

734

H319.4:214

574a

英语温馨夜读

爱的舞蹈

(英汉对照)

主编
编者

青 闰
青 闰
白秀玲
张灵敏
李玉莲
张 玲
王 琨

西安交通大学出版社

内容简介

这是“英语温馨夜读系列”之一,共 24 篇,英汉对照,详加注解。本书选材广泛,视角独特,新颖精彩,原汁原味,时代感强,具有温馨迷人的爱的氛围。《银色火焰》、《午夜来客》、《门门上的手》、《爱情茶》、《我生命中的 325 美元》……悬念迭出,不同凡响;《展翅试飞》、《爱的舞蹈》、《伴女同行》、《十六岁花季》、《蓝色连衣裙》……青春激情,纯洁新鲜。这里既是你消遣娱乐、陶冶情操的情感花园,也是你领略英语风采、了解英语世界的一道美丽风景线。

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

爱的舞蹈/青闰主编.-西安:西安交通大学出版社,
2000.1
(英语温馨夜读系列)
ISBN 7-5605-1228-3

I. 爱… II. 青… III. 英语-对照读物-英、汉
IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2000)第 13101 号

*

西安交通大学出版社出版发行
(西安市咸宁西路 28 号 邮政编码:710049 电话:(029)2668316)
陕西宝石兰印务有限责任公司印装
各地新华书店经销

*

开本:850 mm×1 168 mm 1/32 印张:7.75 字数:195 千字
2000 年 2 月第 1 版 2000 年 2 月第 1 次印刷
印数:0 001~5 000 定价:10.00 元

若发现本社图书有倒页、白页、少页及影响阅读的质量问题,请去当地销售部门调换或与我社发行科联系调换。发行科电话:(029)2668357,2667874

1. The Hand on the Latch

门上的手

那女人站在窗边，默默地注视着入冬以来的第一场积雪。突然，她听到一阵低低的、急促的敲门声从外面传来

.....



The woman stood at the window, listening. She had been standing there for a few minutes. She was alone in the log house, looking at the desolate prairie(草原) and the first snow of winter.

Not until she had heard that sound was she really frightened.¹ Her husband had often left her alone like this, for days at a time. Only now, when she was at last sure that she was going to bear a child(生孩子), things seemed different. Why hadn't she told her husband the news before he rode away?

He had been too distraught(极其烦恼的). If he had known she was with child, he would not have left her. But he was troubled enough, as it was. She could recall him as he had stood near this very window, hands on her shoulders, and told her about the money. He was tax collector of that frontier(边境;边疆) county; he had brought home a large bag of money and had stowed(储藏;收藏) it in a biscuit tin which he'd buried under a plank(厚木板) in the kitchen floor.²

"Why?"

Well, bad news! Their own little store of savings in a distant village was threatened by a failing bank. He must hurry there and try to save their money if he could. He wouldn't dare travel that far with the county's money on his person, so he'd buried it here. After their own savings were taken care of, he would go to the town where the state bank was and deposit(储存) the people's cash there.

"Promise me that while I'm away you will not leave this house,³" he had said, "Or let anybody come in, on any pretext(借口;托词)."

“I promise,” she answered.

Now he had been gone for several hours; night was coming on (开始; 发生), snow and darkness were falling on the lonely house and she had heard a noise. It was not the wind; she knew the sound the wind made as if trying doors and windows with a furtive (偷偷摸摸的) hand. Not, what she heard was a knocking, low and urgent. By pressing her cheek against the extreme corner of the windowpane (窗玻璃) she could make out a man's figure (隐约可见的人影) leaning against the front door. He had been knocking for a while.

Hastily she drew back from the window, went to the mantel (壁炉台), and took down her husband's pistol. He had taken his other pistol with him, and bitter luck, had carried off the powder flask. So the remaining pistol was useless. With the empty weapon in her hand, she hastened to the locked door.

“Who is there?” she called.

“I am a wounded soldier. I've missed my way and I can't drag myself any further. Please let me in.” He had been muttering these words over and over again before she called.

“My husband made me promise not to let anybody in while he is away,” she told him honestly.

After a while, he pleaded, “Open the door and look at me. You'll see that I can do you no harm.”

“My husband will never forgive me,” she sobbed, but she let him in. He seemed at the last point of exhaustion (精疲力尽)—a tall, shambling (蹒跚的) fellow with flakes of snow on his pale, harsh face and bandaged arm.

She put him in her husband's chair by the fire, dressed his wound and wrapped it in fresh bandages. She set before him the supper she had prepared for herself. When he had eaten, she made

up a bed of rugs and blankets for him in a back room. He lay down and seemed to fall instantly asleep.

But was he really asleep? Had she been trapped(使堕入圈套)? Was he merely waiting for her to go to sleep?

In torment(痛苦;烦恼) she walked the floor of her room, expecting anything. The night became very still, except for the soft crackling of the log fire. And then... a very low sound, small, purposeful, aware of itself. It was not louder than the whittling(啃咬声) of a mouse. Where did it come from? The man in the next room? Taking up the lamp, she crept down the narrow passage and stood listening. Surely, his breathing was too loud; he was pretending. She opened the door, went in, and bent over the sleeping man. He seemed really asleep.

She left the room, and at once she heard the noise again. This time she knew what it was: someone was trying to pick(撬开) the lock of the front door.

From the toolbox she got out her husband's great clasp knife(折刀), then crept back to the man's bedside. She shook him by the shoulder and he opened his eyes with a groan.

"Listen!" she whispered. "Someone has been trying to break into the house. You must help me!"

"Who has been breaking in? A thief?" he asked dazedly(茫然地;恍惚地), "There's nothing here to take."

"Yes, there is—there's a lot of money hidden under the kitchen floor." And then she could have bitten off her tongue for having told him.

"Take my pistol," he said. "I can shoot only with my right hand, and that's useless. Give me your knife."

For an instant she hesitated. Then, as she heard again the

sound at the latch, she swiftly made the exchange, putting the knife into his uninjured hand.

"You'll have to take care of the first one that comes in," he said. "Stand near the door and the minute it opens, fire. Here are six bullets. Keep on firing till he goes down and stays down. I'll be waiting behind you with the knife to meet the second one. As soon as we're in position, blow out the lamp."

"The sound of picking has been going on for the last few minutes," she told him and she blew out the lamp. All was dark. The sound of picking ended, and there came a sound of wrenching(猛扭; 抢取). The bar was giving. Then the door opened and a man slipped in.

For an instant she saw his figure clearly against the snow, and she fired. He fell, but immediately scrambled(爬) to his feet, and she shot again. He fell and dragged himself to his knees, and she shot him once more. Then he sank slowly with his face against the wall and moved no more.

The soldier leaned forward, with an oath. "So there was only one!" he cried. "Good shot, missus(太太)!"

He pulled the body over on its back and they saw that the face was covered with a mask. The woman drew near as the soldier pulled the mask from the dead man's face.

"Do you know him?" he asked.

"He's a stranger to me!" she replied. And with eyes steadfast(坚定的) with courage, she continued to look down on the face of the man who had come back to rob himself—her husband.

Notes

1. Not until she had heard that sound was she really frightened. not until

放在句首,要进行部分倒装,所以便将 was 放在了主语 she 的前面。

2. he had brought home a large bag of money and had stowed it in a biscuit tin which he'd buried under a plank in the kitchen floor. which 引导的是一个定语从句,对 biscuit 进行补充说明。
3. Promise me that while I'm away you will not leave this house. 这是一个祈使句,that 从句中又包括一个 while 引导的时间状语从句。

Exercises

1. Comprehension:

- 1) What did the husband do?
 - A. He was a bank clerk.
 - B. He was a tax collector.
 - C. He was a soldier.
 - D. He was a businessman.
- 2) The husband carried off the powder flask _____.
 - A. by mistake
 - B. because he did not have enough bullets
 - C. on purpose
 - D. because his wife did not need it

2. Questions:

- 1) When and where did the story happen?
- 2) Why did the husband bring the money home and bury it under the kitchen floor?

2. Love Tea

爱情茶

詹姆斯决定将自己的事务推迟半小时,亲自到她那里去一趟,但他心里又七上八下,不知如何是好……



James Cushat-Prinkly was a young man who always knew that one of these days he would marry;¹ but up to the age of thirty-four he had done nothing at all about it. He liked and admired a great many women generally without picking out one for a wife, just as one might admire the Alps without feeling that one wanted any particular mountain as one's own private property(私人财产).

His lack of will in this matter made his women relatives rather impatient. His mother, his sisters, an aunt, and two or three others watched his most casual dates in the way in which a group of unexercised(未经训练的) dogs concentrates on the slightest movements of a human being who may possibly take them for a walk.² James Cushat-Prinkly was aware how much his family hoped he'd find a wife. When his Uncle Jules died and left him a comfortable amount of money it really seemed only correct to find someone to share it with him.

Meanwhile, most of his female relatives had clearly decided on Joan Sebastable as the most suitable young woman among his friends to whom he might propose marriage(求婚). James became gradually used to the idea that he and Joan would go together through the usual stages. It was necessary, however, to ask the lady what she thought about the matter; the family had so far helped the relationship along as much as possible, but the actual proposal would have to be James' own effort.

Cushat-Prinkly walked across the Park towards the Sebastable home. He was glad to feel that he was going to get the thing settled and off his mind that afternoon. Proposing marriage, even to a nice girl like Joan, was a rather troublesome(麻烦的) business, but one could not have a honeymoon and then a life of married happiness

without proposing first.

His thoughts were interrupted by the sound of a clock striking (敲) the half-hour. Half-past four. A frown settled on his face. He would arrive at the Sebastable home just at the hour of afternoon tea. Joan would be seated at a low table, covered with all sorts of silver pots, milk jugs and delicate teacups. Her voice would tinkle (发出琅琅声) pleasantly in a series of little friendly questions about weak or strong tea, how much, if any, sugar, milk, cream, and so forth(等等). "Is it one lump(块) of sugar? I forgot. You do take milk, don't you? Would you like some more hot water, if it's too strong?"

Cushat-Prinkly had read of such things in novels, and hundreds of actual experiences had told him that they were true to life. Thousands of women, at this afternoon hour, were sitting behind delicate tea sets(茶具), with their voices tinkling pleasantly in a flow of little questions.

Cushat-Prinkly hated the whole system of afternoon tea. According to his theory of life a woman should lie on a sofa, talking with charm and wit, or merely silent as a thing to be looked on. From behind a silk curtain a small servant boy should silently bring in a tray with cups and sweets, to be accepted silently, without endless talk about cream and sugar and hot water. If one was really in love, how could one talk sensibly(理智地) about weekend tea! Cushat-Prinkly had never told this opinion to his mother; all her life she had tinkled pleasantly at tea-time behind her teacups and her silver, and if he had spoken to her about sofas and servant boys and so on she would have thought him rather crazy.

Now, as he passed through the streets that led to Joan's house he became horrified at the idea of finding Joan Sebastable at her

table. A momentary relief presented itself: on one floor at the noisier end of Esquimault Street lived Rhoda Ellam. Rhoda was a distant cousin, who made a living by creating hats out of expensive material. The hats really looked as if they had come from Paris; the money she got for them unfortunately never looked as if it was going to Paris. However, Rhoda found life amusing and had a fairly good time.

Cushat-Prinkly decided to walk up to her place and put off by half-an-hour or so the important business which lay before him. With luck he could thus reach the Sebastable mansion (宅邸) after the last teacups had been cleared away.³

Rhoda welcomed him into a room that was wonderfully clean and comfortable.

"I'm having a picnic meal," she announced. "There's caviare (鱼子酱) in that jar by your arm. Begin on that brown bread-and-butter while I cut some more. Find yourself a cup; the teapot is behind you. Now tell me about hundreds of things."

She said no more about food, but talked amusingly and made her visitor talk amusingly too. At the same time she cut the bread-and-butter with great skill and brought out red pepper and sliced lemon. Cushat-Prinkly found that he was enjoying an excellent tea without having to answer any questions about it whatsoever (= whatever, 语气比后者强).

"And now tell me why you have come to see me," said Rhoda suddenly. "I hope you've come about hats. I heard that you now have some money, and, of course, I thought that it would be a beautiful thing for you to celebrate by buying expensive hats for all your sisters. They may not have said anything about it, but I feel sure they think this way too."

“I didn’t come about hats,” said her visitor. “In fact, I don’t think I really came about anything. I was passing and I just thought I’d look in and see you. Since I’ve been sitting talking to you, however, a rather important idea has come to me. Let me tell you what it is.”

Some forty minutes later James Cushat-Prinkly returned to his family, with an important piece of news.

“I’m engaged to be married,” he announced.

They were very excited.

“Ah, we knew! We saw it coming. We could tell weeks ago!”

“I’ll bet you didn’t,” said Cushat-Prinkly. “If any one had told me at lunch-time today that I was going to ask Rhoda Ellam to marry me and that she was going to accept, I would have laughed at the idea.”

It was rather difficult for James’ women relatives to have to switch their enthusiasm(热情) in an instant from Joan Sebastable to Rhoda Ellam but, after all, it was James’ wife who was in question, and his opinion had to be considered.

On a September afternoon of the same year, after the honeymoon abroad had ended, Cushat-Prinkly came into the living-room of his new house in Granchester Square. Rhoda was seated at a low table, behind a lot of teacups and shining silver. There was a pleasant tinkling note in her voice as she handed him a cup.

“You like it weaker than that, don’t you? Shall I put some more hot water in it? No?”

Notes

1. James Cushat-Prinkly was a young man who always knew that one of these days he would marry. who 引导的是定语从句, 修饰 a young

man。

2. His mother, his sisters, an aunt, and two or three others watched his most casual dates in the way in which a group of unexercised dogs concentrates on the slightest movements of a human being who may possibly take them for a walk. in which 和 who 引导的都是定语从句,分别修饰 the way 和 a human being。
3. With luck he could thus reach the Sebastable mansion after the last teacups had been cleared away. thus 放在句中主要是为了行文方便,一般情况下 thus 放在句首。

Exercises

1. Comprehension:

- 1) James Cushat-Prinkly's women relatives were impatient because _____.

- A. he did not have girl friends
- B. he did nothing about marriage until he was 34 years old
- C. they disliked his girl friends
- D. they did not know his girl friends

- 2) Cushat-Prinkly went to the Sebastable home _____.

- A. to propose marriage to Joan Sebastable
- B. to propose marriage to Rhoda
- C. to have afternoon tea
- D. to meet his friends

2. Questions:

- 1) What was James Cushat-Prinkly's theory of life?
- 2) Why did Cushat-Prinkly decide to go to Rhoda Ellam's place?

3. A Real-life Drama

真情演绎

汽车撞断护栏的钢缆,冲出陡峭的河岸,在空中停留了一小会儿,便一头扎进了湍急的河水中。丹尼尔和赛特一下子被眼前的情景惊呆了……



Setet Gomez, 17, had always had a flair for(对……很有眼光) the dramatics. A senior at Calvary Christian Academy in Fort Worth, Texas, she had been chosen to direct the school play.¹ But she never expected she would be thrust into a real-life drama of her own.

It was a cold, overcast(阴霾的) Thursday in February 1992 when Setet and fellow drama student Daniel Whitehead, 16, a sophomore(二年级学生), left school after a rehearsal(彩排;排练). The academy was perched on top of a small hill overlooking a busy four-lane highway that ran along the banks of the Trinity River.² There were two parking lots, divided by a grassy slope. Students used the lower lot, closer to the highway. The lot nearer the school was reserved for teachers and visitors. Kids would benefit from the climb, it was thought. Setet followed Daniel to his car, then waited as he unlocked it.

Suddenly, a terrified scream ripped(撕破) the air. Both teenagers whirls around. Up near the school's entrance, a woman stood frozen. A brown station wagon(= estate car,旅行车;客货两用轿车) was rolling, driverless, down the slope, headed straight for the highway. "My babies are in there!" the woman was screaming. Her words sent chills down Daniel's and Setet's spines(脊椎).

Dropping their books, both teenagers took off running. The vehicle rolled through both parking lots and onto the busy highway-with Setet and Daniel racing after it. Horns barked and tires screeched. Miraculously(奇迹般地;令人惊奇地), the station wagon made it across the highway. But worse danger lay ahead: the deep rushing waters of the Trinity River. Snapping through the steel guardrail(护栏;扶栏) cable, the car shot off the steep riverbank. It hung in the air for an endless moment before nosing down(使……俯

飞) into the swift, muddy water.

Daniel and Setet stopped, horror-stricken(惊恐万分的). The hysterical mother panted up behind them. "Please save my babies!" she shrieked. "I can't swim!" Without hesitation, both teenagers dived off the bank. The more athletic(健壮的) of the two, Daniel reached the car first. The cold made him gasp, but he had to get to the kids before the car sank! He swam to the front passenger door and tugged at the handle; it wouldn't budge. When he peered inside, he saw a baby girl staring up at him. Two other children—a girl about 5 and a boy about 3—were in the backseat, screaming.

Suddenly, a small bearded man appeared in the water beside Daniel. He was the driver of the truck that had been cruising along the highway. Together they managed to break the back window. Daniel reached in and grabbed the little girl. Setet, right behind him, grabbed the boy. The truck driver, trying to get to the baby in the front seat, had tried every door without success. Now, as Setet kicked away from the car, he climbed in through the broken window. Daniel was just reaching shore. Exhausted and shivering, he handed the little girl to her mother. Setet, weighed down by heavy clothing, was having trouble keeping the boy's face above water. She was relieved when another good Samaritan dived in and took him from her arms. Moments later, back on shore with Daniel, she saw the truck driver hand the baby out the car's window to another rescuer who was waiting in the water nearby.

Setet and Daniel received "Outstanding Citizen" awards from the city of Fort Worth. They enjoyed the recognition, but insist what they did wasn't remarkable. "For us it was a reflex," Setet says. "If somebody's in trouble, you help them. It's the right thing to do. I hope it's what anybody would have done in your