

University Reader  
大学生读书计划



# 刘震云小说选



## Selected Stories by Liu Zhenyun

English-Chinese • Gems of Chinese Literature • Contemporary

英汉对照 • 中国文学宝库 • 当代文学系列

刘震云 著  
Liu Zhenyun

中国文学出版社  
Chinese Literature Press

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**总编辑** 杨宪益 戴乃迭

**总策划** 野 莽 蔡剑峰

**编委会**(以姓氏笔划为序)

吕 华

李朋义

赵文炎

凌 原

野 莽

蔡剑峰

## 大学生读书计划

——中国文学宝库出版呼吁

在即将开机印刷这第一批 50 本名为中国文学宝库的英汉对照读本时,我们的心情竟然忧多于喜。因为我们只能以保守的 5000 册印数,去面对全国 400 万在校大学生。

虽然我们并非市场经济的局外者,若仅为印数(销售量)计,大可奋起而去生产诸如 TOFEL 应试指南,或者英语四六级模拟试题集一类的教辅图书,但我们还是决定宁可冒着债台高筑的风险,也有责任对大学生同胞发出一声亲切的呼唤:请亲近我们的中国文学。

身为向世界译介中国文学和向国内出版外语读物的,具有双重责任的出版社,我们得知目前大学生往往仅注重外语的学习而偏废了母语的提高,以及忽视了中国文学的阅读,放弃了人文知识的训练。有统计表明,某理工院校 57% 的同学不曾读过《红楼梦》等四大名著,以致校园内外流行着“样子像研究生,说话像大学生,作文像中学生,写字像小学生”的幽默。还有一副这样的对联,说大学生的文章是“无错不成文,病句错句破残句,句句不堪入目;有误方为篇,别字错字自造字,字字触目惊心”,横批“斯文扫地”。作为未来社会中坚和整个社会发展关键力量的大学生,这种“文弃”现象的流行,势必导致一场人文精神危机的爆发。对照以科学与人文精神追求为主题的五四新文化运动,八十年的历程告诉我们,以上提醒绝非危言耸听。

我们已经迈入知识经济时代,在追求科学知识的同时,创新精神已成为关键;而创新的源泉其实有赖于多学科多领域知识的交融,依靠的是新型的复合型人才,所以,文学对于新一代

的大学生来说绝非装点,而是沟通自然科学与人文科学的桥梁,使我们在汲取知识的同时更能获得智慧,于创造物质的同时还进一步丰富和完善着精神;无怪乎爱因斯坦认为自己受影响最大的竟是陀思妥耶夫斯基。由此证明,一个真正的科学家应该拥有丰富的文学和文化知识以及完整的人格。十年前,七十五位诺贝尔奖得主聚会巴黎,当时他们所发表的宣言开篇就是,“如果人类要在 21 世纪生存下去,必须回首 2500 年去吸收孔子的智慧。”确实,十年的时间让我们有目共睹,现代经济科技的飞速发展何尝不是一柄双刃的剑?只有文化的力量才能抵消随之而来的负面后果。可见,知识的获取与技能的训练对于大学生来说固然重要,但文化与修养却尤需关切。正因为大学生代表着社会先知先觉的知识力量,置身当前的文化现实,就应有一分责任感与使命感,力求对知识技能以外许多带有根本性质的精神追求形成明确的意识,从而具备一种对生命意义进行探索与追问的精神,一种以人文精神为背景的生存勇气和人格力量。那么,能够引导我们探索前行的一盏明灯,不就是闪烁着理想光芒的不朽的文学名著吗?

一个人乃至一个民族,从其对文学的亲疏态度,可以衡量出其文化素质的程度。文学应是从人类文化中升华出的理想的结晶,她“使人的心灵变得高尚,使人的勇气、荣誉感、希望、尊严、同情心、怜悯心和牺牲精神复活起来”(威廉·福克纳);无疑,只有文学才能从更高的层次上提升人的文化素质和整体素质,充实人的内心世界,焕发人的精神风貌,带给人们真善美。而亲近文学,特别是热爱祖国灿烂的文学以及文化,正是当代中国大学生加强文化修养,弘扬人文精神的有力脚步。

“越是民族的,就越是世界的”,中国文学属于中国,也属于世界。和平是人类的共同愿望,交流与共享则是新世纪的潮流。

中国当代大学生的血液里流动着数千年的文化积淀,没有理由在让世界了解中国大学生聪明才智的同时,却无缘分享我们的骄傲——中国大学生不但能够读懂英语的莎士比亚,而且能让世界感动于中国文学的伟大。

这是我们作为出版者的理想。我们原有一个世纪礼物的构想,是同大学生一起做一个“读书计划”。这一次将中国文学的最新荟萃配设高水平的英语译文,是其中推荐给新世纪大学生的第一批读物。盼望着您——我们无数知音中的 5000 名先来者,给我们鼓励,也给我们意见和批评。

**编者**

一九九九年五月三十日

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只有文学才能从更高的层次上提升人的文化素质和整体素质,充实人的内心世界,焕发人的精神风貌,带给人们真善美。而亲近文学,特别是热爱祖国灿烂的文学以及文化,正是当代中国大学生加强文化修养,弘扬人文精神的有力脚步。

## The Corridors of Power

They were county Party secretaries attending a meeting in the provincial capital, but for all the notice anyone took of them they might just as well have been production team leaders gathering in a county town. There were four of them to a room, and at mealtimes they had to queue up with everyone else in a big canteen. After three days of this they were fed up to the back teeth. Zhou, Party secretary of Pixian County, summed up their feelings:

"The damn skinflints! When they come down to our place we wine and dine them like nobody's business, but when we come here for a conference they make us scabble for every meal in the public trough!"

The others all voiced their agreement.

They discussed giving the canteen a miss for once and going out for a slap-up meal in a restaurant. The first problem, of course, was who was going to pay, but they decided to draw lots.

Pale-faced Hu, Party secretary of Nanxian County, made up the lots lying flat on his stomach on his bed. To give everybody a better chance there were four draws: one for the drinks, one for the dishes, one for the noodles with shredded meat and one for the egg soup. As luck would have it, Jin Quanli of

## 官 场

县委书记到省城开会，就像生产小队长进了县城，没人管没人问。四个人住一间房子，吃饭到大食堂排队买菜。三天下来，个个嘴里淡出鸟来。皮县县委书记老周骂道：

“妈的，他们到县上来，咱们桌上桌下招待；咱们到他们这开个会，他们顿顿让咱们吃大锅菜！”

其他几个县委书记说：“就是！”

于是商量今天晚上不到大食堂吃饭，到外边饭馆里开荤。可到饭馆开荤牵涉到一个谁掏钱的问题，大家便说：

“抓阄抓阄谁抓着谁出钱！”

白净面皮的南威县县委书记老胡就趴在铺上制阄。阄制了四组，酒一组，菜一组，肉丝面一组，鸡蛋汤一组。原想组多分些，大家分开抓，谁也不吃亏谁也不占便宜，可到一开抓，

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Chungong County lost all four rounds. As the others whooped in delight Jin tossed the four strips with his forfeits written on them out of the window, protesting: "Aw, come on. This isn't fair."

But the others wouldn't let him off. As they pushed the chagrined Jin out of the door, Secretary Bai of Wujiang County said: "What do you mean, it isn't fair? Nobody forced you to pick the right ones every time. If you'd picked blank ones you wouldn't have turned down a free meal, would you? Well, you picked the right ones, so you've got to pay."

It was ten o'clock that evening when they got back from the restaurant. They were hotly disputing whether the liquor they had had with the meal had been top quality or not, when they suddenly saw Lu Hongwu, the region Party secretary, standing in the doorway of the guesthouse.

"Where have you lot been?"

They hastened to explain, all at once: "We were going crazy cooped up in here, so we went out to a restaurant for a meal."

At the same time Zhou pulled a paper parcel from inside his jacket and offered it to Lu.

"We saved you some bits of chicken," he said.

This mollified Lu, and he said as he munched on the chicken: "Shen, the head of the provincial Party organization committee, was looking for you just now. He wanted to have a talk but couldn't find any of you."

That sobered them up pretty quick, and they all went straight to their room to wash their feet and go to bed. But each

四个有字的全让春官县县委书记金全礼给抓住了。众人一片欢呼，金全礼将阉扔到窗外说：

“不算不算，这回不算！”

众人推着他出了门，乌江县县委书记老白说：

“不算，谁让你抓着了？你抓不着，跟我们吃个闲酒；你抓着，就该你出钱！”

晚十点，众人才从饭馆归来。正争论着今天的酒“土头不上头”，忽然发现带队来开会的地委书记陆洪武在宾馆门口站着，问：

“你们到哪里去了？”

众人说：

“陆书记，太熬寡得慌，到饭馆吃了一顿！”

这时皮县县委书记老周从怀里掏出一个纸包，向陆洪武说：

“还给你剩了几块鸡杂！”

这时陆洪武倒笑了，吃着鸡杂说：

“刚才省委组织部申部长找你们谈话，硬是一个人找不见！”

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one just lay there, unable to sleep. The fact was that these county Party secretaries were just as much afraid of the provincial organization committee head as the branch secretaries of production brigades were of them — as if their very lives were in his hands. Moreover, it had been known for some time that there was a vacancy in the region for a deputy prefect which would be filled from among the ranks of the county Party secretaries. But which one would it be out of a total of eight of them? Nobody had any idea, but there had already been an enquiry, and now the provincial organization committee head wanted to talk to them all. So it looked as though the matter was coming to a conclusion. The whole bunch of them had been sitting drinking together; which one of the drinkers was destined for promotion? This problem caused group insomnia: Zhou kept going out to the toilet, and Bai kept coughing and spitting out of the window. They were all up first thing the following morning, shuffling off to the washroom with dark rings around their eyes, and all feeling somewhat uncomfortable with each other.

In the morning they heard the provincial Party secretary's report, and in the afternoon they discussed it. But as nobody seemed able to concentrate on the report, there wasn't much of a discussion. The provincial organization committee head summoned them individually for interviews in the quarters of Region Party Secretary Lu. His accommodation was a little better than had been afforded the county Party secretaries —

一听说申部长找大家谈话，大家刚下去的酒全醒了。各人回到房间洗了脚睡觉，躺到床上仍睡不安稳。各县县委书记怕省委组织部长，就像大队支书怕县委书记一样。小命一条，全在人家手里操着。他们这个地区，缺额一个副专员，早就听说要从各县县委书记中提拔一个，但一个地区八个县，提哪个不提哪个？大家都弄不清。以前有过考察，现在省委组织部长找大家谈话，看来事情有了头绪。七八个人在一块吃酒，哪一个吃酒者能提为副专员？大家思来想去，都有些失眠，老周一个劲儿出去解手，老白不住地对着窗户咳嗽吐痰。第二天早晨起床，大家一起去洗脸，眼圈都有些发黑，相互间都有些不自然。

上午听新来的省委书记作报告，下午讨论。上午大家报告没听好，下午大家又没法讨论，省委组织部长开始一个一个叫出来个别谈话，被叫到地委书记陆洪武的房间。陆洪武住的比县委书记好一些，两个人一屋，带卫生

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two people to a room and their own toilet. One by one they came out of their interviews, lathered in sweat. In fact, the interrogations were pretty straightforward; he just asked each one his age, family situation, how work in the county was going, what was planned for the future, etc. The victims had all prepared elaborate speeches beforehand, but these were completely forgotten as soon as the interview started. The conversation was cramped and wooden — just question followed by answer. Each one, as he left Lu's room, felt vexed and embarrassed, as if he had made a proper fool of himself.

Three days before the conference was to break up it seemed that the matter had been brought to a head. It was rumoured that the provincial organization head had submitted a report to the provincial Party secretary. The latter had taken into account the results of the earlier cadres' investigation and sought Lu's opinion, and this had indicated that Jin Quanli, Party secretary of Chungong County, would get the job.

It so happened that there was a regular meeting of the provincial Party committee that very evening, at which the promotion proposal was passed. The decision was relayed to Lu by the provincial organization head, who added that an official appointment would be made in a month's time. When the county Party secretaries heard the news they all lost a night's sleep in disappointment. Nevertheless, they put a brave face on it, pretending to be highly gratified at the decision, and



间。一个个被叫去谈了话，出来头上都冒汗。其实谈话内容并不复杂，无非问问多大年龄，家庭情况，县里搞得如何，今后对工作有什么安排等等。原来大家都准备一套话应付部长，谁知一上阵全忘了，谈话显得局促、紧张，问一句答一句。离开陆洪武的房间，每个人都对自己刚才的表现感到羞愧和懊恼。

临到散会的前三天，事情似乎有了头绪。据说组织部长向省委书记作了汇报，结合以前干部的情况，并征求地委书记陆洪武的意见，准备提拔春官县县委书记金全礼为副专员。正好这天晚上省委开常委会，这个提议就在会上被通过了。然后组织部长就把这情况通知了地委书记陆洪武，说下个月省里就发文。县委书记们知道消息后，又都失了一夜眠。但表面上大家又似乎对这决定很高兴，又一次起哄让金全礼到街上饭馆里请客：

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