

# I don't eat squirrels: Britney shoots down nutty rumors

## 小甜甜布蘭妮闢謠：我不吃松鼠



Britney Spears has attempted to **set the record straight** by publishing a list of 75 of the most outrageous tabloid stories that have dogged her in 2009.

A statement on Spears's official Web site said more than 13,000 stories had been written about the singer this year — and many were either “patently absurd or simply offensive.”

“We ranked the ones we believe were the most ridiculous,” the statement said, trumpeting the Web site's list of the “top 75 Bulls#it Britney Spears stories” of 2009.

Among the stories to make the list are a report from a London tabloid citing a new Spears **biography** which stated that the singer's family used to eat squirrel meat during her “trailer park childhood.”

According to the *Daily Star*, the revelations had sent “sales of squirrel meat soaring” as fans “snapped up squirrel, rabbit and possum meat from butchers and restaurants.”

Another item on the list — weighing in at 57th place — was Spears's addiction to “flower therapy,” a system which uses plant essences to “balance physical and emotional disturbances.”

Also on the list was a report from London's *Evening Standard* claiming that Spears had requested a stripper's pole to be installed at her **suite** in The Dorchester Hotel to help the singer stay in shape.

“Britney loves pole dancing, it is her new favorite workout,” an unidentified source told the newspaper. “She wants to be able to do it in the privacy of her own hotel room.”

At number one was a January story from Britain's *Daily Mirror* revealing that Spears was dating Indian **choreographer** Sandip Soparrkar and that she had hosted a private New Year's Eve party to introduce him to her friends and parents.

Several of the stories near the top of the list related to Spears's recent troubled tour of Australia, including a Nov. 7 story from the *Herald Sun* newspaper which revealed fans had walked out of a concert in Perth because of her lip-synching.

Despite quotes from several named

fans unhappy at Spears's performance, promoters for the concert insisted that reports of a walkout were inaccurate. (AFP)

歌手小甜甜布蘭妮公佈一張清單「以正視聽」，上面列舉了七十五項二〇〇九年最令她忍無可忍的八卦報導。

布蘭妮官方網站的聲明指出，今年有超過一萬三千則關於她的報導，其中諸多報導不是「明顯荒謬就是全然的人身攻擊」。

這份「二〇〇九七十五則最狗屁的布蘭妮新聞」聲明指出：「我們列出我們認為最荒唐的報導。」

上榜的新聞包括：倫敦某八卦小報引述布蘭妮的新自傳說，她「童年生活在拖車期間」，一家都吃松鼠肉。

《每日星報》報導，這個新聞曝光後，她的粉絲「向肉販和餐廳大肆點購松鼠肉、兔肉和負鼠肉」，造成「松鼠肉的銷售量大幅飆升」。

清單上的另一則報導（第五十七名）是布蘭妮迷信「花精療法」，這種療法主要是利用植物精華來「平衡生理和心理的失調」。

名列其中的還有《倫敦標準晚報》的報導，該報導宣稱布蘭妮要求在多爾切斯特飯店的套房內加裝一根脫衣舞孀用的鋼管，以便維持身材。

身份不明的消息人士向該報表示：「布蘭妮很愛跳鋼管舞，這是她最近最喜歡的健身方式。她希望可以在飯店房間隱密地從事這項運動。」

拿下第一名的是英國《每日鏡報》一月份的一則報導，內容揭露布蘭妮和印度編舞指導山迪普·索帕爾卡正在交往，而她也安排了一場私人跨年派對，把他介紹給親友和父母。

若干名列前茅的報導都和最近煩擾布蘭妮的澳洲之行有關，其中包括十一月七日《太陽先驅報》的一則報導指出，歌迷因她在柏斯的演唱會上對嘴，憤而提前離席。

儘管報導中有若干具名歌迷表示對布蘭妮的演出不滿，但該演唱會的主辦單位堅稱，有歌迷離席的報導並不正確。

（法新社／翻譯：袁星塵）

Singer Britney Spears arrives at the 2009 Teen Choice Awards held at Gibson Amphitheatre on Aug. 9, 2009 in Universal City, California.

PHOTO: AFP

八月九日，歌手小甜甜布蘭妮抵達加州環球影城的吉布森劇院，出席「二〇〇九青少年票選大獎」。

照片：法新社

### TODAY'S WORDS

#### 今日單字

1. **biography** /baɪˈɑːɡrəfi/ n.

傳記 (zhuan4 ji4)

例: I've just finished reading a great biography about Napoleon.

(我剛讀完一本精彩的拿破崙傳記。)

2. **suite** /swit/ n.

套房 (tao4 fang2)

例: We won a weekend stay in the presidential suite at one of Vegas' best hotels.

(我們贏得週末入住拉斯維加斯某頂級旅館總統套房的大獎。)

3. **choreographer** /ˌkɒrɪˈɑːɡrəfə/ n.

舞蹈指導 (wu3 dao4 zhi2 dao3)

例: Simon was one of the most sought-after choreographers in the film industry during the 90s.

(賽門是九〇年代電影圈最炙手可熱的編舞老師之一。)

### IDIOM POINT

#### 重要片語

### set the record straight

#### 澄清真相

If you **set the record straight**, you tell the correct version of a story. In the article, Britney Spears wants to **set the record straight** about the stories about her.

Examples: “If Timmy wants to **set the record straight** he should come to us directly instead of talking behind our backs,” or “I’m looking forward to the day when I can speak to Oliver and finally **set the record straight** about the takeover.”

若你「**set the record straight**」，就表示你說明正確的事發經過。上文中提到，小甜甜布蘭妮想要澄清有關自己的報導。

例如：「如果提米想澄清這件事，應該親自來找我們，而非在背後放話」，或是「我很期待哪天可以和奧力佛把接管的事情說開」。