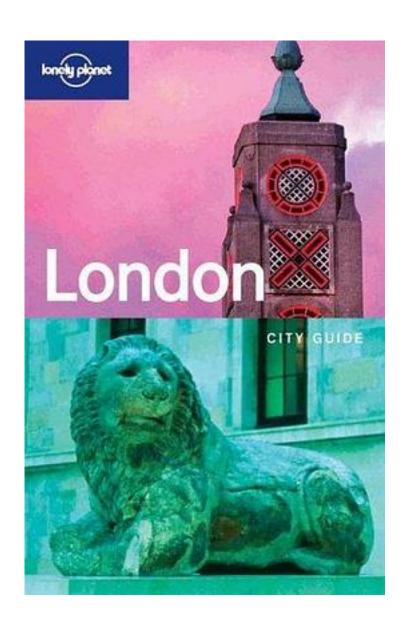
London



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著者:Peter Ackroyd

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When the eminent novelist and biographer Peter Ackroyd finished writing London: The Biography, he almost immediately had a heart attack, such was the effort of his 800-page work about the "human body" that is this most fascinating of cities. And not just any human body either, but "envisaged in the form of a young man with his arms outstretched in a gesture of liberation... it embodies the energy and exaltation of a city continually beating in great waves of progress and of confidence."

Probably there is no one better placed than Ackroyd--the author of mammoth lives of Dickens and Blake, and novels such as Hawksmoor and Dan Leno and the Lime House Golem which set singular characters against the backdrop of a city constantly shifting in time--to write such a rich, sinewy account of "Infinite London".

Ackroyd's London is no mere chronology. Its chapters take on such varied themes as drinking, sex, childhood, poverty, crime and punishment, sewage, food, pestilence and fire, immigration, maps, theatre and war. We learn that gin was "the demon of London for half a century", and that "it has been estimated that in the 1740s and 1750s there were 17,000 'gin-houses'." Fleet Street was an area known for its "violent delights" where "a 14-year-old boy, only 18 inches high, was to be seen in 1702 at a grocer's shop called the Eagle and Child by Shoe Lane." By the mid 19th century "London had become known as the greatest city on earth." By 1939 "one in five of the British population had become a Londoner."

Though London's chapters vary meaning that it can be dipped into at random, Ackroyd is employing a skilful and continuous theme throughout, which constantly links past and present—the similarities of children's games in Lambeth in 1910 and 1999; the obsession with time—"in 21st-century London time rushes forward and is everywhere apparent", while in 18th-century London the church clock of Newgate "regulated the times of hanging." Above all, he insists that the "dark secret life" of the metropolis is as relevant today as it was in perhaps its most appropriate period, Victorian London.

Again and again Ackroyd returns to the image of London as a living organism, hence his use of the word "biography" in the title. At once awed by and intimate with this "ubiquitous" city, he stresses that "it can be located nowhere in particular... its circumference is everywhere." —Catherine Taylor

作者介绍:

彼得・阿克罗伊德,1949年生于伦敦东阿克顿,英国传记作家、小说家和评论家,著有《莎士比亚传》《牛顿传》《狄更斯传》等五十多部作品,曾获惠特布雷德传记奖和英国皇家文学会威廉・海涅曼奖。《名利场》杂志称誉道: "倘若伦敦能够给自己选一位传记作家,它肯定会选彼得・阿克罗伊德。"

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历史 城市 历史/考古 London 英国 建筑 传记 人文 评论 London 下载链接1 书评

标签

在不久前的英国脱欧公投中,整个英格兰只有为数不多的几块地方支持留在欧盟,诸如牛津、剑桥和伦敦。对此,一个简单的解释是:那是因为当地人大多本能地意识到自己并不仅仅属于英国,而是更广阔世界的一部分。就像卡尔·波兰尼在《大转型》中谈及早期现代的情形时所感慨的:"...

第-	一次听说这本	书,是在参加某	著名作家新书》	发布会后。他 `	说,因为《伦	敦传》,激发
了1	也创作一部他	生活的城市传记	的欲望。听罢」	比言,我心想,	. 笔耕了大半	辈子的老作家
了,	什么样的书	没有读过什么样	的文章没有写证	寸?居然还能?	有一本书触发	他的创作灵感
, !	这本书,一	定是一本了不起	l 2•••			

作者 云也退 #本文转载自腾讯文化·华文好书·云也退专栏# "说白了,你从《伦敦传》里能获得的最强烈的印象,是这座城市的"无限":没有边 界,不断外扩,高度混合,如果把它仅仅视为城市,那也是一座拥有一颗神秘莫测的哥 特之心的城市——看看伦敦市政厅顶上一根根尖尖的棱...

回想起来,买下《伦敦传》的时候心里隐约是有怨气的。 彼时刚刚失去一个心仪的机会,未来不知祸福。又突然得知,半年前自己放弃的道路, 竟然在命运的安排下,指向了伦敦。那段时间,每天加班,内心疲惫,却又停不下反思,当初过早的把选择交给别人和命运,是信任使然,偷懒犯病...

欧洲中世纪有一句谚语:"城市的空气使人自由(Stadt Luft macht frei)。"乍一听,这完全不符合事实。城市空气是污浊、恶臭的,满街粪便污水横流,楼上居民窗口倒马桶。居民在自家后院堆积垃圾杂物,托马斯·莫尔曾担任治安副官后 ,对伦敦的肮脏深有体会,他在著作《乌托邦》里...

本来看网上介绍,以为是本精彩纷呈的历史传记。结果买回来一看,傻了眼,通篇是泛 泛而谈的空话,从开篇到结束,大量对其他著作中只言片语的引述和作者的感慨,几乎 没有任何具体的历史事件或是历史重要建筑哪怕稍有内容的描述。 入主伦敦的三任国王,怎么来的怎么走的,几座世...

(刊于《凤凰都市》杂志2016年8月号) 为伟大城市立传从来不是一件容易的事。英国伦敦堪称"城市中的城市",它不仅有光荣的历史,经历过时代的洗礼,也孕育了一整套现代城市建设和管理的思维及方法。这样首屈一指的城市,当今的"全球城市"之一,创造出的文化也是无数人的精... 1652年,咖啡馆涌现;1882年,出现有轨电车;1897年,出现公共汽车;

1952年,伦敦雾霾。

传说London来自Llyndon,Llyn是溪畔,don是小镇,大都市曾是溪畔小镇,如大上海曾是小渔村。伦敦曾有很多治病灵泉,现已多被填塞,看来灵泉并不能治病,如北京满井村曾有许多四季甘甜...

介绍城市,大抵是有套路的。比如《孤独星球》系列,科学而系统地整理了一座城市的方方面面,吃喝玩乐分门别类而列,核心受众应该是那些预算较为充足的旅游者或迁居者,一册在手就可以被飨以佳肴,寄情声色,深入体验某个地方的风土人情,愉快地度过或长或短的一段时光。但对于...

《伦敦传》!捧在手里很重很重,六百多页,打算用4-5天的时间啃掉。一口气读了近二百页,对远古、中世纪的伦敦有了进一步的了解,原来伦敦所处的地方在人类新时期时代后期就已有,从伦敦城的地下和砖上还能看到远古时候的海洋痕迹,甚至还有猛犸象的遗迹,太让人吃惊和开眼界了...

伦敦,起于英格兰平原之上,卧于泰晤士河之侧,大不列颠联合王国之首都也,欧罗巴最大之城市也,盎格鲁撒克逊人之老巢也。呜呼,伦敦即英国也,英国即伦敦也,故而有英伦之响称! 在《伦敦传》开头,阿克罗伊德就开门见山地写道,"伦敦是一具人体……其头颅为耶

稣基督,余下部...

这书唯一的不足是没讲伦敦足球。哈哈 伦敦的足球,还是应该写一写吧,足球对于这座城市还是很重要的。—————我确 实写不了140 个字 London_下载链接1_