

· 英语简写读物 ·

A. Cronin

The Green Years

青青的岁月

(简写本)



商务印书馆

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(簡写本)

〔英〕A. Cronin 原著

〔苏联〕L. S. Golovchinskaya 改写

北京外国语学院英语系

课外阅读教材小组

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本书简介

《青青的岁月》描写孤儿罗伯特·谢农的童年生活。故事发生在苏格兰一个小城市里。谢农八岁时父母相继死亡，在外祖母家抚养长大。他的父亲是一个爱尔兰籍的天主教徒，因此，他一到苏格兰就受到歧视。宗教和民族之间的仇视给他带来不少的烦闷。谢农在一个典型的小资产阶级家庭里长大。中学毕业后，他因无力升学、找不到个人出路而感到十分苦恼。最后，他得到了外曾祖父死后的保险赔偿金，才能够继续学习。

作者阿·克洛宁善于描绘人物心理。在这本小说里，他细致地刻画儿童的心理，并通过故事情节的发展，提供了一幅描写英国小城市居民的生活图画。《青青的岁月》在1944年出版。翌年，作者又写了一本续集《谢农的道路》(Shannon's Way)，描写同一主人公的生活故事，他当了医生，作出科学发明，而荣誉却被别人夺去了。

作者本身也是一个医生。他于1896年生 in 苏格兰，1919年开始行医。后来，他完全放弃医师职务，从事批判现实主义的文学活动。他的早期作品，如《帽商的城堡》(The Hatter's Castle, 1931)，《群星

俯視》(*The Stars Look Down*, 1935), 《堡壘》(*The Citadel*, 1937) 等, 描写社会冲突, 对資本主义社会进行了尖銳的批判。但是作者的后期作品, 尤其是在第二次世界大战后所写的小說, 却避开尖銳的社会問題, 脫离了英国文学上批判现实主义的傳統。

这簡写本是苏联中学九年級学生学习英語的課外讀物。改写人是 L. S. Golovchinskaya, 1960 年在莫斯科出版。我們現在加上汉语注释和詞彙表出版, 供初学英語者閱讀。

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PLACE NAMES

Ardencaple ['ɑ:dənkeip]
 Ardfillan ['ɑ:dfilən]
 Dublin ['dʌblin]
 Ireland ['aɪələnd]
 Kilmarnock ['kilma:nɒk]
 Levenford ['li:vənfo:d]
 London ['lʌndən]
 Winton ['wintən]

BOOK ONE

CHAPTER I

Holding Mama's¹ hand I came out of the dark railway station and into the bright streets of the strange town. I had never seen Mama until today. Her tired, troubled face did not resemble my mother's face. In spite of² the chocolate she had bought me I had no warm feeling for her so far.³ During the journey from Winton she had sat opposite me silent;⁴ from time to time⁵ she had touched the corner of her eye with her handkerchief.

But now that we were out of the train⁶ she tried to look cheerful. She smiled and pressed my hand.

1. Mama — 一般为母亲的爱称，但本书里的 Mama 指的是外祖母，Papa 则是指外祖父，而 Grandpa 及 Grandma 则是指外曾祖父和外曾祖母，这可能是由于孤儿罗伯特自小在外祖母家长大，跟随着外祖母的孩子們来称呼之故。

2. in spite of — 尽管。

3. so far — 到现在为止。

4. she had sat opposite me silent — 她默默无言地和我相对而坐。

5. from time to time — 不时地。

6. now that we were out of the train... — 此刻我們下了火車了...。

"You're a good boy not to cry any more.¹ Do you think you can walk to the house? It's not too far."

I was anxious to please her.² I answered I could walk. So we did not take the cab which stood near the station.

We went down the High Street. I was so tired that I could hardly move. Opposite a large building with columns Mama said proudly:

"Here are the Levenford Municipal Offices.³ Mr. Leckie... Papa... works there."

"Papa," I thought. "That is Mama's husband. My mother's father."

Now I could hardly drag my feet. Mama looked at me with pity.

"It's too bad⁴ there are no trams today," she said.

I was much more tired than I had thought; and rather frightened. The strange town terrified me. Soon, however, we left the noise and smoke behind and entered a quiet suburb.

We stopped at last before a tall grey house with yellow curtains and the name Lomond

1. You're a good boy not to cry any more. — 你是个乖孩子，不要再哭了。

2. I was anxious to please her. — 我迫切地想使她高兴。

3. the Levenford Municipal ['li:vənfo:d mju:'nisi-pəl] Offices — 里溫福市政府。

4. It's too bad. — 真糟糕。

View.¹ It was not so nice as the other houses in the quiet street. But I liked the garden in front of it. It was full of beautiful yellow flowers.

"Here we are,² then, Robert," said Mrs. Leckie. "It's a nice place, near the village. Levenford is a smoky old town, but there is lovely country around it.³ Wipe your eyes, there's a dear,⁴ and come in."

I followed obediently. My heart was full of fear. The words of our Dublin neighbour, Mrs. Chapman, as she kissed me good-bye, rang in my ears: "What'll happen to you next, poor boy?"⁵

At the back door Mama paused: a young man of about nineteen was working on his knees in a flower plot. He rose as we approached. He was big, pale, dark-haired and wore large spectacles.

1. Lomond View ['loumænd 'vju:] — 住宅的名称。

2. Here we are. — 我們到了。

3. there is lovely country around it — 周围是可爱的乡村。

4. Wipe your eyes, there's a dear — 把眼睛擦干，真是个好孩子。

5. The words of our Dublin ['dʌblɪn] neighbour, Mrs. Chapman, as she kissed me good-bye, rang in my ears: "What'll happen to you next, poor boy?" — 在 Dublin 的隣居 Chapman 太太，她在吻別我时所說的話，又在我耳边迴响着：“可怜的孩子，这以后你不知会有什么样的遭遇呢？”

"You are here again," Mama said reproachfully. Then, bringing me forward:¹ "This is Robert."

Murdoch held out to me a large hand.

"I'm glad to meet you, Robert," he said. Then he turned to Mama, "I got these flowers from the Nursery, Mama. They did not cost me anything."

"Well, anyway, dear," Mama said, "you must wash before Papa comes. You know how angry it makes him to see you out here."

We entered the kitchen. Mama told me to sit down and rest. She took off her hat and coat, hung them behind the door and began to move to and fro² over the old brown floor. From time to time she gave me an encouraging look. I sat hardly breathing on the edge of a chair.

"We shall have dinner in the evening," she said, "because I was away.³ When Papa comes, try not to cry. It has been a great blow to him as well.⁴ Kate, my other daughter, will be in⁵ any minute, too. She is a teacher. Maybe your mother told you." She saw I was going to cry and went on hurriedly.

1. bringing me forward — 把我引向前一步。

2. to and fro — 来来回回地。

3. I was away. — 我不在家。

4. It has been a great blow to him as well. — 这对于他也是一个很大的打击。

5. will be in — 就要回来。

"Oh, I know it's confusing,¹ even for a big boy like you, to meet all his mother's relatives for the first time. And there are more of them. There's Adam, my eldest son; he doesn't live with us. Then there's Papa's Mother. She is away now, but she spends half her time with us. And there is my father who lives here always — he is your great-grandpa Gow. It's not every boy who has a great-grandpa, I can tell you. When I have his tray ready² you can take it upstairs to him. Say, how do you do, and help me at the same time."

Mama laid the table for five.³ Then she prepared a tray: she put upon it a cup of tea, a plate of jam, cheese and three slices of bread.

I looked at her with surprise: "Does Grandpa not eat his food downstairs?"⁴

Mama seemed confused. "No, dear, he has it in his room." She lifted the tray. "Can you manage? Be careful and don't fall."

I climbed the stairs and entered a strange, interesting, very untidy room. The bed was still unmade.⁵

1. it's confusing ... — ... 觉得害羞.

2. When I have his tray ready — 等我把他的食盘装好以后.

3. laid the table for five — (在桌上) 摆好了为五个人吃饭的餐具.

4. Does Grandpa not eat his food downstairs? — 外曾祖父不在楼下吃饭么?

5. The bed was still unmade. — 床还没有铺好.

My great-grandpa was sitting in a big old armchair by the fireplace. He was writing something.

He was a tall man, perhaps about seventy, with a mane of faintly red hair.¹ It was in fact red hair, which had lost some of its colour, but had not yet turned white.² His beard and moustache were of the same colour. His eyes were bright blue, not the faded blue of Mama's eyes. But the most remarkable thing was his nose. It was a large nose, large and red. It looked like a ripe, enormous strawberry.³ I had never seen such a strange nose, never.

By this time he had ceased to write and turned slowly to look at me. We stared at each other in silence. I forgot about his nose, and blushed to think of the miserable picture I must make:⁴ I was standing there in my black suit, one stocking falling down, my face pale and tear-stained, my hair red.

Still silent he pointed to the table. I put the tray down on it. Without taking his eyes

1. with a mane of faintly red hair — 长了一头淡紅色頭髮。(mane 是喻語, 原意是馬鬃)

2. turned white — 變白。

3. It looked like a ripe, enormous strawberry. — 它看上去象个熟透的、特大的草莓。

4. I ... blushed to think of the miserable picture I must make. — 我想到自己所呈現的可怜相而臉紅了。

off me! he began to eat hurriedly. Then he lit a pipe.

"So you are Robert Shannon?" he said.

"Yes, Grandpa."

"Did you have a good journey?"

"I think so, Grandpa."

"Can you play draughts?"

"No, Grandpa."

"You will, boy, if you stay here. I understand you *are* going to stay."

"Yes, Grandpa. Mrs. Chapman said there was no place for me to go."² I felt very sorry for myself.

Suddenly I had a wild longing for sympathy,³ I wanted to tell him of my terrible position. Did he know that my father had died of tuberculosis, the dreadful family disease, which had soon carried off my mother?⁴ It had

1. without taking his eyes off me — 眼睛依然看着我。

2. there was no place for me to go — 我没有地方可去。

3. I had a wild longing for sympathy — 我非常迫切地渴望别人的同情。

4. my father had died of tuberculosis [tju:bə:kju:'ləʊsɪs], the dreadful family disease, which had soon carried off my mother — 我父亲死于肺病——这可怕的疾病不久又夺去了我的母亲。

even laid a little finger on me,¹ it was whispered.

But Grandpa looked at me attentively and changed the subject.

“You are eight, aren’t you?”

“Almost, Grandpa.”

I wished to make myself as young as possible but Grandpa was pitiless.

“It’s an age when a boy should stand up for himself...² Do you like to walk?”

“I’ve never tried it much, Grandpa.”

“Well, we shall go for walks, you and me and see what good Scottish air does to us.”³ He paused. “I’m glad you have my hair.⁴ The Gow hair. Your mother had it too, poor girl.”

I could no longer hold back the desire to cry⁵ — I burst into tears.⁶ Since my mother’s funeral a week before, each time her name was

1. It had even laid a little finger on me. — 甚至我也有点传染上了. to lay a finger on=touch. 这短语在句中是个喻语. 直译的话, 整句的意思是说: 肺病甚至拿它的小指向我触了一下.

2. It’s an age when a boy should stand up for himself. — 这是一个孩子该自力更生的年龄了.

3. and see what good Scottish air does to us — 看看苏格兰的空气会带给我们什么好处.

4. I’m glad you have my hair — 我很高兴你的頭髮和我的一样 (都是紅色的).

5. I could no longer hold back the desire to cry. — 我再也忍不住要哭出来了.

6. I burst into tears. — 我大哭起来.