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#### 图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

世界经典名家名作赏析. 谐趣篇: 英汉对照/青闰, 李树德编译. 一大连:大连理工大学出版社, 2014.6 (名著的力量)
ISBN 978-7-5611-9196-5

I.①世··· II.①青··· ②李··· III.①英语 – 汉语 – 对照读物②短篇小说 – 小说集 – 世界 IV.① H319.4: I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2014) 第 113674 号

#### 大连理工大学出版社出版

地址:大连市软件园路 80 号 邮政编码: 116023 发行: 0411-84708842 邮购: 0411-84703636 传真: 0411-84701466

E-mail:dutp@dutp.cn URL: http://www.dutp.cn

大连金华光彩色印刷有限公司印刷 大连理工大学出版社发行

幅面尺寸: 168mm×235mm 印张: 19 字数: 433 千字

印数: 1~5000

2014年6月第1版 2014年6月第1次印刷

责任编辑: 高 颖 责任校对: 王笑琳

装帧设计:对岸书影

ISBN 978-7-5611-9196-5

定价: 29.80元



## 感受名著力量,点亮智慧心灯

——向文学大师致敬

谨以本套丛书献给那些深爱家人与朋友,有追求、有梦想,对生活有激情,对英 语学习有热情的读者朋友们。

我们为什么阅读名家名作?因为艺术是生活的折射,阅读名家名作能够扩展我们的自我生活体验。艺术大师通过对现实生活富有想象力的艺术演绎,让我们从中得到某种意味深长的生活启迪。

我们为什么阅读名家名作?因为文学是语言的艺术,阅读名家名作能够给我们带来愉悦身心、陶冶性情、完善心智的艺术享受。艺术大师个个都是讲故事的高手,善于描绘充满悬念的场景,采用多种多样的叙事方式和叙事技巧,通过超凡脱俗的语言和奇特精巧的构思,将人物、情节、主题巧妙融入一个个或传奇、或谐趣、或唯美、或惊悚、或隽永的故事之中,制造险象环生的情景氛围和惊心动魄的情感冲击,既使作品意蕴深邃丰沛,又给读者带来回味无穷的阅读享受。

这是一套十分值得一看的英语学习与心灵成长读物。"名著的力量"系列丛书包括《世界经典名家名作赏析——唯美篇》、《世界经典名家名作赏析——谐趣篇》、《世界经典名家名作赏析——传亦篇》、《世界经典名家名作赏析——传亦篇》和《世界经典名家名作赏析——传奇篇》五个分册。

《世界经典名家名作赏析——谐趣篇》顾名思义就是以谐趣为主线,遴选世界上最著名的小说家,如欧·亨利、马克·吐温、契诃夫、霍桑、斯蒂芬·里柯克等名家的18篇谐趣力作,让读者充分领略到谐趣文学的里里外外、方方面面。故事环环紧扣,悬念迭起,通过这些悬念紧紧抓住读者的心,刺激着读者的阅读欲望,推动着情节的发展。本集选文多姿多彩,让读者在诙谐幽默的轻松气氛中品味和欣赏名家力作

的风姿与魅力。

可以说,所选作品无论是在主题思想、人物形象上还是在语言风格、故事结构上都各具千秋、精彩纷呈,同时写作手法涉及范围较广,这里提到的写作手法主要是小说的表现手法,主要有悬念、照应、抑扬结合、点面结合、动静结合、叙议结合、情景交融、首尾呼应、伏笔照应、承上启下、开门见山、烘托、渲染、虚实相生等等。不同的写作手法对小说故事的构成起到了重要的作用,产生了异乎寻常的艺术效果。

非常感谢大连理工大学出版社的编辑们对本书稿所提的修改 意见及辛苦努力。在选材、翻译和点评过程中,也得到了宰倩、 廉凤仙、宋娟、张连亮、张灵敏、刘君武等同志的热情支持和帮助,在此深表感谢。

尽管我们力求在翻译上做到信达雅,在点评上手到、眼到、 心到,但仍不免会有遗珠之憾,恳请读者朋友们不吝赐教与雅 正。

> 编者 2014年5月

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## 最作家档案

#### Stephen Butler Leacock



# My Financial Career 我的金融生涯

# 姓名斯蒂芬·巴特勒·里柯克出生日期1869年12月30日出生地英格兰汉普郡斯旺穆尔性别男

## 成就和特色

加拿大著名幽默作家,也是加拿大第一位享有世界声誉的作家。他的幽默是一种淡淡的、含蓄的幽默,他不是靠奇特、滑稽的故事情节来把读者逗得哈哈大笑,而是善于从平淡无奇的日常生活中提炼出一些为大家司空见惯却又往往熟视无睹的可笑的和不合理的东西加以放大后呈现在读者面前,让他们产生共鸣,发出会心的微笑或无奈的苦笑;他的作品也不是让人看过笑过就完,而是耐人寻味,发人深省。他无论写景写事还是写人,笔法都十分细腻,尤其是在刻画人物方面更具有独特的本领。他的主要作品有《文学的失误》、《小镇艳阳录》、《我发现的英国》等。

# 写作背景

故事情节简单,描写一个初次与银行打交道的惊慌失措的小职员从走进银行 到逃离银行这短短十几分钟的经历。故事脉络清晰,情节发展层层深入,环环相 扣,步步推进,直达高潮。





1. rattled adj. 慌乱的

wicket
 (银行等的)营业窗口

transact
 vi. 处理事务;交易

4. irresponsible adj. 不负责任的;不可靠的

5. shamble vi. 拖着脚步走

6. sepulchral adj. 坟墓的; 低沉的

7. crumpled adj. 弄皱的 When I go into a bank I get rattled<sup>1</sup>. The clerks rattle me; the wickets<sup>2</sup> rattle me; the sight of the money rattles me; everything rattles me.

The moment I cross the threshold of a bank and attempt to transact<sup>3</sup> business there, I become an irresponsible<sup>4</sup> idiot.

I knew this beforehand, but my salary had been raised to fifty dollars a month and I felt that the bank was the only place for it.

So I shambled<sup>5</sup> in and looked timidly round at the clerks. I had an idea that a person about to open an account must needs consult the manager.

I went up to a wicket marked "Accountant." The accountant was a tall, cool devil. The very sight of him rattled me. My voice was sepulchral.

"Can I see the manager?" I said, and added solemnly, 
"alone." I don't know why I said "alone."

"Certainly," said the accountant, and fetched him.

The manager was a grave, calm man. I held my fifty-six dollars clutched in a crumpled ball in my pocket.

"Are you the manager?" I said. God knows I didn't doubt it.
"Yes," he said.

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# 我的金融生涯

我一进银行就紧张。银行里的职员令我紧张,银行里的营业窗口令我紧张,看到银行里的那些钱令我紧张,银行里的一切都令我紧张。

上银行办事,只要一跨进银行的门,想要在银行办理业务,我就变成一个没有责任能力的白痴。

这我事先就知道,但我的薪水被提到了一个月50元 钱,我觉得银行是存放这笔钱唯一的地方。

于是,我磨蹭着走了进去,胆怯地打量着四周那些职员。我以为一个人打算在银行开户必须咨询经理。

我走向一个标着"会计"的窗口前面。这位会计是个人高马大、一脸冷酷的家伙。一见他这模样,我就慌了神。我的声音变得低沉,像是来自坟墓。

"可以见经理吗?"我问,随即又郑重其事地加了一句,"单独见。"我不知道为什么要说"单独见。"

"当然。"会计说着,就把经理找来了。

经理是一个严肃庄重、冷静沉着的人。我的手在衣袋里紧紧攥着那56元钱,把它捏成了皱巴巴的一团。

"你就是经理?"我问道。天知道,我对此毫不怀疑。 "是的,"他说。 在开始段,一连用了四个 排比句。为后面的故事做 了很好的铺垫。

一进银行,我就慌了手 脚。那些职员令我发慌。

"我的声音变得低沉,像 是来自坟墓。"奇特的比 喻。

心理描写——心慌、紧 张、尴尬。就像小孩死死 拽着大人的衣角那样, "我"紧紧地攥着那56 元,把它捏成了皱巴巴的 一团。



8. interruption n. 干扰

#### 9. Pinkerton

n. (美俚)私人侦探(尤指 受雇于平克顿全国侦探事 务所的侦探)

10. prompt

vt. 促使

11. relieve vt. 减轻

#### 12. Rothschild

#### 13. Gould

n. 古尔德

(1836~1892,美国金融家和投机者,1867~1868年他与詹姆士·菲斯克和丹尼尔·德鲁经过奋斗从科尼利厄斯·范德比尔特手里夺取了伊利铁路公司。他与菲斯克企图垄断黄金市场,从而造成1869年9月24日的金融恐慌)

14. deposit vt. 储蓄 "Can I see you," I asked, "alone?" I didn't want to say "alone" again, but without it the thing seemed self-evident.

The manager looked at me in some alarm. He felt that I had an awful secret to reveal.

"Come in here," he said, and led the way to a private room. He turned the key in the lock.

"We are safe from interruption8 here," he said; "sit down."

We both sat down and looked at each other. I found no voice to speak.

"You are one of Pinkerton's men, I presume," he said.

He had gathered from my mysterious manner that I was a detective. I knew what he was thinking, and it made me worse.

"No, not from Pinkerton<sup>9</sup>'s," I said, seeming to imply that I came from a rival agency.

"To tell the truth," I went on, as if I had been **prompted**<sup>10</sup> to lie about it, "I am not a detective at all. I have come to open an account. I intend to keep all my money in this bank."

The manager looked relieved<sup>11</sup> but still serious; he concluded now that I was a son of Baron Rothschild<sup>12</sup> or a young Gould<sup>13</sup>.

"A large account, I suppose," he said.

"Fairly large," I whispered. "I propose to deposit<sup>14</sup> fiftysix dollars now and fifty dollars a month regularly."

The manager got up and opened the door. He called to the accountant.

"Mr. Montgomery," he said unkindly loud, "this gentleman is opening an account, he will deposit fifty-six dollars. Good morning."

I rose.

"我能见你吗?"我问道,"单独?"我本不想再说一次"单独",但如果不说,事情似乎过于露骨。

经理略带惊慌地看了看我。他感到我有一个可怕的 秘密要透露。

"请到这里来,"他说着,一路带着我来到了一处 私人房间。他转动钥匙把门锁打开。

"我们在这里不会受到干扰,"他说,"请坐。" 我们俩坐了下来,彼此对望着。我竟说不出话来。

"我想,你是平克顿的吧?"他说。

原来他从我神神秘秘的样子推测我是一名侦探。我知道他在想什么,这使我更加慌乱了。

"不,不是平克顿的,"我说道,言外之意仿佛是说自己是竞争对手那边的。

"说实话,"我接着说道,仿佛之前我是被人怂恿撒的谎,"我根本不是侦探。我是来开户的。我计划把我所有的钱都存入贵行。"

经理如释重负,但神情依然严肃,他立刻断定我是 罗斯柴尔德男爵的儿子,或是古尔德家族的年轻一员。

"一个大户头,我猜,"他说。

"相当大,"我轻声说。"我打算现在先存56元,以后每月定期存上50元。"

经理起身打开门,喊那个会计。

"蒙哥马利先生,"他毫不客气地大声说道,"这位先生打算开户,他要存56元钱。再见。" 我站了起来。 由于"我"的尴尬和神秘 兮兮的样子,经理误以为 "我"是到这里来调查案 件的侦探。平克顿是美国 乃至全世界最有名的侦探 之一。开设了美国历史上 第一家私人侦探社。

经理对"我"的第二个误 解,以为我是一位富贵之 家的阔少。

经理一听"我"只存56元 钱,态度大变。



15. convulsive adj. 痉挛性的

16. conjuring n. 魔术

17. invalid adj. 有病的 A big iron door stood open at the side of the room.

"Good morning," I said, and stepped into the safe.

"Come out," said the manager coldly, and showed me the other way.

I went up to the accountant's wicket and poked the ball of money at him with a quick CONVULSIVE 15 movement as if I were doing a CONJURING 16 trick.

My face was ghastly pale.

"Here," I said, "deposit it." The tone of the words seemed to mean, "Let us do this painful thing while the fit is on us."

He took the money and gave it to another clerk.

He made me write the sum on a slip and sign my name in a book. I no longer knew what I was doing. The bank swam before my eyes.

"Is it deposited?" I asked in a hollow, vibrating voice.

"It is," said the accountant.

"Then I want to draw a cheque."

My idea was to draw out six dollars of it for present use. Someone gave me a chequebook through a wicket and someone else began telling me how to write it out. The people in the bank had the impression that I was an **invalid**<sup>17</sup> millionaire. I wrote something on the cheque and thrust it in at the clerk. He looked at it.

"What! are you drawing it all out again?" he asked in surprise. Then I realized that I had written fifty-six instead of six. I was too far gone to reason now. I had a feeling that it was impossible to explain the thing. All the clerks had stopped writing to look at me.

房间旁边的一扇大铁门开着。

"再见,"我说着,一脚跨进了保险库。

"出来,"经理冷冷地说,示意我走另一方向。

我走到那个会计的窗口前,像变戏法似地飞快一抖,将那团钱递向了他。

我脸色煞白。

"给你,"我说,"把它存上。"我说话的语气似乎是说,"趁着咱们在兴头上,让咱们把这件痛苦的事 儿给办了吧。"

他接过钱, 又把它交给了另一名职员。

他要我把钱数写在一张纸片上, 名字签到一个登记簿上。我已不晓得自己在干什么了。银行在我眼前浮动。

"存上了吗?"我声音空洞而颤抖地问。

"存上了,"会计说。

"那我想开一张支票。" 网络格兰 网络西班牙

我的想法是,取出其中6元钱现在使用。一个人从窗口给我递了一本支票簿,另一个人开始教我如何完整地填写支票。银行里的人以为我是个病弱的百万富翁。我填写完支票,递给了窗口里面的那个职员。他看了看。

"什么!你要把钱重新全都取出来?"他惊愕地问道。我这才意识到我把"6"字写成了"56"。此时我已神志不清,难以思考。我感到这事儿没法解释。所有银行职员已经全都停下笔在看着我。

陷入这样的困境,我干脆一不做二不休,把心一横。

经理的市侩嘴脸暴露无遗。

因为紧张和心慌,把数字写错了。引起银行所有人的冷眼观看。

环环相扣,将故事一步一 个脚印地推向高潮。



18. plunge

n. 猛冲

19. strike

vt. (一种强烈的感情)

把……迷住

Reckless with misery, I made a plunge 18.

"Yes, the whole thing."

"You withdraw your money from the bank?"

"Every cent of it."

"Are you not going to deposit any more?" said the clerk, astonished.

"Never."

An idiot hope **struck**<sup>19</sup> me that they might think something had insulted me while I was writing the cheque and that I had changed my mind. I made a wretched attempt to look like a man with a fearfully quick temper.

The clerk prepared to pay the money.

"How will you have it?" he said.

"What?"

"How will you have it?"

"Oh"—I caught his meaning and answered without even trying to think—"in fifties."

He gave me a fifty-dollar bill.

"And the six?" he asked dryly.

"In sixes," I said.

He gave it me and I rushed out.

As the big door swung behind me I caught the echo of a roar of laughter that went up to the ceiling of the bank.

Since then I bank no more. I keep my money in cash in my trousers pocket and my savings in silver dollars in a sock.

- "对 全部的钱"
- "你要把你在这个银行里的钱抽走?
- "一分不剩。"
- "你以后也不打算存了?"那个职员惊讶地问。
- 决不。

我突然产生了一种痴望,也许他们以为在我填写支 票过程中有什么事情冒犯了我, 使我改变了主意。我力 

那个职员准备付钱。

- "这钱你要什么样的?"他问道。
- - "这钱你要什么样的?"
- "噢"——我听懂了他的意思,甚至想都没想便应 道——"50元票面的。"

他给了我一张50元的钞票。

- "那6元钱呢?"他冷冷地问道。
- "6元票面的。"我答道。

他把钱一给我, 我就跑了出去。

银行大门在我身后摆动。我听到一阵哄笑声在银行 天花板上回荡。

从那以后, 我再也不在银行存钱。我把现金存放在 裤子口袋里。把积攒的硬币存放在一只袜子里。

心理描写:用假装急性子

并没有六美元票面的钞 票。这是作者用来烘托人 物紧张心情的一种幽默方

## 名篇赏析

有些本来是为他人提供服务的部门,却像是令人生畏的衙门,里面的人个个都像凶神恶煞。这篇《我的金融生涯》就是用幽默细腻的笔调,以一个仅有几个小钱的储户在银行的遭遇对此进行讽刺。

故事情节简单,描写一个初次与银行打交道惊慌失措的小职员,从走进银行到逃离银行这短短十几分钟的经历。故事脉络清晰,情节发展层层深入,环环相扣,步步推进,直达高潮。作者幽默的笔触从语言、行为到心理的描写都随处可见。写"我"的"慌张"和"尴尬",反衬银行及其职员的嫌贫爱富、趾高气扬、盛气凌人的态度。

作者里柯克是加拿大著名的幽默作家,也是加拿大第一位享有世界声誉的作家;里柯克的幽默是一种淡淡的、含蓄的幽默。他善于从平淡无奇的日常生活中提炼可笑而富有教义的故事,放大后呈现在读者面前,让人们产生共鸣而发出会心的微笑或无奈的苦笑。因此,他的作品耐嚼有味,发人深省。