

<<美国的智慧>>

图书基本信息

书名：<<美国的智慧>>

13位ISBN编号：9787560088167

10位ISBN编号：7560088163

出版时间：2009-8

出版时间：外语教学与研究出版社

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页数：524

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### 内容概要

《美国的智慧》是一本通俗哲学著作，由国学大师林语堂脚踏东西文化，挥毫泼墨而成，“中国人应该向美国人学习什么？”

”全书内容涉及到社会生活的方方面面：生活、生命、情感、自由、幸福、自然、宗教、幽默与讽刺、爱情与婚姻、战争与和平，等等。

林语堂提倡“以自我为中心，以闲适为格调”的小品文创作；在本书中，林先生挥毫泼墨，收放自如，真正体现了这一风格。

引用了三百余位古今中外思想家的作品，如拉尔夫·沃尔多·爱默生、本杰明·富兰克林、戴维·格雷森、奥利弗·温德尔·霍姆兹、托马斯·杰弗逊等等，阅读本书，犹如与大师面对面交谈，心灵会得到一次净化和升华。

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### 作者简介

林语堂，1895年10月10日生于福建漳州，乳名和乐，名玉堂，后改语堂。

22岁获上海圣约翰大学学士学位，27岁获美国哈佛大学比较文学硕士学位，29岁获德国莱比锡大学语言学博士学位，同年回国，先后执教于北京大学。

北京师范大学，厦门大学和上海东吴大学，1936年后居住美国，此后主要用英文写作，1966年定居台湾，1967年受聘为香港中文大学研究教授。

1975年荣任国际笔会副会长。

1976年3月26日病逝于香港。

葬于台北阳明山故居。

林语堂用英文创作和翻译的一系列经典作品影响深远，奠定了他在国际文坛上的重要地位。

代表作有小说《京华烟云》、《啼笑皆非》，散文杂文《吾国与吾民》、《生活的艺术》、传记《苏东坡传》、《武则天传》，译著《老子的智慧》、《浮生六记》等。

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书籍目录

FOREWORD  
PREFACE ON A SUNDAY MORNING  
Chapter One THE WISDOM OF LIVING  
Chapter Two COUNSEL FOR LIVING  
Chapter Three OUR ANIMAL HERITAGE  
Chapter Four THE RHYTHM OF LIFE  
Chapter Five MAN AS SENTIMENT  
Chapter Six NEW ENGLAND INTERLUDE  
Chapter Seven LIFE  
Chapter Eight LIBERTY  
Chapter Nine THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS  
Chapter Ten THE ARTS OF LIVING.

## 章节摘录

I see as many women lose at the roulette table as men, the sixth sense being the inability to tell clearly why you want to do a thing when you do it. I believe women think and feel on the whole very much as men do, that mentally there is much less sex difference than physically, although some women like to encourage the men to think otherwise. So if the question is asked, "Where is woman in this book?"

"The answer is that she is everywhere, sharing all men's problems of politics and religion and love. James Branch Cabell was for "domnei," or woman worship, for putting woman on a pedestal—a dangerous attitude, but then he was also for hero worship of men, for showing man in knight's armor riding on a high horse. He was speaking about romance, about women in art and literature. In real life, any woman would be grateful for being accepted as an ordinary human being, like any man, perhaps at most slightly raised on a two-inch heel, not much higher, and certainly not on a pedestal. It just won't work. Woman shares all man's foibles, all man's pettiness and vanity, as she shares all his hopes and ambitions. Woman is venal; woman is vain; woman is realistic. What do we take her for?

An angel?

The falsehood lies in the implication that man isn't all these things. E. B. White, angered by the patronizing inanities of a man writing in Harper's on "Getting Along with Women," wrote a reply in which he succeeded in the rare accomplishment of treating woman as man, to the point where the question of getting along with women does not even come up. My impression is that he merely likes them a lot. Such a point of view, I believe, is really civilized. In addition, E. B. White is natural here; he just pours himself out, and the result is delightful.

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媒体关注与评论

读林先生的书使人得到很大启发。  
我非常感激他，因为他的书使我大开眼界。  
只有一位优秀的中国人才能这样坦诚、信实而又毫不偏颇地论述他的同胞。  
——《纽约时报》星期日书评

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