

英汉对照

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Picture of Evil Against the Wall



TOP SECRET

Till Death Do Us Part

A Dangerous Game



The Black Gold Conspiracy

JANET LORIMER

# 英语短篇小说丛书

Against the Wall  
A Dangerous Game  
Picture of Evil  
Till Death Do Us Part  
The Black Gold Conspiracy

STAN TILKINS

3



上海教育出版社



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## 编者的话

继推出原版《英语微型小说丛书》及《英语小说丛书》以后,我们又将向读者推出这套原版《英语短篇小说丛书》。它同样选自美国当代畅销读物系列,内容仍涉及情感、科幻、运动、侦探、恐怖等,但就语言文字的程度而言,显然要比前两套“深”——例如描述性的词汇丰富了些;语气或委婉、或调侃而使表达更艺术性些。如果说读前两套丛书已尝试了一下美国当代生活语言的“原味”,那么读这套丛书时,就该作点品味了。因此,不要让这个“深”字吓倒,反而应该为将跨上语言学习的第二个台阶而欣喜。

还须补充说明一点:我们特意为这套丛书作了全文对译,动机决不只在解决读者的阅读障碍,而是想让读者于阅读中时时有个参照,看看自己能否品味出地道的英语原作所传达的细微末节,以便对自己的翻译理解水平作一个检测。

最后想说的是,如果读者对原作的理解与我们的对译文字相去甚远,请千万不要以为一准是自己错了,恰恰相反呢?也未可知。我们非常乐意与大家一起来研究、探讨。

# 英语短篇小说丛书(英汉对照)第3辑

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# *Against the Wall*

**D**oc turned the key in the lock, and the door clicked open. He walked up the narrow stairway. It was three flights up to his own apartment. He passed an old man on the stairs.

## 走投无路

多克将钥匙插进门锁一转，房门滴答一声打开。他踏上一道狭窄的楼梯。他得走三段楼梯才能到家门。他走到一个老人的面前。

“How is the cough, Mr. Trimble?” Doc asked. The old man looked at Doc with bleary eyes and nodded.

“Better now, thanks to your cold tablets, Doc,” he said.

Doc smiled and patted the man's shoulder. Then he went on his way up the stairs.

Everyone in the neighborhood called him Doc. He had moved into the upstairs apartment several years ago. He was a pleasant fellow—young, tall, and quite handsome. Doc had dark hair and dark eyes. He had a ready laugh and a bit of an accent.

Most everyone knew that Doc had grown up in a small country in South America. No one knew just when he had come to the United States, or exactly how

“咳嗽好点了吗，特林布尔先生？”老人老眼昏花地看着他，朝他点点头。

“现在好多了，感谢你的感冒药，多克。”他说道。

多克笑了笑，拍了一下老人的肩膀。再继续往上走。

所有的邻居都叫他“多克”。他是七年前搬进这幢楼房的。他是一个快乐的小伙子——年轻，高个，相当英俊。他笑容可掬，说话带点口音。

大多数人都知道多克是在南美一个小国家长大的。但没有一个人知道他是何时来美国的，或者说他是怎样来美国的和为什么要来美国。



and why he had come. He was very quiet about his past—mysterious, some would say. He never spoke about his family, and he had very few close friends. But he was always willing to sit out on the front porch of the old apartment building on a summer night making small talk with the other tenants.

Doc worked for Lester Chemicals, a company that made various medicines. That was how he came by the name of “Doc.” He always had a ready supply of the newest remedies.

“Backache?” the neighbors would say. “Go see Doc. Those new pills of his will do the trick.”

Doc went into his apartment now, apartment 4-G. He turned on the light and put his briefcase on the table near the door. He

他对他那神秘的过去(用有些人的说法)守口如瓶。他从不提及他的家庭,他朋友也很少。夏日的傍晚,他老喜欢在老楼房的过道前与其他的房客闲聊。

多克为一家叫利斯特·切尔卡尔的生产各种化学药品的公司工作。因此,人们给他起名为“多克(医生的简称)”。他随时可以提供最新的药品。

“是背痛吧?”要是邻居问,回答必然是:“找多克去,他有新出的特效药品。”

此刻他走进了四号门内的他的房间。他打开灯,把他的公文包放在靠门的桌子上。

took a soda from the refrigerator and took off his white lab coat. He flicked on the television to watch the evening news.

The screen showed a serious-faced reporter standing in front of a burning Jeep. People in the background were shouting in a foreign language. There were the pops and bangs of gunfire from afar.

Doc shook his head. I am so lucky to be living in the United States now, he thought. And he wondered what his life might be like if he had not come.

He had arrived in America seven years ago, when he was only 18. Then, people could leave his country if they wanted to. They could leave the heat, the mosquitoes, and the poverty behind them. The people there were very poor. They were poor, but at least, at that time, they were still free.

他从冰箱里取出一瓶苏打水，脱下他的白色工作服。随后，他打开电视机，看晚上的新闻。

屏幕上出现一个神色严肃的记者，他正站在一辆燃烧着的吉普车前。背景是操着某种外语大喊大叫的人群。从远处传来乒乒乓乓的枪炮声。

多克摇摇头。我现在生活在美国真幸运，他想。他想知道如果没来美国他的生活会是什么样子。

七年前他来美国时只有18岁。那时人们可以随心所欲地离开自己的国家。他们可以把炎热、蚊虫和贫穷抛至身后。那儿的人们非常贫穷。他们那时虽穷，但至少还是自由的。



The DeConta family had saved its money. When there was enough for one fare to America, Doc, the oldest child, was chosen. He still remembered his father's words.

“You're a smart boy. You'll make something of yourself. In America, you'll have a chance. Maybe someday your sister can join you. Maybe someday we can all go to America! It is best you go now, son. Go quickly.”

Maybe Mr. DeConta had known what was coming. Maybe he knew that if his son did not leave then, he might never leave.

So Doc came to America. He was alone, and he was afraid. But he was lucky, too. He found part-time work, and he went to school. He met people who were willing to help a bright young man who needed a chance. By the time he was 22, he had a

迪康特一家攒了一笔钱。当积攒下来的钱够送一个人到美国去的时候,作为长子的多克被选中了。他仍记得父亲说的话。

“你是个聪明的孩子。你会有出息的。在美国你会有机会。也许有一天你妹妹也会去找你的。也许有一天我们都能去美国!最好你现在就走,儿子。尽快走。”

也许迪康特先生对接下来要发生的事已有所了解。也许他知道如果儿子那时不能离开的话,可能再也走不了。

所以多克来到了美国。他孤身一人,满心恐惧。不过他也是幸运的。他找到了一份业余工作,他去读了书。他遇到一些好心人,他们愿意帮助一个需要机会的聪明的年轻人。

good job with Lester Chemicals. He worked as a laboratory assistant, and he went by the name of "Doc." It was much easier to say than the real first name he had carried with him to America.

Doc shivered, although the apartment was quite warm. The scene on television made him think of home. It was not his own hometown on the screen, but it might as well have been. His own country was being torn apart by an evil, power-hungry government.

Most of the people from Doc's homeland were uneducated. The country had been an easy target for evil men. A cruel government had taken over. Doc's family would never join him in America now. They were prisoners in their own land.

他22岁时在利斯特·切尔卡尔化学药品公司找到了一份好工作。他成为实验室的助理,名叫“多克”。这比他来美国时用的真名好叫得多。

多克哆嗦了一下,尽管公寓里相当暖和。电视上的场景令他想起了家里。屏幕上的并非他自己的家乡。他的国家正经受着一个邪恶的、野心勃勃的政府的折磨。

多克家乡的多数人都没受过教育。这个国家轻易被那些坏人控制。一个残暴的政府接管了政权。多克的家人现在决无可能来美国与他会合了。他们是自己国家的囚徒。

Doc wrote letters home. He even sent some money. He guessed, however, that very few of the letters made it home.

Sometimes Doc got letters from his family. The letters were short and very formal. Doc knew that someone else read the letters before they left the country.

Doc saved his money. Now he had enough to bring his sister, Reena, to America to live with him. He missed Reena. She was gentle. Things were hard, but nothing could sour Reena on life.

“We may be poor,” Reena used to say. “But oh, just look at that sun. Just look at that blue sky. It is enough that we wake each day to such a beautiful world.”

And what a wonderful laugh Reena had. Doc smiled, remembering how he would

多克往家里写信。他甚至给家里寄过钱。不过他猜想只有极少的信件寄到了家中。

有时多克收到家里的信。信写得又短又客套。多克知道在这些信离开那个国家前，有人读过。

多克把钱攒起来。现在他有足够的钱把妹妹雷娜接来美国一同生活。他想念雷娜。她那么温柔。处境虽然艰难，但并不能使雷娜对生活失望。

“我们也许贫穷，”雷娜常常说。“可是，哦，只要看看那太阳。只要看看那蓝天。我们每天醒来看到这么美丽的世界，已经很满足了。”

雷娜笑得多么美呀。记起雷娜对自己扮鬼脸和笑弯腰的模样，多克微笑起来。

make silly faces and Reena would double over with laughter. He was, she would say, the funniest, cleverest big brother in the world!

Doc got up and turned the television off angrily. He pushed the button so hard the television almost fell from its stand. These were just the kind of memories he tried to avoid. Reena could not come to America. A country that would not allow a letter to leave unread would certainly not allow a citizen to leave at all. Doc worried about his family, but there was little he could do. So, he worked hard at forgetting the past.

Doc had a good life now. He had an interesting job. Lester Chemicals was a fine company. Their products helped people. Doc had learned a lot about the over-the-

她常说他是世界上最有趣、最聪明的大哥！

多克站起身，气恼地关上电视。他按按钮使的劲太大，电视机差点没从台子上掉下来。这些都是他尽力去躲避的回忆。雷娜不能来美国。一个不允许让信件未经审读就发往国外的国家当然决不会让公民离开的。多克虽为他的家人担忧，却无能为力。于是他拼命工作来忘却过去。

多克现在的生活很不错。他有一份有趣的工作。利斯特化学药品公司是个好公司。他们的产品有助于人。多克学会了许多无处方治病的方法。

counter remedies they made. He would never have a chance at the education it would take to become a real doctor. But he could give advice to his neighbors, along with some samples of nonprescription pills they might not otherwise be able to afford.

Doc pitched on the company softball team on Saturdays. He hung out with a few of the guys after work on Fridays. All and all he did a pretty good job of thinking of himself as an American. He liked the small, northern city he lived in. The damp, cool weather was so different from home. And the less that reminded him of the past, the better!

Doc was 25 and an American now. He felt as if his life had really started when he came to the United States. Everything had

他不会有机会接受教育成为一个真正的医生。但是他能给他的邻居出点子,给他们一些在别的地方医生不会开的药片。

多克参加了公司的星期六垒球队。星期五下班后他同几个小伙子一起外出。总之,他相当成功地把自己当成了一个美国人。他喜欢他生活的这个北方的小城市。这儿潮湿凉爽的天气与他家乡的截然不同。能使他想起过去的东西越少越好!

如今多克 25 岁了,已是个美国人。他觉得自己的生活到了美国之后才真正开始。七年来万事皆顺。

been fine for seven years. Doc lived in the present—not the past. That was the way it was until Lester Chemicals got the government contract. And then Doc's past came around to haunt him.

Lester Chemicals had always developed and manufactured medicines. They made nonprescription, over-the-counter remedies for colds, flu, and backache. Their labs were highly thought of across the country. Their products were good, their scientists well-paid.

But times were hard. New competing companies seemed to spring up every day.

多克生活在现在——而不是过去。直到利斯特化学药品公司接到政府订单前,他的生活一直如此。接下来,多克的过去就开始来纠缠着他。

利斯特化学药品公司一直开发和生产药品。他们生产治疗伤风、流感和背痛的非处方药品。他们的实验室在全国享有盛誉。他们的产品出色,他们的科学家收入颇丰。

然而时世艰难。似乎每天都涌现出来一批具有竞争力的公司。

Lester Chemicals needed to expand in order to keep up its profits.

The government needed a private lab to produce a new chemical. This chemical was powerful. When released in the air it would react with any water sources within 500 miles. The chemical would speed up the evaporation process. Enough of it could dry up rivers, lakes, ponds, and reservoirs.

Used properly, the chemical could control floods and save lives during storms. But it could also be deadly if it were used to dry up necessary water supplies. Released in the wrong place, it could cause an immediate and total drought.

The people who ran Lester Chemicals thought long and hard before bidding on the contract to produce the chemical. It

利斯特化学药品公司为了维持它的利润,需要拓展业务。

政府需要一个私人实验室来生产某种新的化学品。该化学品非常厉害。一旦将它释放到空气中,它能同 500 英里以内的水源发生反应。该化学品能加速蒸发过程。用量充足时,它能使河流、湖泊、池塘和水库干涸。

使用正当的话,它能在发生暴风雨时控制洪水,拯救生命。可是它一旦被用于吸干必需的水资源时那也是致命的。释放地点不对的话,它可能立即引起一场大旱灾。

经营利斯特化学药品公司的人苦苦思考了很长时间后决定投标生产这种化学品。



would mean a new direction for the company. But without the contract, they might begin to suffer business losses. So, Lester decided to work for the government.

“What do you think of it all, Julia?” Doc asked the young woman sitting across from him in the coffee shop. “Should the company have taken the contract?”

Julia Ward was a scientist for the company. She hardly looked old enough for such complicated work. She was tall and slim with light hair that hung straight to her shoulders. And she was a very bright young woman who had come to work for Lester right out of college.

Doc had trouble keeping his eyes off of her right from the start. He watched her closely in the lab they worked in, and found

这对公司意味着一个新的方向。可是没有这个订单，他们也许要开始承受商业损失。因此，利斯特决定为政府工作。

“你对这一切怎么看，朱莉叶？”多克在咖啡馆里向坐在他对面的年轻姑娘问道。“公司应该接受这个订单吗？”

朱莉叶·沃德是公司的科学家。对这么复杂的工作来说她看上去太年轻了。她高挑而苗条，浅色的头发直垂到肩上。她是个非常活泼的年轻姑娘，刚大学毕业就到利斯特公司工作了。

起初多克很难将视线从她身上移开。在他们工作的实验室里他很近地注视着地，发觉自己连最简单的事都忘了干。

himself forgetting to do the simplest things. He looked for excuses to work near her. He remembered every word she said, every smile she sent his way. He finally gathered the nerve to ask her for a date, and was amazed when she accepted.

Now they saw each other regularly. Julia was taken with Doc's dark, good looks, and the hint of mystery about his past. It made him seem all the more romantic. As time went by, Doc told Julia more about that past than he had ever told anyone else.

"We were so poor, Julia. I remember playing in the dusty road and daydreaming that there might be meat on the table at dinner. But I remember festivals, too. I remember bright colors and music, and lots of laughter."

他找借口到她身边工作。他记得她说过的每个字，她朝他送出的每个微笑。最后他鼓起勇气约会她，她接受了，他惊喜不已。

现在他们时常见面。朱莉叶被多克黝黑英俊的外表和他过去的神秘色彩迷住了。这使他显得更浪漫。天长日久，多克将自己的过去告诉了朱莉叶，这比对任何人讲的都多。

"我们那时很穷，朱莉叶。我记得在肮脏的街道上玩耍，梦想着吃饭时餐桌上也许会摆上肉。不过我也记得过节的时候。我想起那明亮的色彩和欢快的音乐，还有许多笑声。"