

读故事
记单词

心情恋歌

English Stories

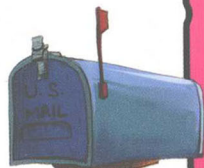
英语故事会

Songs From the Heart 周海岩 主编

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英语故事会

心情恋歌

主 编 周海岩
副主编 梵瑞莎



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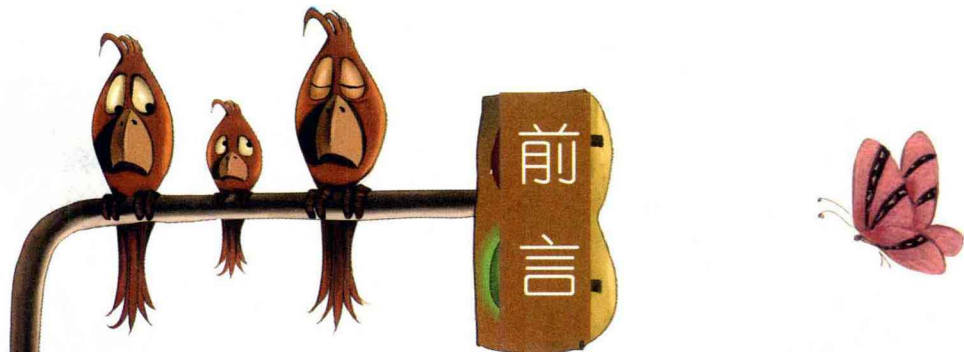
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这套“英语故事会”系列一共有五辑：《心情恋歌》、《科幻探险》、《哲理韵味》、《励志人生》、《奇思妙想》。

“英语故事会”系列贯穿“用耳朵学英文”的学习理念，全书配备MP3光盘，由美籍教师倾情演绎故事内容，并配以相应风格的背景音乐，使各个故事产生立体式的欣赏效果。朗读者吐字清晰、发音地道、感情充沛，为读者创造了一个优美的全英语环境，无论是漫步在校园，还是搭乘地铁，或者早起后临睡前，都能不断地听英语故事，练就英语耳。

为了便于大家记单词，我们采用了“读故事记单词”的板块。正文中的生词以斜体标注，并在侧栏附有注释；还有一些单词字体用彩色突出标出，是读者必须记住的必考单词，在中文翻译中特意没有翻译，是为了锻炼大家的记忆能力，在每篇文章的结尾处都有专门的注释。

以精彩的故事充分调动学习者的兴趣和感情，使人的注意力集中在故事情节的同时关注英语语言现象，从而达到最好的英语学习效果。本系列图书正是本着这样的宗旨和目的为广大渴望早日掌握英语的读者准备的。《心情恋歌》也许会勾起你对家人、朋友、往事的回忆，让你被浓浓的爱意包围；《科幻探险》也许会打破你的常规思维，挑战你的胆量，让你大开眼界；《哲理韵味》也许会给你以人生的经验和启迪，让你少走弯路，更上一层楼；《励志人生》让你了解各界名人的成功心得，以及不为人知的另一面，他山之石可以攻玉；《奇思妙想》让你在紧张的学习和工作之余开怀一笑，感叹世界之大无奇不有。

本书为该系列图书之一的《心情恋歌》，撷取了有关爱的动人故事，思念时的浅唱低吟、热恋时的引吭高歌、分别时的哀婉离歌，就像一曲曲深情恋歌百转千回、动人心弦，语言标准凝练，是学习英语的绝佳帮手。

用耳朵听故事是最有效的学习方法，它能在最短的时间内，让这些人在以下方面受益：



*听力

想要听懂地道生活英语的人
想要用英语自如交流的人
想要听力突飞猛进的人



*词汇

想要大量扩展英语词汇的人
想要轻松记忆英语单词的人



*语法

想要用英语思考和表达的人



*会话

想要英语脱口而出的人
想要克服不敢开口说英语的障碍的人



*阅读

想要迅速提高阅读速度的人
喜欢阅读故事的人



*写作

想要摆脱中式英语的人
想要写出地道、优美英语的人





英语故事会

心情恋歌

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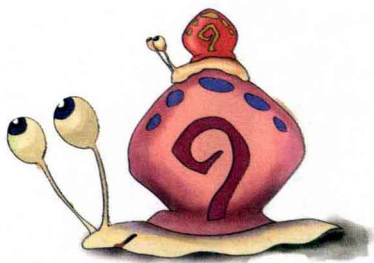


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第一章 康乃馨的依恋

寒冬1月，康乃馨花开。此时大地银装素裹，寒风料峭，百泉冻咽，朔风劲衰；动物们有的开始了冬眠，人们也歇下农事，围坐在火炉边取暖，家家团圆，欢欢喜喜迎新年。康乃馨象征着母爱，它纤长而优雅，温暖而坚强，仿佛一位慈爱的母亲，执意要在那万物萧索的季节，怒放自己而给世界增添一抹亮色。或许，康乃馨生命力强、常开不败的原因，正是来自于其对家的幸福依恋。

父亲的礼物

Daddy's Gift

父母总是希望给予孩子们最好的——最好的生活环境，最好的教育……然而最好的礼物，就是父母的爱心。



I **crawled**¹⁾ out of bed and **crept**²⁾ to the top of the stairs. **Dim lamplight**³⁾ shone up from the living room, where Mom and Dad were talking... about me. Earlier that day a friend from school had arrived with my homework, and a note for my parents from my English teacher, Sister Rose Matthew. I was **stuck**⁴⁾ at home with the **measles**⁵⁾—the latest of many illnesses to hit me since I turned 13. I'd managed to **keep up with** most of my classes, but I had always been a slow reader and never understood the stories in English class well enough to write about them. I'd finally just given up.

"It says here that Marilyn is going to fail English Literature if her grades don't improve," Dad said. I heard the **rustling** of the paper as he passed the note to Mom. "Sister Rose says Marilyn didn't turn in an essay the class was assigned about *The Gift of the Magi*," Mom added.

"Magi?" Dad asked.

"Yes, you know, like the *Three Wise Men*. It's a short story by O. Henry."

"I think I'll visit Sister at the **convent**⁶⁾ tomorrow," Dad said. "I'll ask her to help Marilyn with her essay." I hated to **disappoint** Daddy. He had only an eighth-grade education, but had worked hard enough to become a **maintenance**⁷⁾ **foreman**⁸⁾ at a nearby chemical company. I knew he wanted me and my brothers and sisters to get the best education possible. He always seemed to find a way to get us the help we needed. Daddy knew how much trouble I'd been having in English class. I was a lost cause when it came to reading.



我从床上爬起来，爬上楼梯的顶端。起居室里dim的灯光照了上来，爸爸妈妈正在谈话，关于我的。那天一早有个朋友从学校来，带来了我的家庭作业和英语老师——修女罗斯·马修给我父母的便条。我由于出麻疹而待在家里。满13岁之后我得过多种疾病，麻疹是最近才得的。我努力**keep up with**大多数被耽误的功课，但是我的念书速度总是很慢，对于英语课上所学的一些故事往往理解不足，以至于写不出有关它们的作文，到头来我只好放弃不写了。

爸爸说：“这张纸条上写的是如果玛丽琳的英语文学课分数不能提高，她就会通不过这门课。”我听见爸爸把纸条交给妈妈时发出的**rustling**。妈妈补充说：“修女罗斯说玛丽琳没有交课堂上布置要写的有关《麦琪的礼物》的作文。”

“麦琪”爸爸问。

“嗯，你该记得，就像《三个聪明人》一样，欧·亨利写的一篇短篇小说”

“我想明天到修道院去拜访一下修女，”爸爸说，“请她帮助玛丽琳写好那篇作文。”我后悔不该使爸爸**disappoint**。他读书读到8年级，但他工作非常努力，终于成为附近一家化工厂公司维修工作的工头。我深知他是多么希望我和兄弟姐妹们都能受到最好的教育。他似乎总在想办法使我们能够得到所需要的帮助。爸爸知道我在英语课遇到多大困难。只要一涉及朗读，我就必然失败。

1. crawl [kro:l] vi.
爬行，蠕动，徐徐行进
2. creep [kri:p] vi. 爬，
蹑手蹑脚
3. lamplight ['læmplaɪt] n.
灯火
4. stick [stɪk] vt.
停留，坚持，固守
5. measles ['mi:zlz] n.
麻疹
6. convent ['kɒnvənt] n.
女修道会，女修道院
7. maintenance
[ˈmeɪntənəns] n.
维护，保持
8. foreman ['fɔ:mən] n.
领班，工头





The next evening, I struggled to get through *The Gift of the Magi*. Even if I could understand the thing, I couldn't possibly write an essay about it. I heard a loud *clanging*⁹⁾ outside. I ran to my bedroom window and saw a car coming up the street. It was knocking loudly and *belching*¹⁰⁾ black smoke from the **exhaust** pipe. The car stopped in front of our house and Sister Rose got out. I can't believe she came. Now I'm going to have to read in front of her.

A moment later, Mom showed Sister into my room. "Hello, Marilyn," Sister said. "I'm here to make sure you turn your D into an A." I couldn't help but laugh out loud. "I'm not smart like Nancy Hoffman! I can't read fast." "Good," Sister said. "'The Gift of the Magi' was meant to be *savored*¹¹⁾. It's perfect for reading aloud in your lovely, **unhurried** style".

My reading style... lovely? Yeah, right. **Nevertheless** I began to read. "One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all." I read slowly and deliberately, *enunciating*¹²⁾ every syllable. I wanted to **please** Sister Rose. Then I *stumbled*¹³⁾ over the words "*imputation*¹⁴⁾ of *parsimony*¹⁵⁾".

"Don't worry, Marilyn," Sister said. "Just keep going. We'll look up the words later." I kept reading. I learned about the gifts Jim and Della gave each other. How Della used the money she got from selling her beautiful hair to give Jim a fob for his grandfather's pocket watch. But Jim had already sold that watch to buy Della *tortoiseshell*¹⁶⁾ combs to wear in her long hair. Not knowing she'd cut it off. "What do you think, Marilyn?" Sister asked me. "Did they give each other good gifts?"

"The best," I whispered. "They gave the best of what they had to make the other happy. That's true love."

"Yes!" Sister said. "I think you're ready to write about the story now." My heart sank. Sister saw my **expression**, and patted my hand. "Don't worry, Marilyn. All you have to do is write me a two-page letter telling me why you think O. Henry compared Jim's and Della's gifts to those of the Wise Men. I know that you can do it."



第二天晚上，我将《麦琪的礼物》努力通读了一遍。尽管我弄明白了其内容，我还是写不出有关它的作文来。这时我听见外面传来很大的哐当声。我奔向卧室的窗户，看见一辆轿车正沿街开过来。车子噪音很大，浓浓的黑烟从**exhaust**排气管喷出。车子在我家门口停下，修女罗斯走了出来。我想不到她会来我家。好了，我将不得不在她面前朗读啦！

过了一小会儿，妈妈就领她来到我的卧室。修女说：“你好呀，玛丽琳！我来这里是为了弄清楚你能不能把丁等弄成甲等。”我忍不住哈哈大笑起来。“我可不像南希·霍夫曼那样聪明，我读不快。”修女说：“喂，《麦琪的礼物》就是要细细品味的，用你那动人的、**unhurried**方式来大声朗读是再好不过的了。”

我的朗读方式……动人？是的，不错。**Nevertheless**，我开始朗读起来。“1美元87美分，全部的钱就这么多。”我读得很慢，从容不迫，清晰地吐出每一个发音，一心想**please**修女罗斯。然后，当我读到“归咎于吝啬”时，就结巴了。

修女说：“玛丽琳，不用发愁，接着读吧！待会儿我们再从词典中查看一下这些词语好了。”我接着往下读，心里明白了吉姆和德拉是怎样互赠礼物的。德拉是如何卖掉自己的一头秀发为吉姆从爷爷那得到的怀表来买表链。但是吉姆却把那表卖掉了，为的是去买一把玳瑁梳子给德拉插在长发上，他想不到她会把长发剪掉。修女问我，“玛丽琳，你是怎样想的？他们是不是互赠了好礼物？”

我悄声说：“最好的！他们为了使对方开心而赠送了自己拥有的最好的礼物，那是真爱。”

修女说：“不错。我认为你已经做好准备，可以写一篇相关的文章了。”我一下子失去了勇气。修女见到我的**expression**，拍了拍我的手说：“玛丽琳，不要担心，你所要做的事情只不过是给我写一封两页长的信，告诉我你认为欧·亨利为什么要把吉姆和德拉的礼物来与那些聪明人的礼物相比较。我知道你是可以把这篇文章写出来的。”

9. clang [klæŋ] vi.

(使)叮当地响

10. belch [beltʃ] vt.

(火山、炮等)冒烟、喷出

11. savor ['seɪvə(r)] vt.

加调味品于，使有风味，尽情享受

12. enunciate [ɪ'nʌnsiəteɪt] vt.

阐明，清晰发言

13. stumble ['stʌmbəl] vi.

绊倒，结结巴巴地说话，踌躇

14. imputation [ɪmpju'teɪʃn] n.

归罪，归咎，归因

15. parsimony ['pɑ:sɪməni] n.

过度节俭，吝啬

16. tortoiseshell ['tɔ:təʃel] adj.

(像)玳瑁壳的



"Sure, Sister...", I said. In a moment, she was gone. I looked down at the story, *overwhelmed*¹⁷⁾. I give up. I'll do it in the morning.

I shut the book and went to the window to draw the *shades*¹⁸⁾ before going to sleep. Out of the corner of my eye I saw Dad. He was bending over the *hood*¹⁹⁾ of Sister's car, his tools on the ground nearby. Sister got into her car and started it. The *engine purred*²⁰⁾, the clanging gone. Sister clapped her hands together excitedly, then got out of the car and gave Dad a big hug. Daddy **fixed** Sister's car for my reading lesson. I should have known. It was not the first time Dad had done something like this.

Dad had fixed our neighbor's Mr. Fulkerson's roof in exchange for painting lessons for my sister Sherry. Another time Dad built kitchen *cabinets*²¹⁾ for a coworker so he'd give my brother Dave **guitar** lessons. And when my brother Fred was entering *seminary*²²⁾ school and needed to bring up his Latin grade, Dad went to see Father McCabe at the *rectory*²³⁾. Before long Father had Fred passing his Latin exams, and Dad was making regular trips to the rectory to **service** the *furnace*²⁴⁾.

I went to my desk and opened my notebook. I wrote *The Gift of the Magi* across the top of the page. And then I wrote about the gifts Jim and Della gave each other, and about the gifts the *Three Wise Men* gave to a baby long ago. They'd given the very best they had out of love. Just like Daddy always gave his best to his children. I wouldn't give any less—starting right now.





我说：“修女，确实如此。”只一会儿，她就走了。我又低下头来瞧那故事。但我不知所措，仍然放弃，想拖到明天去写。

我合上书，走到窗前，拉上窗帘，准备去睡。用眼角一扫，见到了爸爸。他正朝修女的汽车引擎罩弯下身子，修车工具放在他身旁地上。修女已坐到车上，正启动它。发动机平稳地呼隆作响，眶当的响声消失了。修女兴奋地双手合十，然后走出车门，紧紧拥抱了一下我爸爸。爸爸是为了我的朗读课才帮修女**fixed**车的，我应当懂得爸爸良苦用心。爸爸做这类事情已经不是第一次了。

爸爸为邻居福尔克索恩修过屋顶，为的是请他给我妹妹雪莉上绘画课。另一次爸爸给一位同事用木料修了一个橱柜，为的是求那人教我哥哥戴夫弹**guitar**。我另一个哥哥弗雷德进神学院学习时，需要提高拉丁文分数。为此，爸爸去教区迈凯布神父的住所。不久，神父就帮助弗雷德通过了拉丁语考试。后来爸爸还定期去神父住所帮他**service**取暖炉呢！

我走到写字台前，打开作业本，在一页的页首写下《麦琪的礼物》。然后接着写吉姆和德拉互赠礼物的事以及三个聪明人很久以前给一个婴儿送礼的事。他们都是出自爱心给予最美好的礼物。就像爸爸总是把最好的礼物给他的孩子们。我绝不能自私——马上开始行动。

17. overwhelm [ˌəʊvəˈwelm] vt.

淹没，覆没，压倒

18. shade [ʃeɪd] n.

遮光物，帘

19. hood [hʊd] n.

车蓬，引擎罩

20. pur [pɜː] vi.

咕噜咕噜叫，发出喉音

21. cabinet [ˈkæbɪnət] n.

(有抽屉或格子的) 橱柜

22. seminary [ˈseminəri] n.

神学院，学校，学院

23. rectory [ˈrektəri] n.

教区长的管区

24. furnace [ˈfɜːnɪs] n.

炉子，熔炉

读心情恋歌故事，记必考单词



dim [dɪm] adj. 暗淡的，模糊的

keep up with 跟上

rustle [ˈrʌsl] vi. 发出沙沙声

disappoint [ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪnt] vt. 使失望

exhaust [ɪɡˈzɔːst] adj. 用不完的，不会枯竭的

unhurried [ʌnˈhʌrɪd] adj. 从容不迫的，不慌忙的

nevertheless [ˌneveðəˈles] adv. 仍然，不过

please [pliːz] vt. 使喜欢，使满足，取悦

expression [ɪksˈpreʃn] n. 表达，表情

fix [fɪks] vt. 修理

guitar [ɡɪˈtɑː(r)] n. 吉他

service [ˈsɜːvɪs] vt. 保养，维修

乡音

Sounds of Home

当你独自一人身处遥远的异乡，你会发现，总有某个时刻某种事情，不经意间触动你心中最柔软的地方……



The weather had been unusually warm for May in Brandon, Miss. My wife Pat and I were *nursing*¹⁾ a Sunday morning cup of coffee on our *deck*²⁾ and watching *thunderheads*³⁾ build rapidly into *mountainous*⁴⁾ clouds on the southern *horizon*. There was barely any breeze, and the *humidity*⁵⁾ was so thick you could almost roll it in your *palms*.

By the time we finished our second cup, the sky had turned black. Lightning danced across the horizon, accompanied by low, *rumbling*⁶⁾ thunder. Only seconds after the first drops of rain had driven us inside, the phone rang. When Pat picked up the *receiver*, her face became the only bright spot in that *gloomy* day.

It was our son, David, an Army helicopter pilot. Three months earlier, he had earned his silver *wings*⁷⁾ and begun a one-year assignment in South Korea, *stationed*⁸⁾ near the *demilitarized*⁹⁾ zone.

David made a *valiant*¹⁰⁾ effort to sound cheerful, but we knew better from the tone of his voice. As a man who spent time during World War II on a *minuscule*¹¹⁾ South Pacific island, I recognized the symptoms of *acute*¹²⁾ homesickness.

Gradually, the *curative*¹³⁾ powers of conversation made us all feel better, until a *booming*¹⁴⁾ *clap*¹⁵⁾ of thunder shook the windows only inches from the phones Pat and I were using.

“What was that?” David asked, “It sounded like an explosion.”