一粒小种子: 旺加里·马塔伊的故事

A Tiny Seed: The Story of Wangari Maathai

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在东非肯尼亚山的山腰上,有一座小村庄,村庄里有一个小女孩和妈妈一起在田里劳作,这个女孩叫旺加里。
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In a village on the slopes of Mount Kenya in East Africa, a little girl worked in the fields with her mother. Her name was Wangari.

旺加里很喜欢呆在户外。在她家的农田里,旺加里用弯 刀劈开土地,把小种子播撒到温暖的泥土里。 Wangari loved being outside. In her family's food garden she broke up the soil with her machete. She pressed tiny seeds into the warm earth.

她一天中最喜欢的时候就是日落时分。当天黑了,看不 到花花草草时,旺加里就知道她该回家了。她走在农田 里的小路上,还要过几条河。

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Her favourite time of day was just after sunset. When it got too dark to see the plants, Wangari knew it was time to go home. She would follow the narrow paths through the fields, crossing rivers as she went.

旺加里是个聪明的孩子,她迫不及待地想要去上学,但 是她的父母希望她能在家,帮着干农活。当旺加里七岁 的时候,她的哥哥说服了父母,让旺加里去上学。

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Wangari was a clever child and couldn't wait to go to school. But her mother and father wanted her to stay and help them at home. When she was seven years old, her big brother persuaded her parents to let her go to school. 旺加里太喜欢学习了。旺加里读了很多书,学到很多知识。她的成绩非常好,最后收到了美国大学的录取信, 邀请她去美国读书。旺加里太兴奋了,她真想去世界各 地走走看看。

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She liked to learn! Wangari learnt more and more with every book she read. She did so well at school that she was invited to study in the United States of America. Wangari was excited! She wanted to know more about the world.

在美国的大学里,旺加里学到了很多新鲜事物。她研究 植物,以及它们的生长过程。她想起她自己是怎么长大 的:她和兄弟们在美丽的肯尼亚森林里玩耍。

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At the American university Wangari learnt many new things. She studied plants and how they grow. And she remembered how she grew: playing games with her brothers in the shade of the trees in the beautiful Kenyan forests.

她学得越多,就越热爱肯尼亚人民。她想要帮助肯尼亚 人民过上自由、快乐的生活。她学得越多,就越想念自 己在非洲的家乡。

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The more she learnt, the more she realised that she loved the people of Kenya. She wanted them to be happy and free. The more she learnt, the more she remembered her African home.

当旺加里完成学业时,她回到了肯尼亚,但是她的祖国已经今非昔比了。大地上建起了农场,妇女们找不到柴火做饭。人们过着穷苦的日子,孩子们饥肠辘辘。

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When she had finished her studies, she returned to Kenya. But her country had changed. Huge farms stretched across the land. Women had no wood to make cooking fires. The people were poor and the children were hungry. 旺加里知道自己要做什么。她教妇女们如何用种子种出 大树。妇女们卖树赚钱,补贴家用。妇女们都很高兴。 旺加里使她们觉得自己变得坚强勇敢了。

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Wangari knew what to do. She taught the women how to plant trees from seeds. The women sold the trees and used the money to look after their families. The women were very happy. Wangari had helped them to feel powerful and strong. 时光飞逝,小树长成了参天大树,又汇聚成了森林,河水穿流而过。旺加里的办法传遍了非洲。今天,因为旺加里当初的种子,已经长出了几百万棵大树。

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As time passed, the new trees grew into forests, and the rivers started flowing again. Wangari's message spread across Africa. Today, millions of trees have grown from Wangari's seeds. 旺加里努力工作,引起了全世界的注意,人们授予她诺 贝尔和平奖,她是非洲第一位获得这份殊荣的女性。

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Wangari had worked hard. People all over the world took notice, and gave her a famous prize. It is called the Nobel Peace Prize, and she was the first African woman ever to receive it.

旺加里在2011年去世,但是每次我们看到大树时,都会想起这位杰出的女性。
Wangari died in 2011, but we can think of her every time we see a beautiful tree.



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