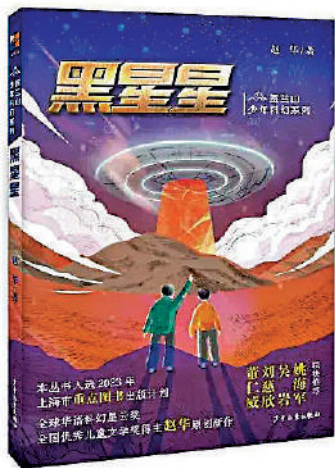


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神秘有趣的《黑星星》

親愛的讀者，你讀過著名愛國將領岳飛寫的《滿江紅》嗎？

「怒髮衝冠，憑欄處，瀟瀟雨歇。抬望眼，仰天長嘯，壯懷激烈。三十功名塵與土，八千里路雲和月。莫等閒、白了少年頭，空悲切。

靖康恥，猶未雪。臣子恨，何時滅。駕長車，踏破賀蘭山缺。壯志飢餐胡虜肉，笑談渴飲匈奴血。待從頭、收拾舊山河，朝天闕。」

這是何等氣勢磅礴的詩詞！慷慨激昂，千古傳誦，最近也有一部電影專門講述這事跡，受到廣泛的關注。而賀蘭山，因為岳飛這篇氣貫長虹、蕩氣回腸的《滿江紅》聲名遠播。賀蘭山，就像群馬奔騰在阿拉善高原至銀川平原青銅峽之間，縱互二百五十公里，是中國寥寥幾條南北走向的山脈之一。歷史上在中國的大山沒有那座像賀蘭山這樣充滿金戈鐵馬、血雨腥風，見證着各個朝代在此兵戈相向。

現在我要介紹的兒童科幻小說《黑星星》，寫的是少年孛娃為了生計，來到賀蘭山腳下，同老啞巴爺爺一起放羊，發現了很多秘密：啞巴爺爺不但會說話，還會使用天文望遠鏡觀望星空。更不可思議的是，他竟然是一個長生之人。孛娃後來才知道，原來這一切都與住在星星上的牛角人有關。老啞巴爺爺一直守護着被埋於賀蘭山下的一顆「黑星星」，它不僅是當年大地震的罪魁禍首，還事關人類的命運，於是，孛娃做了一個很大膽、很有意義的決定……

這是一本越讀越有味道的兒童科幻小說，呈現了不遠的過去與遙不可期的外星未來，並在兩者之間形成了鮮明的對比，創造了很大的科幻想像空間。今年我也把這本書評選為十大兒童文學好書之一，希望你們也喜歡，好好地閱讀。



Gold in the Ground

There was a rich miser in a village. He loved money and hated spending it. His trousers and sports shoes were worn-out but he did not buy new ones. He never donated to charities either. He had a treasure box. It was full of gold coins! He dug a big hole in his garden and buried it there. Every day, he dug up the treasure box and counted the gold coins. "I'm so wealthy!" thought the miser.

One day, a thief saw what the miser did with his treasure box. At night, he sneaked into the garden, dug up the treasure box, put all the gold coins in his backpack and crept away.



Language Corner

worn-out:
too old or damaged to be used

Understanding the Fable

Answer the following questions.

1. The miser did not buy new trousers and sports shoes because.

- A. he was very poor
- B. his old trousers and sports shoes were expensive
- C. he did not like spending money
- D. he liked his old trousers and sports shoes

2. Read line 5. What does "it" refer to?

- A. the hole
- B. the garden
- C. the gold bar
- D. the treasure box

3. Read lines 10 - 11: ...his heart was in his mouth. What does it mean?

- A. The miser felt very nervous.
- B. The miser had a small heart.
- C. The miser was very excited.
- D. The miser felt very angry.

Tip

What happened to the gold coins?