

English-Chinese 英汉对照

上海科技教育出版社

郭国良 编译

读点科学

An Arbour of Learning An Arbour of Learning An Arbour of Learning An Arbour of Learning



An Arbour of Learning
学子书苑系列

Read

A Bit of

Science Fiction



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English-Chinese

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出版/上海科技教育出版社

(上海市冠生园路 393 号 邮政编码 200235)

发行/上海科技教育出版社

经销/各地新华书店

印刷/常熟市文化印刷厂

开本/787×960 1/32

印张/9.75

插页/2

字数/202 000

版次/2001 年 12 月第 1 版

印次/2001 年 12 月第 1 次印刷

印数/1-5 000

书号/ISBN 7-5428-2714-6/H·13

定价/14.50 元

序

我们的时代正飞速发展。科技的突飞猛进、知识的膨胀滋蔓,令许多人不知所措,只觉得未知的领域太多,知识的更新太快。某个领域的专家一旦离开自己的专业,就会感到无所适从。要想在现代社会活得潇洒、自如,多学一点专业以外的知识已迫在眉睫!

我们这套“学子书苑系列”是为那些愿意多品尝几道知识快餐的莘莘学子而精心设计的,涵盖社会科学和自然科学的许多领域与学科。或许在专家眼里,内容是浅显了些;但对于门外汉,对于想多见一点“世面”的知识旅游者来说,透过这里打开的一扇扇小窗户,已足以领略某一学科的基本风貌,为塑造博学多能的人格奠定一个坚实的基础。

丛书以英汉对照的形式出现,是考虑到当今学子大多是英语的学习者,采用双语能收到“一举两得”的学习效果。

这里首期推出《读点哲学》、《读点历史》、《读点文明史》、《读点神话》、《读点科学史》、《读点科幻》、《读点科技》、《读点民俗》和《读点商务》九个分册。如果读者满意,我们还将继续编下去。在“读点××”的题目下,可供开拓的空间是很大很大的……

陈才宇

2001 年秋

于浙江大学

Foreword

在欧美文化中，科学幻想小说的历史可谓源远流长。笼统而言，它经历了萌芽与草创时期(1818年~20世纪20年代)、黄金时期(20世纪30年代~60年代)、“新浪潮”运动(20世纪60年代中期~70年代中期)和“赛伯朋克”(Cyberpunk)运动(20世纪70年代中期至今)这四个阶段。在这长达近两百年的历史中，优秀的科幻小说作家恒河沙数，层出不穷；优美的科幻作品灿若群星，浩如烟海。

本书从沧溟的科幻小说大海中勺起一瓢，以供读者尝鼎一脔。

在这里，你能目睹周密无隙的凶杀案和灿烂的白城，展读劳拉来函和热里茨基法案，结交柯玛、玛丽莲·梦露和兜售神药的好人布莱克曼，走入人格分裂的卡拉和“温馨”的地狱，领略武器的威力和永恒的时光……

毋庸置疑,优秀的科幻小说是青少年读者的良师益友,对启蒙科学,陶冶情操,启迪幻想力具有不可替代的作用。读点科幻小说,终身受益。

书中如有不当之处,祈望读者指正。

郭国良

2001年初冬

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

读点科幻/郭国良编译. —上海: 上海科技教育出版社,
2001. 12

(学子书苑系列/陈才宇主编)

ISBN 7-5428-2714-6

I. 读... II. 郭... III. 英语—对照读物, 文学—英、
汉 IV. H319.4: I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2001)第 074909 号

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Gehenna^①

Barry N. Malzberg

地 狱

〔美〕巴里·N·马尔茨贝格





I

Edward got on the IRT downtown local at 42nd Street for Greenwich Village. The train stopped at 33rd Street, 27th Street, 17th Street and Christopher Circle. As it turned out he met his wife at this party.

It was a standard, Greenwich Village all-of-us-are-damned gathering. She was sitting in a corner of the room, her feet bare, listening to a man with sad mustaches play a mandolin. Edward went over to say hello to her. She looked at him with vague disinterest and huddled closer to the mandolin player, who turned out—on further inspection—to be her date for the night. But Edward was persistent—his parents had always told him that his fearfulness was his chief detracting characteristic—and later that night he got her address.

Two days later he showed up with a shopping cart filled with gourmet food and asked her if she would help him eat it. She shrugged and introduced him to her cats. Three weeks later they slept with one another for the first time and the week after that the mandolin player and he had a fight, at the end of which the mandolin player wished them well and left her flat forever. Edward and Julie were engaged only a few days after that and during the month he married her in Elktown.

(一)

爱

德华在 42 街坐上了站站停的市郊列车前往格林尼治村。列车在 33 街、27 街、17 街和克里斯托弗圆形广场一一停靠。结果，他在这个聚会上与他的妻子第一次相遇。

那是一个典型的格林尼治村所有人都倒霉透顶的聚会。她光着脚，坐在房间一隅，听一个蓄着阴郁八字须的男人弹奏曼陀林。爱德华走了过去，向她问好致意。她用冷淡而茫然的目光瞧了他一眼，然后把身子一缩，靠近了那个弹曼陀林的人。爱德华再仔细一看，发现那家伙原来是她今晚的男朋友。但爱德华百折不挠——他父母总说他生性胆怯，畏首畏尾，成不了大器——那天晚上，后来他终于搞到了她的住址。

两天以后，他推了满满一车精美的食物出现在她的面前，问她愿不愿意帮他个忙，把这些东西全吃掉。她耸了耸肩，把他引荐给了她那几只宠猫。三个星期后，他们第一次上了床；随后的那个星期，曼陀林演奏家和他就干了一仗，干完后那曼陀林演奏家祝他们走运，然后就离开了她的公寓，永远地离开了。仅仅几天之后，爱德华和朱丽叶就订了婚。而且，没出一个月，他们就在艾尔克镇喜结良缘了。

① Gehenna:

即欣嫩子谷。此山谷位于耶路撒冷西南方，在新约中转用为“地狱”之意（见基督教《圣经·列王纪略》）。





They went back to New York and started life together. He gave up mathematics, of course, and became an accountant. She gave up painting and took to going to antique shops once a week, bringing back objects every now and then. It was not a bad life, even if it had started out, perhaps, a bit on the contrived side.

Three years later Edward opened the door and found Julie playing with their year-old daughter, shaking a rattle and putting it deep into the baby's mouth. The scene was a pleasing one and he felt quite contented until she looked up at him and he saw that she was crying.

He put down his briefcase and asked her what was wrong. She told him that their life had been an utter waste. Everything she wanted she had not gotten—everything that she had gotten she did not want. She was surrounded by things, she told him, she had prepared herself as a child to despise^②. And the worst of it was that all of it was her own fault. She talked of divorce but only by inference.

Realizing that the fault was all his, Edward said that he would check up on some suburbs, get them a nice-sized house and some activities for her during the day. And so he did—all of it and they were very happy for a while if gravely in debt—until he came home from the circus one night with his daughter and found that Julie, feet bare, had drowned herself in the bathtub.

他们回到纽约,开始了共同的生活。当然他放弃了数学,成了一名会计。她则放弃了绘画,开始每周一次往古董店跑,时不时地带回来一些小玩意儿。这小俩口日子过得还是挺不错的,虽然刚刚开始时也许有点儿别扭。

三年后的一天,当爱德华打开家门时,他发现朱丽叶在跟他们一岁的女儿逗着玩。她摇着一个拨浪鼓,把它深深地伸进女儿的嘴巴里。这是一幅令人满意的图景,他感到非常怡然自得。可当她抬头看他,他发现在饮泣落泪时,这一切就全完了。

他放下公文包,问她出了什么事。她告诉他,他们这一生算是完全虚度了。她想要的一切一点也没得到,而目前得到的一切她一点也不想要。她告诉他,她周围的一切都是她从小就十分藐视讨厌的,而最糟糕的是,这一切全是她自己的过错。她提到了离婚,但没有明说,只是旁敲侧击。

爱德华心里明白,事到如今全是他的错。他说要到市郊去找找看,给他们买一栋面积很大的房子,再搞一些娱乐活动消磨她白天的时光。他说干就干——他一一践诺,一家子因此和和美美了一阵子(虽然负债累累)——直到有一天晚上他和女儿看完马戏表演回到家,发现朱丽叶光着双脚,在浴缸里自溺死去了。

② despise *vt.*
藐视,看不起





II

Julie got on the IRT downtown local at 42nd Street for Greenwich Village. The train stopped at 32nd Street, 24th Street, 13th Street and the Statue of Christ. As it turned out, she met her husband at this party. It was a standard Greenwich Village we-are-finding-ourselves party and he came in late, dressed all wrong, his hands stretching his pockets out of shape. He was already very drunk.

She was there with a boy named Vincent who meant little to her but who played the mandolin beautifully and sang her love songs. If the songs were derivative and the motions a trifle forced—well, it was a bad period for both of them and she took what comfort she could. But when her husband-to-be came over and spoke to her—his name was Edward as it turned out—she could see beyond his embarrassment and her misery³ that a certain period of her life and of the mandolin-player's was over. He wanted her telephone number but because she didn't believe in telephones she gave him her address instead while Vincent was off changing his clothes. She told him that she was very unsure of herself.

Three days later, while she was still in bed, he came with flowers and candy and told her that he could not forget her. With a smile she invited him in and the first time was very good—better than it had been with Vincent, anyway. Edward was gone when Vincent

(二)

朱丽叶在 42 街坐上了站站停的市郊列车前往格林尼治村。列车在 32 街、24 街、13 街和耶稣像站一一停靠。结果,她在这个聚会上与她的丈夫第一次相遇。那是一个典型的格林尼治村大伙寻找自我的聚会。他当时来迟了,衣服穿得很不合时宜,双手插在口袋中,把口袋弄得不成形。他喝得酩酊大醉。

那时她与一个叫文森特的小伙子在一起。他在她眼中根本算不了什么,可他能弹一手好曼陀林,还给她唱一首首情歌。假如这些歌是拾人牙慧的,而这些举动也有点矫揉造作——唉,对他们俩来说,那是一段糟糕的日子,而她则得过且过。可当她未来的丈夫向她走过来并开口向她打招呼时——后来得知他名叫爱德华——她透过他的窘迫和她自己的痛楚可以清楚地看到,她人生的某一阶段和曼陀林演奏家人生的某一阶段都已宣告结束。趁文森特出去换衣服之际,他向她索要电话号码,可由于她不信任电话,就把自己的住址给了他。她告诉他,她对自己感到非常惶惑不定。

三天后她还躺在床上时,他拿着鲜花和糖果来了,告诉她他无法忘记她。她嫣然一笑,请他入屋。这第一次太棒了——反正好比当初跟文森特的要棒。那天晚上晚些时

③ misery *n.*
痛苦;苦难





came later that evening and she told him that she had been lusting after the sea all her life—now she at least had found a pond. Then she told him what she and Edward had done. He wept and cursed her. He told her that she had betrayed everything of importance, the small reality they had built together—but she was firm. She said that lines must be drawn for once and for all^④ between the present and the possible.

After that she saw nothing of either Vincent or Edward for a week. Then Edward came with a suitcase. He said he had moved out of his parents' home and had come to marry her. She did not marry him right away but they lived together for some week—one evening she found a note in her mailbox, just like that, saying that Vincent had committed suicide.

She never found out who had sent the note and she never told Edward anything. But a week later they were married in Yonkers and went to a resort upstate, where they were happy for a few days.

They came back and bought furniture for her flat. He dropped out of astronomy and became an industrial research assistant—or something like that.

For a long time her days were simple—they were, as a matter of fact, exactly like the days she had known just before she met Edward—and the nights were good, pretty good anyway. Then she became pregnant in a difficult sort of way and eventually the child, Ann, was born—a perfect child with small hands and a musical capability. Edward said that they would have to