

Stories from Shakespeare

莎士比亚戏剧故事



EASY ENGLISH READERS
STAGE 4



**STORIES FROM
SHAKESPEARE**

莎士比亚戏剧故事

胡文静 注释
李惠乔 插图

人民教育出版社

1982·北京

中学生英语读物
第四辑
莎士比亚戏剧故事
胡文静 注释

*

人民教育出版社出版
新华书店北京发行所发行
河北衡水地区印刷厂印装

*

开本 787×1092 1/32 印张 4 字数 80,000
1982年5月第1版 1983年8月第1次印刷
印数 1—46,000
书号 7012·0603 定价0.36元

内 容 简 介

本书收集的四个莎士比亚戏剧故事——《威尼斯商人》、《第十二夜》、《哈姆莱特》和《李尔王》，都是选自英国出版的英语简易读物。

原作者莎士比亚(1564—1616)是欧洲文艺复兴时期英国伟大的戏剧家和诗人，是我国广大读者最熟悉的外国古典作家之一。

《威尼斯商人》是一部讽刺性的喜剧。作者塑造了一个生动而复杂的极端利己的高利贷者的典型——夏洛克，从而批判了落后的高利贷资本。《第十二夜》是以爱情为主题的喜剧，主人公经过曲折最后达到美满姻缘。《哈姆莱特》是莎士比亚最重要的作品，是根据丹麦王子哈姆莱特替父报仇的故事改编的深刻反映时代面貌的杰出悲剧，哈姆莱特的形象是世界文学中最有名的典型之一。《李尔王》也是一部有名的悲剧。不列颠国王因年老体弱要摆脱国事的牵累，把国土分给虚伪的长女和次女，而把忠诚正直的三女逐出国外。最后李尔王被冷酷、残忍的长女和次女逼疯。三女带兵从国外赶回讨伐两个姐姐，不幸和李尔王一起被俘。她被处死，李尔王也在悲愤中死去。

本书适合于高中二年级学生及同等程度的读者阅读。

Contents

The Merchant of Venice.....	1
Twelfth Night.....	26
Hamlet.....	46
King Lear.....	69

The Merchant of Venice¹

Antonio² and Bassanio³

A merchant called Antonio lived in Venice. Everyone in Venice liked Antonio because he was a good man. He was always ready to help anyone who came to him. Antonio had many ships which traded⁴ with other countries. At the time of our story, his ships were all at sea.

The friend whom Antonio loved the most was called Bassanio. When Bassanio's father died, he gave his son a lot of money. But Bassanio soon spent it all; he became poor and very unhappy.

One day Bassanio told Antonio that he was in love with Portia⁵, a rich and beautiful lady who lived at Belmont⁶, near Venice. Portia's father gave her all

1. The Merchant of Venice 威尼斯商人。 merchant ['mæ:tʃənt] *n.* 商人。 Venice ['venis] 威尼斯(意大利东北海岸一城市)。 2. Antonio [æn'təʊniəʊ] 安东尼奥(威尼斯商人)。 3. Bassanio [bə'sɑ:niəʊ] 巴萨尼奥(安东尼奥的朋友)。 4. trade *vi.* 交易, 做买卖。 5. Portia ['pɔ:ʃjə] 鲍西娅(富家嗣女)。 6. Belmont ['belmɒnt] 贝尔蒙特(地名)。

his money on his death, so she was very rich. Bassanio was sad because he could never ask Portia to marry him while he himself had no money. He knew that many rich young men were going to Belmont to try to marry Portia. So he asked Antonio to lend him three thousand ducats¹ (the money of Venice at that time).

‘Please lend me the money. I will pay it back to you later,’ he said. ‘If I had enough money, I would go to Belmont and ask the beautiful Portia to marry me.’

‘I haven’t any money just now,’ Antonio replied. ‘All my money and goods are at sea. I am waiting for my ships to return. Find someone who knows me and will lend money to me. Then I will get the money and lend it to you so that you can go to Belmont and marry Portia.’

*Shylock*²

Bassanio went to a man who lent money. The moneylender’s name was Shylock. Shylock had a lot of money, but he loved it too much. He used to lend his money to merchants and then make them pay back much more than they had borrowed.³ Therefore the

-
1. ducat [ˈdʌkət] *n.* 过去曾在欧洲许多国家通用的金币名。
 2. Shylock [ˈʃaɪlək] *n.* 夏洛克(犹太富翁)。
 3. He used to lend ... they had borrowed. 他过去常把钱借给商人, 向他们索取很重的利息。

merchants of Venice did not like Shylock. Antonio used to warn other merchants about Shylock.

Shylock had never liked Antonio.

‘Antonio is kind and will lend his money to anyone,’ he said. ‘He never makes people pay him back more than they borrowed. He makes things difficult for me.’¹

Shylock was a dangerous man. He would not let anyone see that he was an enemy of Antonio. When Bassanio asked Shylock to lend him three thousand ducats for three months, Shylock knew that Antonio would soon be in his power!²

‘I shall never forgive³ Antonio,’ he said to himself. ‘I shall not be happy till I have caught him.’⁴

Shylock remembered the times when Antonio had said unpleasant⁵ things to him.

‘You do not like the way I make my money,’ Shylock told Antonio when they met. ‘You have called me a dog and treated me like a dog. Now you come to me to ask for money. Does a dog have money? Can a dog lend a person three thousand ducats? Shall I bow to you and thank you for treat-

1. He makes ... for me. 他使得我处境很困难。 2. ... Shylock knew ... in his power! ... 夏洛克知道安东尼奥很快就要受他的摆布了! in one's power 受某人的控制, 受某人的摆布。 3. forgive [fə'gɪv] (forgave, forgiven) *vt.* 饶恕, 宽恕。 4. I shall ... caught him. 不把他抓到手, 我是不会心安的。 5. unpleasant [ʌn'pleɪznt] *adj.* 使人不愉快的。

ing me like a dog? And shall I lend you money?’

But Antonio was not afraid.

‘If you lend me money,’ he replied, ‘don’t lend it to me as you would lend it to a friend.¹ Lend it to me as you would lend it to an enemy.² If I can’t pay you back, you can make me suffer for it.’

‘I want to be your friend,’ said Shylock. ‘I shall forget what has happened in the past and lend you the money.’ Then he pretended to laugh. ‘Let us play a game:³ if you do not pay back the money at the end of three months,’ he said, ‘you must promise to give me a pound of your flesh⁴; you must allow me to cut the flesh from any part of your body.’

Antonio laughed too and agreed to this: he did not think that Shylock really meant what he said.⁵ But Bassanio was afraid. He said, ‘I think Shylock will do what he says.⁶ I don’t want you to get money from Shylock.’

‘Don’t be afraid,’ said Antonio. ‘In two months my ships will return and bring me plenty of money.’

1. ‘If you lend me money,’ he replied, ‘don’t lend it ... a friend. ...’ “要是你把钱借给我,”他回答说,“不要把它当作借给你的朋友。……” 2. Lend it to me ... an enemy. 借钱给我就当作借给你的敌人吧。 3. Let us play a game: ... 咱们开个玩笑吧: ... 4. flesh *n.* 肉,肌肉。 5. ... he did not think ... he said. ...他认为夏洛克是说着玩儿的。(或:……他不认为夏洛克的话是认真的。) 6. I think Shylock will do what he says. 我认为夏洛克是会说到做到的。

So Antonio borrowed the money from Shylock and gave it to Bassanio.

The three boxes

Before he died, Portia's father thought of a way to find a good husband for his daughter. He thought, 'I am afraid that many young men will want to marry Portia because she is rich. So I shall leave three small boxes — one box made of gold, another made of silver¹, and the third made of lead². The man who wants to marry Portia must choose the right box.'

Portia and her servant³ Nerissa⁴ were talking about all the young men who had come to try to win Portia. A servant came into the room.

'A prince⁵ has come from Africa,' he said.

Portia showed the prince all the boxes, and the prince carefully read everything that was written on each box.

On the gold box were the words: 'The man who chooses me shall get what many men wish for.'

On the silver box were the words: 'The man who chooses me shall get as much as he ought to get.'

And on the lead box were the words: 'The man who chooses me must give, and must be ready to lose

-
1. silver ['silvə] *n.* 银。 2. lead [led] *n.* 铅。
3. servant ['sɜ:vənt] *n.* 仆人。 4. Nerissa [ni'risə] 尼莉莎(鲍西娅的侍女)。
5. prince *n.* 王子; 亲王; 公爵。

everything he has.'

'My picture is inside the right box,' said Portia.¹
'Choose!'

The prince studied the words on all three boxes: he said, 'All the world wishes for gold: all the world wishes for Portia, so I choose the gold box.'

The prince took the key from Portia and opened the box. But he was surprised when all he saw inside was the head of a dead man and a piece of paper. On the paper was written: 'All that shines brightly is not gold.'²

The prince left with a sad heart and Portia was pleased to see him go.

Bassanio visits Portia

Then a French prince came. He was very proud, so he chose the silver box: 'The man who chooses me shall get as much as he ought to get.' The proud prince said, 'I am a great man: so I ought to get all that I wish for.' He opened the box; in it he found a picture of a fool's head. There was also a piece of paper in the box. It said, 'There are many fools

1. 'My picture is inside the right box,' said Portia. "我的
小像放在最合适的匣子里," 鲍西娅说。 right *adj.* 适当的, 最合
适的。 2. All that shines brightly is not gold. 闪闪发
光者未必都是金子。 all ... not (部分否定) 未必都是。

covered in silver.' The prince said, 'I have been a fool!' and he went away.

A servant came to Portia and said, 'A young man from Venice is coming to try to win you.' This young man was, of course, Bassanio.

There were many servants with Bassanio when he reached Portia's house in Belmont. There was also a man called Gratiano¹. Gratiano was both a servant and a friend to Bassanio.

Portia had fallen in love with² Bassanio. She said, 'Please wait a day or two before you begin to choose; if you choose the wrong box, I shall see no more of you. I would like to keep you here a month or two before you choose. I could teach you how to choose the right box; but I have promised not to do that.'

Bassanio said, 'No. Let me choose now. I can't bear to wait.'³

Bassanio chooses

Bassanio looked at the gold and silver boxes. He thought, 'Those things which seem beautiful from the outside are not always beautiful inside. The lead box

1. Gratiano [gra:'fi:ə:nəu] 葛莱西安诺 (巴萨尼奥的仆人和朋友)。 2. fall in love with 爱上(某人)。 3. I can't bear to wait. 我等不了。 bear [beə] (bore [bo:], borne [bɔ:n]) *vt.* (常与 can, could 连用, 尤用于否定句及疑问句) 忍受; 忍耐; 容忍。

does not promise to give me anything. It tells me that I should be ready to give all that I have to the woman whom I love. So I choose this.'

He opened the lead box, and in it he saw Portia's picture. Then he read the paper which was in the box: 'If you are pleased with this, turn to your lady and kiss her.'

Bassanio turned to Portia and said, 'Dear lady, will you be mine?'

'I wish,' answered Portia, 'that I were a thousand times more beautiful and ten thousand times richer; then I might be good enough for you.¹ I give you myself, and all that is mine.'

She took a ring² off her finger and gave it to him.

'Take this ring,' she said. 'When you lose it, or give it away, that will be the end of our love.'

'When this ring leaves my hand,' answered Bassanio, 'then life will have left me.³ I shall be dead.'

As Portia and Bassanio stood talking about their love for each other, Gratiano and Nerissa came up to them. Nerissa said, 'We wish you joy in your marriage⁴. Gratiano and I are to be married, too.'

1. 'I wish,' answered Portia, 'that ... good enough for you. ...' "我但愿," 鲍西娅回答说, "我是一千倍的美丽, 一万倍的富有, 那样我才能配得上您。……" 2. ring *n.* 戒指。 3. 'When this ring ...' answered Bassanio, 'then life ... left me. ...' "要是这只戒指离开了我的手," 巴萨尼奥说, "那么生命也就已经离开了我。……" 4. marriage [¹mæridʒ] *n.* 结婚, 婚姻。

A letter from Antonio

Just as the four happy people were arranging to be married, three friends arrived from Venice with a letter from Antonio. Bassanio opened the letter and began to read it.

Portia looked at Bassanio's face. She was sure that something very bad had happened. She said, 'I am half of you, and I must have half of anything which troubles you.'¹ Tell me what it is.'

'Here are a few of the most unpleasant words that were ever written,' said Bassanio.² Then he told her about Antonio's promise to Shylock.

'How much must Antonio pay to Shylock?'

'Three thousand ducats.'

'Only three thousand,' said Portia. 'I have far more money than that. Pay him six — or nine. Read his letter to me.'

Bassanio read the letter:

'Dear Bassanio, My ships are all lost. Now I have no money, so I cannot pay Shylock. I must give him a pound of my flesh. If I do that, it will certainly

1. I am half of you, ... which troubles you. 我是您自身的一半,凡是使您苦恼的事情,都必须分一半给我。(在英语中,夫妻诙谐地称对方为 better half。) 2. 'Here are a few .. were ever written,' said Bassanio. “这信里所写的这几句话,是人间写下的最令人难过的字句,” 巴萨尼奥说。

be the end of my life. Therefore please forget about the money that you borrowed from me. All I wish now is to see you before I die.'

The kind Portia told Bassanio to go at once to his friend. But she wanted Bassanio to marry her before he went. Then he would be able to take her money and pay Shylock. So as soon as they were married, Bassanio hurried off to Venice to see his dear friend, Antonio.

When Bassanio and Gratiano had gone, Portia thought of a way to save Antonio. She decided to go to Venice herself.

Portia had a good friend who was a famous judge¹. She asked him to lend her all his judge's clothes and notes. Then she put on the clothes and pretended to be a judge. Her maid², Nerissa, was dressed like a judge's manservant³.

'I shall act like a very young man,' Portia said to Nerissa. 'I shall speak in a voice between a man's and a boy's⁴, and I shall try to walk like a man.'

Then Portia and Nerissa set out for Venice.

Antonio in danger

Shylock was very angry with Antonio. One of

1. judge [dʒʌdʒ] n. 法官; 审判员。 2. maid [meɪd] n. 女仆; 未婚女子。
3. manservant ['mæn,sə:vənt] (复数 men-servants) n. 男仆。 4. I shall speak ... and a boy's, ... 我要用一种介乎男子的声音和男孩的声音之间的声音说话, ……

Antonio's friends had run away with Shylock's beautiful daughter. They were in love with each other and they had run away to get married. They had also taken some of Shylock's money and jewels.

Shylock was so angry that he ran through the streets of Venice. He shouted to everyone about his daughter and the money that she had taken. All the little boys in Venice followed him and laughed at him.

'His jewels, his daughter, and his money,' they shouted.

When the angry Shylock heard that Antonio's ships were lost at sea, he was very pleased. He knew that now he could kill Antonio.

Antonio asked Shylock to give him another chance to pay. But Shylock would not listen to him.

'Guard' him well,' Shylock said to the man who was taking Antonio to prison. 'Don't ask me to forgive him. Don't talk to me about mercy and forgiveness.² I won't have mercy: I'll take my pound of flesh from him.'

One of Antonio's friends said, 'Perhaps the Duke³ of Venice can stop Shylock.'

But Antonio did not want the Duke to change

1. guard *vt.* 看守, 监视。 2. Don't talk to me about mercy and forgiveness. 不要对我说什么慈悲和宽恕。 mercy ['mɜ:si] *n.* 仁慈; 宽大; 怜悯。 3. duke *n.* 公爵; (欧洲公国的)君主。

the law¹. He said, 'Strangers won't trust Venice if we change the law for one person.² That would be very dangerous because Venice is a great centre for trade.'

The brave Antonio did not again ask Shylock for mercy, for he knew that Shylock meant to kill him. All Antonio wished for now was to see his friend Bassanio once more.

*The court*³

Antonio was taken to court, and the trial⁴ began. The Duke of Venice said to Shylock, 'Have mercy on Antonio. Everyone thinks that you will pretend to be bad until the last minute. Then you will show your mercy.'

'I have promised to take my pound of flesh,' Shylock answered. 'If you do not let me have it, that will be bad for Venice. No one will trust your laws. The greatness of Venice will soon be lost. Antonio is my enemy: I hate⁵ him.'

Bassanio said, 'Do all men kill those things that they hate?'

'It is useless trying to talk to Shylock,' said

-
1. law [lə:] n. 法律。 2. Strangers won't trust ... for one person. 要是我们为了某个人变更法律, 新来的人就不会信任威尼斯了。 3. court [kɔ:t] n. 法院; 法庭; (全体)法官。
4. trial ['traɪəl] n. 审讯。 5. hate vt. 憎恨。