

Unit 1

12 I suspect not everyone who loves the country would be happy living the way we do. It takes a couple of **special qualities**. One is a **tolerance for solitude**. Because we are so busy and on such a **tight budget**, we don't **entertain** much. During the growing season there is no time for socializing **anyway**. Jim and Emily are **involved** in school activities, but they too spend most of their time at home.

我想，不是所有热爱乡村的人都会乐意过我们这种生活的。这种生活需要一些**特殊的素质**。其一是**耐得住寂寞**。由于我们如此忙碌，**手头又紧**，我们很少**请客**。在作物生长季节，**根本就**没工夫参加社交活动。吉米和埃米莉虽然**参加**学校的各种活动，但他俩大多数时间也呆在家里。

13 The other **requirement** is energy -- a lot of it. The way to make **self-sufficiency** work **on a small scale** is to **resist the temptation** to buy a tractor and other expensive laborsaving devices. **Instead**, you do the work yourself. The only **machinery** we own (not counting the lawn mower) is a little three-horsepower rotary cultivator and a 16-inch chain saw.

另一项**要求**是体力——相当大的体力。**小范围里**实现**自给自足**的途径是**抵制诱惑**，不去购置拖拉机和**其他**昂贵的节省劳力的机械。**相反**，你要自己动手。我们仅有的**机器**（不包括割草机）是一台 3 马力的小型旋转式耕耘机以及一架 16 英寸的链锯。

14 How much longer we'll have enough energy to stay on here is anybody's guess -- perhaps for quite a while, perhaps not. When the time comes, we'll leave with a feeling of **sorrow** but also with a sense of pride at what we've been able to accomplish. We should **make a fair profit** on the sale of the place, too. We've **invested** about \$35,000 of our own money in it, and we could just about double that if we sold today. But this is not a good time to sell. Once economic conditions improve, however, **demand** for farms like ours should be strong again.

没人知道我们还能有精力在这里再呆多久--也许呆很长一阵子，也许不是。到走的时候，我们会**怆然离去**，但也会为自己所做的一切深感自豪。我们把农场出售也会**赚相当大一笔钱**。我们自己在农场**投入**了约 35000 美金的资金，要是现在售出的话价格差不多可以翻一倍。不过现在不是出售的好时机。但是一旦经济形势好转，对我们这种农场的**需求**又会增多。

15 We didn't move here **primarily** to earn money though. We came because we wanted to improve the quality of our lives. When I watch Emily collecting eggs in the evening, fishing with Jim on the river or enjoying an old-fashioned picnic in the **orchard** with the entire family, I know we've found just what we were looking for.

但我们**主要**不是为了赚钱而移居至此的。我们来此居住是因为

想提高生活质量。当我看着埃米莉傍晚去收鸡蛋，跟吉米一起在河上钓鱼，或和全家人一起在**果园**里享用老式的野餐，我知道，我们找到了自己一直在寻求的生活方式。

Unit 2 The Freedom Givers

4 **Yet** this stop was only part of a much larger **mission** for me. Josiah Henson is but one name on a long list of **courageous** men and women who together **forged** the Underground Railroad, a secret web of **escape routes** and safe houses that they used to **liberate** slaves from the American South. Between 1820 and 1860, as many as 100,000 slaves traveled the Railroad to freedom.

但此地只是我所承担的繁重**使命**的一处停留地。乔赛亚·亨森只是一长串**无所畏惧**的男女名单中的一个名字，这些人共同**创建**了这条“地下铁路”，一条由**逃亡线路**和可靠的人家组成的用以**解放**美国南方黑奴的秘密网络。在 1820 年至 1860 年期间，多达十万名黑奴经由此路走向自由。

5 In October 2000, President Clinton **authorized** \$16 million for the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center to **honor** this first great civil-rights struggle in the U. S. The center is **scheduled** to open in 2004 in Cincinnati. And it's about time. For the heroes of the Underground Railroad remain too little remembered, their **exploits** still largely unsung. I was **intent on** telling their stories.

2000 年 10 月，克林顿总统批准**拨款** 1600 万美元建造全国“地下铁路”自由中心，以此**纪念**美国历史上第一次伟大的民权斗争。中心**计划**于 2004 年在辛辛那提州建成。真是该建立这样一个中心的时候了。因为地下铁路的英雄们依然默默无闻，他们的**业绩**依然少人颂扬。我**要**讲述他们的故事。

Unit 3 The Land of the Lock

4 It has been replaced by dead-bolt locks, security chains, **electronic** alarm systems and trip wires **hooked up to** a police station or private guard firm. Many **suburban** families have sliding glass doors on their patios, with steel bars elegantly **built in** so no one can pry the doors open.

取而代之的是防盗锁、防护链、**电子**报警系统，以及**连接**警署或私人保安公司的报警装置。**郊区**的许多人家在露台上**安装**了玻璃滑门，内侧有装得很讲究的钢条，这样就没人能把门撬开。

5 It is not **uncommon**, in the most pleasant of homes, to see

pasted on the windows small notices **announcing** that the premises are under **surveillance** by this security force or that guard company.

在最温馨的居家，也常常看得到窗上贴着小小的告示，**称**本宅由某家安全机构或某个保安公司负责**监管**。

6 The lock is the new **symbol** of America. Indeed, a recent public-service advertisement by a large insurance company **featured** not charts showing how much at risk we are, but a picture of a child's bicycle with the now-usual padlock **attached to** it.

锁成了美国的新的**象征**。的确，一家大保险公司最近的一则公益广告没有用图表**表明**我们所处的危险有多大，而是用了一幅童车的图片，车身上**悬着**如今无所不在的挂锁。

7 The ad pointed out that, yes, it is the insurance companies that pay for stolen goods, but who is going to pay for what the new atmosphere of distrust and fear is doing to our way of life? Who is going to make the **psychic payment** for the **transformation** of America from the Land of the Free to the Land of the Lock?

广告指出，没错，确是保险公司理赔失窃物品，但谁来赔偿互不信任、担心害怕这种新氛围对我们的生活方式所造成的影响呢？谁来对美国从自由之国到锁之国这一**蜕变**作出**精神赔偿**呢？

8 For that is what has happened. We have become so used to defending ourselves against the new atmosphere of American life, so used to putting up barriers, that we have not had time to think about what it may mean.

因为那就是现状。我们已经变得如此习惯于保护自己不受美国生活新氛围的影响，如此习惯于设置障碍，因而无暇考虑这一切意味着什么。

Unit 4

19 Einstein's parents sometimes took Albert to parties. No **babysitter** was required: Albert sat on the **couch**, totally absorbed, quietly doing math problems while others danced around him. Pencil and paper were Albert's GameBoy!

爱因斯坦的父母有时会带爱因斯坦参加聚会。**保姆**是不必要的：当其他人在他周围跳舞时爱因斯坦坐在**沙发**上，全神贯注，静静地做数学题。笔和纸是爱因斯坦的玩具！

20 He had impressive powers of **concentration**. Einstein's sister, Maja, recalled "... even when there was a lot of noise, he could **lie down** on the sofa, pick up a pen and paper, **precariously balance** an **inkwell** on the **backrest** and **engross** himself in a problem so much that the

background noise **stimulated** rather than **disturbed** him."

他有令人印象深刻的**专注力**。爱因斯坦的妹妹，玛雅，回忆说：“即使有很大的噪音，他会**躺在**沙发上，拿起纸和笔，**悠悠地平衡**一个放在靠背墨水瓶使他自己**全神贯注**的沉浸在问题中就如同背景噪声**促进**而不是打扰他。”

21 Einstein was clearly intelligent, but not outlandishly **more so** than his peers. "I have no special talents," he claimed, "I am only passionately **curious**." And again: "The **contrast** between the popular **assessment** of my powers ... and the reality is simply **grotesque**." Einstein **credited** his discoveries to imagination and endless questioning more so than **orthodox intelligence**.

爱因斯坦很聪明，但没有比他的同行**更**特殊的地方。“我没有特殊的才能，”他说，“我只是有强烈的**好奇心**。”又说：“关于我力量的流行**评估**和现实的**对比**真是**荒唐**。”爱因斯坦将他的发现**归功于**想象力和无止境的提问而不是**传统的智慧**。

Unit 5 Writing Three Thank-You Letters

21 Always the college professor, my dad had carefully avoided anything he considered too **sentimental**, so I knew how moved he was to write me that, after having helped educate many young people, he now felt that his best results included his own son.

身为大学教授的爸爸向来特别留意不使用任何过于**感情化的**文字，因此，当他对我写道，在教了许许多多的年轻人之后，他认为自己最优秀的学生当中也包括自己的儿子时，我知道他是多么地感动。

22 The Reverend Nelson wrote that his **decades** as a "simple, old-fashioned principal" had ended with schools **undergoing** such swift changes that he had retired in self-doubt. "I heard more of what **I had done wrong** than what I did right," he said, adding that my letter had brought him **welcome reassurance** that his career had been **appreciated**.

纳尔逊牧师写道，他那平凡的传统校长的**岁月随着**学校里发生的如此迅猛的变化而结束，他怀着自我怀疑的心态退了休。“说**我做不对的**远远多于说我做得对的，”他写道，接着说我的信给他带来了**振奋人心的信心**：自己的校长生涯还是有其**价值**的。

23 A glance at Grandma's familiar handwriting **brought back** in a flash memories of standing alongside her white rocking chair, watching her "settin' down" some letter to **relatives**. Character by character, Grandma would slowly **accomplish** one word, then the next, so that a finished page would **consume** hours. I **wept over** the page

representing my Grandma's recent hours invested in expressing her loving gratefulness to me -- whom she used to diaper!

一看到外祖母那熟悉的笔迹，我顿时回想起往日站在她的白色摇椅旁看她给亲戚写信的情景。外祖母一个字母一个字母地慢慢拼出一个词，接着是下一个词，因此写满一页要花上几个小时。捧着外祖母最近花费不少工夫对我表达了充满慈爱的谢意，我禁不住流泪——从前是她给我换尿布的呀。

Unit 6 The Last Leaf

18 Old Behrman was a painter who lived on the ground floor beneath them. He was past sixty and had a long white beard curling down over his chest. Despite looking the part, Behrman was a failure in art. For forty years he had been always about to paint a masterpiece, but had never yet begun it. He earned a little by serving as a model to those young artists who could not pay the price of a professional. He drank gin to excess, and still talked of his coming masterpiece. For the rest he was a fierce little old man, who mocked terribly at softness in any one, and who regarded himself as guard dog to the two young artists in the studio above.

老贝尔曼是住在两人楼下底层的一个画家。他已年过六旬，银白色蜷曲的长髯披挂胸前。贝尔曼看上去挺像艺术家，但在艺术上却没有什么成就。40年来他一直想创作一幅传世之作，却始终没能动手。他给那些请不起职业模特的青年画家当模特挣点小钱。他没节制地喝酒，谈论着他那即将问世的不朽之作。要说其他方面，他是个好斗的小老头，要是谁表现出一点软弱，他便大肆嘲笑，并把自己看成是楼上画室里两位年轻艺术家的看护人。

19 Sue found Behrman smelling strongly of gin in his dimly lighted studio below. In one corner was a blank canvas on an easel that had been waiting there for twenty-five years to receive the first line of the masterpiece. She told him of Johnsy's fancy, and how she feared she would, indeed, light and fragile as a leaf herself, float away, when her slight hold upon the world grew weaker. Old Behrman, with his red eyes plainly streaming, shouted his contempt for such foolish imaginings.

苏在楼下光线暗淡的画室里找到了贝尔曼，他满身酒味刺鼻。屋子一角的画架上支着一张从未落过笔的画布，在那儿搁了25年，等着一幅杰作的起笔。苏把约翰西的怪念头跟他说了，并说约翰西本身就像一片叶子又瘦又弱，她害怕要是她那本已脆弱的生存意志再软下去的话，真的会凋零飘落。老贝尔曼双眼通红，显然是泪涟涟的，他大声叫嚷着说他蔑视这种傻念头。

20 "What!" he cried. "Are there people in the world foolish enough to die because leafs drop off from a vine? I have never heard of such a thing. Why do you allow such silly ideas to come into that head of hers? God! This is not a place in which one so good as Miss Johnsy should lie sick. Some day I will paint a masterpiece, and we shall all go away. Yes."

“什么！”他嚷道。“世界上竟然有这么愚蠢的人，因为树叶从藤上掉落就要去死？我听都没听说过这等事。你怎么让这种傻念头钻到她那个怪脑袋里？天哪！这不是一个像约翰西小姐这样的好姑娘躺倒生病的地方。有朝一日我要画一幅巨作，那时候我们就离开这里。真的。”

