



世纪百年英文经典系列丛书（英汉对照）

The Classic
Essays in the World

散文选萃

家中的满汉全席
经典，但绝不晦涩

主编◎茅风华

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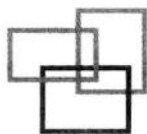
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Preface

序言

英语这门语言在世界众多国家普遍使用，毫无疑问应该重视英语、学好英语。但广大学生学习英语大多数都从枯燥的英语课本中开始，仅仅学习听、说、读、写、译，对英语的文学文化却知之甚少。正如任何一家百年老店的传承都有其独到的秘笈一样，英语的背后积淀的是西方国家的文化底蕴。英语同样也有背不烂的唐诗三百首、研究不透的《红楼梦》，它们融入了西方国家的文化精髓，是英语文学中的经典，流传久远。它们以各种不同的形式出现：童话神奇诱人、魅力无穷；寓言短小精悍、发人深思；散文意境优美、折射人生；书信热烈真实、开启心扉；演讲逻辑严密、文理俱佳。更有诗歌、小说、戏剧、神话等美妙珍品，是历史和文化的瑰宝。鉴此，编者采撷了各种体裁的一些精品，把这套《世纪百年英文经典》系列丛书奉献给大家。

《世纪百年英文经典》向你推荐的是两种习惯，一种叫悦读，一种叫学习。

阅读实在应该是悦读，尤其是浮躁难安的今天，能有些许闲暇坐下来看点书，为的可是藕断丝连的眷恋，为的是久别胜新婚的激荡——是一种纪念，更是一种开创。靠写书发家的郭敬明说得直白：“读书最多的就是学生群体，工作之后的人都读书很少。”或许，为了悦读而读的人还在一定程度上在某些个犄角旮旯里存在吧。至于那多数为了应试而学的莘莘学子如果能够快乐地读，恐怕也是何乐而不为的吧。

编者虽然在此大声疾呼“悦读”，内心却难免惴惴不安，生怕担起东施效颦的骂名。原本希望的只是抛砖引玉，引荐大家像追“FRIENDS”（《六人行》）

一样，勇敢地捧起莎翁的“MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING”（《无事生非》），直把碧翠丝当瑞秋，更像理查德·克莱德曼那样去演绎贝多芬的《命运》——但愿这种惴惴能够在你的心田激起一圈涟漪。

再来说说学习。

学语言，学什么？单就语法规则来说，当然是要学名作家的行文用词。现代汉语的定义就有这么一节：“以典范的现代白话文著作为语法规则”。而英语的发展历程远不止于白话文的百年历史，本套丛书收罗的作品也有出于里程碑式的人物之手，如塞缪尔·约翰逊以及乔纳森·斯威夫特，他们对规范英语的作用一如民国时期几位开山鼻祖式的作家对普通话的规范。

怎么学？虽说“学海无涯苦作舟”，但编者认为学习在于平时的点滴积累，而且是简单快乐地积累。摆脱对着书本埋头苦读的套路，不必刻意攻克某部长篇巨著，以愉悦的心态去品尝谐趣的小品文或者充满暖暖温情的故事，相信在悲欢于人物离合和情节跌宕的同时，规范的文法也在不经意间轻松积累起来。

这么想来，《世纪百年英文经典》确是一套值得珍藏的丛书。对于广大学生而言，本丛书能进一步提高英语阅读水平、开阔视野、陶冶个人情操，相比于流连网络、耗费宝贵时光在虚幻的游戏世界里要胜百倍。对于广大英语爱好者而言，本丛书是提高语感、推敲文字、品味名著的好素材。而本丛书更是广大文学爱好者提高文学修养、感悟人生真实道理和悲喜感情的理想读物。

本丛书选编的故事体裁全面，收录的文章广泛、经典，是英语文学文化长期积累与融合而成的慧果。它们助人思索，得益良多，让英语学习在阅读的愉悦中成为一种享受。

编者

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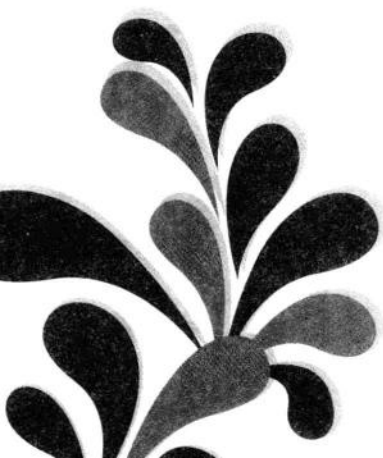
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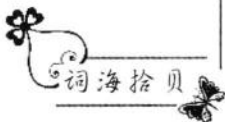


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青春

不是生命的一段时光，不是指红润的脸颊，红扑扑的嘴唇和柔韧的双
膝，它是一种精神状态，是指不懈的干劲、丰富的想象力和浪
漫的情怀。它是生命春意正浓时的活力……

The Magic of Smile



distraught /dis'trɔ:t/

a. 发狂的，心神错乱的

Many Americans are familiar with *The Little Prince*, a wonderful book by Antoine de Saint-Exupery. This is a whimsical and fabulous book and works as a children's story as well as thought-provoking adult fable. Far fewer are aware of Saint-Exupery's other writings, novels and short stories.

Saint-Exupery was a fighter pilot who fought against the Nazis and was killed in action. Before World War II, he fought in the Spanish Civil War against the fascists. He wrote a fascinating story based on that experience entitled *The Smile*. It is this story which I'd like to share with you now. It isn't clear whether or not he meant this to be autobiographical or fiction. I choose to believe it to be the former.

He said that he was captured by the enemy and thrown into a jail cell. He was sure that from the contemptuous looks and rough treatment he received from his jailers he would be executed the next day. From here, I'll tell the story as I remember it in my own words.

"I was sure that I was to be killed. I became terribly nervous and **distraught**. I fumbled in my pockets to see if there were any cigarettes, which had escaped their search. I found one and because

微笑的魔力

安托万·德·圣埃克苏佩里的《小王子》在美国是家喻户晓的名作。对孩子们来说，那是一个充满奇思妙想的童话故事，而成年人会认为那是个引人思考的哲理故事。圣埃克苏佩里的其他作品、小说和故事都远不及这个作品闻名。

圣埃克苏佩里作为一名飞行员，参加过反纳粹战争，在一次执行任务中身亡。在第二次世界大战前，他参加过反法西斯的西班牙内战。这段经历让他创作出《微笑》这部感人的故事。我希望和大家一同品味这个故事。我们无法考证故事的来源，但我宁愿相信那是作者的亲身经历而非虚构的描写。

作者说到自己被敌人俘虏，关进监狱。从狱卒轻蔑的态度和粗暴的对待，他确信自己将在第二天被处决。以下，我将用自己的话来讲述这个记忆中的故事。

“我即将离开这个世界，我开始觉得惶恐不安。翻遍了口袋想找找看有没有香烟没被没收。我找到了一根，可手颤抖得厉害，



词海拾贝

jailer /'dʒeɪlə(r)/

n. 看守监狱的人, 狱卒

inadvertently

/,ɪnəd'vɜ:təntli/

adv. 不注意地

of my shaking hands, I could barely get it to my lips. But I had no matches, they had taken those.

"I looked through the bars at my **jailer**. He did not make eye contact with me. After all, one does not make eye contact with a thing, a corpse. I called out to him, 'Have you got a light?' He looked at me, shrugged and came over to light my cigarette.

"As he came close and lit the match, his eyes **inadvertently** locked with mine. At that moment, I smiled. I don't know why I did that. Perhaps it was nervousness, perhaps it was because, when you get very close, one to another, it is very hard not to smile. In any case, I smiled. In that instant, it was as though a spark jumped across the gap between our two hearts, our two human souls. I knew he didn't want to, but my smile leaped through the bars and generated a smile on his lips, too. He lit my cigarette but stayed near, looking at me directly in the eyes and continuing to smile.

"I kept smiling at him, now aware of him as a person and not just a jailer. And his looking at me seemed to have a new dimension, too. 'Do you have kids?' he asked.

" 'Yes, here, here.' I took out my wallet and nervously fumbled for the pictures of my family. He, too, took out the pictures of his family and began to talk about his plans and hopes for them. My eyes filled with tears. I said that I feared that I'd never see my family again, never have the chance to see them grow up. Tears came to his eyes, too.



好不容易才把烟放到嘴里。但没有火柴，他们都搜走了。

“朝铁栏望去，狱卒就在那边，他没有朝我这边看。毕竟，对于他们我只是一件物品，一具尸体，谁会在意呢？我向他大声喊道：‘能借个火吗？’他看着我，耸耸肩，走过来帮我点了香烟。

他走近我划着火柴的时候，无意间看了我一下。那一瞬间，我对他笑了笑。说不出原因，也许是因为紧张，也可能是在人与人互相靠近的时候，就会禁不住微笑。不管什么原因，我微笑了。在那一刻，微笑就仿佛一股火花，跨过人与人心灵的隔膜，拉近了两人的灵魂。我知道他并非刻意，但我的微笑穿过了铁栏，他也微微一笑。他点着了香烟，却依然站在离我很近的地方，眼睛看着我，脸上保持着笑意。

“我一直微笑着，他仿佛是朋友而非狱卒。他看我的眼神也有所不同了。‘你有孩子吗？’他问。

“‘有，你看看。’我掏出皮夹，颤抖着翻出了家人的相片。他也拿出他家人的相片，开始讲述他为家人制定的计划和梦想。我双眼满含泪水，我说恐怕我再也见不到家人，看不到孩子成长。他也禁不住涌出了泪水。

“突然，他一声不响地打开了我的牢门，悄悄把我放了出去。出了监狱，来到后面的小路上，然后离开了市镇。在市镇的边界，他把我放了，转身默默地往市镇走去。

“是微笑救了我。”

是的，微笑是人与人之间真挚的、自然的、纯



"Suddenly, without another word, he unlocked my cell and silently led me out. Out of the jail, quietly and by back routes, out of the town. There, at the edge of town, he released me. And without another word, he turned back toward the town.

"My life was saved by a smile."

Yes, the smile is the unaffected, unplanned, natural connection between people. I tell this story in my work because I'd like people to consider that underneath all the layers we construct to protect ourselves, our dignity, our titles, our degrees, our status and our need to be seen in certain ways and underneath all that, remains the authentic, essential self. I'm not afraid to call it the soul. I really believe that if that part of you and that part of me could recognize each other, we wouldn't be enemies. We couldn't have hate or envy or fear. I sadly conclude that all those other layers, which we so carefully construct through our lives, distance and **insulate** us from truly contacting others. Saint-Exupery's story speaks of that magic moment when two souls recognize each other.

I've had just a few moments like that. Falling in love is one example, and looking at a baby. Why do we smile when we see a baby? Perhaps it's because we see someone without all the defensive layers. Someone whose smile for us we know to be fully genuine and without **guile**. And that baby-soul inside us smiles **wistfully** in recognition.

词海拾贝

insulate

/ˈɪnsjuleɪt/ vt. 使

绝缘, 隔离

guile /gail/

n. 狡诈, 诡计

wistfully

/ˈwɪstfʊli/ adv.

渴望地, 希望地



朴的互动方式。我在这里讲述这个故事是希望大家认识到，人们筑起层层屏障来维护自己，维护尊严、头衔、地位、形象。在这些屏障之下，还存在着纯真的自我，那就是灵魂。我确信如果人们之间能以心相交，世间便再无敌人可以言。我们再无仇恨、嫉妒和恐惧。但让人遗憾的是人们在生活中精心筑起的屏障，使自己远离和孤立于与他人的真诚相待。圣埃克苏佩里的故事正讲述了一个人与人以心相交的神奇时刻。

我也曾经历过那样的时刻。例如，处于热恋之中。还有，看着婴儿的时候。为什么我们看见婴儿的时候会禁不住微笑？也许是因为我们见到一颗纯真诚挚的心灵。他们的微笑纯洁无瑕，使我们也涌现出内心的婴儿般纯真的笑容。



编译絮语

泰瑞莎修女说：“经常微笑，向你的妻子、丈夫和孩子微笑，相互微笑，不管是谁，因为微笑可以大大增进人与人之间的感情。”我们也有句谚语叫做“不打笑脸人。”微笑甚至可以救人于危难……

Smile at each other, smile at your wife, smile at your husband, smile at your children, smile at each other. It doesn't matter who it is and that will help you to grow up in greater love for each other.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta





If You Think Life Is Bad



词海拾贝

1K=1000, As a number
1k (lowercase) refers
to 1000, or 1024, as a
kilobyte
skimp /skimp/ v. 节约
使用

Have you ever, at any one time, had the feeling that life is bad, real bad, and you wish you were in another situation? You find life make things difficult for you, work sucks, life sucks, everything seems to go wrong...

Read the following story... it may change your views about life.

After a conversation with one of my friends, he told me despite taking two jobs, he brings back barely above 1K per month, he is happy as he is. I wonder how he can be as happy as he is considering he has to **skimp** his life with the low pay to support a pair of old parents, in-laws, a wife, two daughters and many bills of a household.

He explained that it was through an incident that he saw in one country... that happened a few years ago when he was really feeling low and touring there after a major setback.

He said that right in front of his very eyes, he

