

暗藏的奖赏

Hidden Rewards

Once when there was a famine, a kind, rich baker sent for twenty of the poorest children in the town, and said to them, “In this basket there is a loaf for each of you. Take it, and come back to me every day at this hour till God sends us better times.”



从前，在一次发生饥荒的时候，有一位好心而富有的面包店老板，叫来了城里最贫穷的二十个孩子，对他们说：“这个篮子里的面包是给你们们的，每人可以拿一条带回家去。以后，每天的这个时候再来拿，直到上帝给我们较好的日子时为止。”

The hungry children gathered eagerly about the basket, and most quarreled over the bread, because each wished to have the largest loaf. At last they went away without even thanking the good gentleman.

But Gretchen, a poorly dressed little girl, did not quarrel or struggle with the rest, but remained standing quietly to the side.

When the ill-behaved children had left, she took the smallest loaf, which alone was left in the basket, kissed the gentleman's hand, and went home.



那些饥饿的孩子们热切地围着篮子。他们中间的大部分人，为了拿到最大的面包甚至争吵不休。最后，他们带着面包走开了，甚至都没有谢谢这位好心人。

但有个衣衫褴褛、名叫格雷琴的小女孩只是在一旁静静地等着，她并没有和别人为面包而争吵。当那些没规矩的孩子们离开之后，她才拿起了留在篮子里的那条最小的面包；然后，亲

吻了一下这位绅士的手，才返回家去。

The next day the children were as ill-behaved as before, and poor, timid Gretchen received a loaf scarcely half the size of the one she got the first day.

When she went home, and her mother cut the loaf open, many new shining pieces of silver fell out of it. Her mother was very much alarmed, and said, "Take the money back to the good gentleman at once, for it must have gotten into the dough by accident. Be quick, Gretchen! Be quick!"



次日，这些小孩子们还是一样地没规矩。这次，可怜羞怯的格雷琴所得到的面包却只有昨天的一半大。当她回到家里，在母亲切开

面包的时候，有很多崭新闪亮的银币从里面掉了出来。

格雷琴的妈妈因此而感到关切，她说：“快马上把这些钱还给那位先生去！准是有人不小心，将它们掉进了面团

里。快一点，格雷琴，赶快去！”

But when the little girl gave the rich man her mother's message, he said, "No, no, my child, it was no mistake. I had the silver pieces put into the smallest loaf to reward you. Always be as contented, kind, and thankful as you now are. Go home now, and tell your mother that the money is your own."

If we give to others, yield to them to make them happy, or put their wishes above our own, we can sometimes feel like we're losing out. But we're not really. You never lose by giving.



当这个小女孩将母亲的话转告给那位富人之时，他却说：“孩子，不是有人不小心！我是故意地将这些银币放进那块最小的面包里来奖赏你的。愿你总是像现在那样地满足、善良和感恩。回去告诉你的母亲：那些钱是我送给你的。”

当我们给予他人，顺从他人的意愿来使他们快乐，或将他们的愿望看得比我们自己的愿望更重要时，有时，

我们会觉得自己受到了损失；但是事实并不如此。你永远也不会因为给予而有任何损失。

Hidden – 暗藏的

Reward – 奖赏

Famine – 饥荒

Rich – 富有的

Baker – 面包店老板

Bread – 面包

Hungry – 饿

Ill behaved – 没规矩

Largest – 最大

Smallest – 最小

Quarreled – 争吵

Money - 钱



双语图书 -
www.freekidstories.org