

Unit 2
Reading B

A Visit to Huangshan Mountain 《游黄山记》

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(The Sixth Day) (第六天)

1 It was a fine day. I decided to go past the Mercy Light Temple. After I engaged a guide, we began to ascend the mountain from the left side, each with a bamboo stick in hand. I saw peaks ahead winding around each other, with stone steps between them covered with snow, looking like a thread of white jade. Standing among the luxuriant growth of trees and shrubs, I looked up to see a huddle of peaks, with only the Celestial Capital Peak towering to the sky. After I went several li upwards, the steps turned steeper and the snow deeper. The snow in the shade was frozen into ice and became too slippery to set foot on. I moved ahead, leaving my guide behind me. I dug a hole in the ice with my stick to set one foot in, and then dug a second hole to lay my other foot. My guide followed my footsteps until we reached a clearing, where we could see the Lotus Peak and the Cloud Gate Peak, both of which looked like guardians of the Celestial Capital Peak, vying with each other in beauty and grandeur. I made my way across the two peaks, where grotesque pine trees clung precariously to high and steep cliffs. The taller ones were almost one zhang high while the shorter ones had only a few cun. The trees at the top of the cliffs had short needles, their roots twining and intertwining, their branches curling like small hornless dragons in the Chinese mythology. The thicker the trees were, the older they were; the shorter the trees were, the more grotesque they appeared. It was amazing to see such fantastic pine trees on this fantastic mountain! From among the pine trees and rocks there emerged a group of monks who seemed to have come down from the sky. They approached us slowly and said in chorus with joined palms. "Sir, we have been cut off from outside by the snow for almost three months, and it is with great efforts that we have managed our way here to seek food. How can you have come all the way up here?" Then they added, "All of us from the temples on the southern side(the Front Sea) have struggled our way down the mountain. The paths on the northern side (the Rear Sea) are still blocked except the one to Lotus." After the monks went away, I resumed climbing from one side of the Celestial Capital Peak and went down from a pathway between the peaks. I headed eastward and could see a trail to the Lotus Cave. As I was eager to climb the Bright Summit and the Stalagmite Stone Ridge, I headed northwards along the Lotus Peak. After a few ups and downs, I reached the Heavenly Gate. I saw two cliffs standing side by side with a gap in between, only wide enough for one man to pass. The cliffs on both sides were dozens of zhang high, dwarfing us so ghastly that it made my hair stand on end. The snow became deeper as I approached the peak. I dug holes in the ice to climb upwards. I reached the top and came to a clearing, which was the southern side. I continued to climb until I reached the top of the Sky-high Stone Ridge. The Bright Summit jutted up from the ridge, soaring to the sky. The ridge led to the northern side down below. The southern side of the Sky-high Stone Ridge was called the Front Sea and the northern side was called the Rear Sea. The two "seas", located at an extremely high altitude and surrounded by low-lying precipitous valleys, were the only flat ground in the vicinity. Of all the peaks in front of the Front Sea, the Celestial Capital Peak and the Lotus Peak were the highest. The southern side belonged to Shexian County, Huizhou Prefecture, and the northern side Taiping County, Ningguo Prefecture.

天气很晴朗。我决定经过慈光寺。雇了一个向导后，我们从左边开始登山，每人手里拿着一根竹杖。我看见前方的山峰相互缠绕，山峰之间的石阶覆盖着积雪，看起来像一条白玉线。站在茂密的树木和灌木丛中，我抬头看到一群山峰，只有天都峰高耸入云。我向上走了几里后，台阶变得更陡，雪也更深了。背阴处的雪冻成了冰，变得太滑无法落脚。我继续前行，把向导落在了后面。我用竹杖在冰上挖一个洞，把一只脚放进去，然后再挖一个洞把另一只脚放进去。向导跟着我的脚印，直到我们到达一片空地，在那里我们可以看到莲花峰和云门峰，它们看起来都像是天都峰的守护者，在美丽和壮观方面相互竞争。我穿过这两座山峰，那里奇形怪状的松树摇摇欲坠地攀附在又高又陡的悬崖上。高的几乎有一丈，矮的只有几寸。悬崖顶上的松树针叶很短，树根缠绕交织，树枝卷曲得像中国神话中的小龙。树越粗越老；树越矮越奇形怪状。在这座神奇的山上看到如此奇妙的松树真是令人惊叹！从松树和岩石中间出现了一群和尚，他们似乎是从天上下来的。他们慢慢地走近我们，双手合十齐声说：“先生，我们被雪困在这里与外界隔绝已经快三个月了，我们好不容易才来到这里寻找食物。你怎么能一路来到这里呢？”然后他们又说：“我们南边（前海）寺庙的人都艰难地下山了。北边（后海）的路除了去莲花峰的路以外都还被堵住。”和尚们走后，我从天都峰的一侧继续攀登，从山峰之间的一条小路下山。我向东走，可以看到一条通往莲花洞的小路。因为我渴望攀登光明顶和石笋矽，所以我沿着莲花峰向北走。经过几次起伏，我到达了天门。我看到两座悬崖并排而立，中间有一条缝隙，只够一个人通过。两边的悬崖有几十丈高，让我们显得如此渺小可怕，以至于我的头发都竖了起来。我接近山顶时，雪变得更深了。我在冰上挖洞向上爬。我到达山顶，来到一片空地，这是南边。我继续攀登，直到到达石笋矽的顶部。光明顶从石笋矽上突起，高耸入云。石笋矽通向下方的北边。石笋矽的南边被称为前海，北边被称为后海。这两个“海”，位于极高的海拔处，被低洼的陡峭山谷环绕，是附近唯一的平地。在前海前面的所有山峰中，天都峰和莲花峰是最高的。南边属于徽州府歙县，北边属于宁国府太平县。

2 I was eager to climb the Bright Summit the moment I reached the Sky-high Stone Ridge. As hunger struck me after I had covered thirty li, I went downhill towards a temple behind the ridge. When I entered the temple, I saw all the monks sitting on a rock facing the south. The head monk by the Buddhist title of Zhikong saw that I looked hungry and offered me some gruel. Then he said, "The rising sun is shining so brightly, but I'm afraid such fine weather won't last long." With these words, he pointed to a monk and said to me, "If you have more energy to spare, I suggest that you climb the Bright Summit before lunch. Then you will be able to reach the Stalagmite Stone Ridge today and lodge for the night in this master's temple." I followed his suggestion and reached the top of the Bright Summit, where I saw the Celestial Capital Peak and the Lotus Peak standing side by side before me the Green Hill and the Gate of Three Seas encircling its backside. Down below were extremely high precipices and perpendicular peaks lying side by side on a ravine, the Prime Minister's Col. A huge rock stood in front of the Bright Summit, falling and then rising abruptly, as if it were broken in half from the middle. It lay detached over the ravine, with grotesque pine trees growing all over it. I climbed the rock sideways and perched at its top while my uncle Xunyang squatted at the top of the Bright Summit, each commenting on the beauty of the magnificent views from our own perspectives.

我一到达石笋矽就渴望攀登光明顶。走了三十里后我感到饥饿，于是朝着石笋矽后面的一座寺庙下山。我进入寺庙，看到所有的和尚都坐在一块朝南的岩石上。法号智空的主持和尚看到我看起来很饿，就给了我一些粥。然后他说：“朝阳如此明亮，但恐怕这样的好天气不会持续太久。”说着，他指着一个和尚对我说：“如果你还有精力，我建议你在午饭前攀登光明

顶。这样你今天就能到达石笋砦，并在这位大师的寺庙里过夜。”我听从了他的建议，到达了光明顶的顶部，在那里我看到天都峰和莲花峰并肩矗立在我面前，青山和三天门环绕在它的后面。下面是极高的悬崖和垂直的山峰并排位于一个峡谷上，丞相原。一块巨大的岩石矗立在光明顶前面，先落下然后又突然升起，好像从中间断成了两半。它孤立地位于峡谷上方，上面长满了奇形怪状的松树。我侧身爬上岩石，栖息在它的顶部，而我的叔叔浔阳蹲在光明顶的顶部，我们各自从自己的角度评论着壮丽景色的美丽。

3 Lunch was ready when we returned to the temple from the mountain. After lunch, I headed north and climbed a mountain ridge. After threading my way through a luxuriant grove, I found myself before a Buddhist temple named the Lion Forest Temple, which was exactly the place that Master Zhikong had mentioned earlier as my accommodation for the night. Master Xianguang, the head monk, greeted me in front of the temple. Pointing at the two giant peaks in the north, Master Xianguang said, "I suggest that you explore those sights first, sir." I took his suggestion. Looking up at the northern side, I saw a stretch of mountain peaks running continuously, vying in beauty and grandeur. I walked along the two peaks and came to the western side. Suddenly the continuance of the cliff was broken by a gap, with a plank laid across. As there was a pine tree above it, I could walk to the other side by holding onto the branches. This was the so-called Usher Cliff. I started to pass the Usher Cliff, inching my way to the top along the gap between rugged rocks, where a plank instead of a stone slab was laid on the craggy terrain. I thought I would rather sit on the rocks than stand on the plank to enjoy more of the magnificent scenery down below by taking a bird's-eye view. After coming down from the Usher Cliff, I headed eastward along a path for about one li. I reached the Stalagmite Stone Ridge, which stretched on in a slanting way, with its two cliffs on opposite sides suspending over the col. The ridge was surrounded by clusters of peaks, and its western side was what I saw from high up on the Usher Cliff. A peak rose abruptly from one side of the ridge, with grotesque rocks and pine trees on it. I climbed to the top of the peak to take a view of the Usher Cliff across the ravine down below. The twisting and winding peaks and mountains presented a new look different from what I had previously seen.

当我们从山上回到寺庙时，午饭已经准备好了。午饭后，我向北走，爬上了一座山脊。穿过一片茂密的树林后，我发现自己来到了一座名为狮子林寺的佛寺前，这正是智空大师早些时候提到的我过夜的地方。主持霞光大和尚在寺庙前迎接我。霞光大和尚指着北方的两座巨大山峰说：“先生，我建议你先去探索那些景色。”我采纳了他的建议。抬头向北望去，我看到一片连绵的山峰，争奇斗艳。我沿着两座山峰走去，来到了西边。突然，悬崖的延续被一个缺口打断，上面架着一块木板。因为上面有一棵松树，我可以抓住树枝走到另一边。这就是所谓的接引崖。我开始通过接引崖，沿着崎岖岩石之间的缝隙慢慢爬到顶部，在崎岖的地形上，木板代替了石板被铺设在那里。我想我宁愿坐在岩石上也不愿站在木板上，以便更好地鸟瞰下面的壮丽景色。从接引崖下来后，我沿着一条小路向东走了大约一里。我到达了石笋砦，它倾斜地延伸着，两边的悬崖悬在峡谷上方。石笋砦被一群山峰环绕，它的西边就是我在接引崖高处看到的景色。一座山峰从石笋砦的一侧突兀地升起，上面有奇形怪状的岩石和松树。我爬上山顶，俯瞰峡谷对面的接引崖。蜿蜒曲折的山峰呈现出一种与我之前看到的不同新面貌。

4 I started to go down to the Stalagmite Stone Ridge. Seeing the pine trees catching the light from the setting sun and believing that it foreboded a clear sky the next day, I went back to the Lion Forest Temple cheerfully. Master Xianguang had tea ready for me and then showed me the way to

the front pavilion. Looking to the west, I saw a shade of green and wondered whether it was the shadow of the mountain peaks. "If you see mountain shadows quite close to you in the evening," Master Xianguang said, "What you actually see is the floating haze." I remained silent, aware that it was a sign of rain.

我开始下到石笋缸。看到松树沐浴在夕阳的余晖中，并且认为这预示着第二天会是晴天，我愉快地回到了狮子林寺。霞光大和尚为我准备好了茶，然后带我去前亭。向西望去，我看到一片绿色，不知道这是不是山峰的影子。“如果在晚上你看到山影离你很近，”霞光大和尚说，“实际上你看到的是飘浮的雾气。”我沉默不语，意识到这是要下雨的迹象。