



英汉对照  
世界文学丛书

LOVE STORY

[美]埃里奇·西格尔原著

上海译文出版社

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(改写本)

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## 前 言

《爱情故事》(*Love Story*) 是美国作家埃里奇·西格尔 (Erich Segal) 的成名之作。作品于1970年问世后, 曾在很长一段时间内畅销不衰, 根据小说摄制的同名电影亦颇得好评。由于小说和电影都已相继介绍过来, 所以在我国, 对《爱情故事》这个名字读者也早已不陌生了。

哈佛大学的学生奥利弗偶然结识了出身寒微的詹尼姑娘, 两人一见倾心。豪富家庭的反对, 阻挠不了两个真心相爱的年轻人的结合。小两口靠了自己的努力, 终于在社会上挣得了立身之地。不想刚过上称心的日子, 夫妻便遽成永诀。这就是这部小说的简单的情节。故事虽然并不复杂, 然而读来却是那样感人, 因为作者的高明之处, 就在于他能运用简练、犀利、有时又很幽默的文笔, 完全让感情来说话, 因而给人以无穷的回味。

小说反映的是六十年代美国一些年轻人的生活。他们说话就是那样粗鲁, 到了球场上就是那样爱伤人, 特别在男女关系问题上就是那样随便。这些, 都是那样一个特定社会里的产物。如果在阅读时能记住这一点, 那么也就不会感到太奇怪了。

这个改写本是牛津大学出版社1979年出版的,

改写者为罗丝玛丽·博德 (Rosemary Border)。改写本基本上保持了原著的风格。文字中偶有一二疏漏，译者已作了补正或在注解中加以说明。也有个别地方，改写者有其独特的理解，可能与一般的理解稍有不同。译者在翻译时曾参考了西格尔的原著 (New American Library 1970) 和舒心、鄂以迪的原著中译本 (上海译文出版社，1988)。

译 者

**LOVE STORY**

**爱 情 故 事**

# 1

What can you say about a twenty-five-year old girl who died? That she was beautiful. And bright. That she loved Mozart<sup>1</sup> and Bach<sup>2</sup>. And the Beatles<sup>3</sup>. And me. Once, when she told me that, I asked her what order she listed us in. She answered, smiling, 'As in the A. B. C.' At that time I smiled too. But now I sit and wonder. Was she listing me by my first name? In that case, I'd come last, behind Mozart. Or did she mean my last name? In that case, I'd come between Bach and the Beatles, but I still didn't come first. For some stupid reason that worries me terribly now. You see, I grew up with the idea that I always had to be Number One. Family pride, you see.

In the autumn of my last year at college, I got into the habit of studying at the Radcliffe<sup>4</sup> library. I didn't do it just to admire the girls, though I agree I liked that too. The place was quiet, nobody knew me, and there was less de-

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1. Mozart ['mɔ:tsa:t]: 奥地利音乐家。 2. Bach [bɑ:x]: 德国音乐家。 3. the Beatles ['bi:tlz]: 本世纪 60 年代在英国兴起的一个四人爵士乐队(或译“硬壳虫”)。 4. Radcliffe ['rædklif]: 哈佛大学附设的女子学院。

一个姑娘二十五岁就死了，能说她点儿什么呢？得说她美丽。人也聪明。得说她爱莫扎特和巴赫。也爱“披头士”乐队。还爱我。一次她跟我谈到了这些，我就问她，我们在她心目中的先后次序如何。她笑笑回答说：“按字母顺序排列呗。”当时我也笑了。可现在回想起来，我倒有点纳闷了。她给我排名是按我的教名吗？那样的话我就得排在莫扎特的后边，居于末位。要不，也许是用我的姓？假使是这样，我就应该介于巴赫和“披头士”乐队之间，反正还是排不到第一。不知是出于什么傻气的原因，这一下可引起了我一肚子不痛快。要知道我从小就养成了一种观念，认为自己凡事总应该名列第一。家传的自命不凡啊！

我念大学本科最后一学年的秋天，去拉德克利夫学院图书馆看书成了我的习惯。倒不完全是想借此去欣赏欣赏那里的姑娘，虽然我承认我也未尝没有这样的意思。主要还是因为那个地方安静，又没有人认识我，再说我学习上需要的一些书，那里借的人



mand for the books I needed for my studies. The day before one of my mid-term history exams, I still hadn't found time to read the first book on the reading list. (That, of course, is a very common disease at Harvard<sup>1</sup>.) I walked over to the reservations<sup>2</sup> desk to get one of the books which would save me from failing my exam the next day. There were two girls working there. One was a tall, sporty 'Tennis, anyone?'<sup>3</sup> type. The other was the quiet kind, in glasses. I chose her — Minnie<sup>4</sup> Four Eyes.

'Do you have *English Society in the Middle Ages* ?'

She looked at me. It was a sharp, unfriendly look. 'Don't you have your own library at Harvard?' she asked.

'Listen, Harvard students are allowed to use the Radcliffe library.'

'I'm not talking about what you're *allowed* to do, Preppie<sup>5</sup>. I'm talking about what's right and fair. You fellows have five million books. We only have a few thousand.'

My god, I thought. I wish I'd spoken to

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1. Harvard ['hɑ:vəd]: 哈佛大学。 2. reservation: reserve book, 即图书馆里只供馆内阅读, 不准外借的参考书之类。 3. 'Tennis, anyone?': "谁跟我打网球去?" 4. Minnie ['mini]: 明妮, 指动画片里米老鼠的女朋友明妮。(原书为形容这个姑娘娇小可爱, 用了 mouse type 这样一个词语, 所以在不知道她姓名的情况下暗暗称她"明妮", 显得自然而有趣; 改写本把 mouse type 改成 quiet kind, 而仍保留 Minnie 一字, 就无从看出其中的联系了。) 5. preppie ['prepi]: 预科学校学生或毕业生(在美国, 所谓预科学校往往是指贵族化的中学)。

也比较少。一次，历史学要举行期中考试，直到考试的前一天我还连“阅读书目”中的第一本书都不曾得空去翻一下。（这在哈佛其实也可说是一种常见病了。）我就来到“保留书”借书处，准备借本书来钻一下，免得第二天考试过不了关。那里有两位女学生在值班。一位是高个儿，运动员型，象是个爱打网球的。另一位戴眼镜，属于文静型。我挑了那个四眼的“明妮”。

“你们有《中世纪的英国社会》这本书吗？”

她看了我一眼。那是一个不客气的白眼。“你们哈佛不是有自己的图书馆吗？”她问道。

“听着，哈佛学生来拉德克利夫图书馆借书是规定允许的。”

“我不跟你讲规定允许不允许，预科生。我就跟你评评这合理不合理，公平不公平。你们那儿有五百万册藏书。我们这儿可总共才几千本。”

我心想：我的天！我真后悔没有找那个运动员

the sporty one ! This girl's the type that thinks that, because there are five times as many men at Harvard as there are girls at Radcliffe, the girls have to be five times as smart<sup>1</sup>. I can usually make those types feel pretty small<sup>2</sup>. But just then I badly needed that damn book.

'Listen, I need that damn book.'

'Would you please watch your language, Preppie.'

'What makes you so sure I went to prep school<sup>3</sup>?'

'You look stupid and rich,' she said, removing her glasses.

'You're wrong,' I said. 'I'm actually smart and poor.'

'Oh, no, Preppie,' she said. '*I'm* smart and poor.'

She was looking straight at me. Her eyes were brown. All right, maybe I look rich, but I wouldn't let a Radcliffe girl — even one with pretty eyes — call me stupid.

'What makes you so smart?' I asked.

'I wouldn't go for coffee with you,' she replied.

'Listen — I wouldn't ask you.'

'That,' she replied, 'is what makes you stupid.'

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1. smart: 此处作“聪明”,“乖巧”解。2. feel small: 觉得难为情。

3. prep school: 预科学校 (prep 系 preparatory 之口语形式)。

型的姑娘去说！这个丫头倒真特别，在她看来，既然哈佛的男生人数五倍于拉德克利夫的女生，那她们女生无疑也就应当聪明五倍了。要是在平时，碰到这种丫头我真会把她们狠狠羞一顿。可是当时我实在少不了那本要命的书啊。

“听我说，我要借那本要命的书有用。”

“请你说话注意一点好不好，预科生？”

“你凭什么一口咬定我上过预科学校？”

“因为你看上去又蠢又有钱，”她摘下了眼镜说。

“那你就看错了，”我说。“我实在倒是又聪明又穷。”

“得了吧，预科生，”她说。“我才是又聪明又穷呢。”

说着她两眼对我直瞅。她的眼睛是棕色的。好吧，就算我看上去是个有钱的样子，可我也不能让个拉德克利夫的丫头——哪怕是个眼睛长得很漂亮的丫头——骂我蠢货哇。

“你说你聪明，你聪明在哪儿？”我问。

“我就不会跟你一块儿去喝咖啡，”她答道。

“告诉你——我也决不会请你。”

“你蠢就蠢在这儿，”是她的回答。

Let me explain why I took her for coffee. By allowing her to think I wanted to, I got that book. And, because she couldn't leave the library until closing time, I had plenty of time to study it. I learned some useful facts about the church and the law in the eleventh century. As a result, I got an A in my history exam. That, by the way, was the mark I gave to Jenny's legs when she first walked out from behind that desk. I can't say I gave her high marks for her clothes, however. They were rather strange, to say the least. I specially hated that Indian thing that she used for a handbag. Fortunately I didn't mention this, as I later discovered that she had made that herself.

We went to a coffee shop near by. I ordered coffee for both of us, and a chocolate ice-cream for her.

'I'm Jennifer Cavilleri<sup>1</sup>,' she said. 'I'm American, but my family came from Italy.' I had guessed that already. 'And I'm studying music,' she added.

'My name is Oliver<sup>2</sup>,' I said.

'Is that your first or your last name?' she asked.

'First,' I said. Then I told her that my full name (well, most of it, anyway) was Oliver Barrett<sup>3</sup>.

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1. Jennifer Cavilleri ['dʒenɪfə 'kævɪlɪrɪ]: 詹尼的全名。2. Oliver: ['ɒlɪvə]。3. Barrett ['bærət, 'bærɪt]: 奥利弗的全名应是 Oliver Barrett IV, 此处因未提名后的 the Fourth, 所以才有括号里的那句话。

我得解释一下为什么我还是请她去喝了咖啡。当时亏了我装得象，使她相信了我真有意要请她，我才算把那本书借到了手。她是要等图书馆关了门才能走的，所以我也尽有时间可以好好看书。我就把十一世纪的教会情况和立法情况研究了一番，记下了一些有用的资料。结果，这次历史考试我得了个A。捎带说一句，詹尼第一次从借书处的办公桌后面走出来时，我给她大腿打的也正好是这个分数。不过，对于她的衣着，我打的分数就不能说是个高分了。那少说也有些怪里怪气的。我特别讨厌她作手提包用的那个印第安玩意儿。这话我幸而没提，因为我后来发现那原来是她自己做的。

我们去了就近的一家咖啡馆。我为我们俩各要了一杯咖啡，还为她点了一客巧克力冰淇淋。

“我叫詹尼弗·卡维累里，”她说。“我是美国人，不过我的上代是意大利人。”这我早就看出来了。“我是读音乐的，”她又补上这么一句。

“我叫奥利弗，”我说。

“是名，还是姓？”她问。

“是名，”我说。接着又告诉她，我的全名（哎，说是全名反正也近乎了）是奥利弗·巴雷特。

‘Oh,’ she said. ‘Like Elizabeth Barrett<sup>1</sup> the writer?’

‘Yes,’ I said. ‘No relation.’

In the silence that followed, I was thankful that she hadn’t come up with the usual question: ‘Barrett, like the hall?’ For I’m ashamed to say that the Barrett of Barrett Hall is a relation of mine. Barrett Hall is the largest and ugliest building in Harvard Yard. It is also a huge public reminder<sup>2</sup> of my family’s wealth, pride and connections with Harvard.

She remained quiet. Had we run out of conversation so quickly? Had I disappointed her by not being a relation of Barrett the writer? Or what? She simply sat there, half-smiling at me. Just for something to do, I looked at her notebooks. Her handwriting was unusual — small, sharp little letters<sup>3</sup> with no capitals (Who did she think she was, e.e. cummings<sup>4</sup>?). She was certainly taking some very advanced subjects: Music 150, Music 201—

‘Music 201? That’s pretty advanced, isn’t it?’

‘Yes,’ she said. She did not quite succeed in hiding her pride. ‘Sixteenth-century polyphony<sup>5</sup>.’

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1. 指19世纪英国女诗人 Elizabeth Barrett Browning (勃朗宁夫人)。Barrett 是她娘家的姓。 2. reminder: 泛指纪念物。

3. small letters: 小写字母。 4. e.e. cummings ['kəmɪŋz]: 已故美国诗人。他在书写方式上标新立异,不用大写字母,自己署名 e.e. cummings。 5. polyphony [pə'li:fəni]: 复调音乐(一种多声部的音乐)。

“哦，”她说。“跟作家伊丽莎白·巴雷特同姓？”

“对，”我说。“不过扯不上关系。”

随后是一阵沉默，我暗暗庆幸她问的不是人们常问的那句：“就是巴雷特堂的那个巴雷特？”因为我实在没有脸对人说，出钱兴建巴雷特堂的那位巴雷特就是我的亲骨肉。巴雷特堂是哈佛园里最大、也最丑的一座建筑物。也等于是一座巨型纪念碑，在那里向公众显示我家的财力和气派，炫耀我家同哈佛的亲密关系。

她还是不说话。难道我们这么快就无话可谈了？难道我跟作家巴雷特沾不上亲，就扫了她的兴？还是别的缘故呢？她只管坐在那儿，对我似笑非笑。为了不致无事可做，我就拿她的笔记本来瞧瞧。她那一手字也真希奇——都是又小又细的小写体，没有一个大写字母（她是想以爱·埃·卡明斯自居？）。她所选的课程有一些确实是非常高深的：音乐150，音乐201——

“音乐201？那不是挺高深的吗？”

“是的。”她口气之间有点掩不住内心的得意。  
“十六世纪的复调音乐。”



‘What’s polyphony?’

‘Nothing to do with sex, Preppie. It’s a type of music. You wouldn’t understand it.’

Why was I letting her do this to me? Didn’t she read the college newspaper? Didn’t she know who I was?

‘Hey, don’t you know who I am?’

‘Yes,’ she answered. ‘You’re the man who owns Barrett Hall.’

She didn’t know who I was.

‘I don’t *own* Barrett Hall,’ I argued. ‘My great-grandfather just gave it to Harvard.’

‘So that his not-so-great grandson<sup>1</sup> would be sure of a place in college!’

That was the limit. I was angry now. ‘Jenny, if you’re so sure I’m a loser<sup>2</sup>, why did you push me into buying you coffee?’

She looked straight into my eyes and smiled.

‘I like your body,’ she said.

Part of the art of being a big winner<sup>3</sup> is the ability to be a good loser<sup>4</sup>. All good Harvard men know how to turn a defeat into a victory.

‘*Hard luck, Barrett. You played a damn good game.*’

‘*Really, I’m glad you fellows won. I mean, you*

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1. not-so-great grandson: 不怎么样的孙子。这是詹尼调皮而故意杜撰的说法。“曾孙”本来应为 great-grandson; 经詹尼在前面加了 not so, great 就转义而为“了不起”, 整个意思就成了“不怎么样的孙子”(实际上要 not-so-great great-grandson 才是“不怎么样的曾孙”)。

2. loser: 输家;(转为)不成器的人。 3. big winner: 大赢家;(转为)成大事的人。 4. good loser: 输得起的人;善处逆境的人。