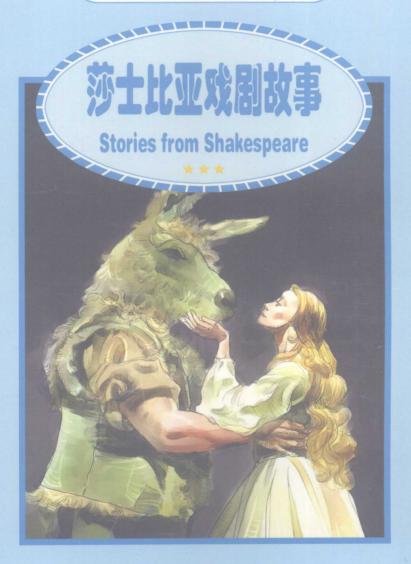
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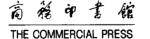




中国学生英语文库•世界经典文学简易读物

Stories from Shakespeare 莎士比亚戏剧故事

原著:〔英〕威廉・莎士比亚 (William Shakespeare) 改写:〔英〕布赖恩・希顿 (Brian Heaton) 〔英〕迈克尔・韦斯特 (Michael West) 翻译:孙恺祥





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中国学生英语文库 出版前言

"中国学生英语文库"是一套由商务印书馆专门为我国学生精心设计编辑的英语读物文库,首批推出100种英汉对照简易读物。

首批100种分四辑出版,第一辑为世界经典童话故事(20种), 第二辑为优秀科普简易读物(22种),第三辑为世界名人故事(10种), 第四辑为世界经典文学简易读物(48种)。前两辑的读者对象为小学 生,后两辑的读者对象为中学生。全四辑英汉对照,图文并茂,知识 性强,通俗易懂,引人入胜。

第一辑精选了20种美丽动人的经典童话故事,既给人以丰富的想象又陶冶人的心灵,让人在童话的世界里感受真善美。第二辑精选了22种颇具代表性的科普作品,不仅给人以科学新知,唤起人们对科学的兴趣,更让人享受到阅读的愉悦。第三辑精选了10种广为流传的世界名人故事,一个个传奇人生,一幅幅成功画卷,无一不激励人生,催人奋进。第四辑精选了48种最为脍炙人口的世界文学名著简写本,对人们开阔眼界、陶冶情操、丰富个性、提高素质大有裨益。

"中国学生英语文库"得到了我国国学大师、学界泰斗季羡林先生和我国英语教育界胡文仲先生、胡壮麟先生、陆谷孙先生、王蔷先生等众多专家、学者、教师以及国外多家出版公司的大力支持和帮助,在此表示由衷的感谢。

我们相信, 这套文库将会推动我国英语教育的发展, 并受到我国广大学生的青睐。

商务印书馆编辑部

专家的话

对于初学者和中等程度的学习者来说,阅读简易读物几乎是学好英语的必由之路。不仅要读,而且要持续地大量地读。"中国学生英语文库"为读者提供了一批精选的题材多样的简易读本。这对于提高学生的英语水平和综合素质都将起到极好的作用。

中国英语教学研究会会长 北京外国语大学教授 胡文仲

"中国学生英语文库"为我国中小学生提供了100种英汉对照简易读物,方便学生在课外阅读英语经典名著,打好扎实的英语功底。"文库"选材广泛,使学生能在知识的乐园中尽情漫游,增长知识。"文库"特别关注素质教育,让学生在学习英语的同时汲取西方文化的精髓,孕育优美情操。

北京大学资深教授 胡壮麟

我们的中小学同学若能轻轻松松读懂这套英文简易读物,不去孤立地 死记硬背一个个单词,而是用英语笔写口述来反馈整体的故事内容,依我 看至少也该有两千左右的单词可供活用。作为初学者,那也属相当了不起 了。

复旦大学杰出教授 陆谷孙

有益的书籍不仅能丰富孩子的阅历, 触发细腻的情感, 启发敏锐的洞察力, 发展对真善美的感知力, 更能培养孩子自觉读书、深入思考、发展思维和善于表达的能力。愿这套"中国学生英语文库"能为孩子们思维和语言的发展插上翅膀。

北京师范大学教授 王 蕃

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Contents 日 录

Introduction	2
The Merchant of Venice	10
A Midsummer Night's Dream	38
仲夏夜之梦 Hamlet ····································	62
哈姆雷特 Julius Caesar ·······	86
尤利乌斯•恺撒	
Questions 1	10

STORIES FROM SHAKESPEARE

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Introduction

Shakespeare

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in 1564. He is the most famous writer of plays in the English language, so it is perhaps surprising that we really know very little about his life. He probably went to the grammar school in Stratford, and so it is likely that he had a good education, especially in Latin.

The next thing we know is that he married Anne Hathaway in 1582, and they had three children: Suzanna (born in 1583), and a boy and a girl (Hamnet and Judith) born at the same time in 1585.

After that, we know nothing until 1592, when he was already writing successful plays in London. We don't know when he went there. By 1597, Shakespeare had made enough money as a writer and actor to buy New Place, the largest house in Stratford. He may have retired to New Place in 1610, but he continued to write plays. The last play he wrote was *Henry VIII*, in 1612. The company were **performing** that play at the Globe Theatre on 20 June 1613 when the theatre was burnt to the ground.

Shakespeare died at Stratford on 23 April 1616.

Comedies and tragedies

This book contains the stories of four of Shakespeare's

简介

莎士比亚

威廉·莎士比亚 1564 年出生在埃文河上的斯特拉特福镇。他是最著名的英语戏剧作家,而有关他的身世我们却竟然了解甚少。莎士比亚大概在斯特拉特福镇上过文法学校,因此,他很可能受过良好的教育,尤其是在拉丁语方面。

我们知道的第二件事是 1582 年他娶了安妮·哈瑟维,两人生有三个孩子:苏珊娜(生于 1583 年),和一对龙凤胎(哈姆内特和朱迪思)生于 1585 年。

此后几年,有关莎士比亚的情况便不为我们所知,直到 1592 年,他在伦敦创作戏剧成功。我们不知道他何时去的伦敦。待到1597 年,莎士比亚作为剧作家、演员,已经挣到了足够的钱,买下了斯特拉特福镇最大的一处房产,名叫"新居"。他大约于 1610 年回到"新居",不过仍继续写剧本。他的最后一个剧本《亨利八世》写于 1612 年。1613 年 6月 20 日,正当剧团在环球剧场演出该剧时,剧场起火,被夷为平地。

1616年4月23日,莎士比亚在斯特拉特福镇去世。

喜剧和悲剧

这本小册子收编了四个莎士比亚的戏

perform 表演

eomedy 喜剧 tragedy 悲剧 plays: two comedies and two tragedies.

Today, a *comedy* is a play in which the story and the people are amusing, and which ends happily. In Shakespeare's time, a play with a happy ending was a comedy, but the happenings in the play needn't all be amusing, and the **characters**—the people—may be far from funny. The happy ending is for the characters we are expected to like.

The Merchant of Venice ends happily for Antonio (the merchant of Venice), his friend Bassanio, the beautiful and clever Portia, and their friends. So The Merchant of Venice is a comedy. The ending is not happy for Shylock, but the people who saw the play in Shakespeare's time (it was probably first played in 1598) wouldn't have liked Shylock and wouldn't have been sorry for him.

A Midsummer Night's Dream was written at about the same time as The Merchant of Venice. It is a comedy, but of a different kind. It ends happily for everybody, including the two pairs of lovers, the king and queen of the fairies, and even for Bottom, the funny clothmaker.

Most of us like a happy ending to a story or a play, but the playgoers of Shakespeare's time also liked to have their feelings moved by a tragedy. A tragedy is a serious play that ends sadly, especially one that ends with the death of the main character or characters.

The main character, for us, in *Hamlet* is Prince Hamlet of Denmark. By the end of the play, we are very sorry for him, but we don't feel that a happy ending would be right. He dies, and we are sad, but he has died well, and we feel that the ending is right.

Julius Caesar himself is the cause of almost everything that happens in the tragedy *Julius Caesar*, but he is not the character whose feelings we share. That character is

剧故事:两个喜剧,两个悲剧。

依据今天的标准判断,喜剧指的是:所讲的故事和人物都很有趣,结局也皆大欢喜的戏剧。在莎士比亚时代,大团圆结局的剧也被称为喜剧,不过剧中发生的事情倒不一定都是逗人乐的,角色,即人物,有可能一点也不滑稽。美好的结局是为我们可能喜欢的人物设计的。

character 剧中人物

《威尼斯商人》的结尾对于安东尼奥(威尼斯商人)、他的朋友巴萨尼奥、美丽而聪明的鲍西娅以及他们的朋友们来说是美好的,因而《威尼斯商人》是一出喜剧。夏洛克的下场很不幸,但莎士比亚时代看这出剧的观众(此剧大概于 1598 年首次登台)都不会喜欢夏洛克,也不会同情他。

be sorry for sb 同情,怜悯

《仲夏夜之梦》大约与《威尼斯商人》同时创作。这是一出喜剧,但类型不同于《威尼斯商人》。剧终时皆大欢喜,所有的人,包括两对恋人、仙王和仙后,甚至那位可笑的织匠波顿,都有圆满的结局。

我们大多数人都喜欢一个故事或一出戏有美满的结尾。不过莎士比亚时代看戏的人也喜欢自己的情绪能为悲剧所感染。 悲剧是指结局悲惨的正剧,尤其是指以主人公或其他人物的死亡为结局的戏剧。

对我们来说,《哈姆雷特》的主人公是 丹麦王子哈姆雷特。到该剧结尾时我们都 很同情他,但也会觉得欢乐的结局并不恰 当。他死了,我们很悲伤,但他死得其所, 我们也觉得这个结果很自然。

悲剧《尤利乌斯·恺撒》中发生的一切 事几乎都是尤利乌斯·恺撒本人造成的, 但是我们却没有与他的感情产生共鸣。剧 Brutus. Even his enemy says about Brutus that "This was the noblest Roman of them all." He dies in the play, partly because that is what really happened in history (in 42 BC), partly because it is the only end that seems right.

Reading the stories

When we read the stories in this book, we must try to see the action and hear the spoken words in two ways. First, as they were in history; second, as they were played in the theatre in Shakespeare's time, with the actors wearing the clothes of Shakespeare's time.

Venice in the sixteenth century was a powerful Italian city-state. Its merchants traded with countries all round the Mediterranean Sea. Precious goods and materials from the south and east of Asia came to it by sea from the countries on the eastern coasts of the Mediterranean. The Venetian merchants sold them to traders from every part of Europe. The Duke (called the Doge) ruled with a Grand Council.

The city of Athens in ancient Greece was a less clear picture in the minds of Shakespeare and the British people of Queen Elizabeth I's time. Shakespeare didn't want the setting to be too clear. He knew, of course, that his Duke of Athens was a story-book hero (Theseus) from the days before history was written. In such a place in a far-away world he could bring in fairies, with their king and queen, and magic. And it was all fun if the people in his theatre seemed to find some very foolish "workmen from Athens" surprisingly like workmen of London in their own time.

Denmark in the tenth century was nearly as misty as ancient Greece, but some of the people in Shakespeare's theatre knew that parts of England had Danish rulers at that time.

中打动我们的人物是布鲁图。甚至他的敌人也这样谈论他:"他是所有罗马人中最高贵的人。"他在剧中死去,原因之一是历史上(公元前 42 年)确有此事,另一个原因是,这是唯一看似合理的结局。

故事阅读

要阅读书中的故事,我们应当尝试两种方法:看表演和听台词。第一种方法是把故事当成历史上确有其事;第二种方法是置身于莎士比亚时代的表演舞台,演员穿着莎士比亚时代的服饰扮演角色。

16世纪,威尼斯是意大利一个强大的城邦,当地的商人与地中海各国进行商贸往来。南亚和东亚的奇珍异宝和贵重货物从地中海东部海岸通过海路到达威尼斯。威尼斯的商人将这些东西卖给欧洲各地来的客商。公爵(当地称之为总督)通过大市政会统治着威尼斯。

century 世纪 precious 珍贵的

伊丽莎白一世时期的英国人以及莎士比亚本人对于古希腊雅典城的情况并是特别清楚。莎士比亚也不想故事的背景过于清晰。他当然知道他所创作的雅典公(不过是史前时期传奇故事中的主人公(苏斯)。故事发生在一个如此遥远的地方,因而莎士比亚便可以在剧中注入童话成分:仙王、仙后,还有魔法。如果剧场中的观众发现舞台上某些"傻呆呆的雅典工匠"与伦敦当时的工匠出奇相像,那当然非常有趣。

环境,背景

setting

丹麦在 10 世纪时的情况几乎与古希腊一样模糊不清,不过,莎士比亚剧院的一些观众知道,英国的部分地区当时是由丹麦人统治着。