





# 欧·亨利短篇小说选集

Selected Short Stories of O Henry

美国文学卷

中英对照全译本

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## 前言

通过阅读文学名著学语言，是掌握英语的绝佳方法。既可接触原汁原味的英语，又能享受文学之美，一举两得，何乐不为？

对于喜欢阅读名著的读者，这是一个最好的时代，因为有成千上万的书可以选择；这又是一个不好的时代，因为在浩繁的卷帙中，很难找到适合自己的好书。

然而，你手中的这套丛书，值得你来信赖。

这套精选的中英对照名著全译丛书，未改编改写、未删节削减，且配有权威注释、部分书中还添加了精美插图。

要学语言、读好书，当读名著原文。如习武者切磋交流，同高手过招方能渐明其间奥妙，若一味在低端徘徊，终难登堂入室。积年流传的名著，就是书中“高手”。然而这个“高手”，却有真假之分。初读书时，常遇到一些挂了名著名家之名改写改编的版本，虽有助于了解基本情节，然而所得只是皮毛，你何曾真的就读过了那名著呢？一边是窖藏了50年的女儿红，一边是贴了女儿红标签的薄酒，那滋味，怎能一样？“朝闻道，夕死可矣。”人生短如朝露，当努力追求真正的美。

本套丛书的英文版本，是根据外文原版书精心挑选而来；对应的中文译文以直译为主，以方便中英文对照学习，译文经反复推敲，对忠实理解原著极有助益；在涉及到重要文化习俗之处，添加了精当的注释，以解疑惑。

读过本套丛书的原文全译，相信你会得书之真意、语言之精髓。

送君“开卷有益”之书，愿成文采斐然之人。



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## 1. THE GIFT OF THE MAGI

### 1. 麦琪的礼物

One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty-seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas.

There was clearly nothing to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it. Which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating.

While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad.

In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal

一块八毛七分钱。这就是全部的财产，其中还包括 60 美分。一想到这都是一分一分从杂货店老板、菜贩子、肉贩子那儿软磨硬泡才攒下来的，她就忍不住自惭形秽，觉得做这种锱铢必较的事实是在太丢人了。德拉来回数了三次，还是一块八毛七分钱。而明天就是圣诞节了。

除了一屁股坐在破沙发上嚎啕大哭之外，她没有其他任何办法。而坐在沙发上之后，她又陷入对当前生活深深的反思：那里充斥着啜泣、哽咽和微笑。而不幸的是，哽咽占了绝大多数时间。

当女主人的情绪渐渐平息下来的时候，让我们来好好看看这个家吧。一套每周租金八美元带一些简单家具的公寓，尽管难以确切地说这就是乞丐的境况，可是看起来还是体现了“乞丐”这个词儿的含义。

楼下的门廊里有个信箱，可从未有过来信。还有一个电铃，也从未被人按响过。此时，这个信箱上有一张卡片，上面赫然写

finger could coax a ring. Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr. James Dillingham Young."

The "Dillingham" had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, though, they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D. But whenever Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called "Jim" and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della. Which is all very good.

Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a gray cat walking a gray fence in a gray backyard. Tomorrow would be Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result. Twenty dollars a week doesn't go far. Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are. Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim. Her Jim. Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for

着一个名字，“詹姆斯·迪林厄姆·杨先生”。

“迪林厄姆”这个教名是它的主人前一阵手头阔绰时随性加上去的，那时他每星期能挣30美元。而现在，他的收入只有每星期20美元，“迪林厄姆”这几个字也就显得有些垂头丧气，仿佛正严肃思考着是不是缩写成谦虚不招摇的字母D更合适些。不过，每次詹姆斯·迪林厄姆·杨回家走进楼上的公寓时，詹姆斯·迪林厄姆·杨太太（就是刚提到的德拉）总是会叫他“吉姆”并给他一个温暖的拥抱。这真是世上再好不过的事情了。

德拉哭完后，往毫无生气的两颊上擦了一些脂粉。然后呆呆地站在窗户旁，看见一只灰色的猫正沿着灰暗的篱笆，跳进一个灰蒙蒙的后院。明天就要过圣诞节了，而她只有一元八毛七分钱给吉姆买礼物。几个月以来，她竭尽全力节省每一枚便士，但也只攒到这么多。一周20美元实在不经花，生活费用远远超出了她的预算，这对于她们来说已经是家常便饭了。只有一元八毛七分钱可以给吉姆买礼物，她亲爱的吉姆。尽管她一直兴高采烈地计划着要送他一件称他心意的礼



him. Something fine and rare and sterling – something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honor of being owned by Jim.

There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room. Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 flat. A very thin and very agile person may, by observing his reflection in a rapid sequence of longitudinal strips, obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks. Della, being slender, had mastered the art.

Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. Her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its color within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.

Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's. The other was Della's hair. Had the queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty's jewels and gifts. Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement,

物，一件精致、独特、纯正——配得上他，让他值得拥有的礼物。

在房间的窗子之间，有一面穿衣镜。想必你见过每周八美元租金公寓里的穿衣镜吧，那是只有苗条且行动灵活的人才能对付的。在观察了自己一连串纵向重影之后，才可能对自己的容貌体态有一个大致的了解。不过德拉，这位身材纤细的女主人，早已灵活掌握了这门照镜子的艺术。

德拉忽然从窗户边急转过身，站在穿衣镜前，眼睛里闪耀出灿烂的光芒，但紧接着她的双颊却迅速失去了血色。她迅速解开发辫，任由发丝随意散落开来。

詹姆斯·迪林厄姆·杨夫妇有两样他们视若珍宝的东西。一样是吉姆的金表，那是由他祖父和父亲传下来的；另一样则是德拉的秀发。假如住在天井对面公寓的是示巴女王<sup>1</sup>，德拉只需在洗过头后把秀发垂到窗外去晾干，她的秀发就足以使女王的奇珍异宝黯然失色；如果所罗门王是他那地下宝藏的看门人，吉姆每次路过，只要掏出金表，定会让所罗门王忌妒得拽自己的胡子。

Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him pluck at his beard from envy.

So now Della's beautiful hair fell about her rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters. It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her. And then she did it up again nervously and quickly. Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet.

On went her old brown jacket; on went her old brown hat. With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she fluttered out the door and down the stairs to the street.

Where she stopped the sign read: "Mme. Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds." One flight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting. Madame, large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the "Sofronie."

"Will you buy my hair?" asked Della.

"I buy hair," said Madame. "Take yer hat off and let's have a sight at the looks of it."

Down rippled the brown cascade.

"Twenty dollars," said Madame, lifting the mass with a practised hand.

此时，德拉的秀发犹如褐色的瀑布散落在她的身后，微波起伏，闪闪发光。她的秀发长及膝下，使她看上去就像身披着一袭锦袍。但马上，她又有些神经质的迅速把头发梳好。梳好以后，她就呆呆地站在那儿，迟疑了一分钟，直到两滴泪珠溅落在红色的旧地毯上。

她穿戴好褐色的旧衣帽，裙摆翩然的步出房间，眼睛里仍然闪耀着奇异的光彩。她关上门走下楼梯来到街上。

这位女主人最终停留在一块招牌前，其上写着：“索弗罗妮夫人——各式头发，一应俱全”。德拉飞快的跑上楼梯，气喘吁吁地定了定神。那位夫人可是个大块头，皮肤异常地白，盛气凌人，同“索弗罗妮”的雅号极不相称。

“你会买我的头发吗？”德拉问。

“我买，”索弗罗妮夫人回答。“把帽子摘了，让我看看货色品相如何。”

那褐色瀑布顿时倾泻下来。

“20 美元，”夫人边说边非

“Give it to me quick,” said Della.

Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings. Forget the hashed metaphor. She was ransacking the stores for Jim’s present.

She found it at last. It surely had been made for Jim and no one else. There was no other like it in any of the stores, and she had turned all of them inside out. It was a platinum fob chain simple and chaste in design, properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by meretricious ornamentation – as all good things should do. It was even worthy of The Watch. As soon as she saw it she knew that it must be Jim’s. It was like him. Quietness and value – the description applied to both. Twenty-one dollars they took from her for it, and she hurried home with the 87 cents. With that chain on his watch Jim might be properly anxious about the time in any company. Grand as the watch was, he sometimes looked at it on the sly on account of the old leather strap that he used in place of a chain.

When Della reached home her intoxication gave way a little to prudence and reason. She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work

常熟练地托起长发。

“请快点给钱！”德拉说。

哦，接下来的两小时如插上美好的翅膀般一掠而过。不用在意这个蹩脚的比喻。她逛遍了各式商店，只为给吉姆买圣诞礼物。

最后她终于找到了，这件美好的东西就像是为吉姆量身定做的。她找遍了所有的店铺，再也没有比这更合适的了，一条简单大方的白金表链。正如一切品质优良的东西那样，它全靠本身质地尽显高贵，而非华而不实的装饰的点缀。它与吉姆的那只金表是多么的般配啊！她一眼就相中了这条链子，知道它是非吉姆莫属了。这条链子正如吉姆本人一样，低调而高贵——这一形容对两者真是恰到好处。付了 21 美元后德拉成了这条链子的主人。她带着仅剩的 87 美分急匆匆地赶回家。有了这条完美的表链，吉姆无论何时何地都可以骄傲地看时间了。那只表尽管贵重华丽，从前却是用一条旧皮带代替表链凑合系着，所以他也只能偶尔偷偷地瞥上一眼来确定时间。

回到家后，德拉从沉醉中回归平静和理智。她找出卷发钳，打开煤气，开始着手修补因慷慨

repairing the ravages made by generosity added to love. Which is always a tremendous task, dear friends — a mammoth task.

Within forty minutes her head was covered with tiny, close-lying curls that made her look wonderfully like a truant schoolboy. She looked at her reflection in the mirror long, carefully, and critically.

“If Jim doesn’t kill me,” she said to herself, “before he takes a second look at me, he’ll say I look like a Coney Island chorus girl. But what could I do — oh! what could I do with a dollar and eighty-seven cents?”

At 7 o’clock the coffee was made and the frying-pan was on the back of the stove hot and ready to cook the chops.

Jim was never late. Della doubled the fob chain in her hand and sat on the corner of the table near the door that he always entered. Then she heard his step on the stair away down on the first flight, and she turned white for just a moment. She had a habit of saying a little silent prayer about the simplest everyday things, and now she whispered: “Please God, make him think I am still pretty.”

The door opened and Jim stepped in

的爱所造成的损失——一整理头发。亲爱的朋友们，这是项巨大的工程——一件了不起的任务。

不到 40 分钟，她的头上就布满了密密的小卷发，使她看上去活像一个逃学的小男孩。她对着镜子，长久地、仔细地、挑剔地看着自己。

“假如吉姆在看我第二眼之前没把我宰掉的话，”她自言自语道，“他准会说我像科尼岛合唱队的卖唱女郎。但是我能怎么办呢？——老天，我能用一块八毛七分钱干什么呢？”

7 点钟时，她煮好了咖啡，然后把煎锅放在热炉子上，准备吃肉排。

吉姆从不晚回家。德拉把表链紧攥在手里，坐在靠近门口桌子的拐角处。接着，她听见楼梯响起了吉姆的脚步声，德拉紧张的脸色煞白。她习惯于为了最简单的生活琐事而默默祷告，此刻，她不由悄声祈祷：“上帝保佑，让他觉得我依然漂亮吧。”

门开了，吉姆走进屋关上门。他看起来很消瘦而且一脸严肃。可怜的人啊，他才 22 岁，就得承担起一个家庭的全部责任！他需要一件新外套，还缺一副手套。

and closed it. He looked thin and very serious. Poor fellow, he was only twenty-two – and to be burdened with a family! He needed a new overcoat and he was without gloves.

Jim stopped inside the door, as immovable as a setter at the scent of quail. His eyes were fixed upon Della, and there was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. It was not anger, nor surprise, nor disapproval, nor horror, nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for. He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face.

Della wriggled off the table and went for him.

“Jim, darling,” she cried, “don’t look at me that way. I had my hair cut off and sold because I couldn’t have lived through Christmas without giving you a present. It’ll grow out again – you won’t mind, will you? I just had to do it. My hair grows awfully fast. Say ‘Merry Christmas!’ Jim, and let’s be happy. You don’t know what a nice – what a beautiful, nice gift I’ve got for you.”

“You’ve cut off your hair?” asked Jim, laboriously, as if he had not arrived at that patent fact yet even after the hardest

吉姆一动不动地在门口站着，就好像猎犬嗅到了鹌鹑的气味。他的眼睛直直的盯着德拉，脸上有一种她读不懂的表情，这把她吓坏了。那不是愤怒，不是惊讶，不是不满，也不是恐惧，不是她所设想的任何一种表情。他仅仅是面带这种怪异的表情死死地盯着她。

德拉站起身沿着桌子向他走过去。

“吉姆，亲爱的，”她带着哭腔喊道，“不要这样看着我。我把头发剪掉卖了，因为如果不送你一件礼物，这个圣诞节我就没法过。头发还会再长长的——你不会介意的，对吗？我必须这么做。我的头发长得可快了。说‘圣诞快乐’吧吉姆！高兴点儿，你绝对猜不到我给你买了件多么称心如意、漂亮精致的礼物！”

“你把头发剪了？”吉姆结结巴巴地问道，似乎就算他绞尽脑汁也没办法弄明白这显而易见的事实。

“剪掉卖了，”德拉说，“不管怎么说，你还是像以前一样喜欢我，对吗？头发剪了，可我还是我，不是吗？”

mental labor.

“Cut it off and sold it,” said Della. “Don’t you like me just as well, anyhow? I’m me without my hair, ain’t I?”

Jim looked about the room curiously.

“You say your hair is gone?” he said, with an air almost of idiocy.

“You needn’t look for it,” said Della.

“It’s sold, I tell you – sold and gone, too. It’s Christmas Eve, boy. Be good to me, for it went for you. Maybe the hairs of my head were numbered,” she went on with sudden serious sweetness, “but nobody could ever count my love for you. Shall I put the chops on, Jim?”

Out of his trance Jim seemed quickly to wake. He enfolded his Della. For ten seconds let us regard with discreet scrutiny some inconsequential object in the other direction. Eight dollars a week or a million a year – what is the difference? A mathematician or a wit would give you the wrong answer. The magi brought valuable gifts, but that was not among them. This dark assertion will be illuminated later on.

Jim drew a package from his overcoat pocket and threw it upon the table.

“Don’t make any mistake, Dell,” he said, “about me. I don’t think there’s

吉姆还在好奇地四下张望。

“你说你的头发没有了，是吗？”他如白痴般地问道。

“别找了！”德拉说，“头发卖了，我告诉你——卖了，没了。现在是圣诞前夜，小伙子。请对我好一点，我可是为了你才这样做的。也许我的头发可以数的清根数，”她突然变得既严肃又甜蜜：“可我对你的爱，那是谁也数不清的。我可以做肉排了吗，吉姆？”

吉姆好像一下子从恍惚之中清醒过来，他紧紧地把他的德拉拥在怀里。就让我们用 10 秒钟的时间从另一角度认真思索一下一些无关紧要的事吧。每周八美元，或者一年 100 万美元——有什么区别？数学家或巧舌如簧的才子可能会给出错误的答案。麦琪带来了珍贵的礼物，但是那件不在其中。这句话的真正含义将在下文揭晓答案。

吉姆从外套兜里掏出一个小包，往桌上一扔。

“不要误会，德拉，”他说，“无论你头发长短，有没有美容，用什么洗发水，我对你的爱一丝一毫都不会减弱。不过，你只要打开那包东西就会明白我刚才为

anything in the way of a haircut or a shave or a shampoo that could make me like my girl any less. But if you'll unwrap that package you may see why you had me going a while at first."

White fingers and nimble tore at the string and paper. And then an ecstatic scream of joy; and then, alas! a quick feminine change to hysterical tears and wails, necessitating the immediate employment of all the comforting powers of the lord of the flat.

For there lay The Combs – the set of combs, side and back, that Della had worshipped long in a Broadway window. Beautiful combs, pure tortoise shell, with jewelled rims – just the shade to wear in the beautiful vanished hair. They were expensive combs, she knew, and her heart had simply craved and yearned over them without the least hope of possession. And now, they were hers, but the tresses that should have adorned the coveted adornments were gone.

But she hugged them to her bosom, and at length she was able to look up with dim eyes and a smile and say: "My hair grows so fast, Jim!"

And then Della leaped up like a little singed cat and cried, "Oh, oh!"

什么变傻的原因了。”

白皙的手指灵巧地解开绳子，打开纸包。紧接着一声欣喜若狂的尖叫：哎呀！但紧接着变成了女性歇斯底里的哭泣和哀嚎，迫使这间公寓的男主人想尽一切办法去安慰和化解。

因为摆在桌上的是发卡：一整套发卡。包括两鬓用的和脑后用的，一应俱全。这是在百老汇的一个橱窗中陈列的让德拉眼热了很久的东西。这些漂亮的发卡，纯正的玳瑁制品，边上镶嵌着珠宝——颜色恰好跟她刚刚失去的秀发相匹配。她知道，这套梳子价格不菲，所以，她仅仅是羡慕，从未奢望过能拥有它们。如今，它们是她的了，可是那能配得上这渴望已久的装饰品的秀发已离她而去。

不过，她还是把发卡抱在怀里，最后，她抬起那双不再闪烁奇异光彩的眼睛望着吉姆，并且做出一个微笑：“我的头发长得飞快，吉姆！”

随后，德拉活像一只被烫着了的小猫一样跳了起来，嘴里还喊道：“喔！喔！”

吉姆还没看到给他的漂亮礼物。她热切地摊开手心，伸到他



Jim had not yet seen his beautiful present. She held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm. The dull precious metal seemed to flash with a reflection of her bright and ardent spirit.

"Isn't it a dandy, Jim? I hunted all over town to find it. You'll have to look at the time a hundred times a day now. Give me your watch. I want to see how it looks on it."

Instead of obeying, Jim tumbled down on the couch and put his hands under the back of his head and smiled.

"Dell," said he, "let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em a while. They're too nice to use just at present. I sold the watch to get the money to buy your combs. And now suppose you put the chops on."

The magi, as you know, were wise men — wonderfully wise men — who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents. Being wise, their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication. And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the

面前给他看，那没有知觉的贵重金属闪耀了一下，似乎要展现她的快乐和热忱。

“是不是很精致高雅，吉姆？我搜遍了全城才找到的。你现在每天都得把表掏出来看上个100遍。把表给我，让我看看它们配在一起是什么样子。”

吉姆没有这么做，相反，他往沙发上一倒，两手垫在脑后，笑了。

“德拉，”他说，“让我们把圣诞礼物放在一边，让它们自己待一会。东西实在太好了，我们最好都暂时别用。因为，给你买梳子的钱，是我卖掉手表换来的。好了，现在你开始给我做肉排吧。”

众所周知，麦琪<sup>2</sup>是有大智慧的人。当耶稣在马厩里出生时，他们带来礼物并送给他。并且还开创了圣诞节互赠礼物这门艺术。他们聪明过人，因此毋庸置疑，他们的礼物也都是聪明的礼物。万一礼物重样，也有特权调换。在此我已笨嘴拙舌地给你们讲述了一个平淡无奇的故事，主人公是住在经济型公寓的两个傻孩子，他们极不明智地为了对方而牺牲了自己最贵重的东西。不



greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. Of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the Magi.

过，在下要对当今世上的聪明人说的是，在普天之下一切赠送礼物的人当中，那两个人是最聪明的。在一切馈赠又收受礼物的芸芸众生中，他们也是最聪明的。无论在世界上的任何地方，他们都是最富有智慧的人。他们就是圣贤麦琪。

1. 示巴女王: Queen of Sheba, 基督教《圣经》中朝觐所罗门王, 以测其智慧的示巴女王, 她以美貌著称。

2. 麦琪 (Magi, 单数为 Magus) 指圣婴基督出生时来自东方送礼的三贤人, 见于《圣经》(新约全书) “马太福音”。