

# Edison's Second Light Bulb

## 爱迪生的第二个灯泡

Everybody knows that Edison is a famous inventor who invented the electric light bulb, so that we can enjoy its convenience and benefits today. But I wonder how many people heard about his being kind and forgiving to others. The following is a true life story about him.

人人都知道爱迪生是个有名的发明家，他发明了电灯泡，所以我们今日才能享受其方便及益处。但不知道有多少人曾听说过他仁慈宽恕的一面，以下就是他生平的真实故事。



At one point in his experiments, Edison had at last produced a working bulb—the final result of hundreds of trials. It was the first electric light bulb that had ever been made, and Edison was full of pride and delight. He had dreamed of this moment for years.

“Take it upstairs, Jimmy,” he said, handing it to his assistant, Jimmy Price. Suddenly there was a crash, and Edison turned to see the precious bulb lying in fragments on the floor. Jimmy had let it slip through his fingers.

在一次实验中，爱迪生终于制造出了一只可使用的灯泡——这乃是上百次实验的结果，也是有史以来第一只电灯泡。爱迪生为此充满了自豪和快乐，多少年来，他一直梦想着这一时刻。

“把它拿到楼上去，吉米，”他吩咐道，然后把灯泡递给他的助手，吉米·普拉斯(Jimmy Price)。突然，“砰”的一声，爱迪生转过身来，看到先前的那只灯泡已经化为碎片，撒了一地。它从吉米的手中滑落了下来。



Edison said nothing - -what his thoughts were can be imagined. He went back to his workbench and set to work once more to make another bulb. It was days more before at last this second bulb was ready. There it lay on the bench before its maker, fully completed.

Then Edison did a very big thing. With a smile, he handed the new bulb to Jimmy. "Careful now," he said. He was giving the young man another chance.

Jimmy did not break that bulb, and so we have them in their millions in the world today.

爱迪生一包话也没说——你可想像出他当时的心情。爱迪生又回到他的工作台，并开始重新制造另一个灯泡。他花了好几天的功夫才终于把第二个灯泡做好。呈现在爱迪生面前的是另一个完整无缺的灯泡。

接下来，爱迪生做了一件极为重大的事：他面带微笑，把新灯泡递给吉米。“这次要小心。”他说。他给了这位年轻人第二次机会。

而吉米没有再打破那么灯泡，所以现今世上我们拥有上百万的电灯泡。



Inventor - 发明家  
Experiment - 实验  
Perfect - 完美的  
Bulb - 灯泡  
Electric - 发电的  
Delight - 高兴；快乐  
Fragment - 碎片  
Work bench - 工作台  
Apprentice - 学徒

*The power to forgive is one of the greatest powers given to man. You have the power to forgive and thus rise above the pettiness of mortals.*

宽恕的力量是人类的最大力量之一。你有去原谅他人的力量，这使你超越凡人的境界。