

绝妙好立丛书

最动人的回忆

翁 磊 杜 蕾 刘锦宏◇编著

THE MOST
AFFECTING MEMORY

- 精选 **40** 篇英文经典回忆故事
- 英汉对照, 图文结合



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内 容 提 要

本书精选了40篇经典英文回忆故事,采用英汉对照的方式编排内容,是不可多得的阅读、学习和欣赏精品。

本书既可供英语爱好者学习和休闲阅读,也可供高校英语专业的学生作为课外阅读材料使用。

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前 言

情感是人类特有的东西，也是世间最美好的事物之一。甜蜜的爱情，真挚的友情，浓浓的亲情曾感动了一代又一代的读者，对这些情感的追求和歌颂是文学作品中亘古不变的主题。而由这些情感衍生出的感人情书和动人回忆，也往往被许多人所津津乐道。

为了帮助读者在轻松休闲地享受阅读乐趣的同时，在潜移默化中扩大词汇量，增强对英语的感性认识，了解英语国家的文化风俗，提高学习英语的自信心和兴趣，我们编写了本套中英文对照休闲阅读系列丛书，并在选材和编排上作了精心安排，努力使读者在轻松的氛围中有最“美”的感受。本丛书正是抓住了“情”这条主线，并以此作为统领整部书编排选材的一个纲领，从爱情、友情、情书、回忆四个角度，向广大读者全方位地展示了人类丰富的情感世界。

本丛书分为四册，分别为：《最美丽的爱情》、《最感人的情书》、《最真挚的友谊》和《最动人的回忆》。编者从众多文章中精心选取了一系列浪漫传奇的经典爱情故事，蜚声古今、感天动地的经典情书，高山流水般的经典友情故事和带着淡淡忧伤和无限怀念的经典回忆录。在编排上，本丛书采取中英文对照的方式，并尽量在忠于原作者情感的前提下对每篇小品文进行精心翻译，就一些重点实用的词汇进行解释，以方便大家对文章的理解和扩充大家的词汇量。

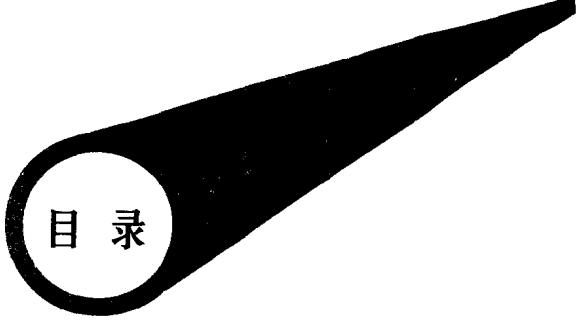
通过阅读本丛书，您将会感受到与众不同的阅读体验和语言享受。您能感动于通过美丽的英文所体现出的爱情的纯度、情书的力度、友情的广度和回忆的深度。当然，此丛书最终目的是帮助大家提高英语的阅读水平，相信您在读完本丛书后，在词汇量、阅读能力和写作能力方面都会有很大的进步。

本书适用面较宽，既可供英语爱好者学习和休闲阅读，也可供高校英语专业的学生作为课外阅读材料使用。

由于编者水平有限，书中难免会存在错误和缺陷，欢迎广大读者批评指正。

编者

2007年7月于武汉



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一生的转变

The background of the page is a soft, yellow-toned illustration of a flower, possibly a lily, with delicate petals and long, thin stamens. The illustration is rendered in a painterly style with visible brushstrokes and a warm, golden-yellow color palette. It occupies the upper and right portions of the page, framing the text.

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A Beautiful Memory

美好回忆

Er... the loveliest house that I've ever lived in was one that I lived in with my grandparents when I was a child. And the name of the house was Crosslands. And I have some very happy memories of Crosslands.

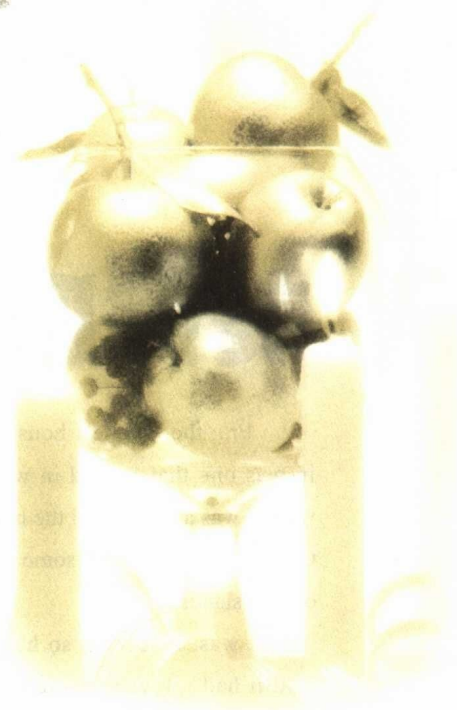
It was, it seemed so huge to me as a child. And it had a lovely living room with a piano in it and a lovely sort of hall with lots of carpets and chests and antiques and so on. And there was a mysterious room, it was the drawing room, and we only used it on Sundays, or when the vicar came for tea, or Christmas Day or Easter Day^①, and I was — used to be amazed about this room because it had the best furniture in it but it was covered up with sheets — it was as if all the furniture was wearing clothes — and it seemed to me ridiculous^② that we couldn't enjoy this beautiful furniture all the week through really.

嗯……我住过的最可爱的房子，就是小时候和爷爷奶奶一起住的房屋了。房子的名字叫“十字地带”，它留给我一些非常愉快的回忆。

房子，在几时的我眼里，感觉真是好大啊！可爱的起居室里摆放着一架钢琴，漂亮的大厅里有各种各样的地毯、柜子、古董等东西。还有一间很神秘的房间，就是会客厅，我们只在周日，以及牧师来喝茶、圣诞节或者复活节的时候才用到它。房间里面有最好的家具，却总是覆盖着东西——好像所有的家具都穿上了外衣，因此，那时候我一直对这间房子充满了好奇。不过，令我感到不可思议的是，这么漂亮的家具我们却不能在一周内每天都享用。



And probably my favorite room was the kitchen. It had a lovely red flagstone^③ floor, which was always highly polished, and an Aga, you know one of those big cookers that heats the whole room so it was always warm there, and there was a kind of clothes-horse above it that we used to hang all our clothes on, and it was just — it was lovely. It was a very warm room with baked bread and — my grandmother used to make ice cream and we'd eat it in there and... there was a vegetable garden leading from there so I spent a lot of time in the vegetable garden picking peas and eating them — my grandmother used to get really cross with^④ me because I used to pick all the vegetables and the fruit for our meals and then I'd eat half of them, because they tasted so delicious coming fresh from the garden.



我最喜欢的房间，也许就是厨房了吧。令人愉快的红色石质地板，总是被擦得亮亮的。房间里有一个大炉子，把整个屋子烤得暖暖和和的，壁炉上面挂着一个衣架，我们的衣服都挂在衣架上，真的是很合适，也很漂亮。烤着香香的面包，房间里真是好温暖啊。奶奶还常做冰淇淋，我们就在这个房间里享用美食……从厨房能够通往菜园，我常在园子里摘豌豆吃。我会把菜园里奶奶用来做饭的蔬菜和水果摘个精光，然后几乎能吃掉一半，主要是因为从菜园里摘的新鲜蔬菜太好吃了。奶奶有时看到我的“劣迹”真的生气了。

Now, I went back to it a few years ago and it was a big mistake. They've modernized it inside, they've got rid of those lovely old fireplaces... have just gone. And they've knocked a wall down so the drawing room and the living room have become one big modern plastic kind of room.

几年后，我回到这里——这真是一个很大的错误——房子里面装修得很现代化了，那些漂亮的壁炉也拆掉了……都已经不存在了。他们把会客厅和起居室之间的墙拆掉，改为一间很现代的充满塑料装饰的大房间。

But I think what upset me most about it was the feeling that the house had shrunk, it had become smaller and that my memory of this lovely large warm comfortable house had turned into an old house with modernized rooms inside it. And it taught me a lesson really, that you can't go back on the past and recapture it. But there's a beautiful memory there.

然而，最让我不舒服的是感觉房子好像变小了。它越来越小，我记忆中的那个既漂亮温暖又舒服的大房子变成了一套房间装修得很现代化的老房子。我得出了一个结论，那就是你不能回到过去，更不能重新拥有它，但是，关于老房子的回忆还是一样的美好。

① Easter Day: *n.* 复活节，它是纪念耶稣基督复活的节日，在每年3月21日或该日后月圆以后第一个星期日。复活节彩蛋是最典型的复活节传统，把鸡蛋染成红色，代表耶稣受难时流出的鲜血，同时也象征复活后的快乐。

② ridiculous: *a.* 荒谬的，可笑的

③ flagstone: *n.* 石板

④ get cross with: (对……) 生气，发脾气

A Most Treasured Letter

珍貴的來信

A letter of reply is sometimes a most treasured thing. Here is a story that tells about this common and natural human sentiment^①.

The busiest woman in Labrador during one bitter cold Christmas not very long ago, was an Australian nurse by the name of Kate Austen. But Nurse Austen was not too busy to acknowledge with a long, friendly letter every gift of food or clothing received for distribution^② to the natives in that bleak^③ and barren^④ outpost of the north. Among the gifts was a box of knitting for children, knitted and sent by a woman in Toronto.

Nurse Austen was busy, harassed and not feeling too well that winter. She could have written just ordinary routine^⑤ notes of acknowledgement^⑥. But that was not her

回信有时是很珍贵的。这里的故事讲述了人类的这种最自然的感情。

不久以前一个寒冷的圣诞节，在澳大利亚拉布拉多，有一位最忙碌的女人，她就是护士凯特·奥斯汀。可是，她再忙也要写一封封长长的、亲切的信，感谢为这个地处北澳大利亚边区荒凉、贫困的村落寄来食品和衣服的每一位捐助者。在这些寄来的东西中，有一箱毛线编织品，是加拿大多伦多的一位妇女亲手给孩子们织的。

这个冬天奥斯汀护士很忙，心情和身体都不太好，她



way. She sat down and wrote the woman in Toronto a real letter telling all about the village, and the names of the children who were wearing the knitted gloves and caps, and what they said when they got them, and how they looked when they wore them. She wanted the woman who had knitted and sent all those lovely knitting “to see how much happiness and warmth she had created”. Not long after, she received the following answer from Canada.

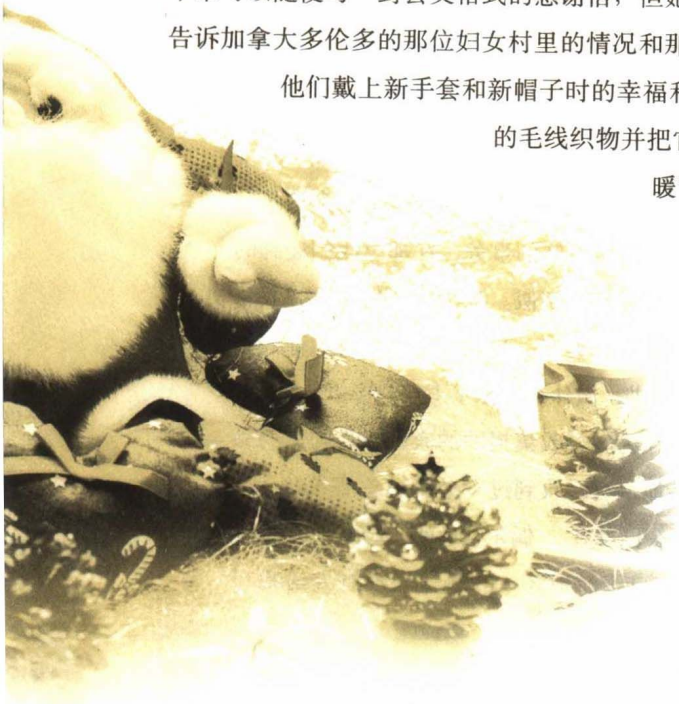
Dear Miss Austen:

Your letter made me happy. I did not expect such a full return. I am eighty years old, and I am blind. There is little I can do except knit, and that is why I knit so many caps and sweaters and scarves. Of course I cannot write this, so my daughter-in-law is doing it for me. She also sewed the seams and made the buttonholes for the knitted things.

本来可以随便写一封公文格式的感谢信，但她没有这样做。她坐下来好好地写了一封信，告诉加拿大多伦多的那位妇女村里的情况和那些孩子戴上了寄来的毛线手套和帽子，以及他们戴上新手套和新帽子时的幸福和快乐。奥斯汀要让那位亲手编织了这些可爱的毛线织物并把它们寄来的妇女“知道她创造了多少幸福和温暖”。不久，她收到了这封来自加拿大的回信。

亲爱的奥斯汀小姐：

你的来信使我很高兴，也非常意外。我已经80岁了，双目失明。我现在除了织些毛线外，已做不了什么事情，所以我就织了许多帽子、外套和围巾。当然，我也写不了信，所以我请我的儿媳代笔，她还给我的织物缝接口和钉纽扣。



I know something of the work you are doing. At the age of nineteen I married a man who was going to China to be a missionary^①. For forty years, with an occasional year at home in America, we worked in China, and during that time our two sons and a daughter were born to us, of whom only one son survives. After forty years, my husband's health began to fail. We returned to the States where he took charge of a settlement house in Brooklyn, New York. A surprising number of the problems we faced there were similar to problems we had met in China. When my husband died, I came to Toronto to live with my son and daughter-in-law. They are very good to me, and I pride myself that I am little trouble to them, though it is hard for a blind old lady to be sure of anything.

What I most wanted to say, my dear, is this. For sixty years I have been making up missionary packages of such clothing or food or medicine or books as I could collect. In various parts of the world and to various parts of the world I have sent them. Sometimes I have received a printed slip of acknowledgement from the headquarters depot^② or mission board,

对你的工作，我有一些了解。我19岁那年，嫁给了一名去中国的传教士。整整40年中，除了偶尔回美国一年半载外，我们一直在中国工作。在那期间，我们生了两个儿子和一个女儿，但只有一个儿子活下来。40年过去了，我丈夫的身体渐渐不行了。我们回到了美国，我丈夫在纽约布鲁克林负责一个居民区的事务。在那里我们碰到的一大堆问题，那些问题和我们在中国碰到的情况是何等相似。我丈夫去世以后，我移居多伦多，和我的儿子和儿媳生活在一起。他们待我很好，我为我自己没有给他们带来太多麻烦而自豪，对于一个上了年纪的盲人来讲，做什么事都不太容易了。

亲爱的，我特别想告诉你，60年来我一直在为教会收集捐助的衣服、食物、药品或书籍。我在不同地方将这些东西寄往世界各地，有时收到过有关组织总部或教会负责机构寄来的打印的短信，表示感谢，有时什么也没有。偶尔也有来信告知，我寄去的东西已分发到叙利亚，或亚美尼亚，或中国长江上游地区。可是从来没有人给我写

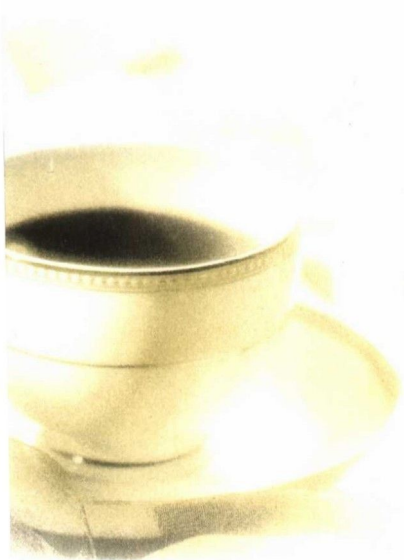
sometimes nothing. Occasionally I have been informed that my contribution was destined^⑨ for Syria or Armenia or the upper Yangtze. But never before in all those times have I had a personal letter picturing the village and telling me who is wearing the clothing and what they said. I did not suppose that ever in my lifetime I should receive a letter like that. May God bless you.

*Sincerely yours,
Laura N. Russell*

过一封亲笔信，向我描述村子里的事，告诉我谁穿上了寄去的衣服，以及他们说了些什么。我万万没有想到，在我的一生中竟会收到一封如此珍贵的回信。愿上帝保佑你。

你诚挚的
劳拉·N·拉塞尔

- ① sentiment: *n.* 情操, 情感, 情绪, 观点, 多愁善感, 感情
- ② distribution: *n.* 分配, 分发, 配给物, 销售
- ③ bleak: *a.* 寒冷的, 阴冷的, 荒凉的, 凄凉的, 黯淡的
- ④ barren: *a.* 荒芜的, 贫瘠的, 空白的, 无结果的, 没有……的(of)
- ⑤ routine: *n.* 例行公事, 常规, 日常事务, 程序
- ⑥ acknowledgement: *n.* 承认, 确认, 感谢
- ⑦ missionary: *a.* 传教的, 传教士的
- ⑧ depot: *n.* 库房, 仓库, 火车站, 公共汽车站, 航空站, 军械库, 补给站
- ⑨ destined: *a.* 去往……的



你所记得的
All You Remember



All you remember about your child being an infant is the incredible awe you felt about the precious miracle you created. You remember having plenty of time to bestow^① all your wisdom and knowledge. You thought your child would take all of your advice and make fewer mistakes, and be much smarter than you were. You wished for your child to hurry and grow up.

All you remember about your child being two is never using the rest room alone or getting to watch a movie without talking animals. You recall afternoons talking on the phone while crouching in the bedroom closet, and being convinced your child would be the first Ivy League college student to graduate wearing pullovers at the ceremony. You remember worrying about the bag of M&M[®]'s melting in your pocket and ruining your good dress. You wished for your child to be more independent.

All you remember about your child being five is the first day of school and finally having the house to yourself. You remember joining the PTA^① and being elected president when you left a meeting to use the rest room. You remember being asked "Is Santa real?" and saying "yes"

当你的孩子是个婴儿时，你所记得的，是你对自己创造出的堪称完美奇迹的作品，感到不可思议的敬畏。你记得你有大量的时间去传授你所有的智慧和知识。你认为你的孩子将会接受你所有的忠告而少犯错误，他将会比孩提时代的你聪明许多。你多希望你的孩子快快长大。

孩子两岁时，你所记得的，是从不能独自使用卫生间，从没看过一部与动物无关的电影。你记得那些蜷缩在卧室储衣间跟朋友通电话的下午，深信你的孩子将是第一个身着套头衫出席毕业典礼的常春藤联合大学毕业生。你记得你担心那袋M&M巧克力糖会在你的衣兜里融化，毁了你体面的衣服。你多希望你的孩子更独立些。

孩子5岁时，你所记得的，是他上学第一天你终于独自拥有整个房子了。你记得参加家长—教师联系会，在你离开会议室去洗手间时，你当选为会长。你记得孩子问你“圣诞老人是真的吗？”你回答“是的”，因为他还需要你的肯定回答，尽管不久他就能自己判断了。你记得在沙发垫子下一通翻腾要找出些零钱，这样牙齿精灵就会来把你孩子掉的第一颗牙带走。你多希望孩子的牙都换成了恒牙。

because he had to be for a little bit longer. You remember shaking the sofa cushions for loose change, so the toothfairy[®] could come and take away your child's first lost tooth. You wished for your child to have all permanent teeth.

All you remember about your child being seven is the carpool[®] schedule. You learned to apply makeup in two minutes and brush your teeth in the rearview mirror because the only time you had to yourself was when you were stopped at red lights. You considered painting your car yellow and posting a "taxi" sign on the lawn next to the garage door. You remember people staring at you, the few times you were out of the car, because you kept flexing your foot and making acceleration[®] noises. You wished for the day your child would learn how to drive.

All you remember about your child being ten is managing the school fund-raisers. You sold wrapping paper for paint, T-shirts for new furniture, and magazine subscriptions for shade trees in the school playground. You remember storing a hundred cases of candy bars in the garage to sell so the school band could get new uniforms, and how they

孩子7岁时，你所记得的，是合伙用车的时间安排。你学会了在两分钟内化完妆，照着汽车后视镜刷牙，因为你能给你自己找出的时间就只有汽车停在红灯前的那小段。你想过把你的车子漆成黄色，并在车库门旁的草坪上立一个“出租车”的标志牌。你记得有几次你下车后，人们盯着你，因为你不断用脚踩油门加速，制造噪音。你多希望孩子有一天能学会开车。

孩子10岁时，你所记得的，是怎么组织学校基金募捐者。你们为重新粉刷学校兜售包装纸，为购置新家具兜售T恤衫，为在学校操场上种植遮阳树劝人订阅各种杂志。你记得你在车库里存放了上百盒糖果等待出售，得到钱后学校的乐队就可以购置新制服，可是那些糖果竟在一个暖和得过头的春天的下午全都融化在一起了。你多希望孩子长大，不再演奏什么乐器了。