1. 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.

我们已经如此习惯于在美国生活的新氛围中保护自己，如此习惯于设置障碍，以至于我们没有时间去思考它可能意味着什么。

1. Our neighborhoods are bathed in high-intensity light; we do not want to afford ourselves even so much a luxury as a shadow.

我们的社区沐浴在高强度的阳光下;我们连影子这样的奢侈品都不想给自己。

1. Many suburban families have sliding glass doors on their patios, with steel bars elegantly built in so no one can pry the doors open.

许多郊区家庭的天井上都安装了滑动玻璃门，门上还嵌有优雅的钢筋，这样就没人能撬开门了。

4. **取人性命的念头令我憎恨，但念及成为他人的受害者就更可怕了。我开始问自己，你怎么跟一个杀人犯或强奸犯谈论和平主义呢？**

I hate the thought of taking someone's life, but the thought of being a victim is even more frightening.I started asking myself, how can you talk about pacifism with a murderer or rapist?

1. **但我相信，知识仍是我们最有力的防范手段。由于我主张对孩子进行性知识教育、艾滋病知识教育以及让孩子学会开车，我不能不赞成教儿子关于枪的知识。**

But I believe that knowledge remains our strongest defense.Since I advocate educating children about sex, AIDS and driving, I can't help teaching my son about guns.