# <<人类的故事.发明的故事>>

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#### 前言

亨德里克·威廉·房龙(HendrikWillemvanLoon, 1882-1944),著名荷兰裔美国作家、历史学家、科普作家和文学家。

房龙于1882年1月出生于荷兰鹿特丹。

幼年时期的房龙由于家庭内部暴力而感受不到温暖,8岁就进入寄宿学校,10岁起沉溺于史学。 20岁以后,房龙到美国<sup>,</sup>康奈尔大学、德国慕尼黑大学求学,获得博士学位,但他并没有成为书斋里 的学究。

他当过编辑、记者和老师,屡经漂泊,同时苦练写作。

房龙还是个多才多艺的人,从小就对历史、地理、船舶、绘画和音乐感兴趣,而且终生未曾放弃。 他能用10种文字写作并与人交流,还拉得一手小提琴,善绘画,他著作中几乎所有的插图都是自己绘 制。

1921年,房龙出版《人类的故事》,使他一举成名,从此迎来了创作的丰收期。

之后,《发明的故事》、《圣经的故事》、《美国的故事》、《房龙地理》(又名《人类的家园》)、《人类的艺术》、《宽容》(又名《人类的解放》)、《与世界伟人谈心》、《伦勃朗传》、《荷 兰共和国兴衰史》、《太平洋的故事》等几十部著作陆续出版,几乎本本畅销,饮誉世界,许多国家 都翻译出版了他的作品。

可以说,房龙一生出版的30余种著作,将人类各方面的历史几乎全都复述了一遍。

房龙在学问和文学上坚持文人主义的立场,并逐渐形成了一套自己的理解和表达方式。

他认为:"凡学问一到穿上专家的拖鞋,躲进了它的'精舍',而把它鞋子上的泥土作肥料去的时候 ,它就宣布自己预备死了。

与人隔绝的知识生活是引到毁灭去的。

"因此,深入浅出地将艰深枯燥的学问化作轻松风趣的精神食粮,成了房龙作品的显著特征。

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#### 内容概要

房龙是美国著名通俗历史学家,善于用轻巧俏皮的文字,撰写历史、文化、文明、科学等方面的通俗历史著作,向人类的无知与偏执挑战,将知识与真理普及为人所共识的常识。 本书试图挖掘每个角落,探索每个地区,研究人类理性范围内每一现象的深藏意义。

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#### 作者简介

亨德里克·威廉·房龙(1882-1944),荷裔美国著名作家和历史学家。

他善于用轻巧俏皮的文字撰写历史、文化、文明和科学等方面的通俗著作,一生出版了三十多种著作 ,单枪匹马将人类各方面的历史几乎全都复述一遍。

其代表作《宽容》、《人类的故事》、《圣经的故事》、《房龙地理》、《发明的故事》、《太平洋的故事》、《人类的艺术》、《伦勃朗的人生苦旅》等,几乎本本畅销,影响了几代人。

房龙的作品基本围绕人类生存发展的最本质问题,向人类的无知和偏见挑战,将知识和真理普及为 人所共知的常识。

郁达夫曾说,房龙的笔有一种魅力,干燥无味的科学常识经他那么一写,无论大人小孩,读他书的 人都觉得娓娓忘倦了。

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#### 章节摘录

25 JoSHUA OF NAZARETHTHE STORY OF JOSHUA OF NAZARETH . WHOM THE GREEKS CALLED JESUSIn the autumn of the year of the city 815 (which would be 62 A . D . . in ourway of counting time) / Esculapius Cultellus, a Roman physician, wrote to hisnephew who was with the army in Syria as follows: My dear Nephew, A feW days ago 1 was Called in to prescribe for a sick man named Paul. Heappeared to be a Roman citizen of Jewish parentage, well educated and ofagreeable manners. I had been told that he was here in connection with a law-suit, an appeal from one of our provincial courts, Caesarea or some such place in theeastern Mediterranean. He had been described to me as a "wild and Violent" fellow who had been making speeches against the People and against the Law. Ifound him very intelligent and of, great honesty. A friend of mine who used to be with the army in Asia Minor tells me that heheard something about him in Ephesus where he was preaching sermons about aStrange new GOd. I asked my patient if this were true and whether he had told thepeople to rebel against the will of our beloved Emperor . Paul answered me that the Kingdom of which he had spoken was not of this world and he added many strangeutterances which I did not understand. but which were probably due to his fever. His personality made a great impression upon me and I was sorry to hear thathe was killed on the Ostian Road a feW days ago . Therefore I am writing this letterto you . When next you visit Jerusalem . I want you to find out something aboutmy friend Paul and the strange Jewish prophet , who seems to have been histeacher. Our slaves are getting much excited about this so-called Messiah, and afew of them, who openly talked of the new kingdom ( whatever that means ) havebeen crucified .

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