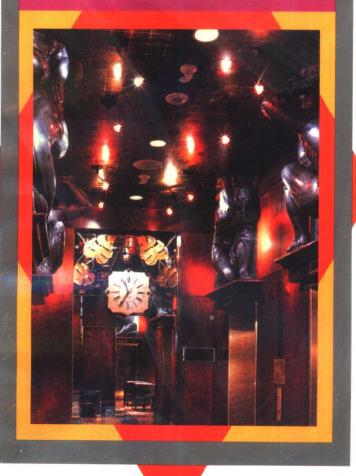


英汉对照 陈才宇 编

# 英国散文小书屋



休闲英语



ENGLISH ENTERTAINMENT

# 英国散文小书屋

英汉对照 陈才宇 编

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陈才宇 编

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### 戴炜栋

随着我国改革开放的深入,英语在我们生活和工作中的作用也越来越明显。无论是从事对外贸易、科技研究,还是参与体育比赛、文化活动,甚至与国外的亲友联系,几乎都要用到英语。尽管语言学家已经发明了世界语,但是世界上实际应用最广的语言仍是英语,就此而言,英语是真正的"世界语",至少目前如此,这也就是为什么学习英语能成为一种世界性热潮的原因。最近十多年来,我国也有越来越多的人投入到英语学习中,他们孜孜不倦地学习英语,刻苦勤奋地钻研英语。这固然是自身生活和工作的需要,但同样也是改革开放的需要,既符合自己的个人利益,也符合国家和民族的利益。

但是,对许多英语学习者来说,学习英语却很不容易,因为他们中大多数人都没有机会接受专业的英语训练,而只是利用业余时间学习英语。这样他们不仅缺少学习英语的语言环境,而且对学习英语的方法也不是很了解,常把精力花在反复背诵单词和机械操练英语句型上。这样做当然也有必要,但是光是背诵和进行机械的句式操练,毕竟过于单调和枯燥,久而久之不仅使学习者产生沉重感乃至厌倦感,而且也很难取得好的学习效果。其实,学习英语的方

式是多种多样的,背诵单词和进行句式操练是一种 方法,但除此之外还有更多的途径,譬如广泛大量的 阅读也是一种提高英语学习效果的有效手段。

上海世界图书出版公司出版的《休闲英语》丛书给广大英语学习者提供了一种新的学习样式。这种学习样式不是单纯地为学习而学习,而是将学习、娱乐、休息三者有机地结合起来,使学习时不感枯燥、休息时不感负担,在欢快的气氛中不知不觉地将语言知识融汇贯通,寓学于休息之时,寓学于娱乐之中,达到事半功倍的效果。

《休闲英语》丛书有很多辑,有轻轻松松学英语系列,英汉对照的趣味幽默故事系列、名人演说系列、格言妙语系列,以及歌曲游戏系列等等。总之,《休闲英语》丛书的内容是丰富多彩的,它的面貌是活泼可爱的。我相信,它问世后一定会在不同年龄、不同层次、不同要求的英语学习者中找到知音,和大家成为好朋友。

于上海外国语大学

## 前 言

什么是散文?散文就是"闲散的文"。它是文学家营造长篇大作后的余墨,是过剩的、零星的创造之光的折射。它不像诗歌那样讲究音律,不像戏剧那样要有一套程式,不像长篇小说那样要完成一个故事的叙述,创作者只是随感而发,想到什么说什么:想到挤牛奶的姑娘就说挤牛奶的姑娘,想到金字塔就说金字塔,想到野牛就说野牛,想到垃圾堆就说垃圾堆。没有题材的限制,创作者有充分的自由。篇幅一般都很短,但内涵仍可以十分的丰富,文学艺术中所包容的美在它身上照样可以得到充分的表现。这就是散文。难怪它越来越受到吝啬时间的当今读者的垂青!

"散文精萃"丛书就是这样一个杂色的小拼盘: 编者从英美两国浩如烟海的散文宝库中选出六七十 篇散文家们评今论古、谈天说地的文字,以国别分成 两册献给希望开卷有益的读者朋友。《英国散文小书 屋》的作者大都是历史上有名有姓的大手笔,如培 根、兰姆、艾迪生、吉辛、沃尔夫等等;《美国散文小书 屋》除了选收海明威、马克·吐温等名家的作品外, 还选了一些名不见经传或有待来日经传留名的当代 作者的作品。从艺术角度看,名不见经传的作者的作品比起名家的作品显然逊色一些;但从题材和内容上看,小作家未必输给大手笔,因为他们把握着时代的脉博,他们的视点往往就是时代的热点。为了帮助读者阅读和理解,编者还在每篇译文前加了几句赘言闲语:凡名见经传者,粗略介绍一个他(或她)的生平事迹;对名不见经传者,就只能就事论事,从所选文章本身出发说一两句"多余的话"。

年轻的朋友们,请光临这散文小书屋吧,多读一点,学着写一点,说不定你自己就是一个潜在的散文 大师呢!

> 陈才宇 1997 年 5 月 于杭州大学

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1 .

# 1. The Argument of the Rape of Lucrece

### W. Shakespeare

Lucius Tarquinius (for his excessive pride surnamed Superbus), after he had caused his own father-in-law Servius Tullius to be cruelly murd'red, and contrary to the Roman laws and customs, not requiring or staying for the people's suffrages, had possessed himself of the kingdom, went, accompanied with his sons and other noblemen of Rome, to besiege Ardea; during which siege, the principal men of the army meeting one evening at the tent of Sextus Tarquinius, the King's son, in their discourses after supper every one commended the virtues of his own wife; among whom Collatinus extolled the incomparable chastity of his wife Lucretia. In that pleasant humor they all posted to Rome, and intending by their secret and sudden arrival to make trial of that which every one had before avouched, only Collatinus finds his wife (though it were late in the night) spinning amongest her maids; the other ladies were all found dancing and revelling, or in several disports; whereupon the noblemen yielded Collatinus the victory, and his wife the fame. At that time Sextus Tar-

## 1.《鲁克丽丝受辱记》故事梗概

----莎士比亚

编者注:威廉·莎士比亚(1564—1616),英国文艺复兴时期伟大的戏剧家、诗人。传世有37部剧本、2首长诗和154首十四行诗。本文是作者为其长诗《鲁克丽丝受辱记》所写的故事梗概,是他流传于世的唯一的一篇散文作品。

鲁歇斯·塔昆涅斯(由于他过于骄横,人们给他起了个"苏伯勃斯"<sup>①</sup> 的绰号)导致其岳父塞维斯。图勒斯残遭杀害以后,又违背罗马的法律和惯例,既不征求也不等候人民的同意,便擅自攫取王位,并率其子和罗马的其他贵族,去围攻阿狄亚城。在此次战役中,罗马军队的主要将领有天晚上聚集在国王的战争。其中,对加斯少盛,各自称颂其妻的美德。其中,科拉丁纳斯则盛赞自己的妻子鲁克丽丝贞淑无比。就在这种欢快的军场中,他们骑马向罗马疾驰,意欲通过秘密而突然的拜访,以验证各自所夸耀的妻子(虽然已是深夜) 举在侍女中间纺线;其他妇人都在跳舞取乐或从事其他的娱乐活动。于是,众贵族承认科拉丁纳斯获胜,其妻无愧于贞淑之令名。而此时,塞克斯特斯。

① 意为"狂妄自大"。

quinius being inflamed with Lucrece' beauty, yet smothering his passions for the present, departed with the rest back to the camp; from whence he shortly after privily withdrew himself, and was (according to his estate) royally entertained and lodged by Lucrece at Collatium. The same night he treacherously stealeth into her chamber, violently ravish'd her, and early in the morning speedeth away. Lucrece, in this lamentable plight, hastily dispatcheth messengers, one to Rome for her father, another to the camp for Collatine. They came, the one accompanied with Junius Brutus, the other with Publius Valerius; and finding Lucrece attired in mourning habit, demanded the cause of her sorrow. She, first taking an oath of them for her revenge, revealed the actor, and whole manner of his dealing, and withal suddenly stabbed herself. Which done, with one consent they all vowed to root out the whole hated family of the Tarquins; and bearing the dead body to Rome, Brutus acquainted the people with the doer and manner of the vile deed; with a bitter invective against the tyranny of the King, wherewith the people were so moved, that with one consent and a general acclamation the Tarquins were all exiled, and the state government changed from kings to consuls.

塔昆涅斯已因鲁克丽丝的美貌而动心,但他暂时抑 制欲火, 随众人一道返回军营; 不久, 他悄悄离开营 地,来到科拉廷,凭着自己的身份,受到鲁克丽丝的 盛情款待,并留宿她家。当天晚上,他用心险恶地潜 入她的卧室,用暴力奸污了她,并于第二天凌晨匆匆 逃离。鲁克丽丝在极度的悲痛中火速派出两个信差, 一个去罗马请她的父亲,另一个去军营召回科拉丁。 他们如期而至,一个由裘涅斯·布鲁托斯陪同,另一 个由帕勃律斯・凡勒律斯陪同:他们发现鲁克丽丝 身着丧服,便询问她悲痛的原因。她首先要他们发誓 为她报仇,然后披露罪犯的名字和他作恶的全过程, 紧接着便突然举刀自杀。真相大白后,他们于是全体 发誓彻底清除可恶的塔昆涅斯家族。他们抬着尸体 来到罗马,布鲁托斯将肇事者及其卑劣行径昭示于 人民,并强烈抨击国王的暴政。全国人民大为震惊, 一致主张流放塔昆家族,国家政权从此由国王转入 执政官之手。

(陈才宇译)

### 2. Let Me Wither

#### J. Donne

Let me wither and wear out mine age in a discomfortable, in an unwholesome, in a penurious prison, and so pay my debts with my bones and recompense the wastefulness of my youth with the beggary of mine age. Let me wither in a spital under sharp and foul and infamous diseases, and so recompense the wantonness of my youth with that loathsomeness in mine age. Yet if God withdraw not his spiritual blessings, his grace, his patience; if I can call my suffering his doing, my passion his action; all this that is temporal is but a caterpillar got into one corner of my garden, but a mildew fallen upon one acre of my corn. The body of all, the substance of all, is safe as long as the soul is safe.

But when I shall trust to that which we call a good spirit and God shall deject and impoverish and evacuate that spirit; when I shall rely upon a moral constancy and God shall shake and enfeeble and enervate, destroy and demolish that constancy; when I shall think to refresh myself in the serenity and sweet air of a good conscience and God shall call up the damps and vapors of hell itself and spread a cloud of diffidence and an impenetrable crust of desperation upon my conscience; when

## 2. 让我萎顿

---多恩

编者注:约翰·多恩(约1572—1631),英国诗人,玄学派诗歌的主要代表,著有《歌与短歌》、《世界的剖析》、《灵魂的历程》和《神圣的十四行诗》等。1623年,作者生了一场大病,《让我萎顿》一文即病中所作,热烈地表现了他的宗教热情。

祈求上苍赐我萎顿,让我在充满苦难、有损健康、贫困如洗的牢狱中消磨我的余年,以我的骨骸偿还我所欠之债,以我残年中乞丐般的境地作为我青春虚掷的报应。祈求主让我凋残,让我在济贫院中遭受剧烈、凶险和声名狼籍的病痛的折磨,以令人厌恶作呕的风烛之年作为我年青时的放纵的报应。而如若上帝不收回圣洁的祝福,慈悲与宽容,我能把所遭受的苦窃称是主所为,把我的殉教妄称是主的行动,那么,所有这世俗的苦不过是潜入我花园一角的毛虫,不过是落于我谷地一隅的霉菌。只要灵魂平安,躯体俗物便可保无虞。

但当我要依恃众人所称之良好精神,主却弃之、 损之,使其化为乌有。当我依靠道德的坚贞,主却将 之动摇,使之衰弱,令之困顿,将其摧毁破坏。当我欲 处安详甘美的良知之氛围,使自我焕然一新,主却唤 起地狱的阴霾雾霭,对我的良知散布疑云,遮蔽以不

health shall fly from me, and I shall lay hold upon riches to succor me and comfort me in my sickness, and riches shall fly from me and I shall snatch after favor and good opinion to comfort me in my poverty; when even this good opinion shall leave me and calumnies and misinformations shall prevail against me; when I shall need peace because there is none but thou, O Lord, that should stand for me, and then shall find that all the wounds that I have come from thy hand, all the arrows that stick in me from thy quiver; when I shall see that because I have given myself to my corrupt nature thou hast changed thine, and because I am all evil towards thee, therefore thou hast given over being good towards me; when it comes to this height, that the fever is not in the humors but in the spirits, that mine enemy is not an imaginary enemy, Fortune, nor a transitory enemy, Malice in great persons, but a real and an irresistible and an inexorable and an everlasting enemy, the Lord of Hosts himself, the Almighty God himself - the Almighty God himself only knows the weight of this affliction, and except he put in that pondus gloriae, that exceeding weight of an eternal glory, with his own hand into the other scale, we are weighed down, we are swallowed up irreparably, irrevocably, irrecoverably, irremediably.