

University Reader
大学生读书计划



端木蕻良小说选



Selected Stories

by Duanmu Hongliang

English-Chinese • Gems of Chinese Literature • Modern

英汉对照 • 中国文学宝库 • 现代文学系列

端木蕻良 著
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中国文学出版社
Chinese Literature Press

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

端木蕻良小说选:英、汉对照/端木蕻良著. —北京:中国文学出版社;外语教学与研究出版社, 1999. 8

(中国文学宝库·现代文学系列)

ISBN 7-5071-0573-3

I. 端… II. 端… III. 小说-中国-现代-对照读物-英、汉
IV. H319.4:I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(1999)第 29630 号

中文责编:邓锦辉

英文责编:殷雯

英汉对照 中国文学宝库·现代文学系列

端木蕻良小说选

端木蕻良 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)

北京市鑫鑫印刷厂印刷

新华书店总店北京发行所经销

开本 850×1168 1/32 10.25 印张

1999年8月第1版 1999年8月第1次印刷

字数:155千 印数:1—5000册

ISBN 7-5071-0573-3/I·516

定价:12.90元

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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 Sorrows of Egret Lake

A bright red moon, like an eye puffy from crying, rose into the shimmering copper mist. The mist, warm and melancholic, shone like translucent dust, enveloping the lake in a dizzying haze.

A flock of egrets, necks stretched out ahead, wings flapping gracefully, circled the tree-lined edges of the fields below. Once they had passed, the air fell silent and lonely again. Dragonflies that normally skimmed over the surface of the lake, their tiny jade-blue heads glinting in the sunlight, their tireless wings spread, were gone for the day. Only the crimson waterflies, which were attracted to the fetid, moldy earth, continued to drone noisily. Two boys were standing at the lake shore.

One of them, tall and broad-shouldered, was bent over spreading a straw mat out on the ground. The shorter, slighter boy was cradling a red-tasseled spear in his arms as he stood off to the side looking into the distance, as though he were trying to fix the boundary of the murky night.

"I wonder why it's so sticky tonight. . . ." he said with a sigh.

The other boy ignored him as he sat down on his straw mat and wrapped his arms around his knees, shivering slightly as he looked up at the moon.

"It's nearly the fifteenth, so there's no need to sleep in the shed. Let's lay our bedding out here. Where we can see the

鸂鶒湖的忧郁

一轮红澄澄的月亮，像哭肿了的眼睛似的，升到光辉的铜色的雾里。这雾便热郁的闪着赤光，仿佛是透明的尘土，晕眩地笼在湖面。

一群鸂鶒，伸长了脖颈，刷刷地打着翅膀，绕着田塍边的灌木飞过，大气里又转为沉寂，便是闪着翠蓝色绿玉样小脑袋的“过天青”^①，白天不住的摊开不倦的翅，在水面上来来去去的打胡旋，现在也不见了。只有红色的水蝇，还贴在湿霉腐乱的土皮上，发出嗡嗡的声音来，……有两个人在湖边上。

一个个儿高高地，露着一副阔肩膀，跪下来在湖边上开始铺席子。那一个小一点儿的瘦瘦地，抱着一棵红缨扎枪，在旁立定了向远看，好像要在远远的混浊里，发现出边界来。

“这天气怎么这样的霉……”他微微地附加着一口叹息。

那一个并没打理，铺好席子，把两手抱住膝头，身子微撼了一下，抬着脖颈来望着月亮。

“快十五了，咱们今天不在窝棚睡了，咱们在这里打地铺，也好看月亮。”

① 过天青——蜻蜓的一种。

英汉对照

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moon."

"The moon's an evil red!"

"That's a bad omen!"

"They say it means war."

"Um."

The two fell silent. A white mist floated across from the opposite shore of the lake. Lamplights flickered on a poplar-dotted hill in a hidden valley, then vanished like will-o'-the-wisps.

"We'll have to be on our guard, because there might be thieves out tonight. I smell trouble, so be alert," the taller boy said.

"So what! We'll scare them off. They're out every night, anyway."

"No, this time it's different. Tonight we show them we mean business. It's nearly time for the Mid-autumn Festival."

"You can't make a 'mooncake' out of a 'flatcake'," the other boy sneered.

"Who says? At least we'll get our lumps in."

“这月亮狠忒忒地红!”

“主灾唔!”

“人家说也主兵呢。”

“唔。”

两个人都暂时静默，湖对边弥漫过一阵白森森的浮气来。在深谷里，被稀疏疏的小紫杨围着的小土丘上，闪动着一道游荡的灯光，鬼火似的一刻儿又不见了。

“小心罢，说不定今天晚上有‘偷青’^①的呢，警空点，我的鼻子闻得出来。”个儿大一点的说。

“那有什么，吓跑了就完了罢，哪天没有。”

“不成，今天得给他一顿好揍，快八月十五了呢。”

那一个讥讽地道：“‘烧饼’也当不得月饼呵。”^②

“谁说的，至少也痛快痛快手。”

① 与“偷青”对待的，是“看青”。东北的看青制是这样的。有两种：一种是，一些年老或无力的“闲工”，志愿的为某一区内看守青苗，秋收之后则到区内各家讨粮为酬。另一种是大地主自家雇用看青的，因为地面太宽，防范的制度，就不能不周密起来，不过大都是由“半工”或“长工”兼差的。而一般小农自耕农，因为地面小，容易照顾，而且偷青的人对于他们的命运，如有同感，所以看青的事，倒反而少了。

② 烧饼就是打嘴巴的意思，那就是说，打了人家的嘴巴，自己也还是没有吃到月饼呵！

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The smaller boy put down his red-tassled spear, took off his damp shoes, and sat down on the straw mat. "The fog's getting thick," he muttered, a nameless, persistent fear creeping into his heart and showing through the darkness in his sunken eyes.

The moon had climbed into the sky, transforming all visible things into hazy, evanescent illusions. Dark shadows hidden among the cracks and hollows stared out at them. A poplar standing like a guardian of the night cast a shadow that was double its own size, blotting out the lake beneath it. A pointed boulder jutting out through the surface of the water was a pale rent in the surrounding darkness. The lake was suffused with the limitless melancholy of despair.

"Brother Laibao, how old are you?" the younger boy asked.

"Twenty-three. I'm not a kid anymore," the older one answered with childish arrogance.

"I'm sixteen. Mama says that next year I won't have to work for half pay anymore."

"You, you ought to take it a little easier. Don't try to do too much. These are tough times, and your bones are still soft. If you wind up with consumption from too much hard work, you'll regret it for the rest of your life."

"What can I do? Dad's getting old, and last year even though someone gave him three doses of vitality medicine, it didn't do any good. If I can hire on for a year and earn a hundred or so, that

“.....”

那小一点的,放倒了红缨扎枪,脱下了脚下的湿鞋,凑到席面上来。“雾更大了。”口中喃喃地说,心里像藏着一种无名的恐怖,在暗中没法排解地霎闪着一双眼睛。

这时月亮已经升起来了,一切的物象都渐渐清晰起来。那棵夜神样的大紫杨,披下来的黑影,比树身的体积似乎大了一倍,窒息的铺在水面上。一块出水尖石,在树荫里显出苍白色来。全湖面浸淫着一道无端的绝望的悲感。

“来宝哥,你今年多大了?”小的问。

“二十三了,不小喽。”那一个一团稚气地答。

“我今年十六,妈说我明年就不拿‘半拉子’^①钱了。……”

“你呀,你还是少作一点儿罢,别心贪,这年头儿啥年头,你身子骨儿软,累出痼病一辈的事。”

“可是怎么办呢,爹老了,去年讨了三副力母丸也不见好……我要讲年造^②一年赚一百呢,

① 半拉子就是半工。

② 讲年造,讲就是说定了,年造就是长工,拿年全。

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should turn things around."

"But you have to get hired on, and *I* can't even do that. No one's hiring these days. Who's willing to pay a hundred dollars a year to a hired hand when they can't even be sure of selling their autumn crop for that much? Besides, look how skinny you are."

"I'll eat less and work extra hard."

"Ai! Stop worrying about tomorrow. 'Don't take off your shoes till you reach that river.' I sneaked some wine, want some? It's good stuff!" After fumbling around in his waistband for a while he brought out a small jug of wine and a roll of dried bean curd.

The younger boy shook his head in a lonesome gesture, watching the other boy eat.

"Oh, Manao, I forgot to tell you. Things are going to get better. Someone's heading for the capital, and there's going to be fighting soon. This time it's the truth, no more tricks. They say the volunteers^① have been given a secret order, hidden in the sole of a shoe. People coming up through the pass now only have the soles of their shoes searched, nowhere else. They want the volunteers to strike first."

"Brother Laibao, let's join the volunteers, what do you say?"

"Of course. When the time comes, we'll all go. We're Chinese, aren't we?"

① The volunteers were guerilla forces organized to resist the Japanese, who had invaded Northeast China in 1931 and set up the puppet regime of Manchukuo. The "capital" was Xijing, in the city previously and subsequently known as Changchun, in Jilin Province.

就活便①开了。”

“你得讲得出去呢，不用说你，就我呗，这年头儿没有人要，谁家敢说出一百块钱要人，到上秋粮食打出一百块钱了吗？……何况你又瘦瘦的……”

“我勤俭点呵，多出点活呵。”

“哎，就别管明几个，‘到那河，脱哪儿鞋！’②……呃，可是偷了酒来了，你喝吗？好酒呢！”他从裤腰底下掏摸了半天，掏出一只“酒憋子”③来，又是一卷儿干豆腐。

小的寂寞地摇了摇头，看着他吃着。

“可是，玛瑙，我忘记告诉了人，就要好了呢，听说张学良到南京合作去了，就要出兵了，这回是真的，不是骗傻子了，说是给义勇军下了密令，从鞋底带来的，所以一过关，现在身上都不检查了，就检查鞋底，说是让义勇军们先干……”

“来宝哥，咱们也当义勇军去好不好？”

“那还用说，到那时谁都得去，不是中国人吗？”

瘦一点儿的玛瑙沉在沉思里。

“那时我们就有地了吗？”

“地还是归地主的，可是粮食值钱了，人有人要了呵！”

① 活便就是周转。

② 到那河，脱哪儿鞋，就是到时候再说的意思。

③ 酒憋子就是装酒的扁壶。

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