

English for Romance Series

浪漫英语丛书

# 英语爱情故事精粹

*Highlights of Love Stories*

侯国金 王珏 编译

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武汉大学出版社

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*Highlights* ◦

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## 丛书总序

爱情是一首歌,是异性之间心灵碰撞的火花,是男女双方共同谱写的乐章。在人类文明史上,爱情是一个永恒的主题。综观古今中外,无论是传世文学巨著,还是通俗小品,都不乏爱情故事的叙说和对爱情的颂扬,广大读者对此类作品也是爱不释手。究其原因,乃因名家笔下的爱情诗、爱情故事具有十分感人的艺术魅力,人们可以从中吸取智慧和力量、受到情感的启迪与教育,此类作品广受读者钟爱,也就不足为奇了。

当前正值世纪之交,机遇与挑战并存。广大青年正如饥似渴地吸取科学知识的营养;中国的改革开放、走向世界,使外语学习成为社会的普遍要求。面对社会如此广泛的要求,身为高校教育工作者,当责无旁贷地编选一些实用的英语学习材料,以满足社会需求。借用读者喜闻乐读的爱情题材,采用故事、诗歌、散文、书信及对白等多种文学体裁形式,不失为学习英语的上策。此种模式的丛书,既能使读者特别是青年朋友们在思想上受到启发与教育,同时又能学好英语。一石双鸟,何乐而不为?

鉴于上述思考,丛书几位志同道合者,本着服务社会、服务读者的宗旨,编辑了英语学习系列《浪漫英语丛书》。书名中“浪漫”是形式,而学习英语是核心。

本丛书包括以下6个分册:

《英语爱情诗歌精粹》

《英语爱情散文精粹》

《英语爱情故事精粹》

《英语爱情隽语精粹》

《英语爱情书信精粹》

《英语爱情对白精粹》

在编辑“丛书”的过程中,我们始终坚持博览群书、认真负责、严格挑选、取其精华的原则。因此,本丛书具有以下特点:

一、所选原文思想内容健康、积极向上,富有教育意义,有助于青年朋友正确人生观的培养;

二、所选原文语言规范,用法标准、地道。

三、选段多出自名家或名作,具有一定的权威性和感染力,为英语学习者提供了良好的效仿样板;

四、内容丰富,体裁形式多样,小巧实用,可以用作英语学习课外辅导材料。

本丛书主要读者对象为广大青年学生及英语爱好者,我们希望这套丛书能成为他们学习英语的良师和人生道路上益友,在阅读中得到美的感受的同时,从中吸取爱的灵感、智慧和力量,并以自己的经历、素养和趣旨来诠释丛书的内容,从而领略到爱的真谛,找到一生的真爱。

在编辑本“丛书”过程中,我们得到了武汉大学出版社及游径海先生的鼎力支持,对此,我们表示诚挚的谢意。由于编译者水平所限,译文中定有粗糙或谬误之处,乞望专家、读者朋友们指正。

王吉玉

1999年9月10日

## 编者语

本书为“浪漫英语”丛书之一，共精选现代英美爱情故事18篇，为帮助广大读者更好地理解原文，本书采取英汉对照、难词加注释的形式。

现代读者已不再满足于古老的寓言、神话、传奇之类的传统故事，他们要求富于现代激情、充满生活气息的东西，他们希望外语能同母语一样成为获得新知，开阔视野的工具，本书所选的现代爱情故事正满足了部分现代读者的渴求。这些西方爱情故事大多短小精悍，语言生动，情节性强且真实可信。有的故事感人肺腑，催人泪下，有的则寓意深刻，发人深省。这些故事无疑较典型地反映了现代西方人的爱情观和婚姻观，透过这些故事，我们也可以领略到西方文化的一个侧面，了解其社会现状、人们的思想感情、价值观念等。

值得一提的是，我们在翻译过程中大量采了顺译和意译的方法，力求使译文汉化，避免“翻译腔”。当然，由于水平所限，译文中定有粗糙欠推敲之处，编译者恳请广大读者指正。

另需说明的是，本书中 Henry Miller 的“First Love”，Lawrence Thompson 的“First Love”，Nena O’ Nreill 的“Golden Wedding”以及 Bernie Schiffer 的“To Love and to Cherish”等4篇故事为邓绪新老师所选编和翻译，特向他表示感谢。

编译者



## 内 容 提 要

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本书为“浪漫英语丛书”之一，共精选并译注了18篇现代西方爱情故事。这些故事大多短小精悍，语言生动，情节性强，充满激情且真实可信。有的故事感人肺腑，催人泪下，有的故事寓意深刻，引人深思，它们典型地反映出现代西方人的爱情观和婚姻观。透过这些故事，我们也可领略到西方文化的一个侧面，了解其社会现状、人们的思想感情、价值观念等。



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*English for Romance Series*

## 英語愛情故事精粹

## 1. First Love

Henry Miller

In my mind's eye I can see her today just as vividly as when I first met her, which was in one of the corridors of Eastern District High School (Brooklyn) as she was going from one classroom to another. She was just a little shorter than I, well built, that is to say rather buxom, radiant, bursting with health, head high, glance at once imperious and saucy, concealing a shyness which was disconcerting<sup>①</sup>. She had a warm, generous mouth filled with rather large, dazzling white teeth. But it was her hair and eyes which drew one first. Light golden hair it was, combed up stiff in the form of a conch<sup>②</sup>. A natural blonde such as one seldom sees except in an opera. Her eyes, which were extremely limpid<sup>③</sup>, were full and round. They were a China blue<sup>④</sup>, and they matched her golden hair and her apple-blossom complexion<sup>⑤</sup>. She was only sixteen, of course, and not very sure of herself, though she seemed to give the impression that she was. She stood out from all the other girls in the school, like someone with blue blood in her veins<sup>⑥</sup>. Blue blood and icy, I am tempted to say.

That first glance she gave me swept me off my feet. I was not only impressed by her beauty but intimidated<sup>⑦</sup> as well. How I ever managed to approach her and mumble a few meaningless words I can no longer recall. I know it took weeks after the first encounter<sup>⑧</sup> to do such a brave thing. I recall vividly how she blushed each time we

## 初恋

亨利·米勒

在我的内心深处，她的形象直到今天依然是那么鲜明生动，一如我初次遇见她时那样。当时，她走在东区高中的走廊上，正从一间教室到另一间教室。她个头比我稍矮一点，身材美极了。也就是说，她体态丰满、容光焕发、精力充沛，昂着头，她那高傲又调皮的目光里隐藏着一种动人的羞涩。她有一副硕大而明皓的白牙，嘴巴说起话来热情大方。但是，最能吸引人的还是她的头发和眼睛。金色的秀发向上直直地梳成海螺形，这样的金发美女除了在歌剧里是难得一见的。她的清澈明亮的眼睛，又大又圆，呈青瓷色，她那金黄色的头发和苹果花色的皮肤般配极了。她只有16岁，当然不是很有自信，尽管她给人以自信的感觉。她在学校众多的女孩子中间出类拔萃，与众不同，仿佛她的血管里流着贵族的血液（贵族血统与冷漠，我不禁要这样说）。我不禁想用傲慢、冷酷来形容她。

她的目光第一次触及我，就让我为她倾倒。我不仅为她的美貌所心动，而且也同样感到心悸。我已回忆不起我是怎样设法接近她，结结巴巴地说出一些毫无意义的废话的，我只知道这次大胆勇敢的行为发生在我们第一次邂逅数星期之后。我清楚地记得每一次当我们走近对方时，她都是一脸绯红。

**导读：**几乎每个人都拥有自己浪漫而难忘的初恋。亨利·米勒的初恋始于中学时代，这对情窦初开的少男少女终因性格迥异和莫名的误会而无遗憾地分道扬镳。

**注释：**

- ① *adj.* 使人仓皇失措的
- ② *n.* 海螺
- ③ *adj.* 清澈明亮的
- ④ 中国蓝，青瓷色
- ⑤ *n.* 肤色
- ⑥ *n.* 血管
- ⑦ *vt.* 恐吓
- ⑧ *n.* 偶然而短暂的见面

came within striking distance of one another. Naturally, what conversation we exchanged must have been of a telegraphic nature. She never dropped a word or a phrase that took root in my memory. As I say, these encounters always took place in the corridors, going from one classroom to another. She must have been a class or two behind me, though of the same age. For me, of course, these little nothings were filled with pregnant<sup>⑩</sup> significance.

It was only after we had graduated from high school that we exchanged a few letters. During the summer holidays she remained at Asbury Park, New Jersey, while I continued my daily drudgery<sup>⑪</sup> as a clerk in the offices of the Atlas Portland Cement Company. Every evening, on returning from work, I rushed to the mantelpiece<sup>⑫</sup> over the fireplace, where the mail was always deposited, to see if there was a letter from her. If I received one or two throughout the long vacation season I was lucky. My whole impression of this strange courtship is one of utter frustration<sup>⑬</sup>. Now and then, rarely, I met her at a dance. Twice, I think, I took her to the theater. I didn't even possess a photograph of her that I might carry in my wallet and look at secretly.

But I had no need for photographs. Her image was constantly in my mind; her absence was a perpetual torment which served to keep her image alive. I carried her inside me, as it were. Alone, I would often speak to her, either silently or aloud. Often, walking home at night, after having made a tour of her house, I would yell her name aloud, imploringly<sup>⑭</sup>, as if to beg her to grant me the favor of an audience from on high. She was always up there somewhere, high above me, like some goddess whom I had discovered and regarded as my very own. It was I, idiot that I was, who prevented her from descending to the level of other mortals<sup>⑮</sup>. This, to be

我们的谈话自然是电报式的，简短异常。她从未说出一句能够铭刻在我记忆里的话语。我已经说过，我们相见总是在走廊上，从一间教室到另一间教室。她的年龄和我相仿，但是她肯定比我低一两个班级。当然，对我而言，这些不值一提的区区小事却意味深长。

高中毕业以后我们才开始书信往来。那一年暑假，她留在新泽西州的阿斯伯里公园，而我却继续在阿特拉斯-波特兰水泥公司当职员，做一些日常的事务性工作。每天傍晚下班回来，我就会冲向搁放信件の壁炉架，去查看是否有她的来信。在漫长的暑假里，如果我能收到她一两封信，我就觉得很幸运很满足了。这段奇特的情感经历给我的印象完全是一种失意感。有时候，我们在一起跳一跳舞，其实我们很少在舞池相聚。另外，我还带她去了两次戏院。我甚至不曾拥有过一张她的照片，好让我放在钱夹里，有时偷偷地瞄上一眼。

但我也没有要她相片的必要。她的形象时常浮现在我的脑海里——思而不得虽说带来情感上的煎熬，却也使她的形象栩栩如生。也可以说，我已把她藏在我的心底。独自一人的时候，我总是与她默默低语或是大声对话。夜晚回家时，我通常要在她的房子周围转一圈，然后大声呼喊她的名字，那声音仿佛是在恳求：请她开恩给我一个与她见面的机会。她总是居高临下，让我不可及，仿佛是我发现和崇敬的伟大女神。其实也正是我这个白痴，把她神圣化了。从我遇见她的那一刻起，这一切都已命中注定，我别无选择。

令人奇怪的是，她从未对我表现出任何冷淡或敌意。谁知道这其中的奥妙呢？或许她也在默默地

⑨ *adj.* 意义深长的，含蓄的

⑩ *n.* 单调的工作

⑪ *n.* 壁炉台

⑫ *n.* 失败，挫折

⑬ *adv.* 恳求似地

⑭ *n.* 凡人

sure, had been determined from the instant I met her; I had no choice.

The strange thing is that she never gave me any indication of being hostile or indifferent. Who knows perhaps she for her part was pleading silently with me to show her a more human attention, to woo<sup>⑩</sup> her like a man, to take her, forcibly if need be.

Perhaps two or three times a year we would come together at a party, one of those teen-age affairs which last until dawn with singing and dancing and silly games such as "Kiss the Pillow," or "Post Office," the game which permits one to call for the creature of one's choice and embrace her furtively in a dark room. Even then, when we might have kissed and embraced unrestrainedly, our shyness prevented us from sharing anything but the most innocent pleasure. If I danced with her I trembled from head to foot and usually stumbled over my own feet, much to her embarrassment.

All I could do was to play the piano—play and jealously watch her dance with my friends. She never came behind me to put her arms around me and whisper some silly nothing. After such evenings I would lie abed and gnash<sup>⑪</sup> my teeth, or weep like a fool, or pray to a God I no longer believed in, beg Him to have me find favor in her eyes.

And all throughout these five or six years she remained what she had been from the first—a flaming image<sup>⑫</sup>. I knew nothing of her mind, her hopes or dreams, her aspirations. She was a complete blank on which I fatuously<sup>⑬</sup> inscribed what I wished. No doubt I was the same to her.

Finally there came the day I said good-by to her. The day I was leaving for the Wild West, to become a cowboy, so I thought. I went to her home and timidly rang the bell. (It was but the second



乞求我，多献给她一些爱心，像一个真正的男子汉大胆向她求爱，必要时甚至可以强行把她带走。

我们大概每年要参加两三次青少年派对，唱啊，跳啊，直到黎明时刻，玩着诸如“亲亲枕头”或“邮局”的滑稽游戏。这种游戏允许你叫来选中的对象，在一间暗房里两人偷偷地拥抱。即使那时我们完全可以大胆放肆地接吻或拥抱，但出于羞涩，我们不敢有这种杂念，只能分享到那种纯洁的喜悦。如果我和她共舞，我会紧张得浑身发抖，还常常绊住自己的脚，这使她感到非常尴尬。

我只能弹弹钢琴——一边弹奏一边嫉妒地看着她与我的朋友们跳舞。她从未靠近我身后搂抱我，也从来没有在我耳边说一些哪怕是毫无意义的情话。经历了多次这样的夜晚之后，我要么躺在床上闷闷不乐，要么像个傻瓜一样暗自饮泣，或是向那个我已失去信心的上帝祈祷，祈求他让我在她眼睛里找到她对我的那份好感。

在我们相处的那五六年时间里，她始终保持原有的形象——一个热情烂漫的形象。我对她的思想与情感、希望与梦想、理想与抱负则一无所知。她对我来说犹如一张白纸，而在这张纸上我愚蠢地写下了我的全部希望。毫无疑问，我给她的印象也是如此。

我与她道别的日子终于来临了。那一天我要出发到“大西部”去，准备过牛仔式的生活，我当时是这样想的。我去她家，十分胆怯地按响了门铃（这是我第二次或是第三次鼓起勇气按响了她的家门铃）。她开了门，看上去比以前更消瘦了一些，变老了一些，也变得更加忧心忡忡了。

⑮ vt. 向……求爱

⑯ vt. 咬（牙齿）

⑰ n. 形象

⑱ adv. 愚昧地，愚蠢地