

This is a classic Chinese idiom story from traditional Chinese culture, focusing on De Run's inspirational journey of exchanging labor for books to pursue knowledge. As a beloved part of ancient Chinese Mengxue education, it embodies the wisdom of resilience and thirst for learning passed down through traditional Chinese culture.

【标题】

德润佣书 (拼音: Dé Rùn Yōng Shū)

De Runn Copies Books for a Living to Study



【原文出处】

出自《后汉书·列女传》，是蒙学中“贫而好学”主题的经典典故，德润以“佣书”为业，一边抄书谋生，一边苦读成才，展现了寒门子弟不屈不挠的求学精神。

【故事内容】

dōng hàn shí qī yǒu yì wèi míng jiào dé rùn de nián qīng rén chū shēn hán mén jiā zhōng yì pín rú xǐ
东汉时期,有一位名叫德润的年轻人,出身寒门,家中一贫如洗。
fù mǔ zǎo shì zhǐ shèng xià tā gū shēn yì rén kào zhe lín jū de jiē jì cái néng miǎn qiáng shēng cún
父母早逝,只剩下他孤身一人,靠着邻居的接济才能勉强生存。
jìn guǎn shēng huó jiān xīn dé rùn què cóng xiǎo ài dú shū cháng cháng cún zài shū sì mén wài kàn zhe
尽管生活艰辛,德润却从小爱读书,常常蹲在书肆门外,看着
lǐ miàn de shū jí liú lián wàng fǎn
里面的书籍流连忘返。

dāng shí shū jí jí wéi zhēn guì zhǐ zhāng yǔ mò zhī jià gé áng guì dé rùn gēn běn mǎi bù qǐ shū
当时书籍极为珍贵,纸张与墨汁价格昂贵,德润根本买不起书。
wéi le néng gòu dú dào shū tā dǎ tīng dào dāng dì yǒu fù jiā xū yào rén chāo xiě shū jí biàn zhǔ
为了能够读到书,他打听到当地有富家需要人抄写书籍,便主
dòng qián qù yīng pìn zhè zhǒng kào chāo shū móu shēng de zhí yè bèi chēng wéi yōng shū
动前去应聘。这种靠抄书谋生的职业,被称为“佣书”。

cóng cǐ dé rùn měi tiān tiān bù liàng jiù qǐ chuáng dài zhe zì jǐ zuò de cū bǐ hé má zhǐ gǎn dào
从此,德润每天天不亮就起床,带着自己做的粗笔和麻纸,赶到
gù zhǔ jiā chāo shū tā chāo xiě de nèi róng bāo kuò wǔ jīng zhū zǐ bǎi jiā měi yì gè zì dōu xiě dé
雇主家抄书。他抄写的内容包括五经、诸子百家,每一个字都写得
duān zhèng zhěng jié gù zhǔ kàn tā qín láo xì xīn bù jǐn gěi tā jié suàn gōng qián hái yǔn xǔ tā bǎ
端正整洁。雇主看他勤劳细心,不仅给他结算工钱,还允许他把
chāo hǎo de shū gǎo dài huí jiā yuè dú
抄好的书稿带回家阅读。

bái tiān chāo shū shí dé rùn yì biān mò jì wén zì yì biān zhuó mó jù yì yè wǎn huí dào pò jiù
白天抄书时，德润一边默记文字，一边琢磨句意；夜晚回到破旧
de máo wū tā jiù jiè zhe sōng míng de guāng liàng fǎn fù sòng dú dāng tiān chāo xiě de nèi róng yǒu
的茅屋，他就借着松明的光亮，反复诵读当天抄写的内容。有
shí chāo dào shēn ào de jīng wén tā huì tíng xià bǐ fǎn fù sī kǎo zhí dào lǐng huì yào yì cái jì
时抄到深奥的经文，他会停下笔反复思考，直到领会要义才继
xù chāo xiě jiù zhè yàng tā bù jǐn kào yōng shū jiě jué le wēn bǎo hái zài chāo xiě de guò chéng zhōng
续抄写。就这样，他不仅靠佣书解决了温饱，还在抄写的过程中
dú biàn le gè lèi diǎn jí
读遍了各类典籍。

yǒu yì cì gù zhǔ fā xiàn dé rùn zài chāo shū jiān xì mò bèi nèi róng biàn kǎo tā shū zhōng de wèn
有一次，雇主发现德润在抄书间隙默背内容，便考他书中的问
tí dé rùn bù jǐn duì dá rú liú hái néng tán chū zì jǐ de dú dào jiàn jiě gù zhǔ shí fēn jīng tàn
题。德润不仅对答如流，还能谈出自己的独到见解。雇主十分惊叹，
yú shì bǎ jiā zhōng zàng shū jiè gěi tā yuè dú hái yāo qǐng xué zhě qián lái yǔ tā jiāo liú
于是把家中藏书借给他阅读，还邀请学者前来与他交流。

shù nián hòu dé rùn de xué shí míng shēng jiàn qǐ bù shǎo rén qián lái bài shī qiú xué tā bìng méi yǒu
数年后，德润的学识名声渐起，不少人前来拜师求学。他并没有
wàng jì zì jǐ de gēn běn yī jiù bǎo chí zhe yōng shū shí de qín miǎn yì biān jiào shòu dì zǐ yì
忘记自己的根本，依旧保持着佣书时的勤勉，一边教授弟子，一
biān zhěng lǐ zì jǐ chāo xiě de shū gǎo zuì zhōng chéng wéi dōng hàn hòu qī yǒu míng de xué zhě tā
边整理自己抄写的书稿，最终成为东汉后期有名的学者。他
yōng shū chéng xué de gù shì yě liú chuán qiān gǔ jī lì zhe wú shù hán mén xué zǐ bù wèi jiān
“佣书成学”的故事，也流传千古，激励着无数寒门学子不畏艰
xīn kǔ dú chéng cái
辛、苦读成才。

【English Translation】

During the Eastern Han Dynasty, there was a young man named De Run who was born into an extremely poor family. His parents died early, leaving him alone to survive on the kindness of neighbors. Despite the hardship, De Run loved reading from childhood and often lingered outside bookstores, gazing longingly at the books inside.

At that time, books were extremely precious, with paper and ink being expensive, making them unaffordable for De Run. To gain access to books, he learned that wealthy families needed scribes to copy manuscripts and immediately offered his services.

This profession, known as "Yong Shu" (copying books for a living), became his way to both earn a living and pursue knowledge.

From then on, De Run rose before dawn each day, carrying his homemade brush and hemp paper to his employer's home. He copied classics such as the Five Classics and works of various philosophers, writing each character neatly and carefully. Impressed by his diligence, his employer not only paid him wages but also allowed him to take the copied manuscripts home to read.

By day, De Run memorized text and pondered meanings while copying; by night, he returned to his dilapidated cottage and reread the day's work by the light of a pine torch. When encountering profound passages, he would pause to reflect until he grasped their essence before continuing. In this way, he not only supported himself through copying but also read a vast array of classics in the process.

One day, his employer noticed De Run silently reciting passages during breaks and tested him on the text. De Run answered fluently and even offered insightful interpretations. Amazed, the employer lent him his personal collection of books and invited scholars to discuss learning with him.

Over the years, De Run's reputation for scholarship grew, attracting students who came to study under him. He never forgot his humble origins, maintaining the diligence he had as a scribe. While teaching disciples, he also organized his copied manuscripts, eventually becoming a renowned scholar in the late Eastern Han Dynasty.

His story of "learning through copying books for a living" has been passed down through the ages, inspiring countless students from poor backgrounds to persevere and achieve academic success through hard work.

【启蒙寓意】

1、Adversity is a stepping stone to growth: Even if you are born in poverty, you can break through environmental limitations through your own efforts and realize your life value.

2、Cherish every learning opportunity: De Run turned his job of "copying books" into a chance to "read books", teaching us that as long as we have the intention, we can learn anywhere.

3、Persistent accumulation leads to success: The accumulation of knowledge does not happen overnight, but through daily persistence. Dripping efforts will eventually converge into profound knowledge.

【互动小练习】

1. 填空题 (Fill in the blanks) :

德润靠_____ (yōng shū) 谋生, 同时坚持读书学习。

De Run made a living by _____ (copying books for others) and kept studying at the same time.

2. 选择题 (Multiple choice) :

德润最终成为了什么? ()

What did De Run eventually become? ()

A. 富商 (A wealthy merchant) B. 学者 (A scholar) C. 官员 (An official)

3. 思考题 (Think and share) :

德润在艰苦的条件下坚持读书, 你在学习中遇到过哪些困难? 你是怎么克服的呢?

De Run persisted in reading despite harsh conditions. What difficulties have you encountered in your studies? How did you overcome them?

As one of the most renowned traditional Chinese culture stories about exchanging labor for knowledge, "De Run Works for Books" has inspired generations. It perfectly showcases the core value of resilience in Chinese idiom stories, making it a timeless educational tale for readers interested in traditional Chinese culture.