger of death, I took out of my pocket a sheet of paper and my fountain-pen.

这时我却又记起，我只学过地理、历史、算术和语法，就有点不大高兴地对小家伙说我不会画画。他回答我说：

But then I remembered how my studies had been concentrated on geography, history, arithmetic and grammar, and I told the little chap (a little crossly, too) that I did not know how to draw. He answered me:

“没有关系，给我画一只羊吧！”

“That doesn't matter. Draw me a sheep...”

因为我从来没有画过羊，我就给他重画我所仅仅会画的两副画中的那副闭着肚皮的巨蟒。

But I had never drawn a sheep. So I drew for him one of the two pictures I had drawn so often. It was that of the boa constrictor from the outside. And I was astounded to hear the little fellow greet it with:

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“不，不！我不要蟒蛇，它肚子里还有一头象。”

我听了他的话，简直目瞪口呆。他接着说：“巨蟒这东西太危险，大象又太占地方。我住的地方非常小，我需要一只羊。给我画一只羊吧。”

“No, no, no! I do not want an elephant inside a boa constrictor. A boa constrictor is a very dangerous creature, and an elephant is very cumbersome. Where I live, everything is very small. What I need is a sheep. Draw me a sheep.”

我就给他画了。

So then I made a drawing.



他专心地看着，随后又说：

He looked at it carefully, then he said:

“我不要，这只羊已经病得很重了。给我重新画一只。”

“No. This sheep is already very sickly. Make me another.”

我又画了起来。

So I made another drawing.



我的这位朋友天真可爱地笑了，并且客气地拒绝道：

My friend smiled gently and indulgently.

“你看，你画的不是小羊，是头公羊，还有犄角呢。”

“You see yourself,” he said, “that this is not a sheep. This is a ram. It has horns.”

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于是我又重新画了一张。

So then I did my drawing over once more.



这副画同前几副一样又被拒绝了。

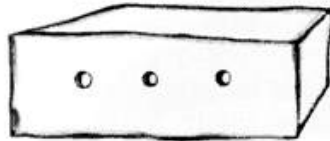
But it was rejected too, just like the others.

“这一只太老了。我想要一只  
能活得长的羊。”

“This one is too old. I want a sheep that will live a long time.”

我不耐烦了。因为我急于要检修发动机，于是就草草画了这张画。

By this time my patience was exhausted, because I was in a hurry to start taking my engine apart. So I tossed off this drawing.



并且匆匆地对他说：

And I threw out an explanation with it.

“这是一只箱子，你要的羊就在里面。”

“This is only his box. The sheep you asked for is inside.”

这时我十分惊奇地看到我的这位小评判员喜笑颜开。他说：

I was very surprised to see a light break over the face of my young judge:

“这正是我想要的，……你说这只羊需要很多草吗？”

“That is exactly the way I wanted it! Do you think that this sheep will have to have a great deal of grass?”

“为什么问这个呢？”

“Why?”

## The Little Prince

“因为我那里地方非常小……”

“Because where I live everything is very small...”

“我给你画的是一只很小的  
小羊，地方小也够喂养它的。”

“There will surely be enough grass for him,” I said.  
“It is a very small sheep that I have given you.”

他把脑袋靠近这张画。  
“并不象你说的那么小……  
瞧！它睡着了……”

He bent his head over the drawing.  
“Not so small that — Look! He has gone to sleep...”

就这样，我认识了小王子。

And that is how I made the acquaintance of the little prince.

III

III



我费了好长时间才弄清楚他是从哪来的。小王子向我提出了很多问题，可是，对我提出的问题，他好象压根没有听见似的。

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

## 小王子

他无意中吐露的一些话逐渐使我搞清了他的来历。例如，当他第一次瞅见我的飞机时（我就不画出我的飞机了，因为这种图画对我来说太复杂），他问我道：

“这是个啥玩艺？”

“这不是‘玩艺儿’。它能飞。这是飞机。是我的飞机。”

我当时很骄傲地告诉他我能飞。于是他惊奇地说道：

“怎么？你是从天上掉下来的？”

“是的”。我谦逊地答道。

“啊？这真滑稽。”

此时小王子发出一阵清脆的笑声。这使我很不高兴。我要求别人严肃地对待我的不幸。然后，他又说道：

“那么，你也是从天上来的了！你是哪个星球上的？”

即刻，对于他是从哪里来的这个秘密我隐约发现到了一点线索；于是，我就突然问道：

It was from words dropped by chance that, little by little, everything was revealed to me. The first time he saw my airplane, for instance (I shall not draw my airplane; that would be much too complicated for me), he asked me:

“What is that object?”

“That is not an object. It flies. It is an airplane. It is my airplane.”

And I was proud to have him learn that I could fly. He cried out, then:

“What! You dropped down from the sky?”

“Yes,” I answered, modestly.

“Oh! That is funny!”

And the little prince broke into a lovely peal of laughter, which irritated me very much. I like my misfortunes to be taken seriously. Then he added:

“So you, too, come from the sky! Which is your planet?”

At that moment I caught a gleam of light in the impenetrable mystery of his presence; and I demanded, abruptly:

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“你是从另一个星球上来的吗？”

“Do you come from another planet?”

可是他不回答我的问题。他一面看着我的飞机，一面微微地点头，接着说道：

But he did not reply. He tossed his head gently, without taking his eyes from my plane:

“可不是么，乘坐这玩艺儿，你不可能是从很远的地方来的……”

“It is true that on that you can't have come from very far away...”

说到这里，他就长时间地陷入沉思之中。然后，从口袋里掏出了我画的小羊，看着他的宝贝入了神。

And he sank into a reverie, which lasted a long time. Then, taking my sheep out of his pocket, he buried himself in the contemplation of his treasure.

你们可以想见这种关于“别的星球”的若明若暗的话语使我心里多么好奇。因此我竭力地想知道其中更多的奥秘。

You can imagine how my curiosity was aroused by this half-confidence about the “other planets.” I made a great effort, therefore, to find out more on this subject.

“你是从哪里来的，我的小家伙？你的家在什么地方？你要把我的小羊带到哪里去？”

“My little man, where do you come from? What is this ‘where I live,’ of which you speak? Where do you want to take your sheep?”

他沉思了一会，然后回答我说：

After a reflective silence he answered:

“好在有你给我的那只箱子，夜晚可以给小羊当房子用。”

“The thing that is so good about the box you have given me is that at night he can use it as his house.”

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“那当然。如果你听话的话，我再给你画一根绳子，白天可以栓住它。再加上一根扞杆。”

“That is so. And if you are good I will give you a string, too, so that you can tie him during the day, and a post to tie him to.”

我的建议看来有点使小王子反感。

But the little prince seemed shocked by this offer:

“栓住它，多么奇怪的主意。”

“Tie him! What a queer idea!”

“如果你不栓住它，它就到处跑，那么它会跑丢的。”

“But if you don't tie him,” I said, “he will wander off somewhere, and get lost.”

我的这位朋友又笑出了声：

My friend broke into another peal of laughter:

“你想要它跑到哪里去呀？”

“But where do you think he would go?”

“不管什么地方。它一直往前跑……”

“Anywhere. Straight ahead of him.”

这时，小王子郑重其事地说：

Then the little prince said, earnestly:

“这没有什么关系，我那里很小很小。”

“That doesn't matter. Where I live, everything is so small!”

接着，他略带伤感地又补充了一句：

And, with perhaps a hint of sadness, he added:

“一直朝前走，也不会走出多远……”

“Straight ahead of him, nobody can go very far...”

## IV

我还了解到另一件重要的事，就是他老家所在的那个星球比一座房子大不了多少。

这倒并没有使我感到太奇怪。我知道除地球、木星、火星、金星这几个有名称的大行星以外，还有成百个别的星球，它们有的小得很，就是用望远镜也很难看见。

当一个天文学家发现了其中一个星星，他就给它编上一个号码，例如把它称作“325小行星”。

我有重要的根据认为小王子所来自的那个星球是小行星B612。

## IV

I had thus learned a second fact of great importance: this was that the planet the little prince came from was scarcely any larger than a house!

But that did not really surprise me much. I knew very well that in addition to the great planets — such as the Earth, Jupiter, Mars, Venus — to which we have given names, there are also hundreds of others, some of which are so small that one has a hard time seeing them through the telescope.

When an astronomer discovers one of these he does not give it a name, but only a number. He might call it, for example, “Asteroid 325”.

I have serious reason to believe that the planet from which the little prince came is the asteroid known as B-612.



# 小王子



这颗小行星仅仅在1909年被一个土耳其天文学家用望远镜看见过一次。

This asteroid has only once been seen through the telescope. That was by a Turkish astronomer, in 1909.



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当时他曾经在一次国际天文学家代表大会上对他的发现作了重要的论证。但由于他所穿衣服的缘故，那时没有人相信他。那些大人们就是这样。

On making his discovery, the astronomer had presented it to the International Astronomical Congress, in a great demonstration. But he was in Turkish costume, and so nobody would believe what he said. Grown-ups are like that...

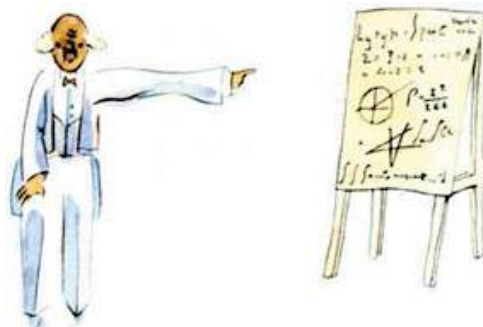


幸好，土耳其的一个独裁者，为了小行星B612的声誉，迫使他的人民都要穿欧式服装，否则就处以死刑。

Fortunately, however, for the reputation of Asteroid B-612, a Turkish dictator made a law that his subjects, under pain of death, should change to European costume.

1920年，这位天文学家穿了一身非常漂亮的服装，重新作了一次论证。这一次所有的人都同意他的看法。

So in 1920 the astronomer gave his demonstration all over again, dressed with impressive style and elegance. And this time everybody accepted his report.



## 小王子

我给你们讲关于小行星B612的这些细节，并且告诉你们它的编号，这是由于这些大人的缘故。这些大人们就爱数目字。

If I have told you these details about the asteroid, and made a note of its number for you, it is on account of the grown-ups and their ways.

当你对大人们讲起你的一个新朋友时，他们从来不向你提出实质性的问题。他们从来不讲：“他说话声音如何啊？他喜爱什么样的游戏啊？他是否收集蝴蝶标本呀？”

When you tell them that you have made a new friend, they never ask you any questions about essential matters. They never say to you, “What does his voice sound like? What games does he love best? Does he collect butterflies?”

他们却问你：“他多大年纪呀？弟兄几个呀？体重多少呀？他父亲挣多少钱呀？”他们以为这样才算了解朋友。

Instead, they demand: “How old is he? How many brothers has he? How much does he weigh? How much money does his father make?” Only from these figures do they think they have learned anything about him.

如果你对大人们说：“我看到一幢用玫瑰色的砖盖成的漂亮的房子，它的窗户上有天竺葵，屋顶上还有鸽子……”他们怎么也想象不出这种房子有多么好。必须对他们说：“我看见了一幢价值十万法郎的房子。”那么他们就惊叫道：“多么漂亮的房子啊！”

If you were to say to the grown-ups: “I saw a beautiful house made of rosy brick, with geraniums in the windows and doves on the roof,” they would not be able to get any idea of that house at all. You would have to say to them: “I saw a house that cost \$20,000.” Then they would exclaim: “Oh, what a pretty house that is!”

要是你对他们说：“小王子存在的证据就是他非常漂亮，他笑着，想要一只羊。他想要一只小羊，这就证明他的存在。”他们一定会耸耸肩膀，把你当作孩子看待！

Just so, you might say to them: “The proof that the little prince existed is that he was charming, that he laughed, and that he was looking for a sheep. If anybody wants a sheep, that is a proof that he exists.” And what good would it do to tell them that? They would shrug their shoulders, and treat you like a child.

## The Little Prince

但是，如果你对他们说：“小王子来自的星球就是小行星B612”，那么他们就十分信服，他们就不会提出一大堆问题来和你纠缠。他们就是这样的。小孩子们对大人们应该宽厚些，不要埋怨他们。

But if you said to them: "The planet he came from is Asteroid B-612," then they would be convinced, and leave you in peace from their questions. They are like that. One must not hold it against them. Children should always show great forbearance toward grown-up people.

当然，对我们懂得生活的人来说，我们才不在乎那些编号呢！我真愿意象讲神话那样来开始这个故事，我真想这样说：

But certainly, for us who understand life, figures are a matter of indifference. I should have liked to begin this story in the fashion of the fairy-tales. I should have like to say:

“从前呀，有一个小王子，他住在一个和他身体差不多大的星球上，他希望有一个朋友……”对懂得生活的人来说，这样说就显得真实。

"Once upon a time there was a little prince who lived on a planet that was scarcely any bigger than himself, and who had need of a sheep..." To those who understand life, that would have given a much greater air of truth to my story.

我可不喜欢人们轻率地读我的书。我在讲述这些往事时心情是很难过的。我的朋友带着他的小羊已经离去六年了。我之所以在这里尽力把他描写出来，就是为了不要忘记他。

For I do not want any one to read my book carelessly. I have suffered too much grief in setting down these memories. Six years have already passed since my friend went away from me, with his sheep. If I try to describe him here, it is to make sure that I shall not forget him.

忘记一个朋友，这太叫人悲伤了。并不是所有的人都有过一个朋友。再说，我也可能变成那些大人那样，只对数字感兴趣。

To forget a friend is sad. Not every one has had a friend. And if I forget him, I may become like the grown-ups who are no longer interested in anything but figures...

## 小王子

也正是为了这个缘故，我买了一盒颜料和一些铅笔。象我这样年纪的人，而且除了六岁时画过闭着肚皮的和开着肚皮的巨蟒外，别的什么也没有尝试过，现在，重新再来画画，真费劲啊！

当然，我一定要把这些画尽量地画得逼真，但我自己也没有把握。一张画得还可以，另一张就不象了。

还有身材大小，我画得有点不准确。在这个地方小王子画得太大了些，另一个地方又画得太小了些。对他衣服的颜色我也拿不准。于是我就摸索着这么试试那么改改，画个大概齐。

我很可能在某些重要的细节上画错了。这就得请大家原谅我了。因为我的这个朋友，从来也不加说明解释。他认为我同他一样。可是，很遗憾，我却不能透过盒子看见小羊。我大概有点和大人差不多。我一定是变老了。

It is for that purpose, again, that I have bought a box of paints and some pencils. It is hard to take up drawing again at my age, when I have never made any pictures except those of the boa constrictor from the outside and the boa constrictor from the inside, since I was six.

I shall certainly try to make my portraits as true to life as possible. But I am not at all sure of success. One drawing goes along all right, and another has no resemblance to its subject.

I make some errors, too, in the little prince's height: in one place he is too tall and in another too short. And I feel some doubts about the color of his costume. So I fumble along as best I can, now good, now bad, and I hope generally fair-to-middling.

In certain more important details I shall make mistakes, also. But that is something that will not be my fault. My friend never explained anything to me. He thought, perhaps, that I was like himself. But I, alas, do not know how to see sheep through the walls of boxes. Perhaps I am a little like the grown-ups. I have had to grow old.

## V

每天我都了解到一些关于小王子的星球，他的出走和旅行等事情。这些都是偶然从各种反应中慢慢得到的。就这样，第三天我就了解到关于猴面包树的悲剧。

这一次又是因为羊的事情，突然小王子好象是非常担心地问我道：

“羊吃小灌木，这是真的吗？”

“是的，是真的。”

“啊，我真高兴。”

我不明白羊吃小灌木这件事为什么如此重要。可小王子又说道：

“因此，它们也吃猴面包树罗？”

我对小王子说，猴面包树可不是小灌木，而是象教堂那么大的大树；即便是带回一群大象，也啃不了一棵猴面包树。

一群大象这种想法使小王子发笑：

## V

As each day passed I would learn, in our talk, something about the little prince's planet, his departure from it, his journey. The information would come very slowly, as it might chance to fall from his thoughts. It was in this way that I heard, on the third day, about the catastrophe of the baobabs.

This time, once more, I had the sheep to thank for it. For the little prince asked me abruptly — as if seized by a grave doubt.

“It is true, isn't it, that sheep eat little bushes?”

“Yes, that is true.”

“Ah! I am glad!”

I did not understand why it was so important that sheep should eat little bushes. But the little prince added:

“Then it follows that they also eat baobabs?”

I pointed out to the little prince that baobabs were not little bushes, but, on the contrary, trees as big as castles; and that even if he took a whole herd of elephants away with him, the herd would not eat up one single baobab.

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

## 小王子

“那可得把这些大象一只叠一只地垒起来。”

“We would have to put them one on top of the other,” he said.



他很有见识地说：

But he made a wise comment:

“猴面包树在长大之前，开始也是小小的。”

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

“不错。可是为什么你想叫你的羊去吃小猴面包树呢？”

“That is strictly correct,” I said. “But why do you want the sheep to eat the little baobabs?”

他回答我道：“唉！这还用说！”似乎这是不言而喻的。

He answered me at once, “Oh, come, come!”, as if he were speaking of something that was self-evident.

可是我自己要费很大的心劲才能弄懂这个问题。

And I was obliged to make a great mental effort to solve this problem, without any assistance.

原来，在小王子的星球上就象其他所有星球上一样，有好草和坏草；因此，也就有益草的草籽和毒草的草籽。

Indeed, as I learned, there were on the planet where the little prince lived — as on all planets — good plants and bad plants. In consequence, there were good seeds from good plants, and bad seeds from bad plants.

## The Little Prince

可是草籽是看不见的。它们沉睡在泥土里，直到其中的一粒忽然想要苏醒过来……于是它就伸展开身子，开始腼腆地朝着太阳长出一棵秀丽可爱的小嫩苗。

如果是小萝卜或是玫瑰的嫩苗，就让它去自由地生长。如果是一棵坏苗，一旦被辨认出来，就应该马上把它拔掉。

因为在小王子的星球上，有些非常可怕的种子……这就是猴面包树的种子。在那里的泥土里，这种种子多得成灾。

而一棵猴面包树苗，假如你拔得太迟，就再也无法把它清除掉。它就会盘踞整个星球。它的树根能把星球钻透，如果星球很小，而猴面包树很多，它就把整个星球搞得支离破碎。

“这是个纪律问题。”小王子后来向我解释道。“当你早上梳洗完毕以后，必须仔细地给星球梳洗，必须规定自己按时去拔掉猴面包树苗。这种树苗小的时候与玫瑰苗差不多，一旦可以把它们区别开的时候，就要把它拔掉。这是一件非常乏味的工作，但很容易。”

But seeds are invisible. They sleep deep in the heart of the earth's darkness, until some one among them is seized with the desire to awaken. Then this little seed will stretch itself and begin — timidly at first — to push a charming little sprig inoffensively upward toward the sun.

If it is only a sprout of radish or the sprig of a rosebush, one would let it grow wherever it might wish. But when it is a bad plant, one must destroy it as soon as possible, the very first instant that one recognizes it.

Now there were some terrible seeds on the planet that was the home of the little prince; and these were the seeds of the baobab. The soil of that planet was infested with them.

A baobab is something you will never, never be able to get rid of if you attend to it too late. It spreads over the entire planet. It bores clear through it with its roots. And if the planet is too small, and the baobabs are too many, they split it in pieces...

“It is a question of discipline,” the little prince said to me later on. “When you’ve finished your own toilet in the morning, then it is time to attend to the toilet of your planet, just so, with the greatest care. You must see to it that you pull up regularly all the baobabs, at the very first moment when they can be distinguished from the rosebushes which they resemble so closely in their earliest youth. It is very tedious work,” the little prince added, “but very easy.”



## 小王子

有一天，他劝我用心地画一副漂亮的图画，好叫我家乡的孩子对这件事有一个深刻的印象。

And one day he said to me: "You ought to make a beautiful drawing, so that the children where you live can see exactly how all this is."



他还对我说：“如果将来有一天他们出外旅行，这对他们是很很有用的。有时候，人们把自己的工作推到以后去做，并没有什么妨害，但要遇到拔猴面包树苗这种事，那就非造成大灾难不可。我遇到过一个星球，上面住着一个懒家伙，他放过了三棵小树苗……”

That would be very useful to them if they were to travel some day. Sometimes," he added, "there is no harm in putting off a piece of work until another day. But when it is a matter of baobabs, that always means a catastrophe. I knew a planet that was inhabited by a lazy man. He neglected three little bushes..."

## The Little Prince

于是，根据小王子的说明，我把这个星球画了下来。我从来不大愿意以道学家的口吻来说话，可是猴面包树的危险，大家都不大了解，对迷失在小行星上的人来说，危险性非常之大，因此这一回，我贸然打破了我的这种不喜欢教训人的惯例。我说：

“孩子们，要当心那些猴面包树呀！”为了叫我的朋友们警惕这种危险——他们同我一样长期以来和这种危险接触，却没有意识到它的危险性——我花了很大的功夫画了这副画。我提出的这个教训意义是很重大的，花点功夫是很值得的。

So, as the little prince described it to me, I have made a drawing of that planet. I do not much like to take the tone of a moralist. But the danger of the baobabs is so little understood, and such considerable risks would be run by anyone who might get lost on an asteroid, that for once I am breaking through my reserve.

“Children,” I say plainly, “watch out for the baobabs!” My friends, like myself, have been skirting this danger for a long time, without ever knowing it; and so it is for them that I have worked so hard over this drawing. The lesson which I pass on by this means is worth all the trouble it has cost me.

## 小王子



你们也许要问，为什么这本书中别的画都没有这副画那么壮观呢？回答很简单：别的画我也曾经试图画得好些，却没成功。而当我画猴面包树时，有一种急切的心情在激励着我。

Perhaps you will ask me, "Why are there no other drawing in this book as magnificent and impressive as this drawing of the baobabs?" The reply is simple. I have tried. But with the others I have not been successful. When I made the drawing of the baobabs I was carried beyond myself by the inspiring force of urgent necessity.

## VI

## VI

啊！小王子，就这样，我逐渐懂得了你那忧郁的生活。过去相当长的时间里你唯一的乐趣就是观赏那夕阳西下的温柔晚景。这个新的细节，是我在第四天早晨知道的。你当时对我说道：

Oh, little prince! Bit by bit I came to understand the secrets of your sad little life... For a long time you had found your only entertainment in the quiet pleasure of looking at the sunset. I learned that new detail on the morning of the fourth day, when you said to me:

## The Little Prince

“我喜欢看日落。我们去看一回日落吧！”

“I am very fond of sunsets. Come, let us go look at a sunset now.”

“可是得等着……”

“But we must wait,” I said.

“等什么？”

“Wait? For what?”

“等太阳落山。”

“For the sunset. We must wait until it is time.”

开始，你显得很惊奇的样子，随后你笑自己的糊涂。你对我说：

At first you seemed to be very much surprised. And then you laughed to yourself. You said to me:

“我总以为是在我的家乡呢！”

“I am always thinking that I am at home!”

确实，大家都知道，在美国是正午时分，在法国，正夕阳西下，只要在一分钟内赶到法国就可看到日落。

Just so. Everybody knows that when it is noon in the United States the sun is setting over France. If you could fly to France in one minute, you could go straight into the sunset, right from noon.

可惜法国是那么的遥远。而在你那样的小行星上，你只要把你的椅子挪动几步就行了。这样，你便可随时看到你想看的夕阳余辉……

Unfortunately, France is too far away for that. But on your tiny planet, my little prince, all you need do is move your chair a few steps. You can see the day end and the twilight falling whenever you like...

“一天，我看见过四十三次日落。”

“One day,” you said to me, “I saw the sunset forty-four times!”

过一会儿，你又说：

And a little later you added:

“你知道，当人们感到非常苦闷时，总是喜欢日落的。”

“You know — one loves the sunset, when one is so sad...”

## 小王子

“一天四十三次，你怎么会这么苦闷？”

“Were you so sad, then?” I asked, “on the day of the forty-four sunsets?”

小王子没有回答。

But the little prince made no reply.



VII

VII

第五天，还是羊的事，把小王子的生活秘密向我揭开了。好象默默地思索了很长时间以后，得出了什么结果一样，他突然没头没脑地问我：

On the fifth day — again, as always, it was thanks to the sheep — the secret of the little prince’s life was revealed to me. Abruptly, without anything to lead up to it, and as if the question had been born of long and silent meditation on his problem, he demanded:

“羊，要是吃小灌木，它也要吃花罗？”

“A sheep — if it eats little bushes, does it eat flowers, too?”

## The Little Prince

“它碰到什么吃什么。”

“A sheep,” I answered, “eats anything it finds in its reach.”

“连有刺的花也吃吗？”

“Even flowers that have thorns?”

“有刺的也吃！”

“Yes, even flowers that have thorns.”

“那么刺有什么用呢？”

“Then the thorns — what use are they?”

我不知道该怎么回答。那会儿我正忙着要从发动机上卸下一颗拧得太紧的螺丝。我发现机器故障似乎很严重，饮水也快完了，担心可能发生最坏的情况，心里很着急。

I did not know. At that moment I was very busy trying to unscrew a bolt that had got stuck in my engine. I was very much worried, for it was becoming clear to me that the breakdown of my plane was extremely serious. And I had so little drinking-water left that I had to fear for the worst.

“那么刺有什么用呢？”

“The thorns — what use are they?”

小王子一旦提出了问题，从来不会放过。这个该死的螺丝使我很恼火，我于是就随便回答了他一句：

The little prince never let go of a question, once he had asked it. As for me, I was upset over that bolt. And I answered with the first thing that came into my head:

“刺么，什么用都没有，这纯粹是花的恶劣表现。”

“The thorns are of no use at all. Flowers have thorns just for spite!”

“噢！”

“Oh!”

可是他沉默了一会儿之后，怀着不满的心情冲我说：

There was a moment of complete silence. Then the little prince flashed back at me, with a kind of resentment:

## 小王子

“我不信！花是弱小的、淳朴的，它们总是设法保护自己，以为有了刺就可以显出自己的厉害……”

“I don't believe you! Flowers are weak creatures. They are naïve. They reassure themselves as best they can. They believe that their thorns are terrible weapons...”

我默不作声。我当时想的，如果这个螺丝再和我作对，我就一锤子敲掉它。小王子又来打搅我的思绪了：

I did not answer. At that instant I was saying to myself: “If this bolt still won't turn, I am going to knock it out with the hammer.” Again the little prince disturbed my thoughts:

“你却认为花……”

“And you actually believe that the flowers — ”

“算了吧，算了吧！我什么也不认为！我是随便回答你的。我可有正经事要做。”

“Oh, no!” I cried. “No, no, no! I don't believe anything. I answered you with the first thing that came into my head. Don't you see — I am very busy with matters of consequence!”

他惊讶地看着我。

He stared at me, thunderstruck.

“正经事？”

“Matters of consequence!”

他瞅着我手拿锤子，手指沾满了油污，伏在一个在他看来丑不可言的机件上。

He looked at me there, with my hammer in my hand, my fingers black with engine-grease, bending down over an object which seemed to him extremely ugly...

“你说话就和那些大人一样！”

“You talk just like the grown-ups!”

这话使我有点难堪。可是他又尖刻无情地说道：

That made me a little ashamed. But he went on, relentlessly:

“你什么都分不清……你把什么都混在一起！”

“You mix everything up together... You confuse everything...”

## The Little Prince

他着实非常恼火。摇动着脑袋，金黄色的头发随风颤动着。

He was really very angry. He tossed his golden curls in the breeze.

“我到过一个星球，上面住着一个红脸先生。他从来没闻过一朵花。他从来没有看过一颗星星。他什么人也没有喜欢过。除了算帐以外，他什么也没有做过。他整天同你一样老是说：‘我有正经事，我是个严肃的人’。这使他傲气十足。他简直不象是个人，他是个蘑菇。”

“I know a planet where there is a certain red-faced gentleman. He has never smelled a flower. He has never looked at a star. He has never loved any one. He has never done anything in his life but add up figures. And all day he says over and over, just like you: ‘I am busy with matters of consequence!’ And that makes him swell up with pride. But he is not a man — he is a mushroom!”

“是个什么？”

“A what?”

“是个蘑菇！”

“A mushroom!”

小王子当时气得脸色发白。

The little prince was now white with rage.

“几百万年以来花儿都在制造着刺，几百万年以来羊仍然在吃花。要搞清楚为什么花儿费那么大劲给自己制造没有什么用的刺，这难道不是正经事？难道羊和花之间的战争不重要？这难道不比那个大胖子红脸先生的帐目更重要？”

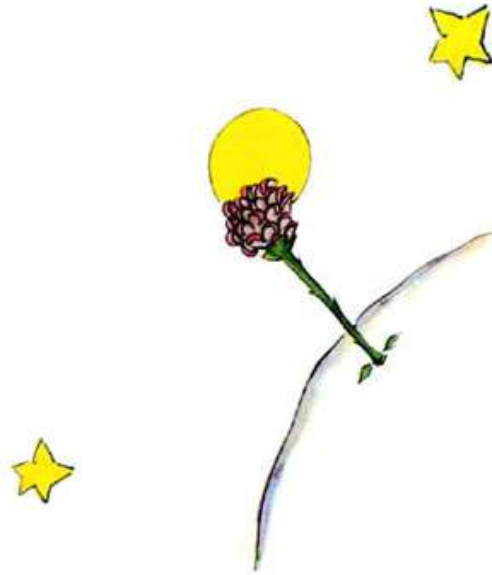
“The flowers have been growing thorns for millions of years. For millions of years the sheep have been eating them just the same. And is it not a matter of consequence to try to understand why the flowers go to so much trouble to grow thorns which are never of any use to them? Is the warfare between the sheep and the flowers not important? Is this not of more consequence than a fat red-faced gentleman’s sums?”



## 小王子

如果我认识一朵人世间唯一的花，只有我的星球上有它，别的地方都不存在，而一只小羊胡里糊涂就这样把它一下子毁掉了，这难道不重要？”

And if I know — I, myself — one flower which is unique in the world, which grows nowhere but on my planet, but which one little sheep can destroy in a single bite some morning, without even noticing what he is doing — Oh! You think that is not important!”



他的脸气得发红，然后又接着说道：

His face turned from white to red as he continued:

“如果有人爱上了在这亿万颗星星中独一无二的一株花，当他看着这些星星的时候，这就足以使他感到幸福。他可以自言自语地说：‘我的那朵花就在其中的一颗星星上……’，但是如果羊吃掉了这朵花，对他来说，好象所有的星星一下子全都熄灭了一样！这难道也不重要吗？！”

“If some one loves a flower, of which just one single blossom grows in all the millions and millions of stars, it is enough to make him happy just to look at the stars. He can say to himself, ‘Somewhere, my flower is there...’ But if the sheep eats the flower, in one moment all his stars will be darkened... And you think that is not important!”

## The Little Prince

他无法再说下去了，突然泣不成声。夜幕已经降临。我放下手中的工具。我把锤子、螺钉、饥渴、死亡，全都抛在脑后。在一颗星球上，在一颗行星上，在我的行星上，在地球上有一个小王子需要安慰！我把他抱在怀里。我摇着他，对他说：

“你爱的那朵花没有危险……  
我给你的小羊画一个罩子……  
我给你的花画一副盔甲……  
我……”

我也不太知道该说些什么。我觉得自己太笨拙。我不知道怎样才能达到他的境界，怎样才能再进入他的境界……唉，泪水的世界是多么神秘啊！

## VIII

很快我就进一步了解了这朵花。在小王子的星球上，过去一直都生长着一些只有一层花瓣的很简单的花。这些花非常小，一点也不占地方，从来也不会去打搅任何人。她们早晨在草丛中开放，晚上就凋谢了。

He could not say anything more. His words were choked by sobbing. The night had fallen. I had let my tools drop from my hands. Of what moment now was my hammer, my bolt, or thirst, or death? On one star, one planet, my planet, the Earth, there was a little prince to be comforted. I took him in my arms, and rocked him. I said to him:

“The flower that you love is not in danger. I will draw you a muzzle for your sheep. I will draw you a railing to put around your flower. I will —”

I did not know what to say to him. I felt awkward and blundering. I did not know how I could reach him, where I could overtake him and go on hand in hand with him once more. It is such a secret place, the land of tears.

## VIII

I soon learned to know this flower better. On the little prince's planet the flowers had always been very simple. They had only one ring of petals; they took up no room at all; they were a trouble to nobody. One morning they would appear in the grass, and by night they would have faded peacefully away.

## 小王子

不知从哪里来了一颗种子，忽然一天这种子发了芽。小王子特别仔细地监视着这棵与众不同的小苗：这玩艺说不定是一种新的猴面包树。

But one day, from a seed blown from no one knew where, a new flower had come up; and the little prince had watched very closely over this small sprout which was not like any other small sprouts on his planet. It might, you see, have been a new kind of baobab.

但是，这小苗不久就不再长了，而且开始孕育着一个花朵。看到在这棵苗上长出了一个很大很大的花蕾，小王子感觉到从这个花苞中一定会出现一个奇迹。然而这朵花藏在它那绿茵茵的房间中用了很长的时间来打扮自己。

The shrub soon stopped growing, and began to get ready to produce a flower. The little prince, who was present at the first appearance of a huge bud, felt at once that some sort of miraculous apparition must emerge from it. But the flower was not satisfied to complete the preparations for her beauty in the shelter of her green chamber.

她精心选择着她将来的颜色，慢慢腾腾地装饰着，一片片地搭配着她的花瓣，她不愿象虞美人那样一出世就满脸皱纹。她要让自己带着光艳夺目的丽姿来到世间。是的，她是非常爱俏的。

She chose her colors with the greatest care. She dressed herself slowly. She adjusted her petals one by one. She did not wish to go out into the world all rumpled, like the field poppies. It was only in the full radiance of her beauty that she wished to appear. Oh, yes! She was a coquettish creature!

她用好些好些日子天仙般地梳妆打扮。然后，在一天的早晨，恰好在太阳升起的时候，她开放了。

And her mysterious adornment lasted for days and days. Then one morning, exactly at sunrise, she suddenly showed herself.

## The Little Prince



她已经精细地做了那么长的准备工作，却打着哈欠说道：

And, after working with all this painstaking precision, she yawned and said:

“我刚刚睡醒，真对不起，瞧我的头发还是乱蓬蓬的……”

“Ah! I am scarcely awake. I beg that you will excuse me. My petals are still all disarranged...”

小王子这时再也控制不住自己的爱慕心情：

But the little prince could not restrain his admiration:

“你是多么美丽啊！”

“Oh! How beautiful you are!”

花儿悠然自得地说：

“Am I not?” the flower responded, sweetly. “And I was born at the same moment as the sun...”

“是吧，我是与太阳同时出生的……”

小王子看出了这花儿不太谦虚，可是她确实丽姿动人。

The little prince could guess easily enough that she was not any too modest — but how moving — and exciting — she was!

她随后又说道：“现在该是吃早点的时候了吧，请你也想着给我准备一点……”

“I think it is time for breakfast,” she added an instant later. “If you would have the kindness to think of my needs...”

## 小王子

小王子很有些不好意思，于是就拿着喷壶，打来了一壶清清的凉水，浇灌着花儿。

And the little prince, completely abashed, went to look for a sprinkling-can of fresh water.



于是，就这样，这朵花儿就以她那有点敏感多疑的虚荣心折磨着小王子。例如，有一天，她向小王子讲起她身上长的四根刺：

So, he tended the flower. So, too, she began very quickly to torment him with her vanity — which was, if the truth be known, a little difficult to deal with. One day, for instance, when she was speaking of her four thorns, she said to the little prince:

“老虎，让它张着爪子来吧！”

“Let the tigers come with their claws!”



## The Little Prince

小王子顶了她一句：“在我这个星球上没有老虎，而且，老虎是不会吃草的”。

“There are no tigers on my planet,” the little prince objected. “And, anyway, tigers do not eat weeds.”

花儿轻声说道：“我并不是草。”

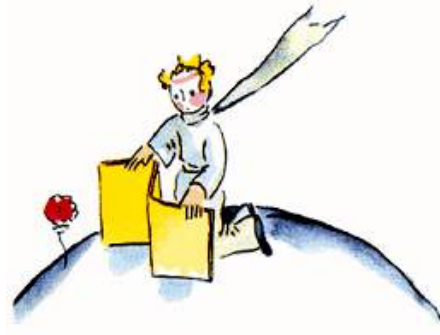
“I am not a weed,” the flower replied, sweetly.

“真对不起。”

“Please excuse me...”

“我并不怕什么老虎，可我讨厌穿堂风。你没有屏风？”

“I am not at all afraid of tigers,” she went on, “but I have a horror of drafts. I suppose you wouldn’t have a screen for me?”



小王子思忖着：“讨厌穿堂风……这对一株植物来说，真不走运，这朵花儿真不大好伺候……”

“A horror of drafts — that is bad luck, for a plant,” remarked the little prince, and added to himself, “This flower is a very complex creature...”

“晚上您得把我保护好。你这个地方太冷。在这里住得不好，我原来住的那个地方……”

“At night I want you to put me under a glass globe. It is very cold where you live. In the place I came from — ”

## 小王子



但她没有说下去。她来的时候是粒种子。她哪里见过什么别的世界。她叫人发现她是在凑一个如此不太高明的谎话，她有点羞怒，咳嗽了两三声。她的这一招是要小王子处于有过失的地位，她说道：

“屏风呢？”

“我这就去拿。可你刚才说的是……”

于是花儿放开嗓门咳嗽了几声，依然要使小王子后悔自己的过失。

尽管小王子本来诚心诚意地喜欢这朵花，可是，这一来，却使他马上对她产生了怀疑。小王子对一些无关紧要的话看得太认真，结果使自己很苦恼。

But she interrupted herself at that point. She had come in the form of a seed. She could not have known anything of any other worlds. Embarrassed over having let herself be caught on the verge of such a naïve untruth, she coughed two or three times, in order to put the little prince in the wrong.

“The screen?”

“I was just going to look for it when you spoke to me...”

Then she forced her cough a little more so that he should suffer from remorse just the same.

So the little prince, in spite of all the good will that was inseparable from his love, had soon come to doubt her. He had taken seriously words which were without importance, and it made him very unhappy.

## The Little Prince

有一天他告诉我说：“我不该听信她的话，绝不该听信那些花儿的话，看看花，闻闻它就得了。我的那朵花使我的星球芳香四溢，可我不会享受它。关于老虎爪子的事，本应该使我产生同情，却反而使我恼火……”

他还告诉我说：

“我那时什么也不懂！我应该根据她的行为，而不是根据她的话来判断她。她使我的生活芬芳多彩，我真不该离开她跑出来。我本应该猜出在她那令人爱怜的花招后面所隐藏的温情。花是多么自相矛盾！我当时太年青，还不懂得爱她。”

“I ought not to have listened to her,” he confided to me one day. “One never ought to listen to the flowers. One should simply look at them and breathe their fragrance. Mine perfumed all my planet. But I did not know how to take pleasure in all her grace. This tale of claws, which disturbed me so much, should only have filled my heart with tenderness and pity.”

And he continued his confidences:

“The fact is that I did not know how to understand anything! I ought to have judged by deeds and not by words. She cast her fragrance and her radiance over me. I ought never to have run away from her... I ought to have guessed all the affection that lay behind her poor little stratagems. Flowers are so inconsistent! But I was too young to know how to love her ...”



## 小王子

IX

IX



我想小王子大概是利用一群候鸟迁徙的机会跑出来的。在他出发的那天早上，他把他的星球收拾得整整齐齐，把它上头的活火山打扫得干干净净。——他有两个活火山，早上热早点很方便。

他还有一座死火山，他也把它打扫干净。他想，说不定它还会活动呢！打扫干净了，它们就可以慢慢地有规律地燃烧，而不会突然爆发。火山爆发就象烟囱里的火焰一样。

I believe that for his escape he took advantage of the migration of a flock of wild birds. On the morning of his departure he put his planet in perfect order. He carefully cleaned out his active volcanoes. He possessed two active volcanoes; and they were very convenient for heating his breakfast in the morning.

He also had one volcano that was extinct. But, as he said, "One never knows!" So he cleaned out the extinct volcano, too. If they are well cleaned out, volcanoes burn slowly and steadily, without any eruptions. Volcanic eruptions are like fires in a chimney.

## The Little Prince

当然，在我们地球上我们人太小，不能打扫火山，所以火山给我们带来很多很多麻烦。

On our earth we are obviously much too small to clean out our volcanoes. That is why they bring no end of trouble upon us.



小王子还把剩下的最后几颗猴面包树苗全拔了。他有点忧伤。他以为他再也不会回来了。这天，这些家常活使他感到特别亲切。

The little prince also pulled up, with a certain sense of dejection, the last little shoots of the baobabs. He believed that he would never want to return. But on this last morning all these familiar tasks seemed very precious to him.

当他最后一次浇花时，准备把她好好珍藏起来。他发觉自己要哭出来。

And when he watered the flower for the last time, and prepared to place her under the shelter of her glass globe, he realized that he was very close to tears.

“再见了。”他对花儿说道。

“Goodbye,” he said to the flower.

## 小王子

可是花儿没有回答他。

But she made no answer.

“再见了。”他又说了一遍。

“Goodbye,” he said again.

花儿咳嗽了一阵。但并不是由于感冒。

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

她终于对他说道：“我方才真蠢。请你原谅我。希望你能幸福。”

“I have been silly,” she said to him, at last. “I ask your forgiveness. Try to be happy...”

花儿对他毫不抱怨，他感到很惊讶。他举着罩子，不知所措地伫立在那里。他不明白她为什么会这样温柔恬静。

He was surprised by this absence of reproaches. He stood there all bewildered, the glass globe held arrested in mid-air. He did not understand this quiet sweetness.

“的确，我爱你。”花儿对他说道：“但由于我的过错，你一点也没有理会。这丝毫不重要。不过，你也和我一样的蠢。希望你今后能幸福。把罩子放在一边吧，我用不着它了。”

“Of course I love you,” the flower said to him. “It is my fault that you have not known it all the while. That is of no importance. But you — you have been just as foolish as I. Try to be happy... Let the glass globe be. I don’t want it any more.”

“要是风来了怎么办？”

“But the wind — ”

“我的感冒并不那么重……夜晚的凉风对我倒有好处。我是一朵花。”

“My cold is not so bad as all that... The cool night air will do me good. I am a flower.”

“要是虫子野兽呢？……”

“But the animals — ”

## The Little Prince

“我要是想认识蝴蝶，经不起两三只尺蠖是不行的。据说这是很美的。不然还有谁来看我呢？你就要到远处去了。至于说大动物，我并不怕，我有爪子。”

“Well, I must endure the presence of two or three caterpillars if I wish to become acquainted with the butterflies. It seems that they are very beautiful. And if not the butterflies — and the caterpillars — who will call upon me? You will be far away... As for the large animals — I am not at all afraid of any of them. I have my claws.”

于是，她天真地显露出她那四根刺，随后又说道：

And, naïvely, she showed her four thorns. Then she added:

“别这么磨蹭了。真烦人！你既然决定离开这儿，那么，快走吧！”

“Don't linger like this. You have decided to go away. Now go!”

她是怕小王子看见她在哭。她是一朵非常骄傲的花……

For she did not want him to see her crying. She was such a proud flower.

X

X

在附近的宇宙中，还有 325、326、327、328、329、330 等几颗小行星。他就开始访问这几颗星球，想在那里找点事干，并且学习学习。

He found himself in the neighborhood of the asteroids 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, and 330. He began, therefore, by visiting them, in order to add to his knowledge.

第一颗星球上住着一个国王。国王穿着用紫红色和白底黑花的毛皮做成的大礼服，坐在一个很简单却又十分威严的宝座上。

The first of them was inhabited by a king. Clad in royal purple and ermine, he was seated upon a throne which was at the same time both simple and majestic.

## 小王子



当他看见小王子时，喊了起来：

“啊，来了一个臣民。”

“Ah! Here is a subject,” exclaimed the king, when he saw the little prince coming.

小王子思量着：“他从来也没有见过我，怎么会认识我呢？”

And the little prince asked himself:  
“How could he recognize me when he had never seen me before?”

他哪里知道，在那些国王的眼里，世界是非常简单的：所有的人都是臣民。

He did not know how the world is simplified for kings. To them, all men are subjects.

国王十分骄傲，因为他终于成了某个人的国王，他对小王子说道：“靠近些，好让我好好看看你。”

“Approach, so that I may see you better,” said the king, who felt consumingly proud of being at last a king over somebody.

## The Little Prince

小王子看看四周，想找个地方坐下来，可是整个星球被国王华丽的白底黑花皮袍占满了。他只好站在那里，但是因为疲倦了，他打起哈欠来。

The little prince looked everywhere to find a place to sit down; but the entire planet was crammed and obstructed by the king's magnificent ermine robe. So he remained standing upright, and, since he was tired, he yawned.

君王对他说：“在一个国王面前打哈欠是违反礼节的。我禁止你打哈欠。”

"It is contrary to etiquette to yawn in the presence of a king," the monarch said to him. "I forbid you to do so."

小王子羞愧地说道：“我实在忍不住，我长途跋涉来到这里，还没有睡觉呢。”

"I can't help it. I can't stop myself," replied the little prince, thoroughly embarrassed. "I have come on a long journey, and I have had no sleep..."

国王说：“那好吧，我命令你打哈欠。好些年来我没有看见过任何人打哈欠。对我来说，打哈欠倒是新奇的事。来吧，再打个哈欠！这是命令。”

"Ah, then," the king said. "I order you to yawn. It is years since I have seen anyone yawning. Yawns, to me, are objects of curiosity. Come, now! Yawn again! It is an order."

“这倒叫我有点紧张……我打不出哈欠来了……”小王子红着脸说。

"That frightens me... I cannot, any more..." murmured the little prince, now completely abashed.

“嗯！嗯！”国王回答道：“那么我……命令你忽而打哈欠，忽而……”

"Hum! Hum!" replied the king. "Then I — I order you sometimes to yawn and sometimes to —"

他嘟嘟囔囔，显出有点恼怒。

He sputtered a little, and seemed vexed.

## 小王子

因为国王所要求的主要是保持他的威严受到尊敬。他不能容忍不听他的命令。他是一位绝对的君主。可是，他却很善良，他下的命令都是有理智的。

他常常说：“如果我叫一位将军变成一只海鸟，而这位将军不服从我的命令，那么这就不是将军的过错，而是我的过错。”

小王子腼腆地试探道：“我可以坐下吗？”

“我命令你坐下。”国王一边回答，一边庄重地把他那白底黑花皮袍大襟挪动了一下。

可是小王子感到很奇怪。这么小的行星，国王他对什么进行统治呢？

他对国王说：“陛下……请原谅，我想问您……”

国王急忙抢着说道：“我命令你问我。”

“陛下……你统治什么呢？”

For what the king fundamentally insisted upon was that his authority should be respected. He tolerated no disobedience. He was an absolute monarch. But, because he was a very good man, he made his orders reasonable.

“If I ordered a general,” he would say, by way of example, “if I ordered a general to change himself into a sea bird, and if the general did not obey me, that would not be the fault of the general. It would be my fault.”

“May I sit down?” came now a timid inquiry from the little prince.

“I order you to do so,” the king answered him, and majestically gathered in a fold of his ermine mantle.

But the little prince was wondering... The planet was tiny. Over what could this king really rule?

“Sire,” he said to him, “I beg that you will excuse my asking you a question — ”

“I order you to ask me a question,” the king hastened to assure him.

“Sire — over what do you rule?”

## The Little Prince

国王非常简单明了地说：“我统治一切。”

“Over everything,” said the king, with magnificent simplicity.

“一切？”

“Over everything?”

国王轻轻地用手指着他的行星和其他的行星，以及所有的星星。

The king made a gesture, which took in his planet, the other planets, and all the stars.

小王子说：“统治这一切？”

“Over all that?” asked the little prince.

“统治这一切。”

“Over all that,” the king answered.

原来他不仅是一个绝对的君主，而且是整个宇宙的君主。

For his rule was not only absolute: it was also universal.

“那么，星星都服从您吗？”

“And the stars obey you?”

“那当然！”国王对他说，“它们立即就得服从。我是不允许无纪律的。”

“Certainly they do,” the king said. “They obey instantly. I do not permit insubordination.”

这样的权力使小王子惊叹不已。如果掌握了这样的权力，那么，他一天就不只是看到四十三次日落，而可以看到七十二次，甚至一百次，或是二百次日落，也不必要去挪动椅子了！

Such power was a thing for the little prince to marvel at. If he had been master of such complete authority, he would have been able to watch the sunset, not forty-four times in one day, but seventy-two, or even a hundred, or even two hundred times, without ever having to move his chair.

由于他想起了他那被遗弃的小星球，心里有点难过，他大胆地向国王提出了一个请求：

And because he felt a bit sad as he remembered his little planet which he had forsaken, he plucked up his courage to ask the king a favor:



## 小王子

“我想看日落，请求您……命令太阳落山吧……”

国王说道：“如果我命令一个将军象一只蝴蝶那样从这朵花飞到那朵花，或者命令他写作一个悲剧剧本或者变一只海鸟，而如果这位将军接到命令不执行的话，那么，是他不对还是我不对呢？”

“那当然是您的不对。”小王子肯定地回答。

“一点也不错，”国王接着说，“向每个人提出的要求应该是他们所能做到的。权威首先应该建立在理性的基础上。如果命令你的老百姓去投海，他们非起来革命不可。我的命令是合理的，所以我有权要别人服从。”

“那么我提出的日落呢？”小王子一旦提出一个问题，他是不会忘记这个问题的。

“日落么，你会看到的。我一定要太阳落山，不过按照我的统治科学，我得等到条件成熟的时候。”

“I should like to see a sunset... Do me that kindness... Order the sun to set...”

“If I ordered a general to fly from one flower to another like a butterfly, or to write a tragic drama, or to change himself into a sea bird, and if the general did not carry out the order that he had received, which one of us would be in the wrong?” the king demanded. “The general, or myself?”

“You,” said the little prince firmly.

“Exactly. One must require from each one the duty which each one can perform,” the king went on. “Accepted authority rests first of all on reason. If you ordered your people to go and throw themselves into the sea, they would rise up in revolution. I have the right to require obedience because my orders are reasonable.”

“Then my sunset?” the little prince reminded him: for he never forgot a question once he had asked it.

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

## The Little Prince

小王子问道：“这要等到什么时候呢？”

“When will that be?” inquired the little prince.

国王在回答之前，首先翻阅了一本厚厚的日历，嘴里慢慢说道：“嗯！嗯！日落大约……大约……在今晚七时四十分的时候！你将看到我的命令一定会被服从的。”

“Hum! Hum!” replied the king; and before saying anything else he consulted a bulky almanac. “Hum! Hum! That will be about — about — that will be this evening about twenty minutes to eight. And you will see how well I am obeyed!”

小王子又打起哈欠来了。他遗憾没有看到日落。他有点厌烦了，他对国王说：

The little prince yawned. He was regretting his lost sunset. And then, too, he was already beginning to be a little bored.

“我没有必要再呆在这儿了。我要走了。”

“I have nothing more to do here,” he said to the king. “So I shall set out on my way again.”

这位因为刚刚有了一个臣民而十分骄傲自得的国王说道：

“Do not go,” said the king, who was very proud of having a subject. “Do not go. I will make you a Minister!”

“别走，别走。我任命你当大臣。”

“什么大臣”

“Minister of what?”

“嗯……司法大臣！”

“Minster of — of Justice!”

“可是，这儿没有一个要审判的人。”

“But there is nobody here to judge!”

## 小王子

“很难说呀，”国王说道。  
“我很老了，我这地方又小，没有放銮驾的地方，另外，一走路我就累。因此我还没有巡视过我的王国呢！”

“We do not know that,” the king said to him. “I have not yet made a complete tour of my kingdom. I am very old. There is no room here for a carriage. And it tires me to walk.”

“噢！可是我已经看过了。”小王子说道，并探身朝星球的那一侧看了看。那边也没有一个人……

“Oh, but I have looked already!” said the little prince, turning around to give one more glance to the other side of the planet. On that side, as on this, there was nobody at all...

“那么你就审判你自己呀！”国王回答他说。“这可是最难的了。审判自己比审判别人要难得多啊！你要是能审判好自己，你就是个真正有才智的人。”

“Then you shall judge yourself,” the king answered. “that is the most difficult thing of all. It is much more difficult to judge oneself than to judge others. If you succeed in judging yourself rightly, then you are indeed a man of true wisdom.”

“我吗，随便在什么地方我都可以审度自己。我没有必要留在这里。”

“Yes,” said the little prince, “but I can judge myself anywhere. I do not need to live on this planet.”

国王又说：“嗯……嗯……我想，在我的星球上有一只老耗子。夜里，我听见它的声音。你可以审判它，不时地判处它死刑。因此它的生命取决于你的判决。可是，你要有节制地使用这只耗子，每次判刑后都要赦免它，因为只有这一只耗子。”

“Hum! Hum!” said the king. “I have good reason to believe that somewhere on my planet there is an old rat. I hear him at night. You can judge this old rat. From time to time you will condemn him to death. Thus his life will depend on your justice. But you will pardon him on each occasion; for he must be treated thriftily. He is the only one we have.”

## The Little Prince

“可是我不愿判死刑，我想我还是应该走。”小王子回答道。

“I,” replied the little prince, “do not like to condemn anyone to death. And now I think I will go on my way.”

“不行。”国王说。

“No,” said the king.

但是小王子，准备完毕之后，不想使老君主难过，说道：

But the little prince, having now completed his preparations for departure, had no wish to grieve the old monarch.

“如果国王陛下想要不折不扣地得到服从，你可以给我下一个合理的命令。比如说，你可以命令我，一分钟之内必须离开。我认为这个条件是成熟的……”

“If Your Majesty wishes to be promptly obeyed,” he said, “he should be able to give me a reasonable order. He should be able, for example, to order me to be gone by the end of one minute. It seems to me that conditions are favorable...”

国王什么也没有回答。起初，小王子有些犹疑不决，随后叹了口气，就离开了……

As the king made no answer, the little prince hesitated a moment. Then, with a sigh, he took his leave.

“我派你当我的大使。”国王匆忙地喊道。

“I make you my Ambassador,” the king called out, hastily.

国王显出非常有权威的样子。

He had a magnificent air of authority.

小王子在旅途中自言自语地说：“这些大人真奇怪。”

“The grown-ups are very strange,” the little prince said to himself, as he continued on his journey.

## XI

## XI

第二个行星上住着一个爱虚荣的人。

The second planet was inhabited by a conceited man.

## 小王子



“喔唷！一个崇拜我的人来拜访了！”这个爱虚荣的人一见到小王子，老远就叫喊起来。

“Ah! Ah! I am about to receive a visit from an admirer!” he exclaimed from afar, when he first saw the little prince coming.

在那些爱虚荣的人眼里，别人都成了他们的崇拜者。

For, to conceited men, all other men are admirers.

“你好！”小王子说道。“你的帽子很奇怪。”

“Good morning,” said the little prince. “That is a queer hat you are wearing.”

“这是为了向人致意用的。”爱虚荣的人回答道，“当人们向我欢呼的时候，我就用帽子向他们致意。可惜，没有一个人经过这里。”

“It is a hat for salutes,” the conceited man replied. “It is to raise in salute when people acclaim me. Unfortunately, nobody at all ever passes this way.”

## The Little Prince

小王子不解其意。说道：“啊？是吗？”

“Yes?” said the little prince, who did not understand what the conceited man was talking about.

爱虚荣的人向小王子建议道：“你用一只手去拍另一只手。”

“Clap your hands, one against the other,” the conceited man now directed him.

小王子就拍起巴掌来。这位爱虚荣者就谦逊地举起帽子向小王子致意。

The little prince clapped his hands. The conceited man raised his hat in a modest salute.

小王子心想：“这比访问那位国王有趣。”于是他又拍起巴掌来。爱虚荣者又举起帽子来向他致意。

“This is more entertaining than the visit to the king,” the little prince said to himself. And he began again to clap his hands, one against the other. The conceited man again raised his hat in salute.

小王子这样做了五分钟，之后对这种单调的把戏有点厌倦了，说道：

After five minutes of this exercise the little prince grew tired of the game’s monotony.

“要想叫你的帽子掉下来，该怎么做呢？”

“And what should one do to make the hat come down?” he asked.

可这回爱虚荣者听不进他的话，因为凡是爱虚荣的人只听得进赞美的话。

But the conceited man did not hear him. Conceited people never hear anything but praise.

他问小王子道：“你真的钦佩我吗？”

“Do you really admire me very much?” he demanded of the little prince.

“钦佩是什么意思？”

“What does that mean — ‘admire’?”

## 小王子

“钦佩么，就是承认我是地球上最美的人，服饰最好的人，最富有的人，最聪明的人。”

“To admire means that you regard me as the handsomest, the best-dressed, the richest, and the most intelligent man on this planet.”

“可您是您的地球上唯一的人呀！”

“But you are the only man on your planet!”

“让我高兴吧，请你还是来钦佩我吧！”

“Do me this kindness. Admire me just the same.”

小王子轻轻地耸了耸肩膀，说道：“我钦佩你，可是，这有什么能使你这样感兴趣的？”

“I admire you,” said the little prince, shrugging his shoulders slightly, “but what is there in that to interest you so much?”

于是小王子就走开了。

And the little prince went away.

小王子在路上自言自语地说了一句：“这些大人，肯定是十分古怪的。”

“The grown-ups are certainly very odd,” he said to himself, as he continued on his journey.

## XII

## XII

小王子所访问的下一个星球上住着一个酒鬼。访问时间非常短，可是它却使小王子非常忧伤。

The next planet was inhabited by a tippler. This was a very short visit, but it plunged the little prince into deep dejection.

## The Little Prince



“你在干什么？”小王子问酒鬼，这个酒鬼默默地坐在那里，面前有一堆酒瓶子，有的装着酒，有的是空的。

“What are you doing there?” he said to the tippler, whom he found settled down in silence before a collection of empty bottles and also a collection of full bottles.

“我喝酒。”他阴沉忧郁地回答道。

“I am drinking,” replied the tippler, with a lugubrious air.

“你为什么喝酒？”小王子问道。

“Why are you drinking?” demanded the little prince.

“为了忘却。”酒鬼回答。

“So that I may forget,” replied the tippler.

小王子已经有些可怜酒鬼。他问道：“忘却什么呢？”

“Forget what?” inquired the little prince, who already was sorry for him.



## 小王子

酒鬼垂下脑袋坦白道：“为了忘却我的羞愧。”

“Forget that I am ashamed,” the tippler confessed, hanging his head.

“你羞愧什么呢？”小王子很想救助他。

“Ashamed of what?” insisted the little prince, who wanted to help him.

“我羞愧我喝酒。”酒鬼说完以后就再也不开口了。

“Ashamed of drinking!” The tippler brought his speech to an end, and shut himself up in an impregnable silence.

小王子迷惑不解地离开了。

And the little prince went away, puzzled.

在旅途中，他自言自语地说道：“这些大人确实真叫怪。”

“The grown-ups are certainly very, very odd,” he said to himself, as he continued on his journey.

## XIII

## XIII

第四个行星是一个实业家的星球。这个人忙得不可开交，小王子到来的时候，他甚至连头都没有抬一下。

The fourth planet belonged to a businessman. This man was so much occupied that he did not even raise his head at the little prince's arrival.

## The Little Prince



小王子对他说：“您好。您的烟卷灭了。”

“Good morning,” the little prince said to him. “Your cigarette has gone out.”

“三加二等于五。五加七等于十二。十二加三等于十五。你好。十五加七，二十二。二十二加六，二十八。没有时间去再点着它。二十六加五，三十一。哎哟！一共是五亿一百六十二万二千七百三十一。”

“Three and two make five. Five and seven make twelve. Twelve and three make fifteen. Good morning. Fifteen and seven make twenty-two. Twenty-two and six make twenty-eight. I haven't time to light it again. Twenty-six and five make thirty-one. Phew! Then that makes five-hundred-and-one million, six-hundred-twenty-two-thousand, seven-hundred-thirty-one.”

“五亿什么呀？”

“Five hundred million what?” asked the little prince.

## 小王子

“嗯？你还待在这儿那？五亿一百万……我也不知道是什么了。我的工作很多……我是很严肃的，我可是从来也没有功夫去闲聊！二加五得七……”

“Eh? Are you still there? Five-hundred-and-one million — I can't stop... I have so much to do! I am concerned with matters of consequence. I don't amuse myself with balderdash. Two and five make seven...”

“五亿一百万什么呀？”小王子重复问道。一旦他提出了一个问题，是从来也不会放弃的。

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

这位实业家抬起头，说：

The businessman raised his head.

“我住在这个星球上五十四年以来，只被打搅过三次。第一次是二十二年前，不知从哪里跑来了一只金龟子来打搅我。它发出一种可怕的噪音，使我在一笔帐目中出了四个差错。

“During the fifty-four years that I have inhabited this planet, I have been disturbed only three times. The first time was twenty-two years ago, when some giddy goose fell from goodness knows where. He made the most frightful noise that resounded all over the place, and I made four mistakes in my addition.

第二次，在十一年前，是风湿病发作，因为我缺乏锻炼所致。我没有功夫闲逛。我可是个严肃的人。现在……这是第三次！我计算的结果是五亿一百万……”

The second time, eleven years ago, I was disturbed by an attack of rheumatism. I don't get enough exercise. I have no time for loafing. The third time — well, this is it! I was saying, then, five-hundred-and-one millions — ”

“几百万什么？”

“Millions of what?”

这位实业家知道要想安宁是无望的了，就说道：

The businessman suddenly realized that there was no hope of being left in peace until he answered this question.

## The Little Prince

“几百万个小东西，这些小东西有时出现在天空中。”

“Millions of those little objects,” he said, “which one sometimes sees in the sky.”

“苍蝇吗？”

“Flies?”

“不是，是些闪闪发亮的小东西。”

“Oh, no. Little glittering objects.”

“是蜜蜂吗？”

“Bees?”

“不是，是金黄色的小东西，这些小东西叫那些懒汉们胡思乱想。我是个严肃的人。我没有时间胡思乱想。”

“Oh, no. Little golden objects that set lazy men to idle dreaming. As for me, I am concerned with matters of consequence. There is no time for idle dreaming in my life.”

“啊，是星星吗？”

“Ah! You mean the stars?”

“对了，就是星星。”

“Yes, that’s it. The stars.”

“你要拿这五亿星星做什么？”

“And what do you do with five-hundred millions of stars?”

“五亿一百六十二万七百三十一颗星星。我是严肃的人，我是非常精确的。”

“Five-hundred-and-one million, six-hundred-twenty-two thousand, seven-hundred-thirty-one. I am concerned with matters of consequence: I am accurate.”

“你拿这些星星做什么？”

“And what do you do with these stars?”

“我要它做什么？”

“What do I do with them?”

“是呀。”

“Yes.”

“什么也不做。它们都是属于我的。”

“Nothing. I own them.”

## 小王子

“星星是属于你的？”

“You own the stars?”

“是的。”

“Yes.”

“可是我已经见到过一个国王，他……”

“But I have already seen a king who — ”

“国王并不占有，他们只是进行‘统治’。这不是一码事。”

“Kings do not own, they reign over. It is a very different matter.”

“你拥有这许多星星有什么用？”

“And what good does it do you to own the stars?”

“It does me the good of making me rich.”

“And what good does it do you to be rich?”

“富了就可以去买别的星星，如果有人发现了别的星星的话。”

“It makes it possible for me to buy more stars, if any are discovered.”

小王子自言自语地说：“这个人想问题有点象那个酒鬼一样。”

“This man,” the little prince said to himself, “reasons a little like my poor tippler...”

可是他又提了一些问题：

Nevertheless, he still had some more questions.

“你怎么能占有星星呢？”

“How is it possible for one to own the stars?”

“那么你说星星是谁的呀？”实业家不高兴地顶了小王子一句。

“To whom do they belong?” the businessman retorted, peevishly.

## The Little Prince

“我不知道，不属于任何人。”

“I don't know. To nobody.”

“那么，它们就是我的，因为是我第一个想到了这件事情的。”

“Then they belong to me, because I was the first person to think of it.”

“这就行了吗？”

“Is that all that is necessary?”

“那当然。如果你发现了一颗没有主人的钻石，那么这颗钻石就是属于你的。当你发现一个岛是没有主的，那么这个岛就是你的。当你首先想出了一个办法，你就去领一个专利证，这个办法就是属于你的。既然在我之前不曾有任何人想到要占有这些星星，那我就占有这些星星。”

“Certainly. When you find a diamond that belongs to nobody, it is yours. When you discover an island that belongs to nobody, it is yours. When you get an idea before any one else, you take out a patent on it: it is yours. So with me: I own the stars, because nobody else before me ever thought of owning them.”

“这倒也是。可是你用它们来干什么？”小王子说。

“Yes, that is true,” said the little prince. “And what do you do with them?”

“我经营管理这些星星。我一遍又一遍地计算它们的数目。这是一件困难的事。但我是一个严肃认真的人！”

“I administer them,” replied the businessman. “I count them and recount them. It is difficult. But I am a man who is naturally interested in matters of consequence.”

小王子仍然还不满足，他说：

The little prince was still not satisfied.

## 小王子

“对我来说，如果我有一条围巾，我可以用它来围着我的脖子，并且能带走它。我有一朵花的话，我就可以摘下我的花，并且把它带走。可你却不能摘下这些星星呀！”

“我不能摘，但我可以把它们存在银行里。”

“这是什么意思呢？”

“这就是说，我把星星的数目写在一片小纸头上，然后把这片纸头锁在一个抽屉里。”

“这就算完事了吗？”

“这样就行了。”

小王子想道：“真好玩。这倒蛮有诗意，可是，并不算是了不起的正经事。”

关于什么是正经事，小王子的看法与大人们的看法非常不同。

“If I owned a silk scarf,” he said, “I could put it around my neck and take it away with me. If I owned a flower, I could pluck that flower and take it away with me. But you cannot pluck the stars from heaven...”

“No. But I can put them in the bank.”

“Whatever does that mean?”

“That means that I write the number of my stars on a little paper. And then I put this paper in a drawer and lock it with a key.”

“And that is all?”

“That is enough,” said the businessman.

“It is entertaining,” thought the little prince. “It is rather poetic. But it is of no great consequence.”

On matters of consequence, the little prince had ideas which were very different from those of the grown-ups.

## The Little Prince

他接着又说：“我有一朵花，我每天都给她浇水。我还有三座火山，我每星期把它们全都打扫一遍。连死火山也打扫。谁知道它会不会再复活。我拥有火山和花，这对我的火山有好处，对我的花也有好处。但是你对星星并没有用处……”

“I myself own a flower,” he continued his conversation with the businessman, “which I water every day. I own three volcanoes, which I clean out every week (for I also clean out the one that is extinct; one never knows). It is of some use to my volcanoes, and it is of some use to my flower, that I own them. But you are of no use to the stars...”

实业家张口结舌无言以对。于是小王子就走了。

The businessman opened his mouth, but he found nothing to say in answer. And the little prince went away.

在旅途中，小王子只是自言自语地说了一句：“这些大人们真是奇怪极了。”

“The grown-ups are certainly altogether extraordinary,” he said simply, talking to himself as he continued on his journey.

## XIV

## XIV

第五颗行星非常奇怪，是这些星星中最小的一颗。行星上刚好能容得下一盏路灯和一个点路灯的人。

The fifth planet was very strange. It was the smallest of all. There was just enough room on it for a street lamp and a lamplighter.

小王子怎么也解释不通：这个坐落在天空某一角落，既没有房屋又没有居民的行星上，要一盏路灯和一个点灯的人做什么用。但他自己猜想：

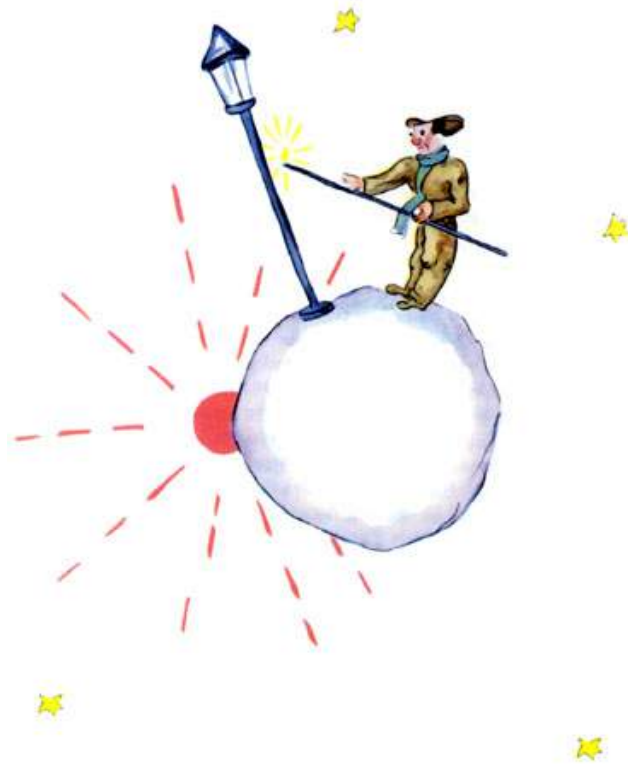
The little prince was not able to reach any explanation of the use of a street lamp and a lamplighter, somewhere in the heavens, on a planet which had no people, and not one house. But he said to himself, nevertheless:



## 小王子

“可能这个人思想不正常。但他比起国王，比起那个爱虚荣的人，那个实业家和酒鬼，却要好些。至少他的工作还有点意义。当他点着了他的路灯时，就象他增添了一颗星星，或是一朵花。当他熄灭了路灯时，就象让星星或花朵睡着了似的。这差事真美妙，就是真正有用的了。”

“It may well be that this man is absurd. But he is not so absurd as the king, the conceited man, the businessman, and the tippler. For at least his work has some meaning. When he lights his street lamp, it is as if he brought one more star to life, or one flower. When he puts out his lamp, he sends the flower, or the star, to sleep. That is a beautiful occupation. And since it is beautiful, it is truly useful.”



小王子一到了这个行星上，就很尊敬地向点路灯的人打招呼：

When he arrived on the planet he respectfully saluted the lamplighter.

## The Little Prince

“早上好。——你刚才为什么把路灯灭了昵？”

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

“早上好。——这是命令。”点灯的回答道。

“Those are the orders,” replied the lamplighter. “Good morning.”

“命令是什么？”

“What are the orders?”

“就是熄掉我的路灯。——晚上好。”

“The orders are that I put out my lamp. Good evening.”

于是他又点燃了路灯。

And he lighted his lamp again.

“那么为什么你又把它点着了昵？”

“But why have you just lighted it again?”

“这是命令。”点灯的人回答道。

“Those are the orders,” replied the lamplighter.

“我不明白。”小王子说。

“I do not understand,” said the little prince.

“没什么要明白的。命令就是命令。”点灯的回答说。“早上好。”

“There is nothing to understand,” said the lamplighter. “Orders are orders. Good morning.”

于是他又熄灭了路灯。

And he put out his lamp.

然后他拿一块有红方格子的手绢擦着额头。

Then he mopped his forehead with a handkerchief decorated with red squares.

“我干的是一种可怕的职业。以前还说得过去，早上熄灯，晚上点灯，剩下时间，白天我就休息，夜晚我就睡觉……”

“I follow a terrible profession. In the old days it was reasonable. I put the lamp out in the morning, and in the evening I lighted it again. I had the rest of the day for relaxation and the rest of the night for sleep.”

## 小王子

“那么，后来命令改变了，是吗？”

“And the orders have been changed since that time?”

点灯人说：“命令没有改，惨就惨在这里了！这颗行星一年比一年转得更快，而命令却没有改。”

“The orders have not been changed,” said the lamplighter. “That is the tragedy! From year to year the planet has turned more rapidly and the orders have not been changed!”

“结果呢？”小王子问。

“Then what?” asked the little prince.

“结果现在每分钟转一圈，我连一秒钟的休息时间都没有了。每分钟我就要点一次灯，熄一次灯！”

“Then — the planet now makes a complete turn every minute, and I no longer have a single second for repose. Once every minute I have to light my lamp and put it out!”

“真有趣，你这里每天只有一分钟长？”

“That is very funny! A day lasts only one minute, here where you live!”

“一点趣味也没有，”点灯的说，“我们俩在一块说话就已经有一个月的时间了。”

“It is not funny at all!” said the lamplighter. “While we have been talking together a month has gone by.”

“一个月？”

“A month?”

“对。三十分钟。三十天！——晚上好。”

“Yes, a month. Thirty minutes. Thirty days. Good evening.”

于是他又点着了了的路灯。

And he lighted his lamp again.

小王子瞅着他，他喜欢这个点灯人如此忠守命令。

As the little prince watched him, he felt that he loved this lamplighter who was so faithful to his orders.

## The Little Prince

这时，他想起了他自己从前挪动椅子寻找日落的事。他很想帮助他的这位朋友。

He remembered the sunsets which he himself had gone to seek, in other days, merely by pulling up his chair; and he wanted to help his friend.

“告诉你，我知道一种能让你休息的办法，你要什么时候休息都可以。”

“You know,” he said, “I can tell you a way you can rest whenever you want to...”

“我老是想休息。”点灯人说。

“I always want to rest,” said the lamplighter.

因为，一个人可以同时是忠实的，又是懒惰的。

For it is possible for a man to be faithful and lazy at the same time. The little prince went on with his explanation:

小王子接着说：

The little prince went on with his explanation:

“你的这颗行星这样小，你三步就可以绕它一圈。你只要慢慢地走，就可以一直在太阳的照耀下，你想休息的时候，你就这样走……那么，你要白天又多长它就有多长。”

“Your planet is so small that three strides will take you all the way around it. To be always in the sunshine, you need only walk along rather slowly. When you want to rest, you will walk — and the day will last as long as you like.”

“这办法帮不了我多打忙，生活中我喜欢的就是睡觉。”点灯人说。

“That doesn’t do me much good,” said the lamplighter. “The one thing I love in life is to sleep.”

“真不走运。”小王子说。

“Then you’re unlucky,” said the little prince.

“真不走运。”点灯人说。  
“早上好。”

“I am unlucky,” said the lamplighter. “Good morning.”

于是他又熄灭了路灯。

And he put out his lamp.

## 小王子

小王子在他继续往前旅行的途中，自言自语地说道：

“这个人一定会被其他那些人，国王呀，爱虚荣的呀，酒鬼呀，实业家呀，所瞧不起。可是唯有他不使我感到荒唐可笑。这可能是因为他所关心的是别的事，而不是他自己。”

他惋惜地叹了口气，

并且又对自己说道：“本来这是我唯一可以和他交成朋友的人。可是他的星球确实太小了，住不下两个人……”

小王子没有勇气承认的是：他留恋这颗令人赞美的星星，特别是因为在那里每二十四小时就有一千四百四十次日落！

## XV

第六颗行星则要大十倍。上面住着一位老先生，他在写作大部头的书。

“That man,” said the little prince to himself, as he continued farther on his journey, “that man would be scorned by all the others: by the king, by the conceited man, by the tippler, by the businessman. Nevertheless he is the only one of them all who does not seem to me ridiculous. Perhaps that is because he is thinking of something else besides himself.”

He breathed a sigh of regret, and said to himself, again:

“That man is the only one of them all whom I could have made my friend. But his planet is indeed too small. There is no room on it for two people...”

What the little prince did not dare confess was that he was sorry most of all to leave this planet, because it was blest every day with 1440 sunsets!

## XV

The sixth planet was ten times larger than the last one. It was inhabited by an old gentleman who wrote voluminous books.

## The Little Prince



“瞧！来了一位探险家。”老先生看到小王子时，叫了起来。

“Oh, look! Here is an explorer!” he exclaimed to himself when he saw the little prince coming.

小王子在桌旁坐下，有点气喘吁吁。他跑了多少路啊！

The little prince sat down on the table and panted a little. He had already traveled so much and so far!

“你从哪里来的呀？”老先生问小王子。

“Where do you come from?” the old gentleman said to him.

“这一大本是什么书？你在这里干什么？”小王子问道。

“What is that big book?” said the little prince.  
“What are you doing?”

“我是地理学家。”老先生答道。

“I am a geographer,” said the old gentleman.

“什么是地理学家？”

“What is a geographer?” asked the little prince.

“地理学家，就是一种学者，他知道哪里有海洋，哪里有江河、城市、山脉、沙漠。”

“A geographer is a scholar who knows the location of all the seas, rivers, towns, mountains, and deserts.”

## 小王子

“这倒挺有意思。”小王子说。“这才是一种真正的行当。”

“That is very interesting,” said the little prince. “Here at last is a man who has a real profession!”

他朝四周围看了看这位地理学家的星球。他还从来没有见过一颗如此壮观的行星。

And he cast a look around him at the planet of the geographer. It was the most magnificent and stately planet that he had ever seen.

“您的星球真美呀。上面有海洋吗？”

“Your planet is very beautiful,” he said. “Has it any oceans?”

“这我没法知道。”地理学家说。

“I couldn’t tell you,” said the geographer.

“啊！”小王子大失所望。“那么，山脉呢？”

“Ah!” The little prince was disappointed. “Has it any mountains?”

“这，我没法知道。”地理学家说。

“I couldn’t tell you,” said the geographer.

“那么，有城市、河流、沙漠吗？”

“And towns, and rivers, and deserts?”

“这，我也没法知道。”地理学家说。

“I couldn’t tell you that, either.”

“可您还是地理学家呢！”

“But you are a geographer!”

“一点不错，”地理学家说，“但是我不是探察家。我手下一个探察家都没有。地理学家是不去计算城市、河流、山脉、海洋、沙漠的。”

“Exactly,” the geographer said. “But I am not an explorer. I haven’t a single explorer on my planet. It is not the geographer who goes out to count the towns, the rivers, the mountains, the seas, the oceans, and the deserts.”

## The Little Prince

地理学家很重要，不能到处跑。他不能离开他的办公室。但他可以在办公室里接见探察家。他询问探察家，把他们的回忆记录下来。如果他认为其中有个探察家的回忆是有意思的，那么地理学家就对这个探察家的品德做一番调查。”

“这是为什么呢？”

“因为一个说假话的探察家会给地理书带来灾难性的后果。同样，一个太爱喝酒的探察家也是如此。”

“这又是为什么？”小王子说。

“因为喝醉了酒的人把一个看成两个，那么，地理学家就会把只有一座山的地方写成两座山。”

“我认识一个人，他要是搞探察的话，就很可能是一个不好的探察员。”小王子说。

“这是可能的。因此，如果探察家的品德不错，就对他的发现进行调查。”

“去看一看吗？”

The geographer is much too important to go loafing about. He does not leave his desk. But he receives the explorers in his study. He asks them questions, and he notes down what they recall of their travels. And if the recollections of any one among them seem interesting to him, the geographer orders an inquiry into that explorer's moral character."

"Why is that?"

"Because an explorer who told lies would bring disaster on the books of the geographer. So would an explorer who drank too much."

"Why is that?" asked the little prince.

"Because intoxicated men see double. Then the geographer would note down two mountains in a place where there was only one."

"I know some one," said the little prince, "who would make a bad explorer."

"That is possible. Then, when the moral character of the explorer is shown to be good, an inquiry is ordered into his discovery."

"One goes to see it?"



## 小王子

“不。那太复杂了。但是要求探察家提出证据来。例如，假使他发现了一座大山，就要求他带来一些大石头。”

“No. That would be too complicated. But one requires the explorer to furnish proofs. For example, if the discovery in question is that of a large mountain, one requires that large stones be brought back from it.”

地理学家忽然忙乱起来。

The geographer was suddenly stirred to excitement.

“正好，你是从老远来的么！你是个探察家！你来给我介绍一下你的星球吧！”

“But you — you come from far away! You are an explorer! You shall describe your planet to me!”

于是，已经打开登记簿的地理学家，削起他的铅笔来。他首先是用铅笔记下探察家的叙述，等到探察家提出了证据以后再用墨水笔记下来。

And, having opened his big register, the geographer sharpened his pencil. The recitals of explorers are put down first in pencil. One waits until the explorer has furnished proofs, before putting them down in ink.

“怎么样？”地理学家询问道。

“Well?” said the geographer expectantly.

“啊！我那里，”小王子说道，“没有多大意思，那儿很小。我有三座火山，两座是活的，一座是熄灭了的。但是也很难说。”

“Oh, where I live,” said the little prince, “it is not very interesting. It is all so small. I have three volcanoes. Two volcanoes are active and the other is extinct. But one never knows.”

“很难说。”地理学家说道。

“One never knows,” said the geographer.

“我还有一朵花。”

“I have also a flower.”

“我们是不记载花卉的。”地理学家说。

“We do not record flowers,” said the geographer.

## The Little Prince

“这是为什么？花是最美丽的东西。”

“Why is that? The flower is the most beautiful thing on my planet!”

“因为花卉是短暂的。”

“We do not record them,” said the geographer, “because they are ephemeral.”

“什么叫短暂？”

“What does that mean — ‘ephemeral’?”

“地理学书籍是所有书中最严肃的书。”地理学家说道，“这类书是从不会过时的。很少会发生一座山变换了位置，很少会出现一个海洋干涸的现象。我们要写永恒的东西。”

“Geographies,” said the geographer, “are the books which, of all books, are most concerned with matters of consequence. They never become old-fashioned. It is very rarely that a mountain changes its position. It is very rarely that an ocean empties itself of its waters. We write of eternal things.”

“但是熄灭的火山也可能会再复苏的。”小王子打断了地理学家。“什么叫短暂？”

“But extinct volcanoes may come to life again,” the little prince interrupted. “What does that mean — ‘ephemeral’?”

“火山是熄灭了的也好，苏醒的也好，这对我们这些人来讲都是一回事。”地理学家说，“对我们来说，重要的是山。山是不会变换位置的。”

“Whether volcanoes are extinct or alive, it comes to the same thing for us,” said the geographer. “The thing that matters to us is the mountain. It does not change.”

“但是，‘短暂’是什么意思？”小王子再三地问道。他一旦提出一个问题是从不放过的。

“But what does that mean — ‘ephemeral’?” repeated the little prince, who never in his life had let go of a question, once he had asked it.

“意思就是：有很快就会消失的危险。”

“It means, ‘which is in danger of speedy disappearance.’”

## 小王子

“我的花是很快就会消失的吗？”

“Is my flower in danger of speedy disappearance?”

“那当然。”

“Certainly it is.”

小王子自言自语地说：“我的花是短暂的，而且她只有四根刺来防御外侮！可我还把她独自留在家里！”

“My flower is ephemeral,” the little prince said to himself, “and she has only four thorns to defend herself against the world. And I have left her on my planet, all alone!”

这是他第一次产生了后悔，但他又重新振作起来：

That was his first moment of regret. But he took courage once more.

“您是否能建议我去看些什么？”小王子问道。

“What place would you advise me to visit now?” he asked.

“地球这颗行星，”地理学家回答他说，“它的名望很高……”

“The planet Earth,” replied the geographer. “It has a good reputation.”

于是小王子就走了，他一边走一边想着他的花。

And the little prince went away, thinking of his flower.

## XVI

## XVI

第七个行星，于是就是地球了。

So then the seventh planet was the Earth.

## The Little Prince

地球可不是一颗普通的行星！它上面有一百一十一个国王（当然，没有漏掉黑人国王），七千个地理学家，九十万个实业家，七百五十万个酒鬼，三亿一千一百万个爱虚荣的人，也就是说，大约有二十亿的大人。

The Earth is not just an ordinary planet! One can count, there, 111 kings (not forgetting, to be sure, the Negro kings among them), 7000 geographers, 900,000 businessmen, 7,500,000 tipplers, 311,000,000 conceited men — that is to say, about 2,000,000,000 grown-ups.

为了使你们对地球的大小有一个概念，我想要告诉你们：在发明电之前，在六的大洲上，为了点路灯，需要维持一支为数四十六万二千五百一十一人的真正大军。

To give you an idea of the size of the Earth, I will tell you that before the invention of electricity it was necessary to maintain, over the whole of the six continents, a veritable army of 462,511 lamplighters for the street lamps.

从稍远的地方看过去，它给人以一种壮丽辉煌的印象。这支军队的行动就象歌剧院的芭蕾舞动作一样，那么有条不紊。

Seen from a slight distance, that would make a splendid spectacle. The movements of this army would be regulated like those of the ballet in the opera.

首先出现的是新西兰和澳大利亚的点灯人。点着了灯，随后他们就去睡觉了。于是就轮到中国和西伯利亚的点灯人走上舞台。随后，他们也藏到幕布后面去了。

First would come the turn of the lamplighters of New Zealand and Australia. Having set their lamps alight, these would go off to sleep. Next, the lamplighters of China and Siberia would enter for their steps in the dance, and then they too would be waved back into the wings.

于是就又轮到俄罗斯和印度的点灯人了。然后就是非洲和欧洲的。接着是南美的，再就是北美的。

After that would come the turn of the lamplighters of Russia and the Indies; then those of Africa and Europe; then those of South America; then those of South America; then those of North America.

## 小王子

他们从来也不会搞错他们上场的次序。真了不起。

北极仅有一盏路灯，南极也只有一盏；唯独北极的点灯人和他南极的同行，过着闲逸、懒散的生活：他们每年只工作两次。

## XVII

当人们想要说得俏皮些的时候，说话就可能会不大实在。在给你们讲点灯人的时候，我就不那么忠实，很可能给不了解我们这个星球的人们造成一个错误的概念。在地球上，人们所占的位置非常小。

如果住在地球上的二十亿居民全站站着，并且象开大会一样靠得紧些，那么就可以从容地站在一个二十海里见方的广场上。也就是说可以把整个人类集中在太平洋中一个最小的岛屿上。

And never would they make a mistake in the order of their entry upon the stage. It would be magnificent.

Only the man who was in charge of the single lamp at the North Pole, and his colleague who was responsible for the single lamp at the South Pole — only these two would live free from toil and care: they would be busy twice a year.

## XVII

When one wishes to play the wit, he sometimes wanders a little from the truth. I have not been altogether honest in what I have told you about the lamplighters. And I realize that I run the risk of giving a false idea of our planet to those who do not know it. Men occupy a very small place upon the Earth.

If the two billion inhabitants who people its surface were all to stand upright and somewhat crowded together, as they do for some big public assembly, they could easily be put into one public square twenty miles long and twenty miles wide. All humanity could be piled up on a small Pacific islet.

## The Little Prince

当然，大人们是不会相信你们的。他们自以为要占很大地方，他们把自己看得象猴面包树那样大得了不起。你们可以建议他们计算一下。这样会使他们很高兴，因为他们非常喜欢数目字。可是你们无须浪费时间去做这种乏味的连篇累牍的演算。这没有必要。你们可以完全相信我。

小王子到了地球上感到非常奇怪，他一个人也没有看到，他正担心自己跑错了星球。这时，在沙地上有一个月光色的圆环在蠕动。

The grown-ups, to be sure, will not believe you when you tell them that. They imagine that they fill a great deal of space. They fancy themselves as important as the baobabs. You should advise them, then, to make their own calculations. They adore figures, and that will please them. But do not waste your time on this extra task. It is unnecessary. You have, I know, confidence in me.

When the little prince arrived on the Earth, he was very much surprised not to see any people. He was beginning to be afraid he had come to the wrong planet, when a coil of gold, the color of the moonlight, flashed across the sand.



## 小王子

小王子毫无把握地随便说了声：“晚安。”

“Good evening,” said the little prince courteously.

“晚安。”蛇说道。

“Good evening,” said the snake.

“我落在什么行星上？”小王子问道。

“What planet is this on which I have come down?” asked the little prince.

“在地球上，在非洲。”蛇回答道。

“This is the Earth; this is Africa,” the snake answered.

“啊！……怎么，难道说地球上没有人吗？”

“Ah! Then there are no people on the Earth?”

“这里是沙漠，沙漠中没有人。地球是很大的。”蛇说。

“This is the desert. There are no people in the desert. The Earth is large,” said the snake.

小王子坐在一块石头上，抬眼望着天空，说道：

The little prince sat down on a stone, and raised his eyes toward the sky.

“我捉摸这些星星闪闪发亮是否为了让每个人将来有一天都能重新找到自己的星球。看，我那颗行星。它恰好在我们头顶上……可是，它离我们好远哟！”

“I wonder,” he said, “whether the stars are set alight in heaven so that one day each one of us may find his own again... Look at my planet. It is right there above us. But how far away it is!”

“它很美。”蛇说，“你到这里来干什么呢？”

“It is beautiful,” the snake said. “What has brought you here?”

“我和一朵花闹了别扭。”小王子说。

“I have been having some trouble with a flower,” said the little prince.

“啊！”蛇说道。

“Ah!” said the snake.

## The Little Prince

于是他们都沉默下来。

And they were both silent.

“人在什么地方？”小王子终于又开了腔。“在沙漠上，真有点孤独……”

“Where are the men?” the little prince at last took up the conversation again. “It is a little lonely in the desert...”

“到了有人的地方，也一样孤独。”蛇说。

“It is also lonely among men,” the snake said.

小王子长时间地看着蛇。

The little prince gazed at him for a long time.



“你是个奇怪的动物，细得像个手指头……。”小王子终于说道。

“You are a funny animal,” he said at last. “You are no thicker than a finger...”

“但我比一个国王的手指更有威力。”蛇说道。

“But I am more powerful than the finger of a king,” said the snake.



## 小王子

小王子微笑着说：

The little prince smiled.

“你并不那么有威力……你连脚都没有……你甚至都不能旅行……”

“You are not very powerful. You haven't even any feet. You cannot even travel...”

“我可以把你带到很远的地方去，比一只船能去的地方还要远。”蛇说道。

“I can carry you farther than any ship could take you,” said the snake.

蛇就盘结在小王子的脚腕子上，象一只金镯子。

He twined himself around the little prince's ankle, like a golden bracelet.

“被我碰触的人，我就把他送回老家去。”蛇还说，“可是你是纯洁的，而且是从另一个星球上来的……”

“Whoever I touch, I send back to the earth from whence he came,” the snake spoke again. “But you are innocent and true, and you come from a star...”

小王子什么也没有回答。

The little prince made no reply.

“在这个花岗石的地球上，你这么弱小，我很可怜你。如果你非常怀念你的星球，那时我可以帮助你。我可以……”

“You move me to pity — you are so weak on this Earth made of granite,” the snake said. “I can help you, some day, if you grow too homesick for your own planet. I can — ”

“啊！我很明白你的意思。”小王子说，“但是你为什么说话总是象让人猜谜语似的？”

“Oh! I understand you very well,” said the little prince. “But why do you always speak in riddles?”

“这些谜语我都能解开的。”蛇说。

“I solve them all,” said the snake.

于是他们又都沉默起来。

And they were both silent.

## XVIII

小王子穿过沙漠。他只见过一朵花，一个有着三枚花瓣的花朵，一朵很不起眼的小花……

“你好。”小王子说。

“你好。”花说。

“人在什么地方？”小王子有礼貌地问道。

有一天，花曾看见一支骆驼商队走过：

## XVIII

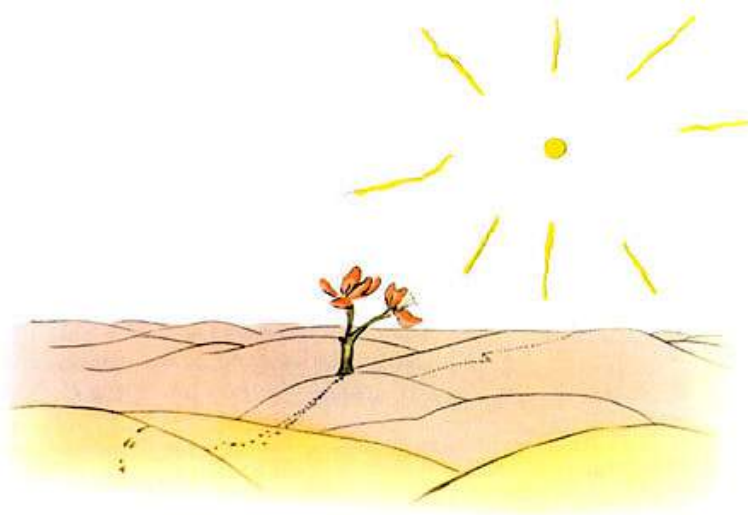
The little prince crossed the desert and met with only one flower. It was a flower with three petals, a flower of no account at all.

“Good morning,” said the little prince.

“Good morning,” said the flower.

“Where are the men?” the little prince asked, politely.

The flower had once seen a caravan passing.



## 小王子

“人吗？我想大约有六七个人，几年前，我瞅见过他们。可是，从来不知道到什么地方去找他们。风吹着他们到处跑。他们没有根，这对他们来说是很不方便的。”

“再见了。”小王子说。

“再见。”花说。

## XIX

小王子爬上一座高山。过去他所见过的山就是那三座只有他膝盖那么高的火山，并且他把那座熄灭了的火山就当作凳子。小王子自言自语地说道：“从这么高的山上，我一眼可以看到整个星球，以及所有的人。”可是，他所看到的只是一些非常锋利的悬崖峭壁。

“你好。”小王子试探地问道。

“你好……你好……你好……”回音在回答道。

“你们是什么人？”小王子问。

“Men?” she echoed. “I think there are six or seven of them in existence. I saw them, several years ago. But one never knows where to find them. The wind blows them away. They have no roots, and that makes their life very difficult.”

“Goodbye,” said the little prince.

“Goodbye,” said the flower.

## XIX

After that, the little prince climbed a high mountain. The only mountains he had ever known were the three volcanoes, which came up to his knees. And he used the extinct volcano as a footstool. “From a mountain as high as this one,” he said to himself, “I shall be able to see the whole planet at one glance, and all the people...” But he saw nothing, save peaks of rock that were sharpened like needles.

“Good morning,” he said courteously.

“Good morning — Good morning — Good morning,” answered the echo.

“Who are you?” said the little prince.

## The Little Prince

“你们是什么人……你们是什么人……你们是什么人……”  
回音又回答道。

“Who are you — Who are you — Who are you?”  
answered the echo.

“请你们做我的朋友吧，我很孤独。”他说。

“Be my friends. I am all alone,” he said.

“我很孤独……我很孤独……我很孤独……”回音又回答着。

“I am all alone — all alone — all alone,” answered the echo.

小王子想道：“这颗行星真奇怪！它上面全是干巴巴的，而且又尖利又咸涩，

“What a queer planet!” he thought. “It is altogether dry, and altogether pointed, and altogether harsh and forbidding.



## 小王子

人们一点想象力都没有。他们只是重复别人对他们说的话……在我的家乡，我有一朵花。她总是自己先说话……”

And the people have no imagination. They repeat whatever one says to them... On my planet I had a flower; she always was the first to speak...”

XX

XX

在沙漠、岩石、雪地上行走了很长的时间以后，小王子终于发现了一条大路。所有的大路都是通往人住的地方的。

ce at last came upon a road. And all roads lead to the abodes of men.

“你们好。”小王子说。

“Good morning,” he said.

这是一个玫瑰盛开的花园。

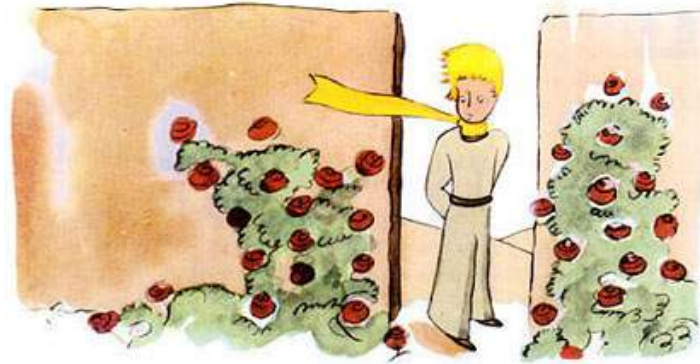
He was standing before a garden, all a-bloom with roses.

“你好。”玫瑰花说道。

“Good morning,” said the roses.

小王子瞅着这些花，它们全都和他的那朵花一样。

The little prince gazed at them. They all looked like his flower.



“你们是什么花？”小王子惊奇地问。

“Who are you?” he demanded, thunderstruck.

## The Little Prince

“我们是玫瑰花。”花儿们说道。

“We are roses,” the roses said.

“啊！”小王子说……。

他感到自己非常不幸。他的那朵花曾对他说她是整个宇宙中独一无二的一种花。可是，仅在这一座花园里就有五千朵完全一样的这种花朵！

And he was overcome with sadness. His flower had told him that she was the only one of her kind in all the universe. And here were five thousand of them, all alike, in one single garden!

小王子自言自语地说：“如果她看到这些，她是一定会很恼火……她会咳嗽得更厉害，并且为避免让人耻笑，她会佯装死去。那么，我还得装着去护理她，因为如果不这样的话，她为了使我难堪，她可能会真的死去……”

“She would be very much annoyed,” he said to himself, “if she should see that... She would cough most dreadfully, and she would pretend that she was dying, to avoid being laughed at. And I should be obliged to pretend that I was nursing her back to life — for if I did not do that, to humble myself also, she would really allow herself to die...”

接着他又说道：“我还以为我有一朵独一无二的花呢，我有的仅是一朵普通的花。这朵花，再加上三座只有我膝盖那么高的火山，而且其中一座还可能是永远熄灭了的，这一切不会使我成为一个了不起的王子……”

Then he went on with his reflections: “I thought that I was rich, with a flower that was unique in all the world; and all I had was a common rose. A common rose, and three volcanoes that come up to my knees — and one of them perhaps extinct forever... That doesn't make me a very great prince...”

于是，他躺在草丛中哭泣起来。

And he lay down in the grass and cried.

## 小王子



XXI

XXI

就在这当儿，跑来了一只狐狸。

It was then that the fox appeared.

“你好。”狐狸说。

“Good morning,” said the fox.

“你好。”小王子很有礼貌地回答道。他转过身来，但什么也没有看到。

“Good morning,” the little prince responded politely, although when he turned around he saw nothing.



“我在这儿，在苹果树下。”那声音说。

“I am right here,” the voice said, “under the apple tree.”

## The Little Prince

“你是谁？”小王子说，“你很漂亮。”

“Who are you?” asked the little prince, and added, “You are very pretty to look at.”

“我是一只狐狸。”狐狸说。

“I am a fox,” the fox said.

“来和我一起玩吧，”小王子建议道，“我很苦恼……”

“Come and play with me,” proposed the little prince. “I am so unhappy.”

“我不能和你一起玩，”狐狸说，“我还没有被驯服呢。”

“I cannot play with you,” the fox said. “I am not tamed.”

“啊！真对不起。”小王子说。

“Ah! Please excuse me,” said the little prince.

思索了一会儿，他又说道：

But, after some thought, he added:

“什么叫‘驯服’呀？”

“What does that mean — ‘tame’?”

“你不是此地人。”狐狸说，“你来寻找什么？”

“You do not live here,” said the fox. “What is it that you are looking for?”

“我来找人。”小王子说，“什么叫‘驯服’呢？”

“I am looking for men,” said the little prince. “What does that mean — ‘tame’?”

“人，”狐狸说，“他们有枪，他们还打猎，这真碍事！他们唯一的可取之处就是他们也养鸡，你是来寻找鸡的吗？”

“Men,” said the fox. “They have guns, and they hunt. It is very disturbing. They also raise chickens. These are their only interests. Are you looking for chickens?”



## 小王子



“不，”小王子说，“我是来找朋友的。什么叫‘驯服’呢？”

“No,” said the little prince. “I am looking for friends. What does that mean — ‘tame’?”

“这是已经早就被人遗忘了的事情，”狐狸说，“它的意思就是‘建立联系’。”

“It is an act too often neglected,” said the fox. “It means to establish ties.”

“建立联系？”

“‘To establish ties’?”

“一点不错，”狐狸说。“对我来说，你还只是一个小男孩，就像其他千万个小男孩一样。我不需要你。你也同样用不着我。对你来说，我也不过是一只狐狸，和其他千万只狐狸一样。但是，如果你驯服了我，我们就互相不可缺少了。对我来说，你就是世界上唯一的了；我对你来说，也是世界上唯一的了。”

“Just that,” said the fox. “To me, you are still nothing more than a little boy who is just like a hundred thousand other little boys. And I have no need of you. And you, on your part, have no need of me. To you, I am nothing more than a fox like a hundred thousand other foxes. But if you tame me, then we shall need each other. To me, you will be unique in all the world. To you, I shall be unique in all the world...”

## The Little Prince

“我有点明白了。”小王子说，“有一朵花……，我想，她把我驯服了……”

“I am beginning to understand,” said the little prince. “There is a flower... I think that she has tamed me...”

“这是可能的。”狐狸说，“世界上什么样的事都可能看到……”

“It is possible,” said the fox. “On the Earth one sees all sorts of things.”

“啊，这不是在地球上的事。”小王子说。

“Oh, but this is not on the Earth!” said the little prince.

狐狸感到十分蹊跷。

The fox seemed perplexed, and very curious.

“在另一个星球上？”

“On another planet?”

“是的。”

“Yes.”

“在那个星球上，有猎人吗？”

“Are there hunters on that planet?”

“没有。”

“No.”

“这很有意思。那么，有鸡吗？”

“Ah, that is interesting! Are there chickens?”

“没有。”

“No.”

“没有十全十美的。”狐狸叹息地说道。

“Nothing is perfect,” sighed the fox.

可是，狐狸又把话题拉回来：

But he came back to his idea.

## 小王子

“我的生活很单调。我捕捉鸡，而人又捕捉我。所有的鸡全都一样，所有的人也全都一样。因此，我感到有些厌烦了。但是，如果你要是驯服了我，我的生活就一定会是欢快的。我会辨认出一种与众不同的脚步声。其他的脚步声会使我躲到地下去，而你的脚步声就会象音乐一样让我从洞里走出来。”

再说，你看！你看到那边的麦田没有？我不吃面包，麦子对我来说，一点用也没有。我对麦田无动于衷。而这，真使人扫兴。但是，你有着金黄色的头发。那么，一旦你驯服了我，这就会十分美妙。麦子，是金黄色的，它就会使我想起你。而且，我甚至会喜欢那风吹麦浪的声音……”

狐狸沉默不语，久久地看着小王子。

“请你驯服我吧！”他说。

“我是很愿意的。”小王子回答道，“可我的时间不多了。我还要去寻找朋友，还有许多事物要了解。”

“My life is very monotonous,” the fox said. “I hunt chickens; men hunt me. All the chickens are just alike, and all the men are just alike. And, in consequence, I am a little bored. But if you tame me, it will be as if the sun came to shine on my life. I shall know the sound of a step that will be different from all the others. Other steps send me hurrying back underneath the ground. Yours will call me, like music, out of my burrow.”

And then look: you see the grain-fields down yonder? I do not eat bread. Wheat is of no use to me. The wheat fields have nothing to say to me. And that is sad. But you have hair that is the color of gold. Think how wonderful that will be when you have tamed me! The grain, which is also golden, will bring me back the thought of you. And I shall love to listen to the wind in the wheat...”

The fox gazed at the little prince, for a long time.

“Please — tame me!” he said.

“I want to, very much,” the little prince replied. “But I have not much time. I have friends to discover, and a great many things to understand.”

## The Little Prince

“只有被驯服了的事物，才会被了解。”狐狸说，“人不会再有时间去了解任何东西的。他们总是到商人那里去购买现成的东西。因为世界上还没有购买朋友的商店，所以人也就没有朋友。如果你想要一个朋友，那就驯服我吧！”

“那么应当做些什么呢？”小王子说。

“应当非常耐心。”狐狸回答道，“开始你就这样坐在草丛中，坐得离我稍微远些。我用眼角瞅着你，你什么也不要说。话语是误会的根源。但是，每天，你坐得靠我更近些……”

第二天，小王子又来了。

“One only understands the things that one tames,” said the fox. “Men have no more time to understand anything. They buy things all ready made at the shops. But there is no shop anywhere where one can buy friendship, and so men have no friends any more. If you want a friend, tame me...”

“What must I do, to tame you?” asked the little prince.

“You must be very patient,” replied the fox. “First you will sit down at a little distance from me — like that — in the grass. I shall look at you out of the corner of my eye, and you will say nothing. Words are the source of misunderstandings. But you will sit a little closer to me, every day...”

The next day the little prince came back.

## 小王子



“最好还是在原来的那个时间来。”狐狸说道，“比如说，你下午四点钟来，那么从三点钟起，我就开始感到幸福。时间越临近，我就越感到幸福。到了四点钟的时候，我就会坐立不安；我就会发现幸福的代价。但是，如果你随便什么时候来，我就不知道在什么时候该准备好我的心情……应当有一定的仪式。”

“仪式是什么？”小王子问道。

“It would have been better to come back at the same hour,” said the fox. “If, for example, you come at four o’clock in the afternoon, then at three o’clock I shall begin to be happy. I shall feel happier and happier as the hour advances. At four o’clock, I shall already be worrying and jumping about. I shall show you how happy I am! But if you come at just any time, I shall never know at what hour my heart is to be ready to greet you... One must observe the proper rites...”

“What is a rite?” asked the little prince.

## The Little Prince

“这也是一种早已被人忘却了的事。”狐狸说，“它就是使某一天与其他日子不同，使某一时刻与其他时刻不同。比如说，我的那些猎人就有一种仪式。他们每星期四都和村子里的姑娘们跳舞。于是，星期四就是一个美好的日子！我可以一直散步到葡萄园去。如果猎人们什么时候都跳舞，天天又全都一样，那么我也就没有假日了。”

就这样，小王子驯服了狐狸。当出发的时刻就快要来到时：

“啊！”狐狸说，“我一定会哭的。”

“这是你的过错，”小王子说，“我本来并不想给你任何痛苦，可你却要我驯服你……”

“是这样的。”狐狸说。

“你可就要哭了！”小王子说。

“当然罗。”狐狸说。

“那么你有什么好处也没得到。”

“Those also are actions too often neglected,” said the fox. “They are what make one day different from other days, one hour from other hours. There is a rite, for example, among my hunters. Every Thursday they dance with the village girls. So Thursday is a wonderful day for me! I can take a walk as far as the vineyards. But if the hunters danced at just any time, every day would be like every other day, and I should never have any vacation at all.”

So the little prince tamed the fox. And when the hour of his departure drew near —

“Ah,” said the fox, “I shall cry.”

“It is your own fault,” said the little prince. “I never wished you any sort of harm; but you wanted me to tame you...”

“Yes, that is so,” said the fox.

“But now you are going to cry!” said the little prince.

“Yes, that is so,” said the fox.

“Then it has done you no good at all!”

## 小王子

“由于麦子颜色的缘故，我还是得到了好处。”狐狸说。

“It has done me good,” said the fox, “because of the color of the wheat fields.”

然后，他又接着说。

And then he added:

“再去看看那些玫瑰花吧。你一定会明白，你的那朵是世界上独一无二的玫瑰。你回来和我告别时，我再赠送给你一个秘密。”

“Go and look again at the roses. You will understand now that yours is unique in all the world. Then come back to say goodbye to me, and I will make you a present of a secret.”

于是小王子又去看那些玫瑰。

The little prince went away, to look again at the roses.

“你们一点也不象我的那朵玫瑰，你们还什么都不是呢！”小王子对她们说。“没有人驯服过你们，你们也没有驯服过任何人。你们就象我的狐狸过去那样，它那时只是和千万只别的狐狸一样的一只狐狸。但是，我现在已经把它当成了我的朋友，于是它现在就是世界上独一无二的了。”

“You are not at all like my rose,” he said. “As yet you are nothing. No one has tamed you, and you have tamed no one. You are like my fox when I first knew him. He was only a fox like a hundred thousand other foxes. But I have made him my friend, and now he is unique in all the world.”

这时，那些玫瑰花显得十分难堪。

And the roses were very much embarrassed.

## The Little Prince

“你们很美，但你们是空虚的。”小王子仍然在对她们说，“没有人能为你们去死。当然罗，我的那朵玫瑰花，一个普通的过路人以为她和你们一样。可是，她单独一朵就比你们全体更重要，因为她是我浇灌的。因为她是我放在花罩中的。因为她是我用屏风保护起来的。因为她身上的毛虫（除了留下两三只为了变蝴蝶而外）是我除灭的。因为我倾听过她的怨艾和自诩，甚至有时我聆听着她的沉默。因为她是我的玫瑰。”

他又回到了狐狸身边。

“再见了。”小王子说道。

“再见。”狐狸说。“喏，这就是我的秘密。很简单：只有用心才能看得清。实质性的东西，用眼睛是看不见的。”

“实质性的东西，用眼睛是看不见的。”小王子重复着这句话，以便能把它记在心间。

“正因为你为你的玫瑰花费了时间，这才使你的玫瑰变得如此重要。”

“You are beautiful, but you are empty,” he went on. “One could not die for you. To be sure, an ordinary passerby would think that my rose looked just like you — the rose that belongs to me. But in herself alone she is more important than all the hundreds of you other roses: because it is she that I have watered; because it is she that I have put under the glass globe; because it is she that I have sheltered behind the screen; because it is for her that I have killed the caterpillars (except the two or three that we saved to become butterflies); because it is she that I have listened to, when she grumbled, or boasted, or ever sometimes when she said nothing. Because she is my rose.”

And he went back to meet the fox.

“Goodbye,” he said.

“Goodbye,” said the fox. “And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.”

“What is essential is invisible to the eye,” the little prince repeated, so that he would be sure to remember.

“It is the time you have wasted for your rose that makes your rose so important.”



## 小王子

“正因为你为你的玫瑰花费了时间……”小王子又重复着，要使自己记住这些。

“It is the time I have wasted for my rose — ” said the little prince, so that he would be sure to remember.

“人们已经忘记了这个道理，”狐狸说，“可是，你不应该忘记它。你现在要对你驯服过的一切负责到底。你要对你的玫瑰负责……”

“Men have forgotten this truth,” said the fox. “But you must not forget it. You become responsible, forever, for what you have tamed. You are responsible for your rose...”

“我要对我的玫瑰负责……”小王子又重复着……

“I am responsible for my rose,” the little prince repeated, so that he would be sure to remember.

## XXII

## XXII

“你好。”小王子说道。

Good morning,” said the little prince.

“你好。”扳道工说道。

“Good morning”, said the railway switchman.

“你在这里做什么？”小王子问。

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

“我一包包地分选旅客，按每千人一包。”扳道工说，“我打发这些运载旅客的列车，一会儿发往右方，一会儿发往左方。”

“I sort out travelers, in bundles of a thousand” , said the switchman. “I send off the trains that carry them: now to the right, now to the left.”

这时，一列灯火明亮的快车，雷鸣般地响着，把扳道房震得颤颤悠悠。

And a brilliantly lighted express train shook the switchman’s cabin as it rushed by with a roar like thunder.

“他们真匆忙呀，”小王子说，“他们要寻找什么？”

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

## The Little Prince

“开机车的人自己也不知道。”扳道工说道。

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

于是，第二列灯火通明的快车又朝着相反的方向轰隆轰隆地开过去。

And a second brilliantly lighted express thundered by, in the opposite direction.

“他们怎么又回来了呢？”小王子问道。

“Are they coming back already?” demanded the little prince.

“他们不是原来那些人了吗？”扳道工说，“这是一次对开列车。”

“These are not the same ones,” said the switchman. “It is an exchange.”

“他们不满意他们原来所住的地方吗？”

“Were they not satisfied where they were?” asked the little prince.

“人们是从来也不会满意自己所在的地方的。”扳道工说。

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

此时，第三趟灯火明亮的快车又隆隆而过。

And they heard the roaring thunder of a third brilliantly lighted express.

“他们是在追随第一批旅客吗？”小王子问道。

“Are they pursuing the first travelers?” demanded the little prince.

“他们什么也不追随。”扳道工说，“他们在里面睡觉，或是在打哈欠。只有孩子们把鼻子贴在玻璃窗上往外看。”

“They are pursuing nothing at all,” said the switchman. “They are asleep in there, or if they are not asleep they are yawning. Only the children are flattening their noses against the windowpanes.”

## 小王子

“只有孩子知道他们自己在寻找什么。”小王子说，“他们为一个布娃娃花费不少时间，这个布娃娃就成了很重要的东西，如果有人夺走的他们的布娃娃，他们就哭泣……”

“Only the children know what they are looking for,” said the little prince. “They waste their time over a rag doll and it becomes very important to them; and if anybody takes it away from them, they cry...”

“他们真幸运。”扳道工说。

“They are lucky,” the switchman said.

## XXIII

## XXIII

“你好。”小王子说。

“Good morning,” said the little prince.

“你好。”商人说道。

“Good morning,” said the merchant.

这是一位贩卖能够止渴的精制药丸的商人。每周吞服一丸就不会感觉口渴。

This was a merchant who sold pills that had been invented to quench thirst. You need only swallow one pill a week, and you would feel no need of anything to drink.

“你为什么卖这玩艺儿？”小王子说。

“Why are you selling those?” asked the little prince.

“这就大大地节约了时间。”商人说，“专家们计算过，这样，每周可以节约五十三分钟。”

“Because they save a tremendous amount of time,” said the merchant. “Computations have been made by experts. With these pills, you save fifty-three minutes in every week.”

“那么，用这五十三分钟做什么用？”

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

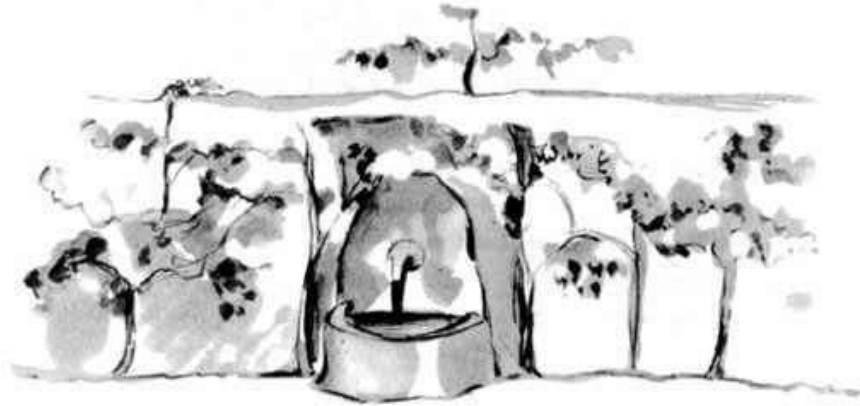
“随便怎么用都行。……”

“Anything you like...”

## The Little Prince

小王子自言自语地说：“我如果有五十三分钟可支配，我就悠哉游哉地向水泉走去……”

“As for me,” said the little prince to himself, “if I had fifty-three minutes to spend as I liked, I should walk at my leisure toward a spring of fresh water.”



XXIV

XXIV

这是我在沙漠上出了事故的第八天。我听着有关这个商人的故事，喝完了我所备用的最后一滴水。

It was now the eighth day since I had had my accident in the desert, and I had listened to the story of the merchant as I was drinking the last drop of my water supply.

“啊！”我对小王子说，“你回忆的这些故事真美。可是，我还没有修好我的飞机。我没有喝的了，假如我能悠哉游哉地走到水泉边去，我一定也会很高兴的！”

“Ah,” I said to the little prince, “these memories of yours are very charming; but I have not yet succeeded in repairing my plane; I have nothing more to drink; and I, too, should be very happy if I could walk at my leisure toward a spring of fresh water!”

小王子对我说：“我的朋友狐狸……”

“My friend the fox — ” the little prince said to me.

“我的小家伙，现在还说什么狐狸！”

“My dear little man, this is no longer a matter that has anything to do with the fox!”

## 小王子

“为什么？”

“Why not?”

“因为这就要渴死人了。”

“Because I am about to die of thirst...”

他不理解我的思路，他回答我道：

He did not follow my reasoning, and he answered me:

“即使快要死了，有过一个朋友也好么！我就为我有过一个狐狸朋友而感到很高兴……”

“It is a good thing to have had a friend, even if one is about to die. I, for instance, am very glad to have had a fox as a friend...”

“他不顾危险。”我自己思量着，“他从来不知道饥渴。只要有点阳光，他就满足了……”

“He has no way of guessing the danger,” I said to myself. “He has never been either hungry or thirsty. A little sunshine is all he needs...”

他看着我，答复着我的思想：

But he looked at me steadily, and replied to my thought:

“我也渴了……我们去找一口井吧……”

“I am thirsty, too. Let us look for a well...”

我显出厌烦的样子：在茫茫的大沙漠上盲目地去找水井，真荒唐。然而我们还是开始去寻找了。

I made a gesture of weariness. It is absurd to look for a well, at random, in the immensity of the desert. But nevertheless we started walking.

当我们默默地走了好几个小时以后，天黑了下来，星星开始发出光亮。由于渴我有点发烧，我看着这些星星，象是在做梦一样。小王子的话在我的脑海中跳来跳去。

When we had trudged along for several hours, in silence, the darkness fell, and the stars began to come out. Thirst had made me a little feverish, and I looked at them as if I were in a dream. The little prince's last words came reeling back into my memory:

## The Little Prince

“你也渴吗？”我问他。

“Then you are thirsty, too?” I demanded.

他却不回答我的问题，只是对我说：

But he did not reply to my question. He merely said to me:

“水对心也是有益处的……”

“Water may also be good for the heart...”

我不懂他的话是什么意思，可我也不做声……我知道不应该去问他。

I did not understand this answer, but I said nothing. I knew very well that it was impossible to cross-examine him.

他累了，他坐下来。我在他身旁坐下。沉默了一会，他又说道：

He was tired. He sat down. I sat down beside him. And, after a little silence, he spoke again:

“星星是很美的，因为有一朵人们看不到的花……”

“The stars are beautiful, because of a flower that cannot be seen.”

我回答道：“当然。”而我默默地看着月光下沙漠的褶皱。

I replied, “Yes, that is so.” And, without saying anything more, I looked across the ridges of sand that were stretched out before us in the moonlight.

“沙漠是美的。”他又说道。

“The desert is beautiful,” the little prince added.

确实如此。我一直很喜欢沙漠。坐在一个沙丘上，什么也看不见、听不见。但是，却有一种说不出的东西在默默地放着光芒……

And that was true. I have always loved the desert. One sits down on a desert sand dune, sees nothing, hears nothing. Yet through the silence something throbs, and gleams...

“使沙漠更加美丽的，就是在某个角落里，藏着一口井……”

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

## 小王子

我很惊讶，突然明白了为什么沙漠放着光芒。当我还是一个小孩子的时候，我住在一座古老的房子里，而且传说，这个房子里埋藏着一个宝贝。当然，从来没有任何人能发现这个宝贝，可能，甚至也没有人去寻找过。但是，这个宝贝使整个房子着了魔似的。我家的房子在它的心灵深处隐藏着一个秘密……

我对小王子说道：“是的，无论是房子，星星，或是沙漠，使它们美丽的东西是看不见的！”

“我真高兴，你和我的狐狸的看法一样。”小王子说。

小王子睡觉了，我就把他抱在怀里，又重新上路了。我很激动。就好象抱着一个脆弱的宝贝。就好象在地球上没有比这更脆弱的了。

我借着月光看着这惨白的面额，这双紧闭的眼睛，这随风飘动的绺绺头发，这时我对自己说道：“我所看到的仅仅是外表。最重要的是看不见的……”

I was astonished by a sudden understanding of that mysterious radiation of the sands. When I was a little boy I lived in an old house, and legend told us that a treasure was buried there. To be sure, no one had ever known how to find it; perhaps no one had ever even looked for it. But it cast an enchantment over that house. My home was hiding a secret in the depths of its heart...

“Yes,” I said to the little prince. “The house, the stars, the desert — what gives them their beauty is something that is invisible!”

“I am glad,” he said, “that you agree with my fox.”

As the little prince dropped off to sleep, I took him in my arms and set out walking once more. I felt deeply moved, and stirred. It seemed to me that I was carrying a very fragile treasure. It seemed to me, even, that there was nothing more fragile on all Earth.

In the moonlight I looked at his pale forehead, his closed eyes, his locks of hair that trembled in the wind, and I said to myself:

## The Little Prince

由于看到他稍稍张开的嘴唇露出一丝微笑，我又自言自语地说：“在这个熟睡了的小王子身上，使我非常感动的，是他对他那朵花的忠诚，是在他心中闪烁的那朵玫瑰花的形象。这朵玫瑰花，即使在小王子睡着了的时候，也象一盏灯的火焰一样在他身上闪耀着光辉……”这时，我就感觉到他更加脆弱。应该保护灯焰：一阵风就可能把它吹灭……

于是，就这样走着，我在黎明时发现了水井。

## XXV

“那些人们，他们往快车里拥挤，但是他们却不知道要寻找什么。于是，他们就忙忙碌碌，来回转圈子……”小王子说道。

他接着又说：

“这没有必要……”

“What I see here is nothing but a shell. What is most important is invisible...” As his lips opened slightly with the suspicion of a half-smile, I said to myself, again: “What moves me so deeply, about this little prince who is sleeping here, is his loyalty to a flower — the image of a rose that shines through his whole being like the flame of a lamp, even when he is asleep...” And I felt him to be more fragile still. I felt the need of protecting him, as if he himself were a flame that might be extinguished by a little puff of wind...

And, as I walked on so, I found the well, at daybreak.

## XXV

“Men,” said the little prince, “set out on their way in express trains, but they do not know what they are looking for. Then they rush about, and get excited, and turn round and round...”

And he added:

“It is not worth the trouble...”



## 小王子

我们终于找到的这口井，不同于撒哈拉的那些井。撒哈拉的井只是沙漠中挖的洞。这口井则很象村子中的井。可是，那里又没有任何村庄，我还以为是在做梦呢。

“真怪，”我对小王子说：“一切都是现成的：辘轳、水桶、绳子……”

他笑了，拿着绳子，转动着辘轳。辘轳就象是一个长期没有风来吹动的旧风标一样，吱吱作响。

The well that we had come to was not like the wells of the Sahara. The wells of the Sahara are mere holes dug in the sand. This one was like a well in a village. But there was no village here, and I thought I must be dreaming...

“It is strange,” I said to the little prince. “Everything is ready for use: the pulley, the bucket, the rope...”

He laughed, touched the rope, and set the pulley to working. And the pulley moaned, like an old weathervane which the wind has long since forgotten.



## The Little Prince

“你听，”小王子说：“我们唤醒了这口井，它现在唱起歌来了……”

我不愿让他费劲。

我对他说：

“让我来干吧。这活对你太重了。”

我慢慢地把水桶提到井栏上。我把它稳稳地放在那里。我的耳朵里还响着辘轳的歌声。依然还在晃荡的水面上，我看见太阳的影子在跳动。

“我正需要喝这种水。”小王子说：“给我喝点……”

这时我才明白了他所要寻找的是什么！

我把水桶提到他的嘴边。他闭着眼睛喝水。就象节日一般舒适愉快。这水远不只是一种饮料，它是披星戴月走了许多路才找到的，是在辘轳的歌声中，经过我双臂的努力得来的。它象是一件礼品慰藉着心田。

“Do you hear?” said the little prince. “We have wakened the well, and it is singing...”

I did not want him to tire himself with the rope.

“Leave it to me,” I said. “It is too heavy for you.”

I hoisted the bucket slowly to the edge of the well and set it there — happy, tired as I was, over my achievement. The song of the pulley was still in my ears, and I could see the sunlight shimmer in the still trembling water.

“I am thirsty for this water,” said the little prince. “Give me some of it to drink...”

And I understood what he had been looking for.

I raised the bucket to his lips. He drank, his eyes closed. It was as sweet as some special festival treat. This water was indeed a different thing from ordinary nourishment. Its sweetness was born of the walk under the stars, the song of the pulley, the effort of my arms. It was good for the heart, like a present.

## 小王子

在我小的时候，圣诞树的灯光，午夜的弥撒的音乐，甜蜜的微笑，这一切都使圣诞节时我收到的礼品辉映着幸福的光彩。

When I was a little boy, the lights of the Christmas tree, the music of the Midnight Mass, the tenderness of smiling faces, used to make up, so, the radiance of the gifts I received.

“你这里的人在同一个花园中种植着五千朵玫瑰。”小王子说：“可是，他们却不能从中找到自己所要寻找的东西……”

“The men where you live,” said the little prince, “raise five thousand roses in the same garden — and they do not find in it what they are looking for.”

“他们是找不到的。”我回答道。

“They do not find it,” I replied.

“然而，他们所寻找的东西却是可以从一朵玫瑰花或一点儿水中找到的……”

“And yet what they are looking for could be found in one single rose, or in a little water.”

“一点不错。”我回答道。

“Yes, that is true,” I said.

小王子又加了一句：

And the little prince added:

“眼睛是什么也看不见的。应该用心去寻找。”

“But the eyes are blind. One must look with the heart...”

我喝了水。我痛快地呼吸着空气。沙漠在晨曦中泛出蜂蜜的光泽。这蜂蜜般的光泽也使我感到幸福。为什么我要难过……

I had drunk the water. I breathed easily. At sunrise the sand is the color of honey. And that honey color was making me happy, too. What brought me, then, this sense of grief?

## The Little Prince

小王子又重新在我的身边坐下。他温柔地对我说：“你应该实践你的诺言。”

“You must keep your promise,” said the little prince, softly, as he sat down beside me once more.

“什么诺言？”

“What promise?”

“你知道……给我的小羊一个嘴套子……我要对我的花负责的呀！”

“You know — a muzzle for my sheep... I am responsible for this flower...”

我从口袋中拿出我的画稿。小王子瞅见了，笑着说：

I took my rough drafts of drawings out of my pocket. The little prince looked them over, and laughed as he said:

“你画的猴面包树，有点象白菜……”  
“啊！”

“Your baobabs — they look a little like cabbages.”

我还为我画的猴面包树感到骄傲呢！

“Oh!”  
I had been so proud of my baobabs!

“你画的狐狸……它那双耳朵……有点象犄角……而且又太长了！”

“Your fox — his ears look a little like horns; and they are too long.”

这时，他又笑了。

And he laughed again.

“小家伙，你太不公正了。我过去只会画开着肚皮和闭着肚皮的巨蟒。”

“You are not fair, little prince,” I said. “I don’t know how to draw anything except boa constrictors from the outside and boa constrictors from the inside.”

“啊！这就行了。”他说：“孩子们认得出来。”

“Oh, that will be all right,” he said, “children understand.”

## 小王子

我就用铅笔勾画了一个嘴套。  
当我把它递给小王子时，我心里很难受：

So then I made a pencil sketch of a muzzle. And as I gave it to him my heart was torn.

“你的打算，我一点也不知道……”

“You have plans that I do not know about,” I said.

但是，他不回答我，他对我说：

But he did not answer me.

“你知道，我落在地球上……  
到明天就一周年了……”

He said to me, instead:  
“You know — my descent to the earth... Tomorrow will be its anniversary.”

接着，沉默了一会儿，他又说道：

Then, after a silence, he went on:

“我就落在这附近……”

“I came down very near here.”

此时，他的面颊绯红。

And he flushed.

我不知为什么，又感到一阵莫名其妙的心酸。

And once again, without understanding why, I had a queer sense of sorrow.

这时，我产生了一个问题：

One question, however, occurred to me:

“一星期以前，我认识你的那天早上，你单独一个人在这旷无人烟的地方走着；这么说，这并不是偶然的了？你是要回到你降落的地方去是吗！”

“Then it was not by chance that on the morning when I first met you — a week ago — you were strolling along like that, all alone, a thousand miles from any inhabited region? You were on the your back to the place where you landed?”

小王子的脸又红了。

The little prince flushed again.

我犹豫不定地又说了一句：

And I added, with some hesitancy:

## The Little Prince

“可能是因为周年纪念吧？……”

“Perhaps it was because of the anniversary?”

小王子脸又红了。他从来也不回答这些问题，但是，脸红，就等于说“是的”，是吧？

The little prince flushed once more. He never answered questions — but when one flushes does that not mean “Yes”?

“啊！”我对他说：“我有点怕……”

“Ah,” I said to him, “I am a little frightened — ”

但他却回答我说：

But he interrupted me.

“你现在该工作了。你应该回到你的机器那里去。我在这里等你。你明天晚上再来……”

“Now you must work. You must return to your engine. I will be waiting for you here. Come back tomorrow evening...”

但是，我放心不下。我想起了狐狸的话。如果被人驯服了，就可能会要哭的……

But I was not reassured. I remembered the fox. One runs the risk of weeping a little, if one lets himself be tamed...

## XXVI

## XXVI

在井旁边有一堵残缺的石墙。第二天晚上我工作回来的时候，我远远地看见了小王子耷拉着双腿坐在墙上。我听见他在说话：

Beside the well there was the ruin of an old stone wall. When I came back from my work, the next evening, I saw from some distance away my little price sitting on top of a wall, with his feet dangling. And I heard him say:

“你怎么不记得了呢？”他说，“绝不是在这儿。”

“Then you don’t remember. This is not the exact spot.”

大概还有另一个声音在回答他，因为他答着腔说道：

Another voice must have answered him, for he replied to it:

## 小王子

“没错，没错，日子是对的；但地点不是这里……”

“Yes, yes! It is the right day, but this is not the place.”

我继续朝墙走去。我还是看不到，也听不见任何别人。可是小王子又回答道：

I continued my walk toward the wall. At no time did I see or hear anyone. The little prince, however, replied once again:

“……那当然。你会在沙上看到我的脚印是从什么地方开始的。你在那里等着我就行了。今天夜里我去那里。”

“ — Exactly. You will see where my track begins, in the sand. You have nothing to do but wait for me there. I shall be there tonight.”

我离墙约有二十米远，可我依然什么也没有看见。

I was only twenty meters from the wall, and I still saw nothing.

小王子沉默了一会又说：

After a silence the little prince spoke again:

“你的毒液管用吗？你保证不会使我长时间地痛苦吗？”

“You have good poison? You are sure that it will not make me suffer too long?”

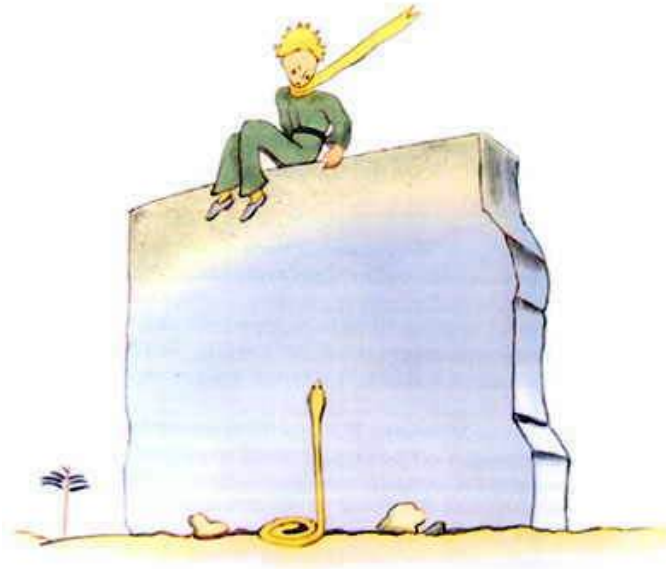
我焦虑地赶上前去，但我仍然不明白是怎么回事。

I stopped in my tracks, my heart torn asunder; but still I did not understand.

“现在你去吧，我要下来了！……”小王子说。

“Now go away,” said the little prince. “I want to get down from the wall.”

## The Little Prince



于是，我也朝墙脚下看去，我吓了一跳。就在那里，一条黄蛇直起身子冲着小王子。这种黄蛇半分钟就能结果你的性命。

我一面赶紧掏口袋，拔出手枪，一面跑过去。可是一听到我的脚步声，蛇却象一股干涸了的水柱一样，慢慢钻进沙里去。它不慌不忙地在石头的缝隙中钻动着，发出轻轻的金属般的响声。

我到达墙边的时候，正好把我的这位小王子接在我的怀抱中。他的脸色雪一样惨白。

I dropped my eyes, then, to the foot of the wall — and I leaped into the air. There before me, facing the little prince, was one of those yellow snakes that take just thirty seconds to bring your life to an end.

Even as I was digging into my pocket to get out my revolver I made a running step back. But, at the noise I made, the snake let himself flow easily across the sand like the dying spray of a fountain, and, in no apparent hurry, disappeared, with a light metallic sound, among the stones.

I reached the wall just in time to catch my little man in my arms; his face was white as snow.



## 小王子

“这是搞的什么名堂！你怎么竟然和蛇也谈起心来了！”

“What does this mean?” I demanded. “Why are you talking with snakes?”

我解开了他一直带着的金黄色的围脖。我用水渍湿了他的太阳穴，让他喝了点水。这时，我什么也不敢再问他。他严肃地看着我，用双臂搂着我的脖子。我感到他的心就象一只被枪弹击中而濒于死亡的鸟的心脏一样在跳动着。他对我说：

I had loosened the golden muffler that he always wore. I had moistened his temples, and had given him some water to drink. And now I did not dare ask him any more questions. He looked at me very gravely, and put his arms around my neck. I felt his heart beating like the heart of a dying bird, shot with someone's rifle...

“我很高兴，你找到了你的机器所缺少的东西。你不久就可以回家去了……”

“I am glad that you have found what was the matter with your engine,” he said. “Now you can go back home — ”

“你怎么知道的？”

“How do you know about that?”

我正是来告诉他，在没有任何希望的情况下，我成功地完成了修理工作。

I was just coming to tell him that my work had been successful, beyond anything that I had dared to hope.

他不回答我的问题，却接着说道：

He made no answer to my question, but he added:

“我也一样，今天，要回家去了……”

“I, too, am going back home today...”

然后，他忧伤地说：

Then, sadly —

“我回家要远得多……要难得多……”

“It is much farther... It is much more difficult...”

## The Little Prince

我清楚地感到发生了某种不寻常的事。我把他当作小孩一样紧紧抱在怀里，可是我感觉到他径直地向着一个无底深渊沉陷下去，我想法拉住他，却怎么也办不到……

I realized clearly that something extraordinary was happening. I was holding him close in my arms as if he were a little child; and yet it seemed to me that he was rushing headlong toward an abyss from which I could do nothing to restrain him...

他的眼神很严肃，望着遥远的地方。

His look was very serious, like some one lost far away.

“我有你画的羊，羊的箱子和羊的嘴套子……”

“I have your sheep. And I have the sheep's box. And I have the muzzle...”

他带着忧伤的神情微笑了。

And he gave me a sad smile.

我等了很长时间，才觉得他身子渐渐暖和起来。

I waited a long time. I could see that he was reviving little by little.

“小家伙，你受惊了……”

“Dear little man,” I said to him, “you are afraid...”

他害怕了，这是无疑的！他却温柔地笑着说：

He was afraid, there was no doubt about that. But he laughed lightly.

“今天晚上，我会怕得更厉害……”

“I shall be much more afraid this evening...”

我再度意识到要发生一件不可弥补的事。我觉得我的心一下子就凉了。这时我才明白：一想到再也不能听到这笑声，我就不能忍受。这笑声对我来说，就好象是沙漠中的甘泉一样。

Once again I felt myself frozen by the sense of something irreparable. And I knew that I could not bear the thought of never hearing that laughter any more. For me, it was like a spring of fresh water in the desert.

## 小王子

“小家伙，我还想听你笑……”

“Little man,” I said, “I want to hear you laugh again.”

但他对我说：

But he said to me:

“到今天夜里，正好是一年了。我的星球将正好处于我去年降落的那个地方的上空……”

“Tonight, it will be a year... My star, then, can be found right above the place where I came to the Earth, a year ago...”

“小家伙，这蛇的事，约会的事，还有星星，这全是一场噩梦吧？”

“Little man,” I said, “tell me that it is only a bad dream — this affair of the snake, and the meeting-place, and the star...”

但他并不回答我的问题。他对我说：

But he did not answer my plea.

“重要的事，是看不见的……”

He said to me, instead:  
“The thing that is important is the thing that is not seen...”

“当然……”

“Yes, I know...”

“这就象花一样。如果你爱上了一朵生长在一颗星星上的花，那么夜间，你看着天空就感到甜蜜愉快。所有的星星上都好象开着花。”

“It is just as it is with the flower. If you love a flower that lives on a star, it is sweet to look at the sky at night. All the stars are a-bloom with flowers...”

“当然……”

“Yes, I know...”

“这也就象水一样，由于那辘轳和绳子的缘故，你给我喝的井水好象音乐一样……你记得吗？……这水非常好喝……”

“It is just as it is with the water. Because of the pulley, and the rope, what you gave me to drink was like music. You remember — how good it was.”

## The Little Prince

“当然……”

“Yes, I know...”

“夜晚，你抬头望着星星，我的那颗太小了，我无法给你指出我的那颗星星是在哪里。这样倒更好。你可以认为我的那颗星星就在这些星星之中。那么，所有的星星，你都会喜欢看的……这些星星都将成为你的朋友。而且，我还要给你一件礼物……”

“And at night you will look up at the stars. Where I live everything is so small that I cannot show you where my star is to be found. It is better, like that. My star will just be one of the stars, for you. And so you will love to watch all the stars in the heavens... they will all be your friends. And, besides, I am going to make you a present...”

他又笑了。

He laughed again.

“啊！小家伙，小家伙，我喜欢听你这笑声！”

“Ah, little prince, dear little prince! I love to hear that laughter!”

“这正好是我给你的礼物，……这就好象水那样。”

“That is my present. Just that. It will be as it was when we drank the water...”

“你说的是什么呢？”

“What are you trying to say?”

“人们眼里的星星并不都一样。对旅行的人来说，星星是向导。对别的人来说，星星只是些小亮光。对另外一些学者来说，星星就是他们探讨的学问。对我所遇见的那个实业家来说，星星是金钱。但是，所有这些星星都不会说话。你呢，你的那些星星将是任何人都不曾有过的……”

“All men have the stars,” he answered, “but they are not the same things for different people. For some, who are travelers, the stars are guides. For others they are no more than little lights in the sky. For others, who are scholars, they are problems. For my businessman they were wealth. But all these stars are silent. You — you alone — will have the stars as no one else has them — ”

## 小王子

“你说的是什么呢？”

“What are you trying to say?”

“夜晚，当你望着天空的时候，既然我就住在其中一颗星星上，既然我在其中一颗星星上笑着，那么对你来说，就好象所有的星星都在笑，那么你将看到的星星就是会笑的星星！”

“In one of the stars I shall be living. In one of them I shall be laughing. And so it will be as if all the stars were laughing, when you look at the sky at night... You — only you — will have stars that can laugh!”

这时，他又笑了。

And he laughed again.

“那么，在你得到了安慰之后（人们总是会自我安慰的）你就会因为认识了我而感到高兴。你将永远是我的朋友。你就会想要同我一起笑。有时，你会为了快乐而不知不觉地打开窗户。

“And when your sorrow is comforted (time soothes all sorrows) you will be content that you have known me. You will always be my friend. You will want to laugh with me. And you will sometimes open your window, so, for that pleasure...”

你的朋友们会奇怪地看着你笑着仰望天空。那时，你就可以对他们说：‘是的，星星总是引我欢笑！’他们会以为你发疯了。我的恶作剧将使你难堪……”

And your friends will be properly astonished to see you laughing as you look up at the sky! Then you will say to them, ‘Yes, the stars always make me laugh!’ And they will think you are crazy. It will be a very shabby trick that I shall have played on you...”

这时，他又笑了。

And he laughed again.

“这就好象我并没有给你星星，而是给你一大堆会笑出声来的小铃铛……”

“It will be as if, in place of the stars, I had given you a great number of little bells that knew how to laugh...”

## The Little Prince

他仍然笑着。随后他变得严肃起来：

And he laughed again. Then he quickly became serious:

“今天夜里……你知道……不要来了。”

“Tonight — you know... Do not come.”

“我不离开你。”

“I shall not leave you,” I said.

“我将会象是很痛苦的样子……我有点象要死去似的。就是这么回事，你就别来看这些了，没有必要。”

“I shall look as if I were suffering. I shall look a little as if I were dying. It is like that. Do not come to see that. It is not worth the trouble...”

“我不离开你。”

“I shall not leave you.”

可是他担心起来。

But he was worried.

“我对你说这些……这也是因为蛇的缘故。别让它咬了你……蛇是很坏的，它随意咬人……”

“I tell you — it is also because of the snake. He must not bite you. Snakes — they are malicious creatures. This one might bite you just for fun...”

“我不离开你。”

“I shall not leave you.”

这时，他似乎有点放心了：

But a thought came to reassure him:

“对了，它咬第二口的时候就没有毒液了……”

“It is true that they have no more poison for a second bite.”

这天夜里，我没有看到他起程。他不声不响地跑了。当我终于赶上他的时候，他坚定地快步走着。他只是对我说道：

That night I did not see him set out on his way. He got away from me without making a sound. When I succeeded in catching up with him he was walking along with a quick and resolute step. He said to me merely:

## 小王子

“啊，你在这儿……”

“Ah! You are there...”

于是他拉着我的手。但是他仍然很担心：

And he took me by the hand. But he was still worrying.

“你不该这样。你会难受的。我会象是死去的样子，但这不会是真的……”

“It was wrong of you to come. You will suffer. I shall look as if I were dead; and that will not be true...”

我默默无言。

I said nothing.

“你明白，路很远。我不能带着这付身躯走。它太重了。”

“You understand... it is too far. I cannot carry this body with me. It is too heavy.”

我依然沉默不语。

I said nothing.

“但是，这就好象剥落的旧树皮一样。旧树皮，并没有什么可悲的。”

“But it will be like an old abandoned shell. There is nothing sad about old shells...”

我还是沉默不语。

I said nothing.

他有些泄气了。但是他又振作起来：

He was a little discouraged. But he made one more effort:

“这将是蛮好的，你知道。我也一定会看星星的。所有的星星都将是带有生了锈的辘轳的井。所有的星星都会倒水给我喝……”

“You know, it will be very nice. I, too, shall look at the stars. All the stars will be wells with a rusty pulley. All the stars will pour out fresh water for me to drink...”

我还是沉默不语。

I said nothing.

## The Little Prince

“这将是多么好玩啊！你将有五亿个铃铛，我将有五亿口水井……”

“That will be so amusing! You will have five hundred million little bells, and I shall have five hundred million springs of fresh water...”

这时，他也沉默了，因为他在哭。

And he too said nothing more, because he was crying...

“就是这儿。让我自个儿走一步吧。”

“Here it is. Let me go on by myself.”



他这时坐下来，因为他害怕了。

And he sat down, because he was afraid.





## 小王子

他却仍然说道：

“你知道……我的花……我是要对她负责的！而她又是那么弱小！她又是那么天真。她只有四根微不足道的刺，保护自己，抵抗外敌……”

我也坐了下来，因为我再也站立不住了。他说道：

“就是这些……全都说啦……”

他犹豫了一下，然后站起来。他迈出了一步。而我却动弹不得。

在他的脚踝子骨附近，一道黄光闪了一下。刹那间他一动也不动了。他没有叫喊。他轻轻地象一棵树一样倒在地上，大概由于沙地的缘故，连一点响声都没有。

Then he said, again:

“You know — my flower... I am responsible for her. And she is so weak! She is so naive! She has four thorns, of no use at all, to protect herself against all the world...”

I too sat down, because I was not able to stand up any longer.

“There now — that is all...”

He still hesitated a little; then he got up. He took one step. I could not move.

There was nothing but a flash of yellow close to his ankle. He remained motionless for an instant. He did not cry out. He fell as gently as a tree falls. There was not even any sound, because of the sand.

## The Little Prince



XXVII

XXVII

到现在，一点不错，已经有六年了……我还从未讲过这个故事。同伴们重新见到了我，都为能看见我活着回来而高兴。我却很悲伤。我告诉他们：“这是因为疲劳的缘故……”

现在，我稍微得到了些安慰。就是说……还没有完全平静下来。可我知道他已经回到了他的星球上。因为那天黎明，我没有再见到他的身躯。他的身躯并不那么重……从此，我就喜欢在夜间倾听着星星，好象是倾听着五亿个铃铛……

And now six years have already gone by... I have never yet told this story. The companions who met me on my return were well content to see me alive. I was sad, but I told them: "I am tired."

Now my sorrow is comforted a little. That is to say — not entirely. But I know that he did go back to his planet, because I did not find his body at daybreak. It was not such a heavy body... and at night I love to listen to the stars. It is like five hundred million little bells...

## 小王子

可是，现在却又发生了不寻常的事。我给小王子画的羊嘴套上，忘了画皮带！他再也不可能把它套在羊嘴上。于是，我思忖着：“他的星球上发生了什么事呢？大概小羊把花吃掉了吧……”

有时我又对自己说，“绝对不会的！小王子每天夜里都用玻璃罩子罩住他的花，而且他会把羊看管好的……”想到这里，我就非常高兴。这时，所有的星星都在柔情地轻声笑着。

忽而又对自己说：“人们有时总免不了会疏忽的，那就够戗！某一天晚上他忘了玻璃罩子，或者小羊夜里不声不响地跑出来……”想到这里，小铃铛都变成泪珠了！

这真是一个很大的奥秘。对你们这些喜欢小王子的人来说，就象对于我来说一样，无论什么地方，凡是某处，如果一只羊（尽管我们并不认识它），吃了一朵玫瑰花，或是没有吃掉一朵玫瑰花，那么宇宙的面貌就全然不同。

But there is one extraordinary thing... when I drew the muzzle for the little prince, I forgot to add the leather strap to it. He will never have been able to fasten it on his sheep. So now I keep wondering: what is happening on his planet? Perhaps the sheep has eaten the flower...

At one time I say to myself: "Surely not! The little prince shuts his flower under her glass globe every night, and he watches over his sheep very carefully..." Then I am happy. And there is sweetness in the laughter of all the stars.

But at another time I say to myself: "At some moment or other one is absent-minded, and that is enough! On some one evening he forgot the glass globe, or the sheep got out, without making any noise, in the night..." And then the little bells are changed to tears...

Here, then, is a great mystery. For you who also love the little prince, and for me, nothing in the universe can be the same if somewhere, we do not know where, a sheep that we never saw has — yes or no? — eaten a rose...

## The Little Prince

你们望着天空。你们想一想：羊究竟是吃了还是没有吃掉花？那么你们就会看到一切都变了样……

Look up at the sky. Ask yourselves: is it yes or no? Has the sheep eaten the flower? And you will see how everything changes...

任何一个大人将永远不会明白这个问题竟如此重要！

And no grown-up will ever understand that this is a matter of so much importance!

在我看来，这是世界上最美、也最凄凉的景色。上一页跟它前一页的景色是一样的。我再画上一遍，是为了引起你们注意。这里，就是小王子在地球上出现，然后又消失的地方。

This is, to me, the loveliest and saddest landscape in the world. It is the same as that on the preceding page, but I have drawn it again to impress it on your memory. It is here that the little prince appeared on Earth, and disappeared.



有一天，你们若去非洲沙漠旅行，请仔细认一认这个景色，免得当面错过了。你们若有机会经过那里，我请求你们，不要匆匆离去，在这颗星下守候片刻。

Look at it carefully so that you will be sure to recognize it in case you travel some day to the African desert. And, if you should come upon this spot, please do not hurry on. Wait for a time, exactly under the star.

## 小王子

倘若有个孩子走到你们跟前，倘若他在笑，有一头金发，不回答人家提出的问题，你们就可猜到他是谁了。那时，劳驾你们！不要让我老是这么忧伤，赶快写信告诉我；他回来了……

1943

Then, if a little man appears who laughs, who has golden hair and who refuses to answer questions, you will know who he is. If this should happen, please comfort me. Send me word that he has come back.

1943



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