

书虫·牛津
英汉双语读物

最后一片叶子

——欧·亨利短篇小说八则

2级

适合初二、
初三年级

Eight Great American Tales

O. Henry (美) 著
Bill Bowler (英) 改写

外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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关于作者

O. Henry

O. Henry was the pen name of William Sidney Porter (1862—1910). Born in North Carolina, Porter left school early to work in drugstores, on cattle farms, and as a journalist. In prison for three years for taking money from a bank where he worked, Porter began writing short stories for newspapers and magazines. The eight tales in this book – *Fine furs for a lady*, *Springtime on the menu*, *The last leaf*, *The things we do for love*, *Ikey Schoenstein's love-potion*, *The Count and the wedding guest*, *Thinking yourself rich*, and *Lost and found* – are among his finest.

欧·亨利

欧·亨利是威廉·西德尼·波特(1862—1910)的笔名。波特出生于北卡罗来纳州,年幼辍学,在药店和畜牧场工作过,也做过新闻记者。在银行工作时,因挪用公款入狱三年,狱中开始为报纸和杂志写短篇小说。本书中的八则故事都属于他的经典作品:《上等女士皮草》、《菜单上的春天》、《最后一片叶子》、《爱的牺牲》、《艾奇·舍恩斯坦的爱情药水》、《伯爵和婚礼客人》、《想象你自己很富有》和《失而复得》。

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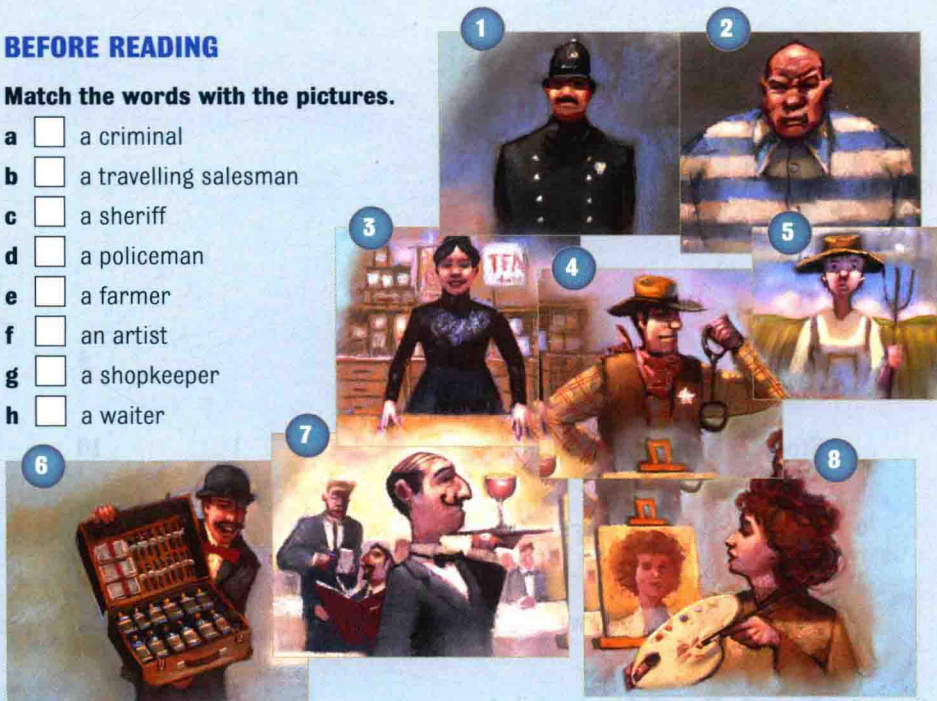
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ACTIVITIES

BEFORE READING

1 Match the words with the pictures.

- a ☐ a criminal
- b ☐ a travelling salesman
- c ☐ a sheriff
- d ☐ a policeman
- e ☐ a farmer
- f ☐ an artist
- g ☐ a shopkeeper
- h ☐ a waiter



2 The stories in this book all happen in the United States of America between 1899 and 1910. Which of the people in Activity 1 do you think that you will read about?

3 Which of these sentences about life in the United States in the early 1900s are true? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

- a New York City suddenly got bigger. ☐
- b The Ford factory started to make cars. ☐
- c The Wright brothers flew in an aeroplane for the first time. ☐
- d Everyone listened to radio from all over the world. ☐
- e People started to travel by subway trains under (and over) New York City. ☐
- f Most women made all the clothes for their families. ☐
- g Many people went to Broadway to see theatre with songs, and dancing. ☐
- h American football was America's favourite sport. ☐
- i Only men – not women – chose the politicians who went to Washington. ☐

Story 1 **Fine furs for a lady**

故事 1 上等女士皮草

When '**Kid**' Brady fell in love with Molly McKeever, he decided to leave the criminal **gang** that he belonged to.

His gang worked in the west of New York, between Eleventh and Twelfth **Avenues**, near the river. By day, they stood lazily on street corners in their fine suits, occasionally speaking quietly to each other. But their real business was taking money from the good people of New York. Mostly they preferred to do this without any noise, or any blood. But any New Yorkers who weren't happy to lose their money in this way soon found themselves either in the hospital or the name of a newly dead person in a police notebook.

When Brady told the others that he was leaving the gang, they were sorry. He was the finest, strongest, and cleverest of them all. But they didn't try to stop him. For criminals like them, it was neither wrong nor unmanly to do what your girlfriend wanted.

kid

n. an informal name for a young man, often with a good-looking baby face

(娃娃脸的)年轻人, 帅小伙

gang

n. a number of people who work on a crime
犯罪团伙

avenue

n. a big street, often with trees at the sides
林荫大道





‘OK,’ Brady told Molly one night when she was asking him to end his life of crime. ‘I’ll get a job, and in a year I’ll marry you. We can get somewhere nice to live.’

‘Oh, Kid,’ said Molly, ‘That’s great. We can be happy with just a little.’

‘But,’ said Brady, ‘I won’t have money for good suits like before. That’ll be hard.’

‘Don’t worry. I’ll love you just the same.’

So Brady started working as a **plumber**. That was what he studied when he was younger. For eight months he worked hard, and stayed true to Molly.

Then, one day, he came home with a strange **parcel**.

‘Open that, Moll,’ he said quietly. ‘It’s for you.’

Molly took off the paper, screamed happily, and put something long, dark, and soft around her neck.

‘The best Russian **furs**,’ said Brady.

‘Thank you, Kid,’ said Molly. ‘I never had any furs before. But aren’t Russian furs expensive?’

‘Could I ever buy you anything cheap? Hey, Moll, you look great in them.’

plumber

n. someone who mends baths and toilets
管子工

parcel

n. a paper box with things in
包裹

fur

n. the hair on an animal’s body
(动物的) 毛皮

Then he saw Molly looking at him with sad eyes. He knew what that look meant.

'I paid for them with good money,' he said.

'Sure. With the \$75 dollars a month that you get from working as a plumber.'

'Look, I had some money from before, too. I left the gang for you, Moll, remember? Now put on those furs, and let's go out for a walk.'

So they went for a walk. Fine Russian furs were big news for the poor people living on that side of New York. Soon everyone was talking about them.

Detective Ransom was walking down the street not far behind them.

'Why is everyone so excited?' he asked one man standing on a street corner.

'Kid Brady got his girlfriend the best Russian furs, they say. Has anyone lost any expensive furs lately?'

'But Brady left the gang, didn't he? Now I heard that he's working at his old job.'

'Right. But some say that he paid \$900 for those furs. How can a plumber find money like that?'

Ransom walked faster, and soon found Brady and Molly walking slowly along the street.

'Can I speak to you for a minute?' he asked quietly, touching Brady's arm.

Brady looked at him angrily.

'Were you at Mrs Hethcote's house on West Seventh Street yesterday, mending a water **pipe**?'

'Yes,' said Brady. 'Why?'

'The old **lady**'s thousand dollar Russian furs left the house at about the same time that you did. The way that Mrs Hethcote described them, they're just like the ones that the young lady's wearing.'

pipe

n. a long narrow thing that water goes through in a house
管子, 水管

lady

n. a woman from a good family
贵妇人, 淑女

‘Ransom,’ Brady began, ‘I bought those furs today at—’ and then he stopped.

‘OK. So let’s go to the shop where you bought the furs — with the lady — and find out if what you’re saying is true.’

‘Let’s do that,’ said Brady hotly.

Then he looked suddenly across at Molly’s worried face and smiled strangely.

‘It’s no good,’ he said suddenly, ‘You’re right, Ransom. They’re the Hethcote furs. Molly, you’ll have to give them to the police.’

Molly, her eyes full of tears, held Brady’s arm.

‘Oh, Kid, how could you do it? I was so pleased with you, and now they’ll send you to **jail** — and where’s our happy life together?’

‘Come on, Ransom,’ said Brady wildly, ‘Take the furs. I’m ready. Wait a minute, I think I’ll . . . No . . . I can’t. Molly, go home.’

Just then, Policeman Kohen came round the corner. Ransom stopped him and explained about the furs.

‘Sure. I heard about the Hethcote furs,’ said Kohen, ‘And you say that these are the same. Can I see them? I sold furs when I was younger.’

He looked at the furs carefully.

‘These are Alaskan, not Russian. And they cost about twenty doll . . . ’

Suddenly Brady hit Kohen in the face, Molly screamed, and Ransom quickly put some **handcuffs** on the ‘Kid’.

‘They cost about twenty dollars only,’ Kohen went on, ‘not a thousand.’

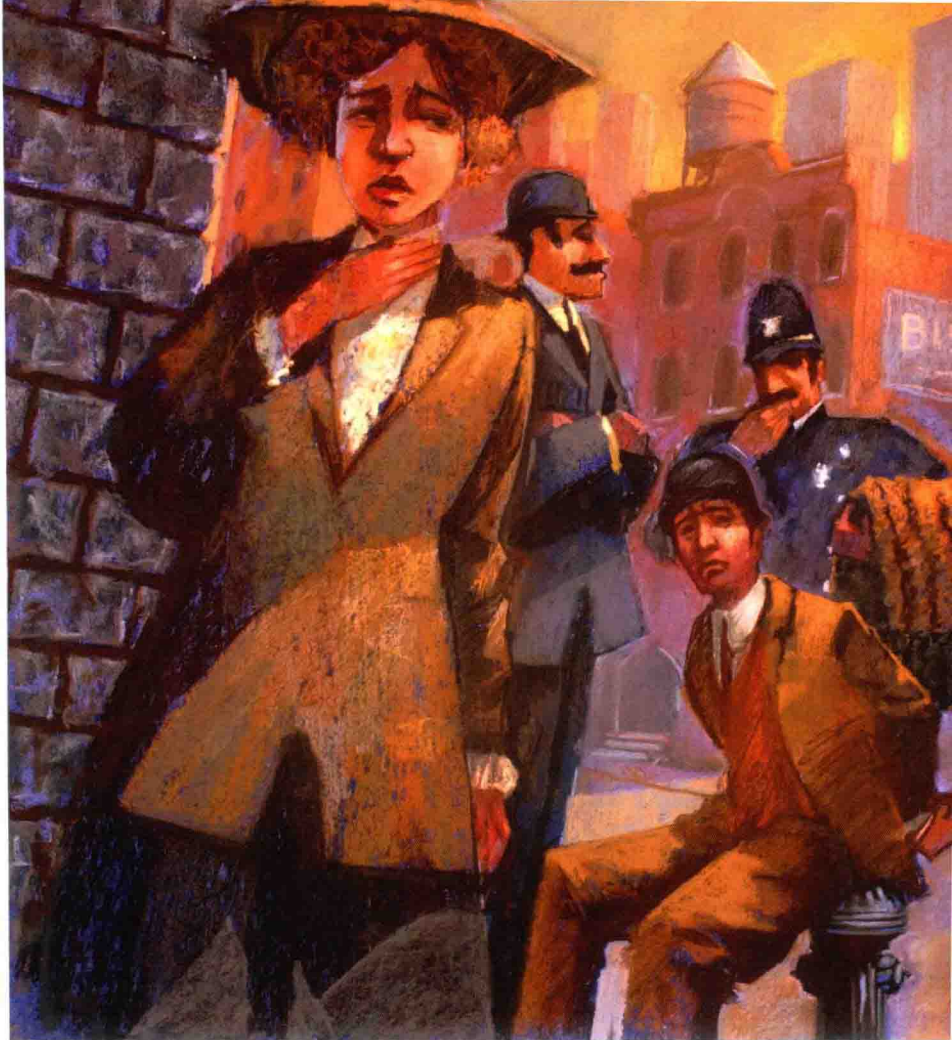
Brady’s face turned red.

‘You’re right,’ he said, ‘I paid \$21.50 for them. But I was ready to go to prison for six months for Molly never to know how much they really cost. I hate cheap things.’

Molly put her arms round his neck.

jail
n. prison
监狱

handcuffs
n. policemen put these circles of metal with locks on them around prisoners’ hands to stop them from escaping easily
手铐



‘Look, I don’t want expensive furs, or lots of money. I just want you, Kid,’ she said.

‘Take the handcuffs off him, Inspector,’ said Kohen. ‘While I was leaving the police station, I heard the latest news about the Hethcote furs. The old lady found them at the back of her **wardrobe**. Young man, I’ll forget about you hitting me – just this once.’

Just before the policemen left, Ransom gave Molly back her furs. She smiled at Brady and put them round her neck again like a real lady.

wardrobe

n. a big piece of furniture where you put things to wear
衣橱

ACTIVITIES

READING CHECK

Match the sentences with the people. You can use some names more than once.

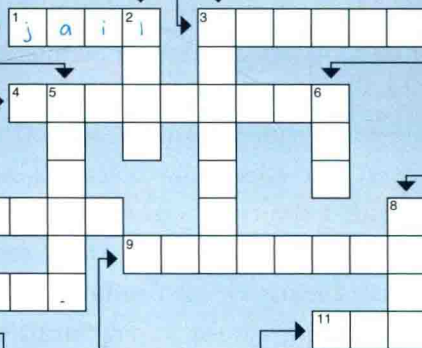
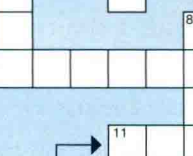
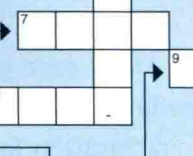
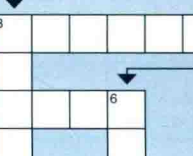
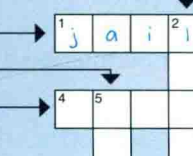
- a ☐ is in a criminal gang before he meets Molly McKeever.
- b ☐ wants Kid to have a real job.
- c ☐ doesn't think that Brady bought the furs.
- d ☐ tells the police that someone stole her expensive Russian furs.
- e ☐ wants to go with Kid and Molly to the fur shop.
- f ☐ doesn't want Molly to know how much the furs cost.
- g ☐ tells everyone that Molly's furs aren't from Russia.
- h ☐ doesn't mind that the furs aren't expensive.



ACTIVITIES

WORD WORK

Complete the crossword using the pictures.



GUESS WHAT

Tick the words that best describe the main characters in the next story.

- ☐ angry
- ☐ beautiful
- ☐ excited
- ☐ hungry
- ☐ interesting
- ☐ lonely
- ☐ poor
- ☐ sad



Sarah



Walter

- bored ☐
- clever ☐
- dangerous ☐
- friendly ☐
- kind ☐
- nice ☐
- rich ☐
- worried ☐

Story 2 Springtime on the menu

故事 2 菜单上的春天

It was a March day in Manhattan, and Sarah was crying over her menu.

Perhaps you think that she was sad because she was eating carefully and didn't want to see **ice cream** on the menu. Well, you're wrong.

Sarah was sitting at her desk with a **typewriter** in front of her. She worked at home – **typing** things for people.

Her best job was working for Schulenberg's Restaurant. This stood next to the house where she had a room. When she ate there one winter evening, she noticed that the writing on the menu card was really difficult to understand.

That night she typed out the menu, and the next day she showed it to Mr Schulenberg. He at once gave her the job of typing out menus for his restaurant every day. For this work Mr Schulenberg agreed to pay Sarah in food.

After that, a waiter took three meals every day to Sarah's room together with the new menu of the day in pencil for Sarah to type.

Now it was an afternoon in March – springtime! But the weather was still as cold as winter, and Sarah felt sad. She looked out of her window at the factory opposite, but she didn't really see it. She was remembering her holiday in the country last summer.

Sarah stayed two weeks at Sunnybrook Farm. There she fell in love with old Farmer Franklin's son, Walter. He took her for long walks in the country, and one day they sat together under a tree and he made a **crown** of **dandelion** flowers and put it on her head.

'Those yellow flowers look really beautiful in your brown hair,' said Walter.

ice cream

sweet food that is made from very cold, thick milk
冰激凌

typewriter

n. something that people wrote things quickly with before computers
打字机

type

v. to write on a computer or typewriter
打字

crown

n. a king or a queen wears this on their head
王冠

dandelion

n. a wild plant with yellow flowers and leaves that you can cook and eat
蒲公英



And Sarah walked back to the farm house with the dandelion crown on her head, and her hat in her hand.

'I'm going to marry you first thing next spring,' said Walter and his eyes shone.

And then Sarah came back to the big city and her work as a typist.

Suddenly a knock on her room door made her forget those happy days. It was the waiter from Schulenberg's with the new menu.

She put a white card in the typewriter and began.

Her fingers danced across the typewriter keys. The soups were first. The meats came next. After that, it was the vegetables – potatoes, carrots, tomatoes, and then – Sarah was crying over the menu.

soup

n. a food that you make by cooking vegetables or meat in water
汤

She was waiting for a letter from Walter, and during the past two weeks no letter came. And now, on the menu that she was typing, she read 'dandelions' and something about an egg. She remembered Walter making that dandelion crown for her, and saying that he wanted to marry her in the spring, and now – seeing those beautiful flowers as just something to eat on the menu in front of her – she felt terrible.

At last she stopped crying. For a while she touched the keys of the typewriter sadly, still thinking of her young farmer friend. But soon she was busy typing card after card.

At six o'clock, the waiter from Schulenberg's brought her dinner, and took away the finished menus.

After dinner, Sarah took a book from the table, sat down in a comfortable chair, and began to read.

Just then, there was a ring at the front door. The **landlady** opened it. Sarah put down her book, and listened.

Hearing a man's voice downstairs, she suddenly jumped up from her chair, opened her room door, and ran out to the top of the stairs.

There, running up the stairs towards her, was Walter – and soon she was in his arms.

'Why didn't you write?' she asked.

'I wanted to **surprise** you. So I went to your old address, but they told me that you weren't living there. I didn't know where to find you.'

'But I wrote to you with my new address.'

'I never got it.'

'So how did you find me?'

The young farmer smiled.

'Well, I went to the restaurant next door for dinner, and looked at the menu. When I got to just below tomatoes, I jumped out of my chair, and called for Mr Schulenberg. He told me where you lived.'

landlady

n. a woman who gets money for renting out rooms
女房东

surprise

n.&v. the feeling you have when something unexpected or unusual happens; to make someone have a feeling of surprise
惊讶; 使惊讶