



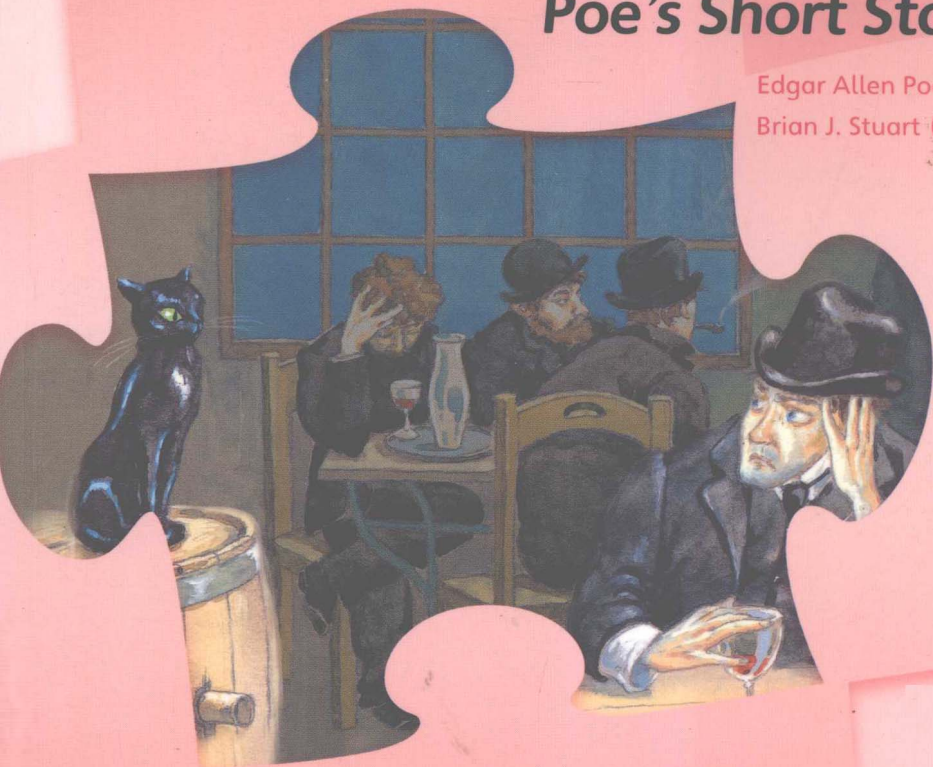
轻松英语名作欣赏

爱伦·坡短篇小说

Poe's Short Stories

Edgar Allen Poe (美) 著

Brian J. Stuart (美) 改写



第五级
适合高二、
高三年级



附1张CD光盘

外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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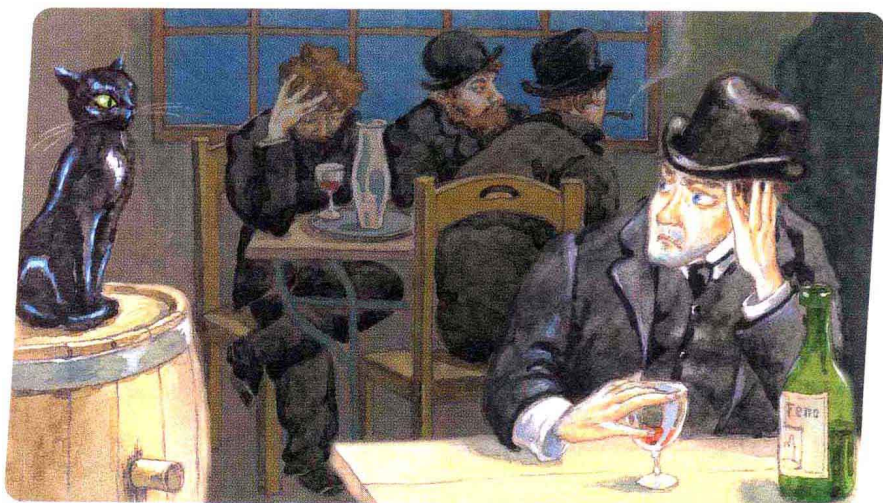
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陈亦南 译



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童年时代动人的童话故事和经典名著永远是人无法抹去的温情回忆。现在，你可以尽情沉浸在英文经典殿堂中，欣赏英文作品的原汁原味。“轻松英语名作欣赏”专为需要提高英语阅读及听力水平的各类读者而设计，系列中收录的都是大家耳熟能详的故事，简单而亲切。通过阅读和收听这套有声读物，你的英语阅读水平和理解能力都会得到明显的提高。

本系列分为五个级别，词汇量从350词至1000词逐级扩大，“如何使用本书”和“如何提高英语阅读水平”提供了概括性的指导。另外，本系列还针对不同的故事内容设计了“你读懂了多少”(Comprehension Quiz)，帮助你检测阅读理解的效果。“阅读准备”(Before You Read)以图文并茂的形式让读者对生词形成一定的感性认识，并在文中给出更详尽的注释。书后附有译文，帮助你更好地理解故事。本系列还配有精美的插图和“背景知识”(Understanding the Story)，让你的阅读更加多姿多彩。

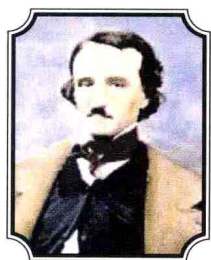
本系列每本书所附的CD光盘均由美国专业播音员朗读。各书的内容由英语国家的专业编辑人员在标准美国英语的基础上，根据不同级别读者的语言水平进行改编，也可应用于英语课堂教学。

现在，让我们开始“轻松英语名作欣赏”听读的快乐体验吧！

关于故事和说故事的人

埃德加·爱伦·坡 (1809~1849)

Edgar Allen Poe



埃德加·爱伦·坡1809年出生于波士顿。他很早就失去了双亲，26岁时与年仅13岁的弗吉尼亚结婚。

1827年，他出版了第一部40页左右的诗歌选集。然而这本书只卖出了50本，并没有引起公众的关注。

1841年4月，小说《莫尔格街凶杀案》的发表使他开始声名鹊起。小说的主角名叫杜邦，是一位心思缜密、才智过人的侦探。这是一部悬疑小说，有别于他早期所写的那些耸人听闻而又离奇古怪的故事。

1843年，坡在费城一家报纸上发表了《金甲虫》、《黑猫》以及其他短篇故事。此外，他还曾推出过广为人知的诗篇《安纳贝尔·李》。1849年，当他在巴尔的摩为自己的新杂志工作期间，突然昏迷不醒，被送往医院后离开了人世。

埃德加·爱伦·坡短短40年的生命中充满了跌宕起伏。他在长达22年的时间里，一直保持着热情洋溢、充满活力的文学创造力，并因此而影响了一大批侦探小说家，如柯南·道尔、莫里斯·勒布朗克，以及阿加莎·克里斯蒂等。同时，他也影响了许多诗人，比如法国的波德莱尔、瓦勒雷、兰波等人。



《黑猫》故事的主人公养了一只名叫普卢托的黑猫。一天，在酒精的作用下，他挖出了黑猫的眼睛，不久后，又将它吊死在树上。事后他带着悔恨的心情收养了另一只与普卢托十分相像的黑猫。然而，随着时间的推移，第二只黑猫胸口上原有的白斑逐渐长成了绞架的形状。每当主人公看到那块白斑并想起死去的普卢托时就浑身战栗。他试图杀死这只猫，却误杀了他的妻子。他将妻子的尸体埋藏在地窖的墙里，并且确信自己的完美谋杀将逃脱法律的制裁。然而，事情远远没有结束……

《黑猫》代表了坡的早期作品的特点，黑猫象征着恐怖的情绪和病态的犯罪心理。

《被窃的信件》著名的侦探杜邦接手了一个案件：皇室内院失窃了一封重要的信件。尽管警方知道一些线索，却找不到那封信到底藏在何处。杜邦意识到罪犯懂得如何操纵警方，因为罪犯摸清了警方的心理和行为了。他利用这一信息轻松地破获了案件。

这篇故事的魅力在于情节上的峰回路转。尽管侦探杜邦只出现在坡的三个故事里，但是这个形象却深刻地影响了其他侦探小说作家的创作。



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The Black Cat



黑 猫

Before You Read

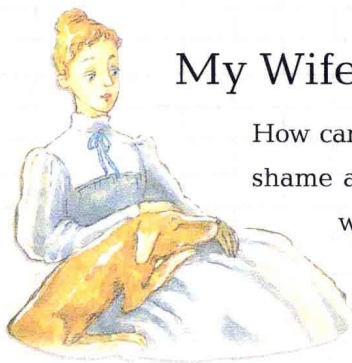
阅读准备



Myself 我

I am a tragic figure. Deep inside, I have a terrible vice. I have fallen victim to alcohol. This has caused me to be cruel to my wife and to animals. Once I was very gentle with all living creatures. But the curse of alcohol has turned me into a monster. Because of my cruelty, I brought a curse upon me and my wife.

我是一个悲剧性的人物。我的内心深处有一桩可怕的罪行。我成为了酒精的受害者。这使我变得对我的妻子和动物十分残酷。我曾经是一个对待所有生灵都十分温柔的人。但是酒精的诅咒把我变成了一个怪物。正因为我的残酷，我给自己和妻子带来了不幸。



My Wife 我的妻子

How can I describe my wife without the slightest bit of shame and remorse? She was also a gentle creature who loved animals. She loved me once, before I became a drunken monster. Perhaps she still did, up until her horrible end. I wish she had found peace at last.

我要怎样描述自己的妻子，才能不带有一丁点儿的羞愧和悔恨呢？她也是一个温柔善良、热爱动物的人。在我变成酒鬼之前，她曾经爱过我。也许她仍然还爱着我，直到她的生命悲惨地结束的那一刻。我希望她的在天之灵能够安息。



Pluto, the Cat 黑猫普卢托

Pluto was the greatest of all the pets I had in my life. He was the largest cat I've ever seen, with a shiny coat of black fur. In addition, he was very intelligent and even seemed to understand what my wife and I said to each other! He loved me, and I loved him, at first. But again, the terrible curse of alcoholism made me mistreat this animal so terribly that in the end, he would run in terror at the sight of me.

普卢托是我一生中所拥有过的最棒的宠物。它是我所见过的最大的猫，披着一身闪亮的黑色毛皮。而且它非常聪明，甚至似乎能理解我和妻子之间的对话！它爱我，开始的时候我也爱它。可是酒精可怕的诅咒使我狠狠地虐待这只动物，以至于最后它一看见我就会恐惧地逃走。



The Second Black Cat 第二只黑猫

This creature is more of a monster than a cat. He resembled Pluto very much, except for a patch of white fur on his chest. At first, I was glad to meet him, because I wanted to have a pet again. But this creature would not seem to leave me alone. In fact, he seemed to want to be near me, in order to torture me with the memory of Pluto.

与其说这个生物是一只猫，不如说它是一只怪物。它长得和普卢托非常相像，除了它胸口上的一撮白毛。一开始，我很高兴能遇见它，因为当时我又想养宠物了。但是这只生物似乎不肯让我独自呆着。事实上，它似乎总想呆在我附近，以便勾起有关普卢托的回忆来折磨我。

A Descent into Cruelty

残酷的深渊

I do not expect the reader to believe the tale which follows. It would be most unreasonable for me to ask anyone to believe what my own senses reject. Let me assure you that I am not crazy. Nor am I dreaming. But tomorrow I die and today I would lighten my soul.

The events in this story may start off as commonplace, normal household events. But their results over the past few days have terrified me and tortured my very soul. I cannot explain these events. Perhaps someday a wiser person than I am will find a reasonable, practical and perfectly natural explanation.

But before I begin this tale of terror, I feel it is necessary to give some background of who I am and how these events came to be.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> unreasonable <i>adj.</i> 不讲道理的 | <input type="checkbox"/> commonplace <i>adj.</i> 平常的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reject <i>v.</i> 拒绝接受 | <input type="checkbox"/> terrify <i>v.</i> 使害怕 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> assure <i>v.</i> 向……保证 | <input type="checkbox"/> torture <i>v.</i> 折磨 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lighten <i>v.</i> 减轻 | |

Ever since I was a small child, those around me remarked that I had a calm and compassionate personality. My kindness was especially directed toward animals. I spent most of my time feeding and playing with animals. These were the happiest moments of my life.



KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> remark <i>v.</i> 评价 | <input type="checkbox"/> personality <i>n.</i> 个性 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> compassionate <i>adj.</i> 有同情心的 | <input type="checkbox"/> feed <i>v.</i> 喂养 |

For me, this was not a mere childhood pastime that would fade away with adulthood. As a young man, my pets continued to be one of my greatest sources of happiness. I need not explain this feeling to anyone who has loved a pet dog.

At an early age, I married a pretty young woman who had a similar personality as me. She also liked animals, and in no time we had a variety of pets in our house. There were birds, gold fish, rabbits, a small monkey, a fine dog, and a cat.

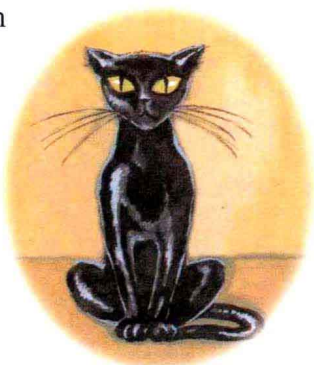


KEY WORDS

- mere *adj.* 仅仅的
- pastime *n.* 消遣
- fade away 消失

- adulthood *n.* 成年
- in no time 马上
- variety *n.* 多种多样

The cat deserves special description here because it was an extraordinary feline. It was a large and beautiful animal, entirely covered in shiny, thick black fur. The most remarkable thing, however, was its intelligence. This cat appeared to be very wise and seemed to understand everything my wife and I did, and everything we said.



In fact, my wife sometimes said that the cat was actually a witch in disguise. Of course, it was just an old-fashioned superstition that witches sometimes changed into black cats. My wife was not being serious. The only reason I mention it here is because it was one of the things I remembered about the cat.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| □ deserve <i>v.</i> 值得 | □ witch <i>n.</i> 女巫 |
| □ feline <i>n.</i> 猫科动物 | □ in disguise 伪装的 |
| □ fur <i>n.</i> 动物的毛皮 | □ old-fashioned <i>adj.</i> 老式的 |
| □ remarkable <i>adj.</i> 不同寻常的 | □ superstition <i>n.</i> 迷信 |
| □ intelligence <i>n.</i> 智力 | |



His name was Pluto, and he was my favorite pet. I was the only one who fed him, and he always followed me around the house. When I went outside, it was difficult to prevent Pluto from following me onto the streets, where he would be in danger.

We — my wife and our many pets — lived in peace and happiness for several years. Our situation changed because I fell into a bad habit.

I don't need to explain how I began to drink or why at this time. It does not matter. It's enough to say that slowly over the course of several months, I became an alcoholic. This, of course, greatly changed my personality. I slowly became more moody and more inconsiderate of the feelings of others. I started to call my wife ugly names. To my great shame and regret, I even began to hit her.



KEY WORDS

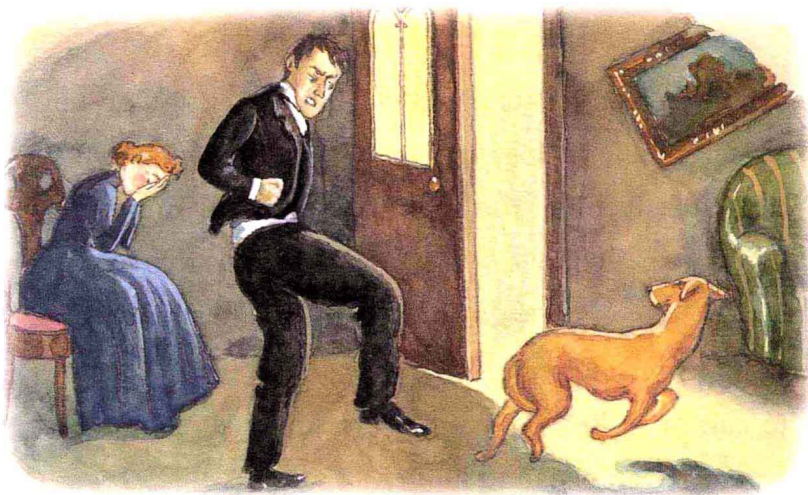
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> alcoholic <i>n.</i> 酒鬼 | <input type="checkbox"/> call sb names 谩骂某人 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> moody <i>adj.</i> 喜怒无常的 | <input type="checkbox"/> shame <i>n.</i> 羞愧 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> inconsiderate <i>adj.</i> 不体贴别人的 | <input type="checkbox"/> regret <i>n.</i> 悔恨 |

One Point Lesson

It was difficult to **prevent Pluto from following** me onto the streets... 很难阻止普鲁托跟着我上街……

prevent / stop + sb / sth + from + -ing: 阻止某人 / 某物做某事

e.g. The heavy traffic **prevented me from being** here in time.
交通堵塞使我无法及时到达这里。



My pets, of course, also suffered during this time. Not only did I neglect them, I also began to physically abuse them. The poor things did not understand the change in me. They would come up to me for affection and I would kick them or push them away.

Only Pluto escaped this mistreatment at the beginning of my alcoholism. I still loved him enough to stop myself from hurting him. This, however, came to a horrible end one terrible evening.

KEY WORDS

- suffer *v.* 受苦
- neglect *v.* 忽略
- physically *adv.* 身体上
- abuse *v.* 虐待

- affection *n.* 喜爱
- mistreatment *n.* 虐待
- alcoholism *n.* 酗酒