**Animals or children? — A scientist's choice**

**动物还是孩子？—— 一位科学家的选择**

**1 I am the enemy! I am one of those cursed, cruel physician scientists involved in animal research. These rumors sting, for I have never thought of myself as an evil person. I became a children's doctor because of my love for children and my supreme desire to keep them healthy. During medical school and residency, I saw many children die of cancer and bloodshed from injury — circumstances against which medicine has made great progress but still has a long way to go. More importantly, I also saw children healthy thanks to advances in medical science such as infant breathing support, powerful new medicines and surgical techniques and the entire field of organ transplantation. My desire to tip the scales in favor of healthy, happy children drew me to medical research.**

**我就是那个敌人！我就是那些被人诅咒的、残忍的、搞动物实验的医生科学家之一。这些谣言刺痛了我，因为我从来没想到自己是一个邪恶的人。我成为一位儿科医生，因为我爱孩子，也因为我的最大愿望是让他们保持健康。在医学院学习和住院医生实习时，我看到了许多儿童死于癌症和受伤流血——虽然对此医学正取得很大进步，但远非完善。更重要的是，我还看到孩子们能保持健康得益于医学的进步，如婴儿呼吸支持器，功效强大的新药物和外科手术技术及整个器官移植领域的发展。我希望孩子们健康快乐，这促使我从事医学研究。**

**2 My accusers have twisted the truth into a fable and cast me as the devil. They claim that I have no moral compass, that I torture innocent animals for the sole purpose of career advancement, and that my experiments have no relevance to medicine. Meanwhile, an uncaring public barely watches, convinced that the issue has no significance, and publicity-conscious senators and politicians increasingly give way to the lobbying of animal rights activists.**

**控诉我的人把真相歪曲成一则神话，并把我描写成恶魔。他们声称我没有道德界限，我折磨那些无辜动物的唯一目的就是为了自己的职业升迁，而我的实验根本与医药毫不相关。与此同时，无动于衷的公众几乎不闻不问，相信这个议题毫无意义，而具有宣传意识的参议员和政治家们却对动物权利活动家的游说不断作出让步。**

**3 We, in medical research, have also been unbelievably uncaring. We have allowed the most extreme animal rights protesters to creep in and frame the issue as one of "animal fraud" and hatred. We have persisted in our belief that a knowledgeable public would consent to the importance of animal research for public health. Perhaps we have been mistaken in not responding to the emotional tone of the argument. Perhaps we should have responded to those sad slogans and posters of animals by waving equally sad posters of children dying of cancer or external wounds.**

**我们这些从事医学研究的人也显得令人难以置信的冷漠。我们允许最极端的动物权利活动家渐渐侵入，任凭他们把此类研究诬陷为“动物欺诈”和对动物的仇恨。我们一直坚信，有知识的公众会赞同动物研究对公众健康的重要性。也许我们的错误是没有对这场争论的感性基调作出反应。也许我们早应该挥动着儿童死于癌症或外伤的同样令人伤心的海报，来回应那些关于动物受害的伤感标语及海报。**

**4 In the animal rights forum, much is made of the volume of pain these animals experience in the name of medical science. Activists deny that we are trying to help and say it is evidence of our evil and cruel nature. A more reasonable argument, however, can be advanced in our defense. Life is often cruel to animals and human beings. Teenagers are flung from trucks and suffer severe head injuries. Young children barely able to walk find themselves at the bottom of swimming pools while a parent is occupied with something else. From everyday germs to gang violence, no life is free of pain. Physicians hoping to relieve the eternal suffering of these tragedies have only three choices: 1) create an animal model of the problem to understand the process and test new therapies; 2) experiment on human beings (some experiments will succeed, most will fail); or 3) leave medical knowledge static, hoping that accidental discoveries will lead us forward.**

**动物权利论坛大肆宣扬我们如何以医学的名义使这些动物经受巨大的痛苦。动物权利活动家们否认我们正在努力帮助人类，并说这是我们邪恶和残忍本性的证据。然而，一个更合理的论点可用来为我们进行辩护。生活往往对动物和人类都是残酷的。青少年被甩到卡车外，导致头部严重受伤。还不太会走路的孩子们溺水沉到游泳池底部时，他们的家长正忙于其他事务。从常见的的细菌侵害到帮派的暴力，没有谁能不受伤害。医生们希望能永远减轻这些悲剧带给人们身体上的痛苦，他们只有三个选择：1）用动物做实验，以了解整个医疗过程和测试新的疗法; 2）进行人体实验（一些实验会成功，大多数会失败）; 3）让对医疗知识的了解处于停滞状态，希望偶然的发现会带领我们向前。**

**5 Some animal rights activists would suggest an optional fourth choice, claiming that computer models can create animal experiments, thus omitting actual experiments. Computers can imitate the effects of well-understood principles on complex systems, as in the application of the laws of physics to airplane and automobile design. However, when the principles themselves are in question, as is the case with the complex biological systems of human life under study, computer modeling alone is of little value.**

**一些动物权利活动家会提出第四个选项，他们声称计算机可以模拟动物实验，这样就可省去真实的实验过程。计算机可以模拟一些为人所熟知的原理在复杂系统中的应用效果，就如物理规律在飞机和汽车设计中的应用那样。然而，当原理本身有问题时，就跟正处于研究阶段的复杂的生物系统的情况一样，仅靠计算机模拟成效甚微。**

**6 One of the terrifying effects of arresting the use of animals in medical research is that the impact will not be felt for years or even decades. Drugs to cure infection will remain undiscovered, surgical and diagnostic techniques will remain undeveloped, and fundamental biological processes that might have been understood will remain mysteries. There is the danger that quick decisions by well-meaning politicians will create resolution to diplomatically satisfy the small minority of loud protestors while the consequences and damaging impact of those decisions will not be apparent until long after.**

**阻止用动物来进行医学研究的可怕后果之一是，其影响要到几年甚至几十年后才能被人知晓：治愈感染的新药物将无法被发现，外科手术和诊断技术将得不到发展，那些有可能被发掘的基本生物学进程将是未解之谜。危险的是，那些善意的政治家匆忙作出决定后拿出的解决方案只是策略性地满足了那一小部分大声疾呼的示威者，这些决定的后果和造成的破坏性影响要很久才会显现。**

**7 Fortunately, most of us enjoy good health, and the agony of watching one's child die has become a rare experience. Yet our good fortune should not make us unappreciative. Protection from serious sickness and drugs to combat heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke are all based on animal research. Most complex surgical procedures such as heart or hip surgery and organ transplantation surgeries were initially developed in animals. Techniques to replace defective genes, the cause of so much disease, as well as the development of synthetic organs are presently undergoing animal studies. These studies, and any subsequent advances, will effectively end if animal research is severely restricted.**

**幸运的是，我们大多数人都享有健康的体魄，眼睁睁地看着孩子死亡之苦已不多见。然而，对于能够享受健康或享受医学进步能带来的健康我们不应该不心存感激。对严重疾病的预防和用于心脏病、高血压和中风的药物都基于对动物的研究。大多复杂的外科手术，如心脏或髋关节手术、器官移植手术最初都是在动物实验中进行的。取代导致众多疾病的缺陷基因的技术，以及人造器官的发展，目前正处于动物实验研究阶段。如果动物研究严格受限，这些研究和其后的任何进展都将彻底地宣告结束。**

**8 In America today, death has become an event isolated from our daily existence. As a doctor who has watched many children die and seen their parents' infinite grief, I am particularly angered by any minute expression of caring for the suffering of creatures and so little for sick and dying human beings. People are too protected from the reality of human life and death and what it means.**

**在今天的美国，死亡已经成为我们日常生活中孤立少见的事。作为一个看见过许多儿童死亡和他们父母悲痛至极的医生，我感到特别愤怒的是，有人对动物的痛苦表达入微，但对生病和生命垂危的人却冷漠无情。人们受到了太多的保护,以至于他们感觉不到现实世界里的生与死，也感觉不到其所代表的真实意义。**

**9 Make no mistake, however. I would never advocate needless cruel treatment of animals. The animal rights movement has made a contribution in making us more aware of animals' needs and the need to search harder for suitable alternatives. But if the more radical members of this movement are successful in threatening further research, their efforts will bring about a tragedy that will cost many lives. Hence the real question is whether an uncaring majority can be aroused to protect its future against a loud, but misdirected, minority.**

**但别搞错，我从来不提倡对动物实行不必要的残忍对待。动物权利运动使我们更加意识到动物应有的权利，以及努力寻找合适替代品的需要。但是，如果有更多的动物权利运动的激进分子成功地阻止了进一步的研究，那他们的努力会造成以许多人的生命为代价的悲剧。因此，真正的问题是我们能否唤起大多数漠不关心的民众来保护动物实验的将来，以反对嗓门挺大、但却是被误导的那一小部分人。**

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**The right to live — A dog's account**

**生存的的权利——一只狗的独白**

**1 When I was a puppy, I made you laugh and you called me your child. Despite the chewed shoes and pillows, I became your best friend. Whenever I was "bad", you'd shake your finger at me and ask, "How could you?" Then you'd give in and roll me over on the rug for a rub.**

**当我是一只小狗狗时，我逗你笑，你称我为你的孩子。尽管我啃坏了家里的鞋子和枕头，我仍是你最好的朋友。每当我使坏的时候，你会对我摇摇你的手指，问我：“你怎么能这样？”然后你就会让步，把我翻过来放在地毯上揉一揉。**

**2 My housetraining took a long time because you were terribly busy, but we worked on that together until there were no more stains. I remember nights, sleeping in your bed listening to your dreams, and believing that I'd been provided with a royal life. We rotated between long walks to the park, car rides, and stops for ice cream.**

**因为你忙不过来，训练我在指定地点大小便花了很长时间，但我们一起度过了这一关，直到屋内没有便溺污渍为止。我记得那些夜晚，我睡在你的床上，听着你的梦想，并相信我一直过着皇室般的生活。我们重复轮换着做这些事：漫步去公园，坐车，停下来买冰淇淋。**

**3 Gradually, the rhythm of life changed as you lagged behind, spending more time at work and searching for a human mate. I waited patiently, comforted you through heartbreaks and disappointments, never scolded your bad decisions, and leaped happily when you came home or fell in love.**

**渐渐地，由于你花了更多的时间在工作和寻找伴侣上，造成的拖拉改变了我们的生活节奏。我耐心地等待着，在你伤心和失望时给予安慰，我从来不指责你做出的糟糕决定；当你回家或恋爱时，我为你欢呼雀跃。**

**4 Your new wife wasn't a "dog person", but I still welcomed her and showed her affection. I was happy because you were happy. When you reproduced — when your babies came along, I shared your excitement. I loved their little fingers and toes, and wanted to raise them, too. Only you both worried I might hurt them, so I was shoved into another room or my dog cage.**

**你的新婚妻子不是“爱狗人士”，但我仍然欢迎她，并对她示好。我高兴是因为你高兴。当你生儿育女，宝宝来临时，我和你一样激动。我爱他们小小的手指和脚趾，也想照料他们。但是你们俩担心我会伤害到他们，把我硬塞入另一个房间或我的狗窝。**

**5 As they grew, I became their friend. They buried their hands up to their wrists in my fur and pulled themselves up on unsteady legs, investigating my ears and squeezing my muscles. I loved everything about them, especially the touch of their clumsy fingers and thumbs. I would have defended them with my very life.**

**他们慢慢长大，我成了他们的朋友。他们喜欢把整个手都埋在我的毛下，并摇摇晃晃地站立起来，检查我的耳朵，挤压我的肌肉。我爱他们的一切，尤其是他们用笨拙的手指和拇指触摸时的感觉。我甚至会用我的生命捍卫他们。**

**6 I'd sneak into their beds, listening to their worries and secret dreams. Together we waited for the sound of your car in the driveway. There had been a time when you kept a photo of me in your wallet. But slowly, I went from being your dog to just the dog, and you deducted all the money you spent on me from your budget.**

**我会偷偷溜进他们的被窝，倾听他们的烦恼和秘密的梦想。我们一起等待着你驾车回来在房前车道上的声音。曾经一度，你把我的照片放在你的钱包里。但慢慢地，我从“你的狗”变成了“那条狗”，你从预算中减去了所有用在我身上的钱。**

**7 Suddenly, you had a career opportunity in telecommunications in another city and you all moved to a third-story apartment that didn't allow pets. Our rural life in the suburbs was over. On the eve of your departure, there was no internal debate — the jury had already decided. You'd made the right decision for your "family", but I remember a time when I was part of your family.**

**突然，你在另一个城市有了一个在电信领域工作的机会，你和你的家人要搬到一个不许养宠物的三层楼高的公寓去了。我们在郊区的乡村生活结束了。你们离开的前一天，家里没有内部的辩论——陪审团已经做出决定。你为你的“家庭”作出了正确的决定，然而，我还记得，曾几何时，我还是你家庭的一员。**

**8 I was excited about riding with the family in the van until we arrived at the animal shelter. It smelled of strange species of dogs and cats, of hell and hopelessness. You filled out the paperwork and said, "I know you will find a good home for her." But they weren't enthusiastic, knowing how difficult it is to discharge old dogs.**

**我与家人坐在面包车上，曾一度兴奋不已，直到我们到达了动物收容所。那儿有陌生的狗和猫的味道，我感到如地狱般地绝望。你填写了资料，并说：“我知道你们会为她找到一个好的家。”但他们并不热情，因为他们知道要送走一条年老的狗是多么的困难。**

**9 Your son cried, "No, Daddy! Please don't let them take my dog!" I worried what lesson she'd learned about friendship and loyalty, love and responsibility, and respect for a living organism. You patted my head goodbye, avoiding my eyes and refusing to take my collar and walking rope with you, the last symbols of our relationship.**

**你的儿子哭喊道：“不，爸爸，请不要让他们带走我的狗！”我担心他在友谊和忠诚，爱心和责任，以及如何尊重一个活的生命方面学到了什么。你拍拍我的头，跟我告别，却避开了我的眼睛，并拒绝带走剩下的最后象征我们关系的颈圈与遛狗绳。**

**10 The two nice ladies were as attentive to us in the shelter as they were expected. They fed us, but I had lost my appetite and was experiencing a famine of hope. At first, whenever anyone passed my pen, I rushed to the front, hoping that you had changed your mind about ditching me or that this was all a bad dream. Later, I hoped it would at least be someone who cared, who might scratch my chin and love me again. Eventually, I retreated to a corner and waited for the countdown of my days.**

**那两位好心的女士，如同人们期望的一样，在收容所里细心地照顾着我们。她们给我们喂吃的，但我没有胃口，正经历着希望的饥荒。起先，每当有人经过我的栏圈，我就会奔到前面，希望你改变了抛弃我的打算，希望这只是一场噩梦而已。后来，我希望至少会是某个在乎我的人，他会轻挠我的下巴，重新爱我。最终，我退缩到了一个角落里，等待我生命的倒计时。**

**11 I heard her footsteps at the end of the day and I padded along the corridor after her to a separate room. She placed me on the table, rubbed her hand down my spine and told me not to worry. She gently placed a tight rubber band around my leg as a tear ran down her cheeklicked her hand in the same way I used to comfort you as she slid the needle into my vein. As I felt the cool injection coursing through my body, I lay down sleepily, looked into her kind eyes and emitted a low cry, "How could you?"**

**那天夜幕降临之前，我听到了她的脚步声。我沿着走廊轻轻地跟她走到一个单独的房间。她把我抱到桌上，用手顺着我的脊椎揉搓着，告诉我不用担心。当她轻轻地用一根很紧的橡皮带扎住了我的腿时,一滴泪水顺着她的脸颊流了下来。当她把针推入我的静脉时，我舔了舔她的手，就像过去常常安慰你时那样。当我觉得冰凉的注射剂在体内流动，我昏昏沉沉地躺了下来，看着她那双善良的眼睛，喃喃低鸣：“你怎么能这样？”**

**12 Perhaps she took the cue from my sad eyes because she whispered, "I'm so sorry." She patted my head and explained that I would waken in a better place where I wouldn't be ignored, abused or abandoned — a place of love and light. With my last fraction of energy, I tried to convey to her with a quick move of my tail that my "How could you?" was not meant for her. It was for you, my master. I will think of you and wait for you forever, hoping everyone in your life will continue to love you and show you never-ending loyalty as I did. Goodbye.**

**也许她从我哀怨的眼神中得到暗示，因为她低声说：“我很抱歉。”她拍了拍我的头，并解释说，我醒来时会在一个更好的地方，一个我不会再受忽略、遭虐待或被遗弃的地方，一个有关爱和光明的地方。我用尽全身最后一丝力气，向她快速地摇了摇尾巴，想让她知道我的这句“你怎么能这样？”并不是对她说的。我是对你说的，我的主人。我会永远怀念你，永远等待你，我只希望你生活中的每个人都将继续爱你，并像我那样，永远忠诚。别了。**