



尤朵拉书橱
英汉对照

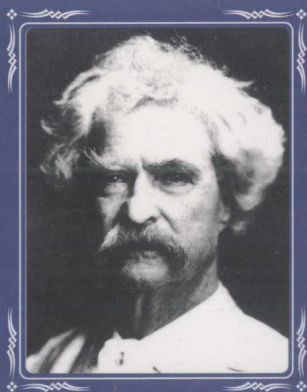


王旭红 编译

马克·吐温 短篇小说精选

The Best Short Stories of Mark Twain

马克·吐温，原名塞缪尔·朗荷恩·克莱门斯（1835~1910），是美国批判现实主义文学的奠基人、世界著名的短篇小说大师。他的一生富有传奇色彩。1835年，哈雷彗星带来了这位文坛巨子。他一生创作了数十部小说。他驾驭语言的能力，塑造性格的本领，政治讽刺的手段都天衣无缝地融入在这些故事中。它们犹如一颗颗璀璨的明珠，折射出他那个时代人们丰富的精神世界以及物质生活风貌。1910年，当哈雷彗星再次划过苍穹，这位文坛巨匠辞别了人世。他为全世界人民留下了一份宝贵的精神财富，并对后来美国文坛上很多知名作家产生了重要影响。相信个中奥妙只有在细细品读过后才会一一发现。



大连理工大学出版社
DALIAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY PRESS

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前言

Preface

中国英语学习者一直在被称为“考试文化”的怪圈中徘徊。虽然花费了大量的时间和精力,但许多英语学习者的英语能力只停留在应付各种考试的水平上,另有一些英语学习者甚至连考试都望而生畏,就更谈不上以英语为工具进行交际了。即使许多英语学习者通过了某种考试,其交际能力仍然有限,在很多场合他们仍会不知所措。

造成以上局面的主要原因在于许多英语学习者很少阅读文学作品,没有受西方文化的熏陶,对西方社会习俗及人文知识知之甚少。

语言是文化的载体。文学作品历来被誉为语言的经典。要想真正学好英语,就必须阅读优秀的文学作品。然而,由于受英语水平的影响和时间的限制,中国英语学习者很难欣赏英文文学原著,从而在某种程度上限制了英语学习者学习英语的积极性和英语水平的提高。

为了提高广大英语学习者的英语学习兴趣及社会文化修养,我们上海交通大学外语学院几名酷爱外国文学的教授、副教授特精心遴选、编写了“尤朵拉书橱”名著欣赏丛书。我们用简单而又不失原作风格的英语,配以文笔流畅的汉语译文,向读者展示了这几位世界顶级作家独具特色和风格的短篇小说的魅力,以期读者在学习英语语言的同时熟悉其历史背景、政治演变和经济发展;了解其社会习俗、人文心理及价值观念;品味人生,增强自己对人生意义的感悟,提高文学修养和人文素质。

“尤朵拉书橱”是一套特别的书,“尤朵拉”希腊语意为可爱的、美好的赠礼,所以本套丛书就是我们送给广大读者的美好礼物,“她”会使你们天天获益、季季收获,会给你们带来无尽的欣喜与启迪。因为,读一本好书是一次愉快的经历,我们享受这个过程,不仅仅是因为阅读充实了我们的内心,更因为我们由此拥有了一段属于思考和学习的时光。这是你在挑战自我的能力,在书籍的陪伴下,你惊喜的发现:我进步了!由衷地希望这套书会为你插上成功的翅膀,让你与梦想更接近!

编者

2009年12月



About the Author

Mark Twain (1835-1910), pseudonym of Samuel Langhorne Clemens, was born in the river town of Hannibal, Missouri, a poor attorney family in 1835. Mark Twain was his pen name, which means "two fathoms" indicating that the water was deep enough for safe passage.

Mark Twain was the founder of the American Critical Literature of Realism, a worldwide known short story writer and was taken as the Lincoln of American Literature. His childhood life was poverty-stricken. His father died when he was twelve. So he had to make a life for himself. His early occupations included newspaper boy, apprenticeship to a printer, a typesetter, a licensed Mississippi river-boat pilot, a gold digger and a helmsman. These experiences provided a firm realistic foundation for his writing. He became a journalist at 26 and took the pen name "Mark Twain" in his published works.

His works fall into three main periods: his early works mostly short stories, mixing with humor and satire, expressed his fantasy for American's democracy. *Running for Governor*, *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*, *The £ 1,000,000 Bank-Note* were typical ones among his early works; in the middle period, longer novels became the focus and the satire was stronger. Important works of this period included *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*; his later works were plagued with anger, criticism and pessimistic emotions. *The Man that Corrupted Hadleyburg* was a typical example. Mark Twain was good at using humor and satire to criticize the society and reality relentlessly. His works had great influence on the later development of the American Literature.

作者简介

马克·吐温(1835~1910),原名塞缪尔·朗荷恩·克莱门斯,1835年出生于密西西比河畔小镇汉尼巴尔一个贫穷的律师家庭。马克·吐温是其笔名,含义是:水深十二英尺,轮船可以安全通过。

马克·吐温是美国批判现实主义文学的奠基人、世界公认的短篇小说大师,被誉为“美国文学中的林肯”。他幼年时期家中生活拮据,12岁时父亲去世,他开始自谋生计,年轻时当过报童、印刷所学徒、排字工、密西西比河水手、淘金工人和舵手,所以他的创作具有坚实的生活基础。26岁时,他当上了记者,并采用马克·吐温这个笔名发表作品。

他的创作大致可分为三个时期:早期作品表现了对美国民主所存的幻想,以短篇为主,幽默与讽刺结合,包括《竞选州长》、《加利维拉县有名的跳蛙》、《百万英镑》等;中期以长篇小说为主,讽刺性加强,重要作品包括《汤姆·索亚历险记》、《哈克贝利·费恩历险记》等;后期作品则由幽默讽刺转到愤怒的揭发、谴责,甚至是悲观的情绪,主要作品有《败坏了哈德莱堡的人》等。他擅长使用幽默和讽刺,针砭时弊,毫不留情。他的作品对后来的美国文学产生了巨大深远的影响。

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加利维拉县有名的跳蛙

The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County

故事的主人公是个铁杆赌徒,但作者将他描述得不仅不让人生厌,反而让人感到亲切愉悦。他用跳蛙打赌输掉时,人们会替他感到遗憾,为他叫屈;而对那个以不正当手段赌赢的家伙,人们则会对他的自私冷酷嗤之以鼻。他养的那些小动物也个个形象鲜活:后发制人的老爷马、专咬对手后腿关节的小斗狗、身怀绝技、谦逊坦率却遭人暗算的跳蛙,甚至连尚未来得及出场的母牛都给人留下了深刻印象。

加利维拉县有名的跳蛙

The Notorious^① Jumping Frog of Calaveras County

According to the request of a friend of mine, who wrote me from the East, I called on good-natured, talkative old Simon Wheeler, and asked him about my friend's friend, Leonidas W. Smiley, as requested to do, and I wrote down the result. I suspected secretly that Leonidas W. Smiley was a myth; that my friend never knew such a person; and that he only thought that if I asked old Wheeler about him, it would remind him of his infamous Jim Smiley, and he would go to work and bore me to death with some boring memories of him as long and as tedious as it should be useless to me. If that was the design, it succeeded.

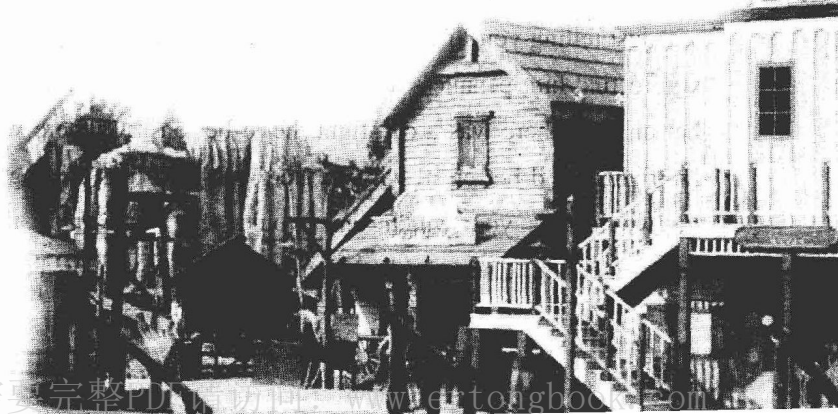
I found Simon Wheeler dozing comfortably by the barroom stove of the broken-down hotel in the decayed mining camp of Angel's, and I noticed that he was fat and baldheaded, and had an expression of pleasant gentleness and simplicity upon his peaceful face. He roused up, and gave me good day. I told him that a friend of mine had asked me to make some inquiries about a cherished companion of his boyhood named Leonidas W. Smiley—Rev.^② Leonidas W. Smiley, a young minister of the Gospel^③, who he had heard was once a resident of Angel's Camp. I added that if Mr. Wheeler could tell me anything about this Rev. Leonidas W. Smiley, I would feel quite thankful to him.

应一位朋友的请求,我前去拜访了那位和善但有点啰嗦的老先生西蒙·惠勒。这位朋友从东部写信给我,拜托我打探一下他的朋友留尼达·斯迈利的消息。我按照他的意思做了,并且记下了此次拜访的结果。不过我怀疑这位所谓的留尼达·斯迈利纯属子虚乌有,而我的朋友也压根没结识过这么一个人。他只不过是想,我若是向惠勒老先生问起留尼达·斯迈利这个人,惠勒老先生必然会联想到他那位声名狼藉名叫吉姆·斯迈利的朋友。然后他便会打开话匣子,一一道出他所记得的有关那个人的一些无聊琐事。他那喋喋不休的唠叨,对我打探那个人的消息丝毫没有帮助,只会烦得我要死。如果这是我朋友布下的圈套,那他得逞了。

找到西蒙·惠勒的时候,他正坐在破败的安琪尔矿区里一家破旧客栈的酒吧间的火炉旁惬意地打着盹。我看到惠勒先生身材发胖、秃顶、面色安详、表情和善朴实,让人感到亲切。听到动静,他醒了过来,向我问好。我跟他说,我的一位朋友拜托我向他打听我朋友孩提时代的一个亲密的小伙伴的事。这人名叫留尼达·斯迈利——留尼达·斯迈利牧师。他是位年轻的宣讲福音的牧师,我的朋友听说他曾在安琪尔矿区市镇呆过一段时间。我还跟他说,如果他告知一些有关这位留尼达·斯迈利牧师的的事情,我将不胜感激。

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1. notorious:臭名昭著的,声名狼藉的
2. Rev.:是Reverent的缩写形式,用作对僧侣、牧师的尊称
3. Gospel:(宗)(有关耶稣替世人赎罪、天国到来等的)福音,基督教教义



Simon Wheeler backed me into a corner and blocked me there with his chair, and then sat down and reeled off the boring story which followed this paragraph. He never smiled, he never frowned, he never changed his voice from the gentle-flowing key to which he tuned his initial sentence, he never revealed the slightest taste of enthusiasm; but all through the long and boring story there ran a mood of impressive earnestness and sincerity, which showed me plainly that, so far from his imagining that there was nothing ridiculous or funny about his story, he regarded it as a really important matter, and admired its two heroes as men who have a genius for dealing with things cleverly. I let him go on in his own way, and never interrupted him once.

“Rev. Leonidas W, h’ m, Reverend Le—well, there was a fellow here once by the name of Jim Smiley, in the winter of 1849—or maybe it was the spring of 1850—I don’t remember exactly, somehow, but I think it was one or the other because I remember the big channel wasn’t finished when he first came to the camp; but anyway, he was the most curious man who always bet on anything that turned up you ever see, if he could get anybody to bet on the other side; and if he couldn’t he’d change sides. Any way that suited the other man would suit him— so long as he got a bet, he was satisfied. But still he was lucky, uncommonly lucky; he almost always came out winner. He was always ready and waiting for a chance; there couldn’t be nothing mentioned but that fellow would offer to bet on it, and you can take any side you please, as I was just telling you. If there was a horse-race, you’d find him excited or you’d find him penniless at the end of it; if there was a dog-fight, he’d bet on it; if there was a cat-fight, he’d bet on it; if there was a chick—en-fight, he’d bet on it; why, if there was two birds sitting on a fence, he would bet you which one would fly first; or if there was a camp-meeting^④, he would be there as a rule to bet on Parson Walker,

西蒙·惠勒把我让到一个角落,然后搬了把椅子过来堵在我面前。坐定之后他便滔滔不绝地给我讲述起这段文字之后的那个单调乏味的故事。他讲故事时不仅脸上没有表情,音调嗓门也是一成不变,从头到尾保持着他开始说第一句话时所用的那种涓涓流水似的音调,讲述过程中也丝毫没有表现出激动难抑的样子。但是,他在没完没了地讲述故事时,态度始终认真诚恳,这清楚地告诉我,在他看来,他所讲的故事里没有任何荒唐可笑的地方,他认为这是件严肃的事情,而且他也很佩服故事里的两位主角,因为他们耍手腕儿斗智方面可是数一数二的天才。我随便他怎么讲,一次也没有打断过他。

“留尼达牧师,嗯,留尼达牧——咳,我们这儿以前呢,有过一个叫吉姆·斯迈利的家伙,当时是一八四九年的冬天——要不就是一八五零年的春天——具体时间我记不清了,但我感觉不是前一个就是后一个,因为我记得他刚到我们镇子来的时候,那条大水渠还没有完工呢;不过,可以这么说,他算是这一带最奇特的人了。不论有个什么事,只要能找到一个人跟他做对家,他就跟人家打赌;若是人家不愿意,他就跟对方换位,从对家那一方下赌。只要别人能和他打赌,他也就称心如意——不管怎么样,只要能让他打成赌,他就心满意足。即使是这样,他的运气也不错,而且是相当得不错:几乎每次打赌他都是赢家。他时刻待命,一门心思瞅机会打赌。无论人们提起一件什么事,那家伙就会提议拿这事打赌,而且正像我刚才说的,在哪一边下注随你挑。要是哪里有场赛马,比赛完了以后你就看吧,他要么欢天喜地,要么输得精光;若是哪里有斗狗,他就找人一赌高下;哪里斗猫,他也赌;哪里斗鸡,他也要赌;咳,就是两只鸟栖在篱笆墙上,他也会跟你赌哪一只先飞;每逢野营布道会,他准会到场,拿华克尔牧师来打赌,说他是附近一带最好的布道人了。事实上也的确如此,

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4. camp-meeting: (美)(宗)野营布道会

which he judged to be the best preacher here, and so he was too, and a good man. If he even saw a straddle-bug^⑤ start to go anywhere, he would bet you how long it would take him to get to—to wherever he was going to, and if you agreed to bet, he would follow that straddle-bug to Mexico unless he would find out where he was bound to and how long he was on the road. Lots of the guys here have seen that Smiley, and can tell you about him. Why, it never made any difference to him—he'd bet on anything—the most damn fellow. Parson Walker's wife lay very sick, for a good while, and it seemed as if they weren't going to save her; but one morning he came in, and Smiley stood up and asked him how she was, and he said she was much better—thank the Lord for his infinite mercy—and going on so well that with the blessing of God, she'd get well; and Smiley, before he thought, said, 'Well, I'll rest two-and-a-half she won't anyway.'

"This Smiley had a mare—the boys called her the fifteen-minute horse, but that was only in fun, you know, because of course she was faster than that—and he used to win money on that horse, although she was so slow and always had the asthma^⑥, or the distemper^⑦, or the consumption^⑧, or something of that kind. They used to give her two or three hundred yards' start, and then pass her under way; but always at the end of the race she'd get excited and desperate like, and come jumping about, and scattering her legs around flexibly, sometimes in the air, and sometimes out to one side among the fences, and kicking up m-o-r-e dust and making m-o-r-e noise with her coughing and sneezing and blowing her nose—and always fetch up at the stand just about a neck ahead, as near as you could recognize it.

华克尔牧师确实是个好布道者，而且是个好人。甚至如果让他看到一只屎壳郎在往哪里爬，他也要跟你赌一赌它要爬多久才能爬到——无论它要去哪。而如果你接受挑战跟他赌，他便铁定了心要弄清它究竟打算去什么地方，在路上花了多长时间——哪怕他得跟着那只屎壳郎一路走到墨西哥也成。我们这儿有不少小伙子都见过那个斯迈利，都能跟你说说有关他的事情。咳，什么东西在他眼里都一样——都能拿来打赌——他可真是个荒唐透顶的家伙。华克尔牧师的太太有次生了重病，病了很久，似乎大家已经觉得她无药可救了。有一天早上华克尔牧师走进教堂后，斯迈利站起身来问他太太的病情如何。牧师说她情况好多啦——感谢上帝大慈大悲——而且她身体恢复得很快，上帝保佑，她的病会好的。可是斯迈利想也不想就脱口而出：‘咳，我敢用两块半跟你打赌，她的病绝对好不了。’”

“这个斯迈利有一匹母马——小伙子们称她是只能跑十五分钟的老爷马，不过要知道，那只是开玩笑说说而已。她跑得自然是比这速度快了——斯迈利过去常靠了那匹马打赌赢钱哩，尽管她跑得不快，而且总是疾病缠身，不是害气喘，就是害温热，再不就是生肺癆，或者诸如此类的毛病。比赛时人家总是让她先出发，跑个两三百码后，别的马再——追上并赶超过去。但是每次等到比赛快要收尾时，她就精神大振，可以说是拼了命地往前跑。只见她纵身腾越着往前窜，四条腿敏捷地甩来甩去，一会儿甩到半空，一会儿甩到旁边，踢到围栏上，后来她四蹄着地时扬起的尘土越来越多，弄出的动静也越来越大，咳嗽声、喷嚏声还有吸鼻子的声音——而每回总能及时赶到裁判台前，恰恰叫你能辨认得出她比后一匹马领先了一个颈项的距离。”

5. straddle-bug: 屎壳郎

6. asthma: 气喘, 哮喘

7. distemper: 温热(狗和其他动物得的疾病)

8. consumption: 肺癆, 肺结核

“And he had a little small bull-pup^⑨. Looking at him you'd think he wasn't worth a cent because he only sat around and looked ordinary and waited for a chance to steal something. But as soon as money was up on him, he was a different dog; his under-jaw would begin to stick out like the front part of a steamboat, and his teeth would uncover and shine like the furnaces. And a dog might attack him and frighten him, and bite him, and throw him over his shoulder two or three times, and Andrew Jackson—which was the name of the pup—Andrew Jackson would never attack until he was ready to bite the hind leg of his opponent and he hadn't expected to bite anything else—and the bets being doubled and doubled on the other side all the time, till the money was all up; and then all of a sudden he would grab the other dog just by the joint of his hind leg and freeze to it—not chewing, you know, but only just grip and hang on till they admitted that they were defeated, even if it was a year. Smiley always came out winner on that pup, till once he fought against a dog that didn't have any hind legs, because they'd been cut off in a circular saw^⑩, and when the thing had gone along far enough, and the money was all up, and he came to make a snatch for his favorite grip, he saw in a minute how he'd been cheated, and how the other dog had him in the door, so to speak, and he appeared surprised, and then he looked sort of discouraged-like, and didn't try any more to win the fight, and so he got hurt severely. He gave Smiley a look, as much as to say his heart was broken, and it was his fault, for putting up a dog that had no hind legs for him to take hold of, which was his main dependence in a fight, and then he limped off a short distance and laid down and died. It was a good pup, that Andrew Jackson, and he would have made a name for himself if he'd lived, for he had the ability and the genius—I know it, because he had no opportunities to speak of, and it doesn't stand to reason that a dog could make such a fight as he could under those circumstances if he had no talent. It always makes me feel sorry when I think of that last fight of his, and the way it turned out.”



“他还有一只小斗狗，乍看起来，你会认为这狗分文不值。他只会这里蹲一蹲，那里蹲一蹲，一心想着瞅机会偷东西吃，看上去毫不起眼。但是一旦人们在他身上下好赌注，他立马就变成了另一只狗：只见他下嘴唇高高掀起，活像是蒸汽船突出来的那前半截。满口的牙也呲了出来，牙齿亮闪闪的，像炉火一样。尽管别的狗逮住他、欺负他、咬他，一次次把他甩过肩头摔倒在地，可是安德鲁·杰克逊——这是那小狗的名字——安德鲁·杰克逊不露声色，不如愿以偿咬到对手的后腿他决不出手，而其他的部位他也根本打算咬——这样大家就不停地在他的对手身上下注，赌注成倍成倍地往上翻，直到他们身上的钱全部押光。就在这当口，他才猛地一下咬住对手的后腿关节——死死咬住不吐口——但并不嚼。你知道，他只是一个劲地咬紧了，哪怕是坚持一年他也不松口，直到对方认输这才罢休。斯迈利用这只小狗跟人打赌，从没失过手。直到有一天，小狗跟一只没了后腿的狗干起仗来：这只狗的腿让圆锯给锯掉了。等双方斗得差不多时，人们口袋里的钱也全都押上了，杰克逊便冲他最爱咬的部位下了口。他随即就知道对手让他扑了个空。可以这么说，这下可把他逼上了绝路。他先是显得大吃一惊，接着似乎泄了气，斗志丧失殆尽。结果他被对手咬了个遍体鳞伤。他朝斯迈利望了一眼，意思是说他心都要碎啦。这事全怪斯迈利，真不该找来一只没了后腿的狗让他无处下口，而咬对手的后腿可是他惟一的制胜法宝啊。后来他一瘸一拐走了没几步，就躺倒在地，死掉了。他可真是条呱呱叫的小狗，安德鲁·杰克逊，他要是活着一定会远近闻名。他可是很有两下子，而且在斗架方面很有天分——这个我清楚，不能说他是占了对手便宜而投机取巧获胜。若是他没有天分的话，一条狗怎么能像他那样在敌强我弱的情况下总能出奇制胜？这实在说不过去。每次当我想起他最后一次斗架的情况和他的惨死，心里总不是个滋味。”

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9. bull-pup: 小斗狗

10. circular saw: 圆锯, 圆盘锯