

温馨 美文

Warm
English

高春梅等 编译

大学英语美文赏析(六级)



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Omega Man
边缘人

I can understand rejection.
I just can't understand creatures that bit me on the butt.

我可以理解这样的拒绝，
可就是难以理解要咬我屁股的动物。

边缘人

Omega Man

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快乐阅读 阅读快乐

孟子曰：“蜂以采花，故能酿蜜；蚕以食桑，故能成丝；海纳百川，故能成其大；人读百家书，故能养其气。”

阅读，是一种思考。品味文字的生动，体会言语的情韵，感受书籍的智慧。文字安静而整齐的排列，犹如涓涓细流，浅吟低唱；言语生动而活泼的展现，犹如奔涌河流，激昂心胸；书籍平淡而朴实的陈白，犹如深蕴海洋，任君遨游。

阅读，是一种享受。一杯茶，一盏灯，一种心情，一番情境，如春之清香，夏之微风，秋之果实，冬之暖炉，或淡定如水，或生动如风，或细语倾诉，或豪情壮志。

阅读，是一种力量。白纸黑字，不仅仅给予冷静的思量，深入的考究，也能成为刚强之源，平静之泉，鼓舞人心。有了阅读的力量，也能尝尽甜苦人生，也能体味冷暖人间，也能亲历苦难人世，也能坦然迈步沧桑世间路。

阅读，是一种成长。读书，是一个富有生命力的进程，人生因为阅读而多姿多彩。足不出户，了知天下事。伴随着阅读，经历着成长之点滴，游历着历史之时空，了解着世间之丰富，感叹着人生之精彩。

阅读，是一种快乐。与作者的互动，与文字的游戏，心有灵犀的感悟，感同身受的慰藉。阅读的快乐之于人，犹如水之于鱼，不仅带来生之希望，亦能带来生之喜乐。

阅读之于人，能积累知识，能修身养性，能丰富人生，不受国界之限制，不论语言之异同。

因此，我们要学会阅读，更要学会阅读不同国度的书籍，亲历不同语言的美妙，体会不同文化的魅力。

我们希望《大学英语美文赏析》系列丛书，能帮助渴望培养英语阅读能力，提高英文欣赏水平的读者们，去破解英语阅读之秘密，去体验英语美文之瑰丽。

本书为《大学英语美文赏析》系列六级丛书之一。精心选取的四十篇国



外最新美文从情感驿站、文化频道、社会万象、网络天地、科普探秘、政经杂谈、名人名家、教育探索八个方面为读者提供接触经典英文的机会。每篇文章包括斟词酌字、佳句有约、译笔生花、情趣链接四个部分。不仅帮助读者理解文章,掌握重要单词和句型,还为读者列出丰富的文化语言链接内容。以更好地欣赏美文,了解英语语言和文化。

本书的最大特点是选材新颖。所有的文章均来自于2005年之后的英语报纸杂志,内容紧跟时代潮流,语言地道真实。每篇文章内部结构安排合理新颖。不仅有帮助读者阅读的单词和语言点解释,还有让读者开拓眼界的语言文化链接的环节——情趣链接。因此本书既能提供英语美文的赏析,也能拓展视野,更好地了解英语世界和文化。

本书的目标读者广,不论是教师还是研究生、本科生或专科生,只要对优美的英文篇章感兴趣的读者都将从中获益匪浅。

本书的编辑出版得到了浙江工商大学外国语学院、浙江工商大学出版社以及教务处等有关领导和部门的大力支持和帮助,谨此一并表示感谢。

由于编者水平与经验有限,书中难免还有不足之处,希望广大读者批评指正。

编者

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◆ 情感

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Mystery of the White Gardenia¹

By Marsha Arons

从 12 岁起,我每次过生日都有人送我一朵白梔子花,但送花人是谁始终都是个谜。

Every year on my birthday, from the time I turned 12, a white gardenia was delivered to my house in Bethesda, Md.² No card or note came with it. Calls to the florist³ were always in vain — it was a cash purchase⁴. After a while I stopped trying to discover the sender's identity and just delighted in the beauty and heady⁵ perfume of that one magical, perfect white flower nestled⁶ in soft pink tissue paper.

But I never stopped imagining who the anonymous giver might be. Some of my happiest moments were spent daydreaming about someone wonderful and exciting but too shy or eccentric⁷ to make known his or her identity.

My mother contributed to⁸ these imaginings. She'd ask me if there was someone for whom I had done a special kindness who might be showing appreciation. Perhaps the neighbor I'd helped when she was unloading a car full of groceries. Or maybe it was the old man across the street whose mail I retrieved⁹ during the winter so he wouldn't have to venture¹⁰ down his icy steps. As a teenager, though, I had more fun speculating that it might be a boy I had a crush on¹¹ or one who had noticed me even though I didn't know him.

When I was 17, a boy broke my heart. The night he called for the last time, I cried myself to sleep¹². When I awoke in the morning, there was a message scribbled¹³ on my mirror in red lipstick: "Heartily know¹⁴, when half-gods go, the gods arrive." I thought about that quotation from Emerson for a long time, and until my heart healed, I left it where my mother had written it. When I finally went to get the glass cleaner, my mother knew everything was all right again.

I don't remember ever slamming¹⁵ my door in anger at her and shouting, "You just don't understand!" Because she did understand.

One month before my high-school graduation, my father died of a heart attack. My feelings ranged from grief to abandonment, fear and overwhelming anger that my dad was missing some of the most important events in my life. I became completely uninterested in my upcoming graduation, the senior-class play and the prom.¹⁶ But my mother, in the midst of her own grief, would not hear of¹⁷ my skipping¹⁸ any of those things.

The day before my father died, my mother and I had gone shopping for a prom dress. We'd found a spectacular one, with yards and yards of¹⁹ dotted swiss²⁰ in red, white and blue. It made me feel like Scarlett O'Hara²¹, but it was the wrong size. When my father died, I forgot about the dress.

My mother didn't. The day before the prom, I found that dress — in the right size — draped²² majestically²³ over the living-room sofa. It wasn't just delivered, still in the box. It was presented to me — beautifully, artistically, lovingly. I didn't care if I had a new dress or not. But my mother did.

She wanted her children to feel loved and lovable, creative and imaginative, imbued²⁴ with a sense that there was magic in the world and beauty even in the face of adversity²⁵. In truth, my mother wanted her children to see themselves much like the gardenia — lovely, strong and perfect — with an aura²⁶ of magic and perhaps a bit of mystery.

My mother died ten days after I was married. I was 22. That was the year the gardenia stopped coming.

From Reader's Digest

斟词酌字 NOTES

1. gardenia [gɑ:'di:njə] *n.* 梔子花, 一种常绿灌木, 花为白色。
2. Md. abbr. Maryland 马里兰州(美国州名)。
3. florist ['flɒrɪst] *n.* 花商, 种花人。
4. cash purchase 现金购买, 言下之意是, 用现金买的就查不出买主是谁。
5. heady ['hedɪ] *adj.* 令人兴奋的, 令人陶醉的。
6. nestle ['nesl] *vi.* 偎依。如: A dog nestled at her feet. (一条狗偎依在她的脚边。)

7. eccentric [ik'sentrik] *adj.* 古怪的,反常的。如:She is so eccentric that she is regarded as a bit of a curiosity. (她非常古怪,算是个奇人。)
8. contribute to 为……作贡献,促进,助长。如:Laissez-faire policy result in increase economic activity, but contribute to a rise in import. (自由放任政策导致经济活动的增加,但也促进了进口的增长。)
9. retrieve [ri'tri:v] *vt.* 恢复,取回。如:I should like to retrieve my umbrella which I left in the car. (我想取回我留在车上忘记带走的雨伞。)
10. venture ['ventʃə] *v.* 冒险。如:Nothing venture, nothing have. (《谚》不入虎穴,焉得虎子。)
11. have a crush on sb. (俚)迷恋某人,深深地爱上某人。
12. cried myself to sleep 哭着哭着就睡着了。
13. scribble ['skribl] *v.* 潦草地书写。
14. Heartily know 这句插入语可以理解为:“We know profoundly that...”
15. slam [slæm] *v.* 猛然关上,“砰”的关上。如:slam the door at sb. (当着某人的面摔门)。
16. prom [prəm] *n.* (大学、高中等的)班级舞会。
17. not hear of (与 will, would, could 等连用)不同意,不允许,不予考虑。
18. skip [skip] *vt.* 不参加,不出席。
19. yards and yards of 许多。如:He remembered yards and yards of facts and figures. (他记住了大量的事实和成串的数据。)
20. swiss [swis] *n.* 薄细布,薄纱, = Swiss muslin。
21. Scarlett O'Hara 《乱世佳人》(《飘》)中的女主人公。
22. drape [dreip] *vt.* 使松松垂下,使随便悬挂。如:I took off my overcoat and draped it over the back of the booth. (我脱去大衣,顺手把它搭在座椅背上。)
23. majestically [mə'dʒestikəli] *adv.* 庄重地,高贵地。
24. imbue [im'bu:] *vt.* 灌输,使深深影响。如:The Egyptian poor are deeply imbued with the teachings of Islam. (埃及贫民深受伊斯兰教教义的影响。)
25. adversity [əd'vɜ:səti] *n.* 不幸,灾祸,逆境。如:Adversity is a good discipline. (《谚》逆境是锻炼人的最好场所。)
26. aura ['ɔ:rə] *n.* 氛围,气氛。如:She always seems to have an aura of happiness about her. (她好像总是喜气洋洋的。)

佳句有约 PATTERNS

1. Some of my happiest moments were spent daydreaming about someone

wonderful and exciting but too shy or eccentric to make known his or her identity.

点拨 本句主干部分为“Some of my happiest moments were spent daydreaming”,即 spend + time + v. -ing,句中使用了被动语态。someone 一词的定语很长,有 wonderful, exciting, 以及一个 too ... to ... 结构来修饰它。“known”是宾语补足语,修饰“his or her identity”,为了平衡起见而前置。

2. My feelings ranged from grief to abandonment, fear and overwhelming anger that my dad was missing some of the most important events in my life.

点拨 理解这句话的关键词是 range,其意思是“change, vary”。that 引导的从句作原因状语,表示我感到失望、恐惧甚至愤怒的原因。如:I am truly filled with happiness that I am a devoted friend and helper of human race. (我确实很高兴,因为我是人类忠实的朋友和帮手。)

白梔子花之谜

□玛莎·阿伦斯



情感

从12岁起，每年我生日那天，都会有一朵白色的梔子花送到我在马里兰州贝塞斯达的家里。上面既没有卡片，也没有留言条。询问卖花的人，也总无结果，因为那是用现金付账的。过了一段时间，我不再四处打听送花人是谁，而是尽情欣赏着那朵用柔软的粉红色薄纸包着的纯白无比的梔子花，陶醉于它的美丽和浓郁的香气。

然而，我一直在想谁有可能是那不知名的送花人。我最快乐的时光，有些是在幻想中度过的，我幻想有这么一个人，非常好又令人兴奋，但是却很害羞甚至有点古怪，所以不愿意暴露自己的身份。

妈妈的关心更激发了我这些想象。她问我是不是我给过什么人什么特殊的帮助，人家在向我表示感激。可能是那位邻居，我帮她卸过一车食品杂货，或是住在街对面的那个老人吧，冬天我帮他拿过信件，这样他就不必战战兢兢地走下自家门前那结冰的台阶了。但作为一个十几岁的姑娘，我更喜欢推测送花人是我迷恋的某个男孩子，或是我根本不认识但却对我有点意思的一个男孩子。

17岁那年，一个男孩让我的心都碎了。他最后一次打电话给我的那个晚上，我哭着哭着睡着了。早上醒来，我发现有人用口红在镜子上写道“我们知道，该走的走了，该来的会来”。我把爱默生的这句名言想了很长时间，在我的心灵创伤愈合之前，我一直没动母亲所写的这句话。当我最终去拿玻璃清洁剂的时候，母亲知道一切已恢复正常。

我不记得我生气的时候曾当着她的面砰地关上门并冲她大吼：“你根本不理解！”那是因为她确实善解人意。

我中学毕业前一个月，父亲死于心脏病。我百感交集，悲伤、失望、恐惧，甚至非常气愤，因为父亲再也不能参加我一生中的某些最重要的活动

了。我因此对即将到来的毕业典礼、高年级演出和班级舞会完全没了兴致。但母亲忍住了悲伤，她绝不让我错过这些事情。

父亲去世的前一天，我和母亲去买参加班级舞会穿的服装。我们看到一件引人注目的衣服，上面缀着许多有红、白、蓝色点子的薄细布。穿上它，我觉得自己就像郝思嘉一样漂亮，只可惜尺寸不合适。父亲的去世使我忘了衣服的事。

可母亲没有忘。舞会的前一天，我看到那件衣服搭在起居室沙发上，端庄高贵，而且尺寸正好合适。这可不是随便买来的，这是专门送给我的礼物，漂亮、高雅，惹人喜爱。我并不在乎有没有新衣服，可母亲很在乎。

她希望自己的孩子感到有人爱，招人喜欢，富有创造力和想象力，能深深地感受到世间的魔力和面对逆境时的美景。实际上，母亲想让她孩子觉得自己像梔子花一样的可爱、顽强和完美，带点儿魔力，或许还有点儿神秘吧。

我结婚 10 天后，母亲离开了人世，那年我 22 岁。从此，梔子花不再来了。

情趣链接 LINK

Give All to Love 为爱牺牲一切

By Ralph Waldo Emerson

Give all to love; 为爱牺牲一切，
Obey thy heart; 服从你的心；
Friends, kindred, days, 朋友，亲戚，时日，
Estate, good fame, 名誉，财产，
Plans, credit, and the muse; 计划，信用与灵感，
Nothing refuse. 什么都能放弃。

'Tis a brave master, 它是一个勇敢的主人，

