

鲸的一生

Cetacean life



The Economist

听读系列



请多多点赞！谢谢大家 译文在评论区
公众号：狂奔的外刊 分享PDF链接

鲸类的生活

布鲁克林的亚哈船长

为什么这么多鲸鱼被冲到纽约东海岸的海滩上死去？

Cetacean life

Ahab in Brooklyn

Why are so many whales washing up dead on east-coast beaches?

Rain

bilibili 狂奔的外刊

1. LUNA WAS last seen alive in September off the coast of Nova Scotia. Scientists had been tracking the 40-year-old whale for decades.



Ahab 《白鲸》中亚哈船长

《白鲸》(Moby Dick) 是19世纪美国小说家赫尔曼·梅尔维尔于1851年发表的一篇海洋题材的长篇小说, 小说描写了亚哈船长 (**Ahab**) 为了追逐并杀死白鲸 (实为白色抹香鲸) 莫比·迪克, 最终与白鲸同归于尽的故事。

coast /kəʊst/ **noun** [C, U] the land beside or near to the sea or ocean 海岸; 海滨

Nova Scotia /'nəʊvə'skəʊʃə/ **noun** a province of eastern Canada, comprising the peninsula of Nova Scotia and the adjoining Cape Breton Island. The capital is Halifax. 新斯科舍 (加拿大东部省份, 由新斯科舍半岛和邻近的布雷顿角岛组成, 首府哈利法克斯)

track /træk/ **verb** [T] ~ sb/sth | ~ where, how, etc. ... to follow the movements of sb/sth, especially by using special electronic equipment (尤指用特殊电子设备) 跟踪, 追踪

Like all **humpback** whales his tail, called a **fluke**, had **distinctive** **pigmentation** patterns. These are used by scientists as a sort of **fingerprint**.



humpback /'hʌm(p)bæk/ **noun** = **HUMPBACK WHALE** a large **WHALE** (= a very large sea animal) with a back shaped like a **HUMP** 驼背鲸; 座头鲸

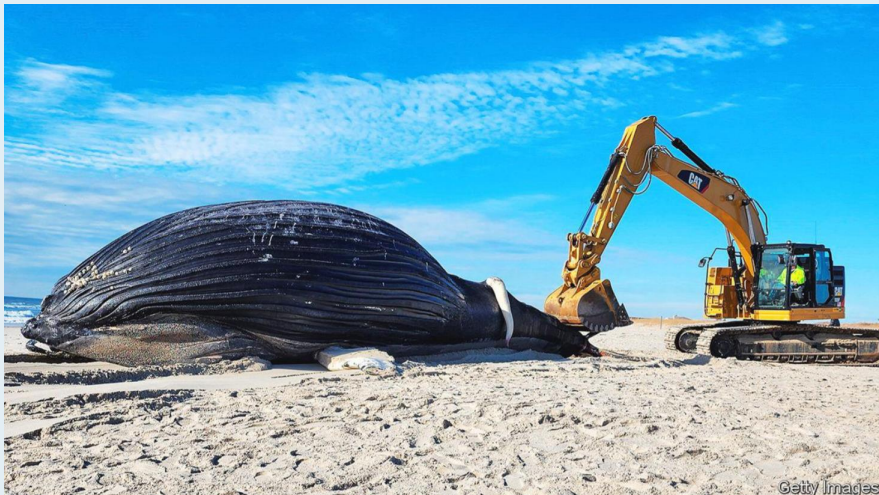
fluke /flu:k/ **noun** one of the lobes of a whale's tail 鲸尾裂片

distinctive /di'stɪŋ(k)tɪv/ **adjective** having a quality or characteristic that makes sth different and easily noticed 独特的; 特别的; 有特色的

pigmentation /pɪgm(ə)n'teɪʃ(ə)n/ **noun** [U] the presence of **PIGMENTS** in skin, hair, leaves, etc. that causes them to be a particular colour 色素沉着; 天然颜色

fingerprint /'fɪŋgəprɪnt/ **noun** a mark made by the pattern of lines on the tip of a person's finger, often used by the police to identify criminals 指纹; 指印

Luna's fluke had a moon shape, **hence** his name. Those tracking him knew every scar and took note of new ones whenever they saw him. The next time he was seen was when his **carcass** washed **ashore** in January on Lido Beach on **Long Island**, about 40 **miles** (65km) from **Manhattan** and 600 miles from Nova Scotia.



hence /hens/ **adverb** (*formal*) for this reason 因此；由此

carcass /'kɑ:kəs/ **noun** the dead body of an animal, especially of a large one or of one that is ready for cutting up as meat 动物尸体；（尤指供食用的）畜体

ashore /ə'ʃɔ:/ **adverb** towards, onto or on land, having come from an area of water such as the sea or a river 向（或在）岸上；向（或在）陆地

Long Island **noun** 长岛（美国纽约州东南部岛屿）

mile /maɪl/ **noun** [C] a unit for measuring distance equal to 1 609 metres or 1 760 yards 英里（= 1 609 米或 1 760 码）

Manhattan /mæn'hæt(ə)n/ **noun** 曼哈顿（Manhattan），是美国纽约市5个行政区之中人口最稠密的一个区，也是最小的一个行政区。

2. Whales have been dying in **elevated** numbers along America's east coast since 2016. So much so that the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**, the federal agency that **monitors** **fisheries** and oceans, declared the existence of an “Unusual **Mortality** Event” back in 2017.



elevated /'elivɜːtɪd/ **adjective** (technical 术语) higher than normal 偏高的

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration **noun** 美国国家海洋和大气管理局, 美国商业部下属的科技部门

monitor /'mɒnɪtə/ **verb** ~ sth | ~ what, how, etc. ... to watch and check sth over a period of time in order to see how it develops, so that you can make any necessary changes 监视; 检查; 跟踪调查

fishery /'fɪʃ(ə)rɪ/ **noun** a part of the sea or a river where fish are caught in large quantities 渔场

mortality /mɔː'tælɪtɪ/ **noun** [U] the number of deaths in a particular situation or period of time 死亡数量; 死亡率



Prior to 2007, Rob DiGiovanni, the **chief** scientist at the **Atlantic Marine Conservation Society**, which surveys wildlife and conducts **necropsies**, said he saw stranded whales just once every two years.



prior /ˈpraɪə/ **adjective** [only before **noun**] (*formal*) happening or existing before sth else or before a particular time 先前的；较早的；在前的

chief /tʃiːf/ **adjective** [only before **noun**] (often **Chief**) highest in rank 最高级别的；为首的；首席的

Atlantic Marine Conservation Society **noun** 大西洋海洋环境保护协会

necropsy /ˈnekropsɪ/ **noun** *pl. nec·ropsies* (NAmE) an official examination of a dead body (especially that of an animal) in order to discover the cause of death (尤指对动物的) 尸体剖验，尸检

strand /strænd/ **verb** ~ sth to make a boat, fish, **WHALE**, etc. be left on land and unable to return to the water 使搁浅



**ATLANTIC MARINE
CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

Promoting Marine Conservation Through Action

狂奔的外刊

Then it became one to three a year; now it is every few weeks. Since the start of December, 29 dead whales, including **right whales**, whose numbers are already **precarious**, have washed ashore along America's east coast. Luna was the tenth of 13 whales to be found dead on New York and **New Jersey** beaches. Scientists are trying to **figure out** why.

right whale *noun* 露脊鲸

precarious /pri'keəriəs/ *adjective* (of a situation 情势) not safe or certain; dangerous 不稳的; 不确定的; 不保险的; 危险的

New Jersey *noun* a state in the north-eastern United States. The largest city is Newark, and the capital city is Trenton. 新泽西 (美国东北部的州, 最大城市纽瓦克, 首府特伦顿)

figure sb/sth ↔ **out** to think about sb/sth until you understand them/it 弄懂; 弄清楚; 弄明白



3. A whale necropsy is a huge **undertaking**. The equipment may **entail cranes** to lift the whale, as well as sharp knives to fillet it. In 40% of the necropsies, there was evidence of blunt force **trauma** or **propeller** wounds, which indicates the whales were hit by a **vessel**, or evidence of **entanglement** in fishing gear.



undertaking /ʌndə'teɪkɪŋ/ **noun** [C] a task or project, especially one that is important and/or difficult (重大或艰巨的) 任务, 项目, 事业; 企业

entail /ɪn'teɪl/ **verb** to involve sth that cannot be avoided 牵涉; 需要; 使必要

crane /kreɪn/ **noun** a tall machine with a long arm, used to lift and move building materials and other heavy objects 起重机; 吊车

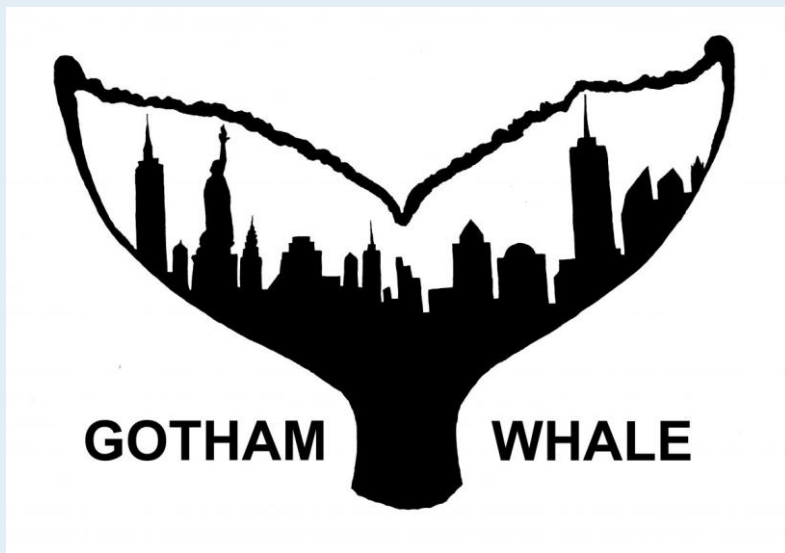
trauma /'trɔ:mə/ **noun** [C, U] an unpleasant experience that makes you feel upset and/or anxious 痛苦经历; 挫折

propeller /prə'pelə/ **noun** a device with two or more blades that turn quickly and cause a ship or an aircraft to move forward 螺旋桨 (飞机或轮船的推进器)

vessel /'ves(ə)l/ **noun** (formal) a large ship or boat 大船; 轮船

entanglement /ɪn'tæŋɡlmənt/ **noun** [U] the act of becoming **ENTANGLED** in sth; the state of being **ENTANGLED** 纠缠; 缠住

Some die of natural causes; others from **ingesting debris**. Paul Sieswerda of **Gotham Whale**, a research organisation, said that vessel strikes are the equivalent of “the **butler** standing there with a **smoking gun**.” **Preliminary** findings from Luna’s necropsy indicate a vessel was the probable cause of death.



ingest /ɪn'dʒest/ **verb** ~ sth (*technical* 术语) to take food, drugs, etc. into your body, usually by swallowing 摄入; 食入; 咽下

debris /'deɪri:/ **noun** [U] (*formal*) pieces of material that are not wanted and rubbish/garbage that are left somewhere 残渣; 垃圾; 废弃物

Gotham Whale **noun** 收集大西洋鲸鱼数据的纽约本地非营利组织

Gotham /'ɡɒθəm/ **noun** 傻子村(纽约市的绰号), 哥谭镇(英传说中愚人村)

butler /'bʌtlə/ **noun** the main male servant in a large house 男管家

smoking gun **noun** [sing.] (*informal*) something that seems to prove that sb has done sth wrong or illegal 犯错 (或犯法的) 证据

preliminary /prɪ'lɪmɪn(ə)rɪ/ **adjective** happening before a more important action or event 预备性的; 初步的; 开始的

4. Whale sightings, particularly of humpbacks, have increased in the New York **Bight**, which stretches from the tip of Long Island to the far end of the Jersey Shore. Like their human neighbours, the whales are drawn to **the Big Apple's** cuisine. **Menhaden**, a kind of fish many whales feed on, have increased off the shores of New York and New Jersey, possibly because of warming waters.

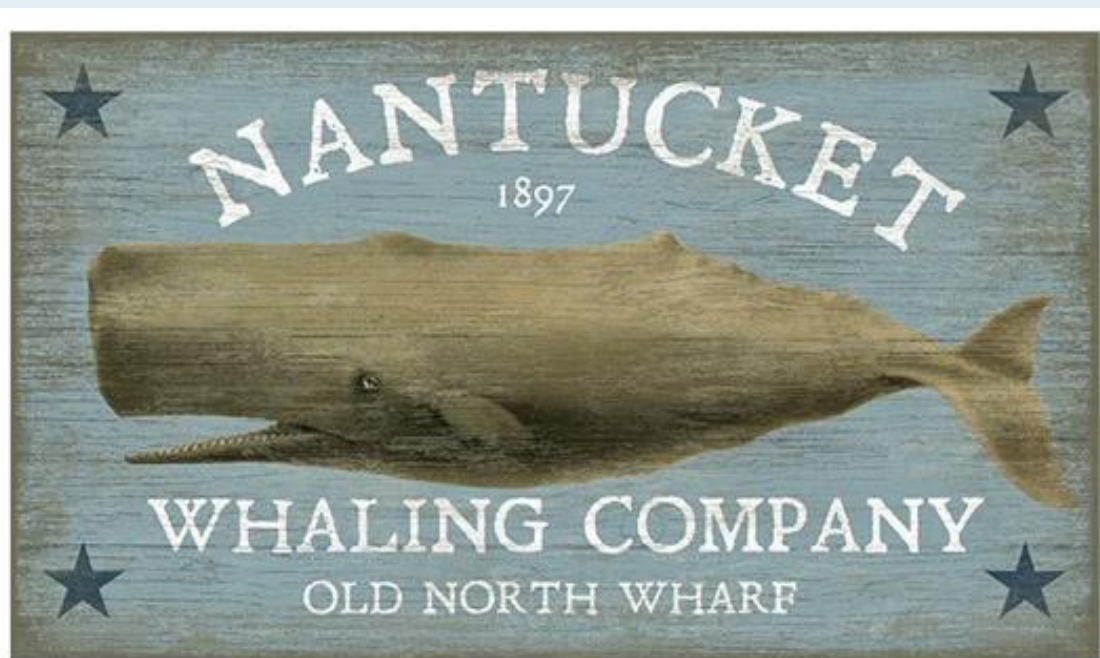
bight /baɪt/ *noun* a long curved part of a coast or river 海湾; 河湾

the Big Apple *noun* [sing.] (*informal*) New York City 纽约市

Menhaden /men'heid(ə)n/ *noun* 鲱鱼



5. No longer must people **trek** to **Maine** or **Nantucket** to see whales. New Yorkers can observe them near city beaches. Several whale-watching companies, including in **Brooklyn**, have **sprung up**.



trek /trek/ *verb* (-kk-) [I] (+ adv./prep.) (*informal*) to make a long or difficult journey, especially on foot (尤指徒步) 长途跋涉

Maine /mein/ *noun* 缅因 (美国新英格兰诸州中最北部的州, 首府奥古斯塔, 最大城市波特兰)

Nantucket /næn'tʌkit/ *noun* 南塔克特岛(在美国马萨诸塞州东南), 大西洋岛屿

Brooklyn /'bruklin/ *noun* 布鲁克林区 (Brooklyn) 位于美国东北部, 纽约曼哈顿岛的东南边。

spring up to appear or develop quickly and/or suddenly 迅速出现; 突然兴起

Unfortunately, the whales are essentially playing in traffic. New York Harbour is America's busiest port, which puts the whales in the path of all sorts of vessels, including enormous **container** ships and **cruise liners**. Some of the carcasses on the beach are the result.



unfortunately *adverb* used to say that a particular situation or fact makes you sad or disappointed, or gets you into a difficult position 不幸地；遗憾地；可惜地；可悲地

container /kən'teɪnə/ *noun* a large metal or wooden box of a standard size in which goods are packed so that they can easily be lifted onto a ship, train, etc. to be transported 集装箱；货柜

cruise /kruːz/ *noun* a journey by sea, visiting different places, especially as a holiday/vacation 乘船游览；航行

liner /'laɪnə/ *noun* a large ship that carries passengers 邮轮

