

SHORT STORY INTERNATIONAL

美国国际短篇小说选

入选中国作品

汉英对照



香魂女

周大新



中国文学出版社
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SHORT STORY INTERNATIONAL

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THE SESAME OIL MILL

Zhou Daxin 周大新

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总 序

二十世纪八十年代初,美国出版家坦克尔夫妇独辟蹊径,在纽约创办了一份文学双月刊,名叫《国际短篇小说选》。他们在致读者书中写道:“《小说选》将把你带向世界的四面八方,那里有动人心弦的故事等待你,让你领略未曾见过的遥远国度……与尘世之外的天地。……从这些故事中你将窥视未来与过去,这些故事引人入胜,展示普遍的真实。这种真实超越语言的差别而昭示人类共同的秉性。”

坦克尔夫妇的努力没白费。二十年后的今天,《国际短篇小说选》从众多的文学刊物中脱颖而出,通过对包括中国在内的各国优秀短篇小说的介绍,使人们认识到,全世界人民尽管有种族、肤色和信仰的不同,却有一样的梦想、恐惧与痛苦,都会笑、都会惊奇,都对未来抱有希望。这本杂志最终得到联合国国际文化交流组织的资助,并以该组织的名义出版,从而为增进世界各国人民的友谊与理解起到了独特的作用。

对于中国,这份刊物尤其显得生逢其时。长达十

年的“文革”刚刚结束，文学艺术正在从极左思潮中解脱出来。复苏的冻土下迸发出压抑已久的文学的呼声。几乎在一夜之间，曾经凋零的百花重新绽放。大批反映真实生活、歌颂美好人性的佳作出现在文坛，像早晨阳光下的露珠。作为《中国文学》这本中国唯一的向全世界发行的英、法文文学杂志的编辑，我们面对扑面而来的大量优秀作品感到十分欣喜，但也感到选不胜选，只能如蜜蜂采花，万中取一。然而正是这些经我们选用译载的小说，引起远在大洋彼岸的《国际短篇小说选》的注意，一篇篇经它的转载而传播到更多的国家。

于是我们收到很多国外朋友的来信，他们为发现中国文学的丰富宝藏惊喜。有位读者说，此前他以为中国只有僵化的思想而无优秀的文学，现在他明白，有着五千年文明历史的伟大中国，当代小说写得是多么的优美呵。

许多外国朋友因此来到中国，从了解中国的文学进而了解文学中的中国。也有许多中国作家受邀到外国去，去讲述自己怎样写出了那样动人的作品。

二十年来，《国际短篇小说选》总共选载了我们三十多篇优秀的小说，这些小说都是经过国内外功力深

厚的翻译家译成英文,首先发表在《中国文学》英文版杂志上。转载了我们作品的刊物从美国寄来,我们又把它们寄给原作的作者,为的是与他们共享这份喜悦。中国有一句古诗,叫做“满园春色关不住,一枝红杏出墙来”。无论把它们比做红杏是否恰当,既然已做为文学的使者出访世界,那么它们便可以算是美的和香的了。

现在,我们从这三十多篇美丽的小说中又精选出一些,对照它们的中文和英文编为一套丛书,名字就叫“红杏文学丛书”,分册献给学习英文的中国读者,也献给学习中文的外国读者,如有有志者想来一个中英对看,那更是编者的愿望了。

Introducing “Chinese Masterpieces”

In the early 1980s, two Americans, Sam and Sylvia Tankel, founded the bimonthly journal *Short Story International*. In a letter to their readers they wrote, “*Short Story International* takes you to all points of the compass, to anywhere in the world. There are intriguing stories waiting for you... stories that will involve you in corners of this world you’ve never seen... and in worlds outside this one..., with glimpses into the future as well as the past, revealing fascinating, universal truths that bypass differences in language and point out similarities in people.”

This American couple’s efforts are not in vain. Two decades later today, their journal has emerged as a force to be reckoned with on the international literary scene, disseminating across the world fine short stories from different countries, including China. The peoples of the world may vary in race, color and creed, but *Short Story International* makes one realize that truly all of us share the same dreams, fears, pain, capacity for laughter, sense of wonder, and hopes for the future. The journal eventually gained the financial support of the UN International Cultural Exchange, and, pub -

lished under that organization's name, is playing an ever-increasing role in enhancing understanding between the people of different countries.

For China, this journal was born at the perfect moment. The decade-long trauma known as the "Great Cultural Revolution" had just come to an end, and Chinese literature was being delivered from the influence of "ultra-leftist" ideologies. New, pent-up literary voices began to make themselves heard from beneath the thawing spring soil. Almost overnight, a hundred withered flowers suddenly re-blossomed. Countless fine literary works appeared that reflected the true lives of people and eulogized the beauty to be found in humanity. It was like tears of morning dew breaking into sunlit smiles. Editors of *Chinese Literature*, founded in the 1950s as the only literary journal published in English and French out of China for worldwide circulation, suddenly found their hands full coping with a dazzling outpouring of great short stories. There were so many to publish that issues of the journal often ran out of space. Only a limited number of these masterpieces made it to the journal, as the editors worked like bees buzzing through a sea of flowers. Some of the pieces drew the attention of editors of *Short Story International*, who reprinted them one after another for the benefit of a much larger audience.

Then letters began pouring into the editorial department of *Chinese Literature*, from friends from every corner of the globe, expressing their pleasant surprise at the discovery of Chinese literature as a rich mine of literary gems. One reader said he had thought that China had nothing but ossified thoughts, but upon reading the Chinese short stories carried in this journal was amazed by what beautiful literature writers of a country with a 5,000-year-old civilization were capable of creating. Tempted by these fine short stories, many readers have gone the extra miles to travel to China for a closer look at Chinese literature as well as the land and people depicted in what they had read. Many Chinese writers have also travelled abroad to tell international readers how they have come up with their captivating stories.

Incomplete statistics show that over the last two decades and more, *Short Story International* has carried over thirty outstanding Chinese short stories, beautifully rendered into English, which had been previously published in *Chinese Literature*. Every now and then we receive copies of *Short Story International* that have carried our translations, and make it a point to pass them on to the writers so that they can share in the joy. As the Chinese old saying goes, "The apricot tree makes its presence felt by extending a bough of blossoming flow-

ers over the top of the wall, unbeknownst to those who live behind the wall." In our case, no matter what our short stories are, they have flown across the seas like Chinese literary ambassadors to foreign countries, and thus deserve their reputation as the highest representatives of the Chinese short story.

Now, we have collected a few Chinese masterpieces from that prestigious UN journal and published them once again in this Chinese-English bilingual book series, called *Red Apricot Series* in Chinese and simply *Chinese Masterpieces* in English. The books are meant for Chinese readers learning English, and foreign readers who want to learn Chinese. If you will enjoy reading them by comparing the Chinese originals with the English translations, or vice versa, that is the best this series' editors could wish for.

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周大新，1952年生，河南邓县人。1970年参加解放军，历任战士、班长、副指导员、干事、军报记者。1987年开始发表作品。著有短篇小说集《汉家女》、中篇小说集《走廊》、长篇小说《走出盆地》、《有梦不觉夜长》等。他的小说《香魂女》被改编成电影，获43届柏林国际电影节金熊奖。

Zhou Daxin was born in Dengxian County, Henan Province in 1952. He has been a soldier, squad leader, instructor, secretary, reporter for an army paper since he joined the PLA in 1970. His first story was published in 1987. He has authored short story collection *Han Jianū*, novella collection *Corridor*, novels *Out of the Basin* and *A Dreamy Night is Not Long*, etc. His *The Sesame Oil Mill* has been made into films and won a prize in the 43rd Berlin film festival.

序一

香油，是我们南阳这地方有名的土特产品。据史书载，早在清朝光绪年间，就经汉口“邓帮商行”销往港澳、东南亚、日本和德国。在香油中，又以小磨香油最负盛名，如今每年销往京、津、沪三市和日美诸国的几百万斤香油，就是小磨香油。南阳的小磨香油出名，其一是因为此地的芝麻奇异。这地方属暖温带气候，土壤、水质中含有多种矿物质，芝麻籽粒饱满，千粒重平均达三克以上，油脂中高含人体必需的不饱和脂肪酸；而且部分芝麻籽粒

Preface 1

The Nanyang area is famous for its sesame oil. Historical records show that as early as in the reign of the Qing-dynasty emperor, Guangxu (1875-1908), local sesame oil was being exported via trading companies in Hankou to Hong Kong and Macao, Southeast Asia, Japan and Germany. Moreover, the oil produced in the small mills has the best reputation, and some one million liters or so are supplied to Beijing, Tianjin and Shanghai, as well as Japan, the United States and other countries every year. What makes the oil from the small mills of the Nanyang area so famous is the peculiar nature of the local sesame. The temperature round here is mild, and the soil and water

香魂女

形状很怪，其尖端歪向一方，出油率高达百分之五十七。其二是因为榨制工艺独特。它先将芝麻炒至将糊未糊，尔后用石磨磨成糊状，接着加水、搅拌，最后澄清、舀盛，原汁原味。

南阳榨制小磨香油的油坊、油厂很多，但你若想尝到小磨香油中的最精最优最上之品，则须出南阳城南行，问：香魂油坊在哪？会立刻有人指给你。

那原是郜家营郜二嫂私人开的一座油坊，两年前投资扩建，如今变成了中日合资经营，不过油坊的一应事务仍由郜二嫂主持。二嫂的大名叫银娥，很好听，只是她使用这名字的机会很少，村人多称她二嫂。

序二

做香油和做啤酒一样，讲究水！

没有崂山矿泉水，青岛啤酒就不会享誉国际；同样，没有香魂塘里的水，郜二嫂的油坊也不会让那么多人着迷！

香魂塘里的水是有些奇！

这水塘座落在郜家营村南，方形，百米宽窄，

contain all kinds of mineral elements. The seeds of the sesame plants are plump. The oil contains a high quantity of unsaturated fats which the human body needs. Some of these seeds, in fact, have a peculiar shape — their pointed ends bend to one side; from these the oil yield is as high as fifty-seven per cent. Another reason for the popularity of this oil is the special extraction technique used. First, the sesame is roasted and then ground with a stone mill. Water is added to the resulting paste and the mixture stirred. Finally, the liquid is allowed to settle before it is ladled out in all its pristine glory.

There are lots of these small sesame oil mills around Nanyang, but if you want to taste the purest and most perfect of the local product you have to go south of the city proper and ask for the Fragrant Spirit Mill. Anyone will tell you where it is.

It was first opened as a private concern by a woman of the Gao family, known as Ersao. Two years ago it was expanded with an increase of investment, but Ersao was still in charge of all the operations. Her given name was really Yin'e (Silver Maid) — a pretty name, but she hardly ever used it and the people of the village called her, more familiarly, Ersao (Second Sister-in-Law).

Preface 2

Making sesame oil and brewing beer are very similar, insofar as the main thing is the water.

It's the Laoshan mineral water that makes Qingdao beer world famous. Likewise, it's the water from the Fragrant Spirit Pond that enables Gao Ersao's sesame oil business to captivate so many customers.

最深处不过一丈，然即是再大旱年，塘水也不见稍减，据说塘底通着什么暗河。塘中夏日长满荷叶，花开时香裹全村，然水凉得怕人，很少有人愿下去摸藕，偶有人敢试，也是下水片刻便牙齿发颤嘴唇乌青地慌慌爬上来。塘水颇清，却无鱼无虾无鳖等生存，且喝到嘴里又有一股苦涩味，极像是放了一种什么草药。村里的牛羊猪狗再渴，从不喜喝这塘里的水。可就是这塘水用来做小磨香油，特别好。会使油色橙黄微红，味甜润，入口清香醇爽。用这油来煎炸食品和调制凉拌菜肴，可去腥臊而生奇香，使人口生津液食欲大增，若用来配制中药，可滋阴，清热解毒，壮精髓，润脾胃；若用来熬膏外敷，具有凉血、止痛、生肌等功效。

郜二嫂的香魂油坊就坐落在香魂塘畔，油坊大门面南，出门五十步即是塘岸。

1

六月的那个空气潮润东天润红的清晨，郜二嫂像往常一样，一边扣着衬衣钮扣一边匆匆出院门向隔壁的油坊走去。每天的这个时辰，香魂油坊要开始它的第一道工序：炒芝麻。二嫂进去时，偌