



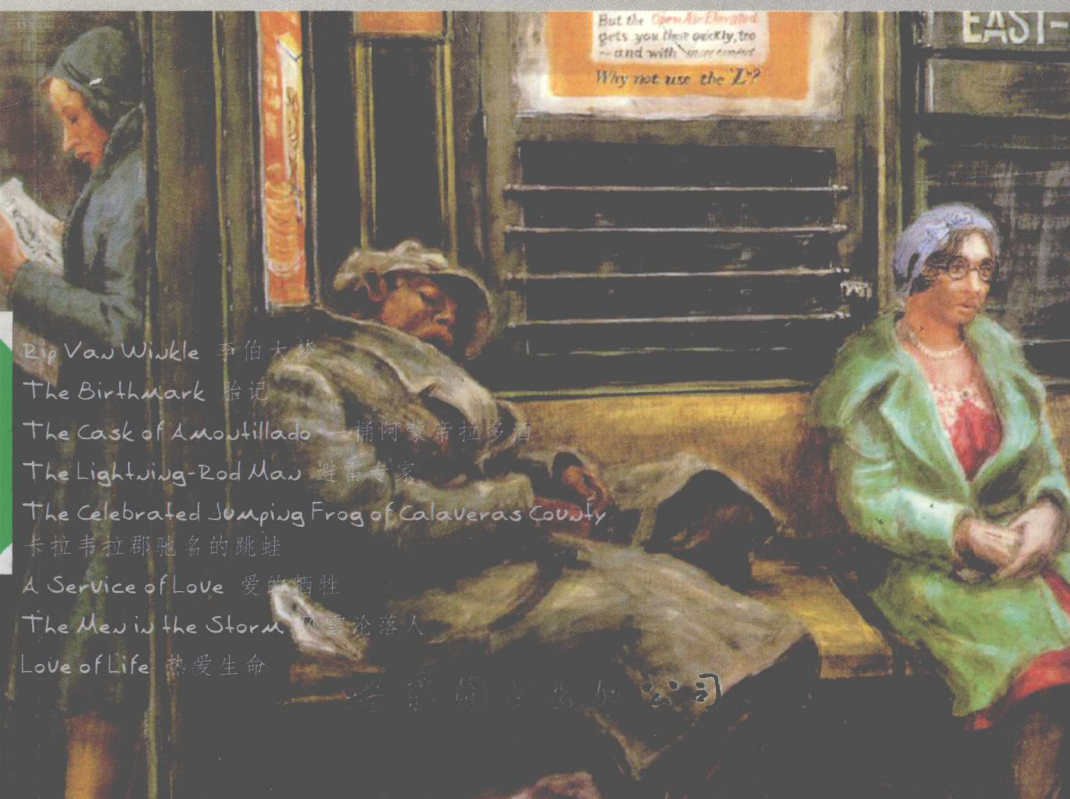
LH

美国经典 短篇小说选读

■ Washington Irving 等著 ■ 罗慕谦 译

AMERICAN SHORT STORIES

英汉对照



Rip Van Winkle 李伯大梦

The Birthmark 胎记

The Cask of Amontillado 一桶阿蒙帝拉多酒

The Lightning-Rod Man 避雷专家

The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County

卡拉韦拉郡著名的跳蛙

A Service of Love 爱的牺牲

The Men in the Storm 风暴沦落人

Love of Life 热爱生命

上海译文出版社



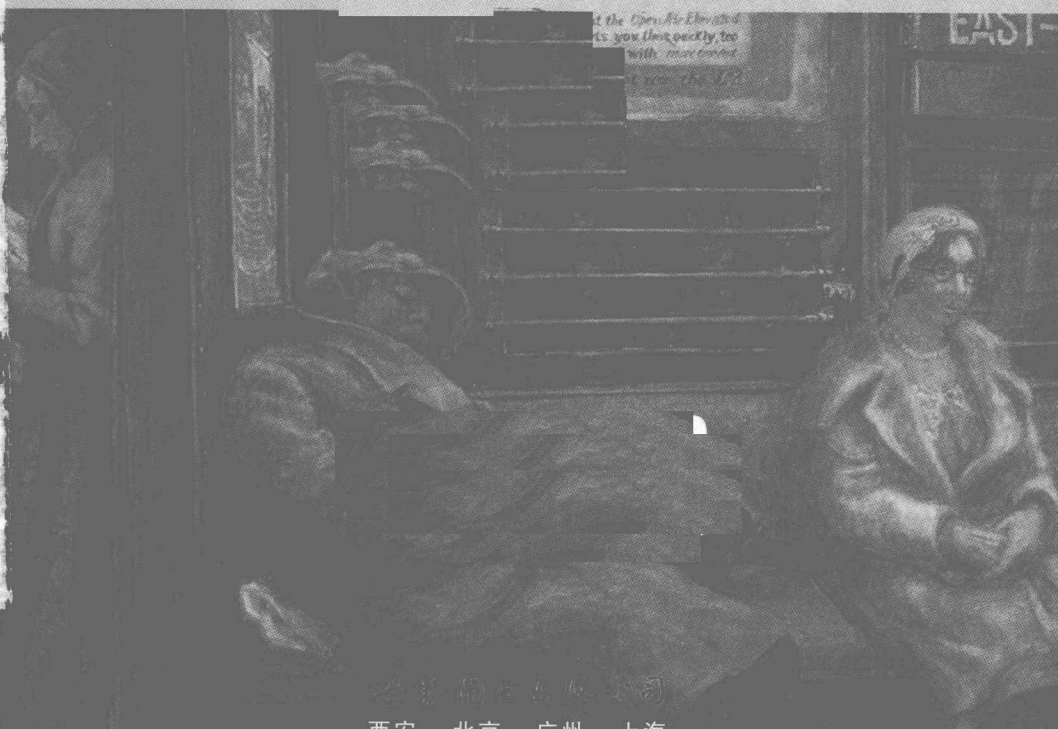
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西安 北京 广州 上海

陕版出图字:25 - 2008 - 086 号

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

美国经典短篇小说选读:汉英对照/(美)欧文(Irving, W.)等著;罗慕谦译. —西安:世界图书出版西安公司, 2009.3
ISBN 978 - 7 - 5062 - 9895 - 7

I. 美… II. ①欧…②罗… III. ①英语—汉语—对照读物②短篇小说—作品集—美国—近代③短篇小说—作品集—美国—现代 IV. H319.4:I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2009)第 018976 号

本书原由寂天文化事业股份有限公司以书名《美国经典短篇小说选读(中英对照)》出版

©2008 by Cosmos Culture Ltd.

经由原出版公司授权世界图书出版西安公司在中国大陆地区以中英文字出版发行

美国经典短篇小说选读

著 者 华盛顿·欧文等
责任编辑 郭 娜
美术编辑 新纪元文化传播

出版发行 世界图书出版西安公司

地 址 西安市北大街 85 号

邮 编 710003

电 话 029 - 87214941 87233647(市场营销部)
029 - 87232980(总编室)

传 真 029 - 87279675

经 销 全国各地新华书店、外文书店

印 刷 陕西信亚印务有限公司

开 本 880 × 1230 1/32

印 张 8.25

字 数 200 千字

版 次 2009 年 3 月第 1 版 2009 年 3 月第 1 次印刷

书 号 ISBN 978 - 7 - 5062 - 9895 - 7

定 价 25.00 元

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写给读者的话

我常常在想：生活节奏加快了，我们读书的时间越来越少了，我们休闲的方式似乎也不是阅读了。然而，我经常回味起小时候，自己坐在小桌前如饥似渴的读着一本又一本的书。每每读完一本，我就会快乐很多日子。我真的很怀念这种日子。也很期待还能有小时候让我们着迷的书。

现在的生活五彩斑斓，似乎玩乐的东西很多，学习却让我们感到枯燥。我们真的需要一本于休闲和学习为一体的好书。记得著名的英语教育专家秦秀白先生说过：“就英语学习而言，一部英文小说其实就是英语建构的一个‘虚拟世界’。走进一部英文小说，你实际上就已经‘生活’在一个‘英语世界’里了，还愁没有东西可学？经典作品要读，写得好的当代通俗小说也要读，因为后者的语言更新鲜，更有时代感。”

优秀的小说能够展现社会百态、人生智慧，蕴涵深厚的文化背景知识。尤其是短篇小说，更是浓缩社会人生，字字珠玑的精华之作。翻开书籍杂志、网络论坛，都会看到很多当代英语大家对小说阅读推崇有加。这对我们的启示就是，要想真正提高外语水平，阅读原版小说是必经之路。

阅读原版长篇英文小说无疑是值得称道的。然而，在各种考试、工作和学习的压力之下，能坚持下来并非

易事。因而篇幅短小、故事性强而又富有文采的英语短篇小说成为千千万万依然对英语充满热情的学习者的上上之选。

这便是本书的初衷，本书选择8篇19世纪最具代表性的美国短篇小说作品，小说图文并茂，文短意深，值得回味。编排上采用英汉对照，注释采用脚注，部分疑难词汇附有音标，适合阅读和收藏，是休闲和学习的良师益友。为方便读者阅读，本书将原文较长段落加以细分，行文间搭配名家插画，令人在阅读中也可嗅到艺术的清香。

还犹豫什么呢？亲爱的读者朋友们，来吧，原汁原味的英语，绚丽优美的译文，让我们一起享受这华美的饕餮盛宴吧。

编辑蝈蝈于

2009年2月

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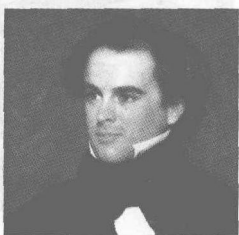
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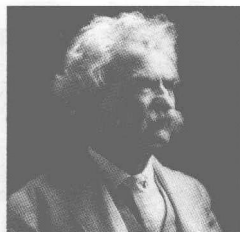
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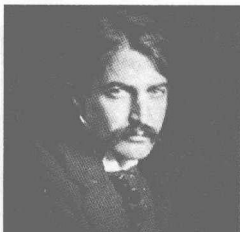
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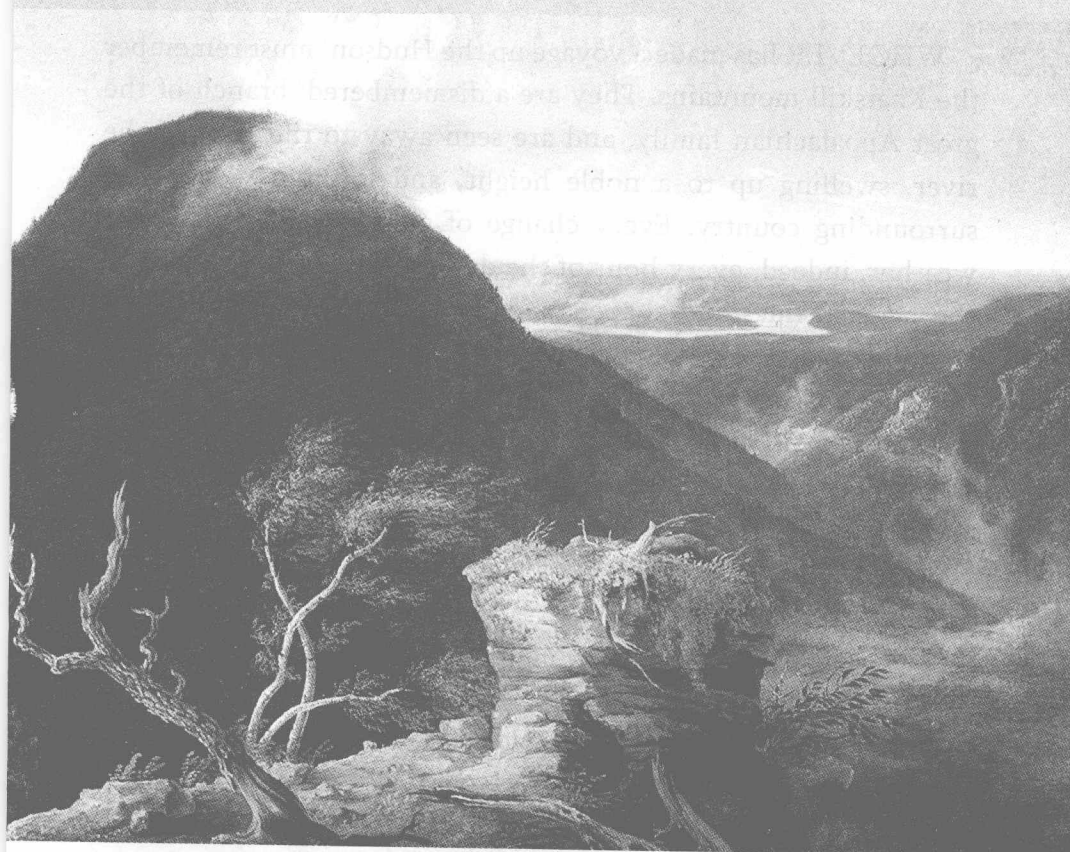
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Rip Van Winkle

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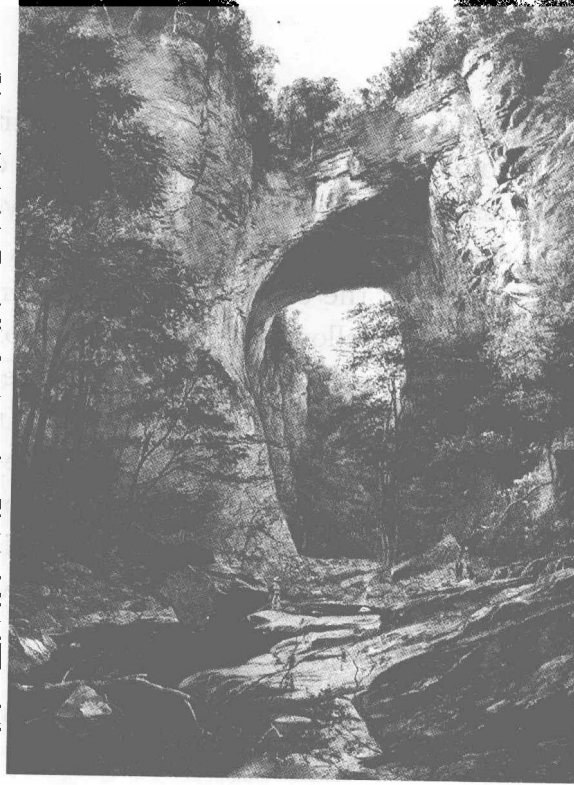
WHOEVER has made a voyage up the Hudson¹ must remember the Kaatskill mountains. They are a dismembered² branch of the great Appalachian family, and are seen away to the west of the river, swelling up to a noble height, and lording it over³ the surrounding country. Every change of season, every change of weather, indeed, every hour of the day produces some change in the magical hues and shapes of these mountains; and they are regarded by all the good wives, far and near, as perfect barometers⁴.

When the weather is fair and settled, they are clothed in blue and purple, and print their bold outlines on the clear evening sky; but sometimes, when the rest of the landscape is cloudless, they will gather a hood of gray vapors about their summits, which, in the last rays of the setting sun, will glow and light up like a crown of glory.

At the foot of these fairy mountains, the voyager may have descried⁵ the light smoke curling up from a Village, whose shingle roofs gleam among the trees, just where the blue tints of the upland melt away into the fresh green of the nearer landscape.



▲ *Antony Van Corlear Brought into the Presence of Peter Stuyvesant* (John Quidor)



It is a little village of great antiquity, having been founded by some of the Dutch colonists, in the early times of the province, just about the beginning of the government of the good Peter Stuyvesant⁶ (may he rest in peace!), and there were some of the houses of the original settlers standing within a few years, built of small yellow bricks, brought from Holland, having latticed windows and gable fronts, surmounted with weathercocks.

In that same village, and in one of these very houses (which, to tell the precise truth, was sadly time-worn and weather-beaten), there lived, many years since, while the country was yet a province of Great Britain, a simple, good-natured fellow, of the name of Rip Van Winkle. He was a descendant of the Van Winkles who figured so gallantly in the chivalrous days of Peter Stuyvesant, and accompanied him to the siege of Fort Christina.

He inherited, however, but little of the martial character of his ancestors. I have observed that he was a simple, good-natured man; he was, moreover, a kind neighbor, and an obedient henpecked⁷ husband. Indeed, to the latter circumstance might be owing that meekness of spirit which gained him such universal popularity; for those men are apt to be obsequious⁸ and conciliating abroad, who are under the discipline of shrews at home.

Their tempers, doubtless, are rendered pliant and malleable in the fiery furnace of domestic tribulation⁹, and a curtain-lecture is worth all the sermons in the world for teaching the virtues of patience and long-suffering. A termagant¹⁰ wife may, therefore, in some respects, be considered a tolerable blessing, and if so, Rip Van Winkle was thrice blessed.

6 Peter Stuyvesant(1592-1672), 荷兰在北美洲的殖民地总督,1644 年被迫将殖民地让给英国。

7 henpecked ['henpekt] (a.) 怕老婆的

这座小村庄的历史很悠久了，是早期荷兰的移民所建立的，大约就在彼得·斯特伊弗桑特（愿他安息！）开始担任荷兰总督的时候。当初荷兰移民所建的房屋，有些在村里已经屹立了好几年了，墙是荷兰带过来的小黄砖砌成的，窗户是格子窗，正面有山形墙，屋顶上竖立着风信鸡。

好多好多年以前，当这个国家还被英国统治时，在这座小村庄里，就在这样一栋屋子里（老实说，屋子饱受岁月与风霜的侵蚀，变得又破又旧了），住着一个朴实善良的家伙，叫做李伯·凡·温克尔。在彼得·斯特伊弗桑特总督那个充满骑士精神的时代，他的祖先展现出英勇的气概，跟随着总督攻克克里斯汀娜堡。

然而，李伯并没有遗传到多少祖先的战斗性格。

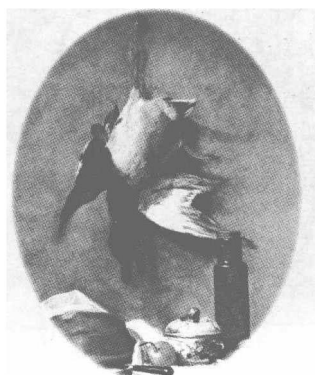
我刚说过了，他是一个朴

实善良的人。此外他还有



Certain it is, that he was a great favorite among all the good wives of the village, who, as usual with the amiable sex, took his part in all family squabbles¹¹, and never failed, whenever they talked those matters over in their evening gossipings, to lay all the blame on Dame Van Winkle.

The children of the village, too, would shout with joy when-ever he approached. He assisted at their sports, made their playthings, taught them to fly kites and shoot marbles, and told them long stories of ghosts, witches, and Indians. Whenever he went dodging about the village, he was surrounded by a troop of them hanging on his skirts, clambering on his back, and playing a thousand tricks on him with impunity¹²; and not a dog would bark at him throughout the neighborhood.



The great error in Rip's composition was an insuperable aversion to all kinds of profitable labor. It could not be for want of assiduity or perseverance; for he would sit on a wet rock, with a rod as long and heavy as a Tartar's¹³ lance, and fish all day without a murmur, even though he should not be encouraged by a single nibble. He would carry a fowling-piece on his shoulder, for hours together, trudging through woods and swamps, and up hill and down dale, to shoot a few squirrels or wild pigeons.

He would never refuse to assist a neighbor even in the roughest toil, and was a foremost man in all country frolics for husking Indian corn, or building stone fences; the women of the village, too, used to employ him to run their errands, and to do such little odd jobs as their less obliging husbands would not do for them.

可以确定的是，村里的婆婆妈妈都很喜欢他。每次李伯跟老婆发生口角，他们都会站在李伯这一边，而且傍晚时分聚在一起说三道四时，一定会数落李伯夫人的不是。

村里的孩子也都很喜欢他，一看到他就高兴地欢呼。李伯陪他们玩耍，做玩具给他们玩，教他们放风筝和打弹珠，还跟他们讲鬼怪、巫婆和印地安人的故事。每次他在村里闲晃，总会有一群小孩围着他，抓着他的衣服，爬在他的背上，用各种方式捉弄他，但是他永远也不会发火。村里的狗，从来不会对他吠一声。



▲ Indians (Henry F. Farney)

李伯性格上最大的缺点，就是厌恶所有能够赚钱的劳务。但是他不是不勤奋，也不是没毅力。他可以坐在潮湿的大石头上，握着一根跟鞑靼人的长矛一样长、一样重的钓竿，钓一整天的鱼，即使鱼竿动也没动一下，他还是一句怨言也没有。他也可以好几个小时背着猎枪，跋山涉水，翻山越岭，就为了射来几只松鼠或野鸽。

邻居需要帮忙，不管是多粗重的工作，他从来不推托。地方上有一些剥玉米皮或砌石墙的活动，他一定跑第一。村里的妇女都会找他跑腿，或是请他做些自家丈夫不愿帮忙的杂务。

11 squabble ['skwɒbl] (n.) 争吵

12 with impunity 不受惩罚地

13 Tartar ['tɑ:tə] (n.) 鞑靼人(过去为一支尚武的游牧民族,现为俄罗斯少数民族之一)

In a word, Rip was ready to attend to anybody's business but his own; but as to doing family duty, and keeping his farm in order, he found it impossible.

In fact, he declared it was of no use to work on his farm; it was the most pestilent¹⁴ little piece of ground in the whole country; everything about it went wrong, in spite of him. His fences were



continually falling to pieces; his cow would either go astray, or get among the cabbages; weeds were sure to grow quicker in his fields than anywhere else; the rain always made a point of setting in just as he had some out-door work to do; so that though his patrimonial¹⁵ estate had dwindled away under his management, acre by acre, until there was little more left than a mere patch of Indian corn and potatoes, yet it was the worst-conditioned farm in the neighborhood.

His children, too, were as ragged and wild as if they belonged to nobody. His son Rip, an urchin begotten in his own likeness, promised to inherit the habits, with the old clothes, of his father. He was generally seen trooping like a colt at his mother's heels¹⁶, equipped in a pair of his father's cast-off galligaskins¹⁷, which he had much ado to hold up with one hand, as a fine lady does her train¹⁸ in bad weather.

Rip Van Winkle, however, was one of those happy mortals, of foolish, well-oiled dispositions, who take the world easy, eat white bread or brown, whichever can be got with least thought or trouble, and would rather starve on a penny than work for a pound.

总之，别人的事情他都乐意帮忙，自己的事情他就不想做。养家糊口和照料田地这种事，他觉得自己完全做不来。

他还说，去照料他那块田一点用处也没有，因为那块田是那一带最倒霉的一块地，除了他自己以外，田里所有的东西都连带遭殃。篱笆老是坏掉；养的母牛不是走丢，就是踩到甘蓝菜园里；杂草永远长得比农作物还要快；只要他在户外工作，天空就开始下雨。于是，祖传的田地在他的照料下一亩一亩地减少，最后只剩下一小块还种着玉米和马铃薯，但是这块田真的是村里最贫瘠的一块田了。

他的孩子也是衣衫褴褛，又皮又野，就像是没了爸妈的孩子。他的儿子小李伯长得就跟他一模一样，将来除了会继承老爸的旧衣裳，势必也会遗传到老爸的个性。他经常像只小马似地紧紧跟在妈妈身后，穿着一条爸爸不要的宽大马裤，一只手拉着裤管，就像高贵的淑女在雨天时拉起裙摆那样。

但是李伯天性乐观，人憨憨的，脾气好，什么事都看得开，吃好吃差都无所谓，只要不用动脑、不费工夫就好，宁愿少一分钱饿肚子，也不愿为了一镑钱去工作。



-
- 14 pestilent ['pestilənt] (a.) 扰人的；令人不愉快的
15 patrimonial [pətri'məunjəl] (a.) 祖传的
16 at someone's heels 紧跟着某人
17 galligaskins [ˌgæli'gæskinz] (n.) 马裤或宽松的裤子
18 train [treɪn] (n.) 长裙拖在地上的下摆

If left to himself, he would have whistled life away, in perfect contentment; but his wife kept continually dinning in his ears¹⁹ about his idleness, his carelessness, and the ruin he was bringing on his family. Morning, noon, and night, her tongue was incessantly going, and every thing he said or did was sure to produce a torrent of household eloquence.

Rip had but one way of replying to all lectures of the kind, and that, by frequent use, had grown into a habit. He shrugged his shoulders, shook his head, cast up his eyes, but said nothing. This, however, always provoked a fresh volley from his wife, so that he was fain to draw off his forces, and take to²⁰ the outside of the house—the only side which, in truth, belongs to a henpecked husband.

Rip's sole domestic adherent was his dog Wolf, who was as much henpecked as his master; for Dame Van Winkle regarded them as companions in idleness, and even looked upon Wolf with an evil eye, as the cause of his master's going so often astray. True it is, in all points of spirit befitting in honorable dog, he was as courageous an animal as ever scoured the woods—but what courage can withstand the evil-doing and all-besetting terrors of a woman's tongue?

The moment Wolf entered the house, his crest fell, his tail drooped to the ground, or curled between his legs, he sneaked about with a gallows air, casting many a sidelong glance at Dame Van Winkle, and at the least flourish of a broomstick or ladle, he would fly to the door with yelping precipitation.

Times grew worse and worse with Rip Van Winkle as years of matrimony²¹ rolled on; a tart temper never mellows with age, and a sharp tongue is the only edged tool that grows keener with constant use.