University Reader 大学生读书计划

王安忆小说选 A Selected Stories by Wang Anyi

English-Chinese Gems of Chinese Literature Contemporary 英汉对照 中国文学宝库 当代文学系列

王安忆 著 Wang Anyi

中国文学出版社 Chinese Literature Press 外语教学与研究出版社 Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press

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中周矢草齿战社

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

王安忆小说选:英汉对照/王安忆著. 一北京:外语教学与研究出版社;中国文学出版社,1999.8

(中国文学宝库・当代文学系列)

ISBN 7-5600-1667-7

I. 王··· I. 王··· I. 小说-中国-当代-对照读物-英、汉 N. H319. 4:I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(1999)第 29865 号

中文责编: 高 苗 英文责编: 殷 雯

英汉对照 中国文学宝库·当代文学系列 王安忆小说选

王安忆 著

中国文学出版社 (北京百万庄路24号) 外语教学与研究出版社 出版发行 (北京西三环北路19号)

北京鑫鑫印刷厂印刷 新华书店总店北京发行所经销

开本 850×1168 1/32 10.625 印张 1999 年 8 月第 1 版 1999 年 8 月第 1 次印刷 字数:148 千 印数:1-5000 册

ISBN 7-5600-1667-7/H•948 定价:12.90 元

总编辑 杨宪益 戴乃迭总策划 野 莽 蔡剑峰

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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为可偏废了母语的提高,以及忽视了中国文学的阅读,放不曾人文知识的训练。有统计表明,某理工院校57%的同学研究上、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。还错向大学生,作文像中学生,写字像小学生"的幽默。还有句戏样的对联,说大学生的文章是"无错不成文,病句错自己的对联,说大学生的文章是"无错不成文,病句错自己的对联和一个。作为未来社会中坚和整个社会发展大键力量的大学生,这种"文弃"现象的流行,势必导致一场和量的大学生,这种"文弃"现象的流行,势必导致一场和量的大学生,这种"文弃"现象的流行,势必导致一场和大学生人文种。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;无怪平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。

And the Rain Patters On

The rain begins to pitter-patter down. People waiting for a bus scurry under the eaves of a building. A stylishly dressed girl does not move however but draws a collapsible umbrella from her little handbag. A pattern of peacock feathers on the umbrella can be made out under the street lamp. Beneath it the girl looks like a peacock with tail fanned out. Wenwen does not move either. She simply wraps a long white scarf around her head. She looks a rustic figure. Fashionable Shanghai girls have already begun to top their curls with berets set at an angle. But Wenwen doesn't care. She quietly stands next to the peacock-girl, seemingly oblivious to the sharp contrast. All of Wenwen's old classmates who have returned to Shanghai from the countryside with her have been quick to perm their hair and step into high heels. Whenever they see her they say, "You simply don't care enough about your appearance." "Who says?" Wenwen retorts and leaves it at that.

In the distance two yellow headlights emerge from the darkness. The bus comes into sight. The people move from under the eaves toward the curb. The peacock-girl folds away her fantail. Wenwen however steps back. She seems to be hesitating. Does she want to get on the bus?

As the vehicle nears, the sleepy voice of a female conductor

雨,沙沙沙

天,淅淅沥沥地下起小雨。等末班车的人们,纷纷退到临街的屋檐下。一个穿扮入时的娘没动弹,从小巧的手提包里取出一把折叠。上来。路灯照着伞上的孔雀。雯雯也没动弹,只开屏的孔雀。雯雯也没动弹,有是一个人。这是得有一个人。这是有一个人。这是有一个人。不过雯雯不在乎,秦然地站在"孔雀姑娘"身边,一点都不回避这鲜明的对比。一同从农村回上海的同学,都迅速地烫起头发,亮高跟鞋,见了雯雯就会立即反问;"谁说的?"她不承不。"而雯雯就会立即反问;"谁说的?"她不承认。

远处亮起两盏黄色的车灯,公共汽车来了。 躲雨的人走出了屋檐,候在马路边,"孔雀姑娘" 也收起了"屏"。可雯雯却踌躇不决地退了两步,她似乎在犹豫,是否要上车。

sounds loudly over the bus' public address system announcing the name of the stop. The waiting people surge forward expectantly to meet its arrival and then step back again as it slows to a halt. The bus is quite empty so everyone will be able to get on. But late at night the desire to return home becomes urgent; only after actually getting on the bus is the trip home assured. Wenwen instinctively runs toward the bus. A drop of cold rain splashes against her forehead and she comes to a sudden halt.

"Well, are you getting on or not?" The shout is obviously directed at Wenwen since she is the only person left at the stop. She seems to come to some realization and moves forward a step. But just as she is about to step into the bus another large raindrop splashes against her forehead. It runs down the bridge of her nose. It is raining, just as it had been that evening.

Wenwen checks herself and backs away from the bus. She hears the sound of the door closing, "chrr... bang," and the bus starts off. "Lunatic!" the conductor mutters. This exclamation sounding through the sensitive microphone seems to rip the stillness of the night and echo on to the ends of the world. "Lunatic! Am I a lunatic?" Wenwen asks herself. Now she is a solitary figure standing on a suddenly silent street pondering over the necessity of walking home the distance of seven long bus stops. Wenwen can't help shuddering as the night grows deeper and the rain falls harder.

She does not feel any real regrets however. A thought, formerly hazy, now becomes clear. Perhaps he will appear now, wearing his raincoat, riding his bicycle.... Hadn't he said, 汽车越来越近,车上的无线传话筒,清楚地传来女售票员的报站声,那是一种浓浓的带着睡意的声音。人们急不可耐地向汽车迎去,又跟着还在缓缓行驶的车子走回来。其实车子很空,每个人都能上去。可在这深夜,想回家的心情变得十分急切。只有踏上了车子,回家才算有保证。雯雯不由自主也向车门跑了两步。一滴冰凉的雨点打在她脑门上,雯雯的脚步停住了。

"喂,上不上啊?"这声音显然是向雯雯噢的,因为车站上只有她一个人了。雯雯醒悟过来,上前一步,提起脚刚要上车,又是一大滴水打在脑门上。这雨点很大,顺着她的鼻梁流了下来。是在下雨,和那晚的雨一样。雯雯收起脚往后退了。只听得"嗤——砰!"一声,车门关上开走了。"发痴!"是售票员不满的声音。在这寂静的雨夜,通过灵敏度极高的扬声器,就好像全世界都听见了,在雯雯心里引起了回声:

"发痴!我是发痴了?"雯雯问自己。一个人站在突然寂静了的马路上,想到要走七站路才能到家,而且夜要越来越深,雨会越来越大,雯雯不禁缩了下脖子。不过她又并不十分懊恼,她心里升起一个奇异的念头:也许他会出现在面前,披着雨衣,骑着自行车……他不是说:

"Any time you are in trouble, for instance, when it's raining and there are no more buses, someone will be sure to appear and come to your aid." Having said that, he had gotten on his bicycle and flown off into the night. The speeding bicycle spokes had left a reflection of shining whirling circles on the rain-washed road. Who will come to help this time. His is the only image that comes to mind.

A dense misting rain is falling and making a soft swishing sound. Wenwen pulls her scarf tighter about her head. Both hands push deep into her overcoat pockets as she follows the bus down the road. Two bicycles come up from behind and fly by. They quickly disappear in the misty sheets of rain. Because of the rain everyone is rushing home, but she....

How was it that she had been "late for the bus" that time? She remembers. Old Ai had been chatting with her till quite late. Old Ai was Wenwen's workshop supervisor, also a kindly old lady, like a favorite aunt. She liked Wenwen, and Wenwen's mother had great faith in Old Ai. People said Old Ai and Wenwen had been brought together by fate. Old Ai had introduced a "boy-friend" to Wenwen. His name was Yan and he was a university student who had entered school through the exam system that had been instituted with educational reform.

"You two can get to know each other," mother had said to Wenwen. "Why do we have to get to know each other?" Wenwen had asked quietly. After some hesitation her mother had replied, "For love." In an even quieter voice Wenwen had said, "Love is not like that." How can this kind of "introduction" lead

"只要你遇上难处,比如下雨,没车了,一定会有个人出现在你面前。"说完一蹬踏脚,自行车飞出去了。飞转的车轮钢条,在雨洗的马路上,映出两个耀眼的光圈。现在出现在面前的该是谁呢?除了他,雯雯想像不出别的形象。

雨点子很细很密,落在地上,响起轻轻的沙沙声。雯雯把围巾紧了紧,双手深深地插进外套口袋,沿着公共汽车开去的方向走着。两辆自行车从身后驶来,飞也似地驶去,一眨眼就消失在蒙蒙的雨雾中。下着雨,人人都急着奔回去,可她——

"我是发痴了?"雯雯在心里又一次问自己,她放慢了脚步。可是又有什么办法补救呢?算了,走吧!反正末班车开跑了,确实没办法了。是啊,没办法了,和上次一样。上次怎么会"脱班"的?啊,想起来了,是老艾和她说话呢,一下班晚了。老艾是雯雯他们的变要,雯雯有像光下是个慈祥的老阿姨。她喜欢雯雯有缘分。老艾给雯雯介绍了一个男朋友,姓严,是高明以互相了解了解。"雯雯轻轻地说:"为了爱情。"雯更轻地说:"为了爱情。"雯更轻地说:"爱情不是这样的。"她总觉得这种有绍

to love? What a farce, Wenwen thought to herself bitterly. An "introduction" was something contrived, arranged beforehand, like a race. Both parties come up to the starting line and at the sound of a starting gun they are off and running: meet-get-to-know-each-other-marriage. In the past Wenwen had believed love must be something very beautiful. Her brother had mocked her, "A white cloud floating on the horizon, a red sail gliding on the sea, a mystical prince holding out his hand to you, that's your idea, right?!"

Wenwen had neither acknowledged nor refuted her brother's sarcasm. She didn't know if love really was a white cloud or a red sail. But she did know that love was more beautiful, better than those things, whether from out at sea or on the horizon. She had believed that such true feelings really did exist, and were waiting for her. In her heart love was like an unpainted canvas, a soundless song. This was the purest of beauty, a boundless beauty, a beauty she could not be without. If she ever lost this feeling, life would be incomplete. Of course, this was how she had felt in the past. Under incessant winds and scorching sun the beauty had faded. Yet, no matter what, the crack of a starting gun could never takes its place. "No, never!" Wenwen shook her head resolutely.

Again her brother had mocked, "A white cloud floating on the horizon, a red sail gliding on the sea...." He had gone on, "But don't you see, as soon as the boat comes into port it will be inspected at Wusongkou, and if its origin is not clear it won't be allowed to dock in Shanghai. If the prince has no residency card

人的恋爱有点滑稽,彼此作好起跑准备,只听一 声信号枪:接触——了解——结婚。唉,雯雯曾 对爱情充满了多少美丽的幻想啊! 哥哥说:"天 边飞下一片白云,海上飘来一叶红帆,一位神奇 的王子,向你伸出手——这就是你的爱情。"雯 雯对着哥哥的挖苦,不承认也不否认,只是牵动 一下嘴角。她不知道爱情究竟是白云,还是红 帆。但她肯定爱情比这些更美,更好。无论是 在海上,还是天边。她相信那总是确确实实地 存在着,在等待她。爱情,在她心中是一幅透明 的画,一首无声的歌。这是至高无上的美,无边 无际的美,又是不可缺少的美。假如没有它,生 活将是不完全的。要说,这也是过去的想法了, 这美被风吹日晒得渐渐褪了色。可是,那也决 不是一声信号枪可以代替的。不是,啊,决不! 雯雯坚决地摇摇头。

哥哥又说了:"天边飞下一片白云,海上飘来一叶红帆……"不等雯雯牵动嘴唇,他就加快速度,提高嗓门接着往下说,"船只进港,在吴淞口要受检查,来历不明进不来上海港。王子没有户口就没有口粮布票白糖肥皂豆制品。现实