

英

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# 难舍的真情

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欧丽 / 刘芳 / 张和梅 选编



北京语言大学出版社

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● 英语爱情小说精选 ●

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# 前 言

爱情,自古以来一直是人类情感中一个永恒的主题。爱情故事,更是文学大师们吟唱的一曲古老而永具魅力的歌谣。从王孙公子到平民百姓,从富家子弟到贫穷少女,谁都有爱与被爱的权利。爱情的王国里没有贵贱之分。没有爱情,世界将变成一片死寂的荒原;没有爱情,生活将失去斑斓的色彩和优美的诗意。人生的舞台上,永远上演着一幕幕爱情的悲喜剧。

外国文学作品中描写爱情的佳作可谓汗牛充栋,译成中文的亦数不胜数。为了让广大读者朋友领略英语语言的魅力,我们选编了《英语爱情小说精选》这套书,将一些经典爱情小说中的精彩部分萃集在一起。这些内容以高超的叙事文笔、优美的抒情语言,向读者朋友们讲述了两性之间发生的一个个震撼人心、催人泪下的爱情故事,使大家从中获得高层次的艺术享受以及真善美的启迪。

这里入选的有的是名家的经典原著,有的是名著的改写本,也有的是当代作家学者的精美作品。不管其出自何人之手,亦不管其结局如何,都会让我们在品尝这些妙语真情之余,带给我们心灵的震撼。

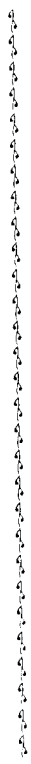
为使广大读者朋友正确理解原文,我们在每篇选文前都做了故事简介,对文中的一些词语也添加了注释。各篇之后还有阅读理解性问题,以及文中出现的习用语的表达练习。读者可以在休闲娱乐中提高英语阅读能力,在欣赏之余学习一些地道的英语表达方式。书后附有参考答案。另外每册后都有一个附录,包括爱情絮语、爱情诗歌、爱情对白、世界著名情书、爱情影片精彩对白等。

最后,我们真诚地希望这套书能给广大读者朋友的读书生活增添一份温馨的喜悦。

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## 第一篇

### 钟爱一生

(节选自《英语爱情散文精粹》)

安涅特·鲍温





# 简介

《钟爱一生》是作者对爱情的一篇真实体会。作者与她的丈夫相濡以沫几十年,相互理解,相互尊重,深得朋友们的羡慕。他们都懂得如何去维持感情、珍惜感情。作者的体会是感情深化需要双方共同的乐趣与爱好、理解与信任,还有分享与宽容以及心心相印。



I have a friend who is falling in love. She honestly claims the sky is bluer. Mozart moves her to tears. She has lost 15 pounds and looks like a cover girl. "I'm young again!" she shouts **exuberantly**®.

As my friend **raves on about**® her new love, I've taken a good look at my old one. My husband of almost 20 years, Scott, has gained 15 pounds. Once a marathon runner, he now runs only down hospital halls. His hairline is receding, and his body shows the signs

① **exuberantly** *adv.* 兴高采烈地;愉快地。如: She **exuberantly** described her **adventurous experience**. 她兴高采烈地描绘她冒险的经历。

② **rave on about**: 热情或赞赏地说。如: She **raved on about French cooking**. 她对法国烹调赞口不绝。

of long work hours and too many candy bars. Yet he can still give me a certain look across a restaurant table and I want to ask for the check and head home.

When my friend asked me, "What will make this love last?" I **ran through**<sup>①</sup> all the obvious reasons: **commitment**<sup>②</sup>, shared interests, unselfishness, physical attraction, communication. Yet there's more.

We still have fun. Spontaneous good times. Yesterday, after slipping the rubber band off the rolled-up newspaper, Scott flipped it playfully at me: this led to an **all-out**<sup>③</sup> war. Last Saturday at the grocery, we split the list and raced each other to see who could make it to the checkout first. Even washing dishes can be a **blast**<sup>④</sup>. We enjoy simply being together.

And there are surprises. One time I came home to find a note on the front door that led me to another note, then another, until I reached the **walk-in**<sup>⑤</sup> closet. I opened the door to find Scott holding a "pot of gold" (my cooking kettle) and the "treasure" of a gift package. Sometimes I leave him notes on the mirror and little presents under his pillow.

① **run through**: 复查; 总结。如: **Could we run through the main points discussed?** 我们把讨论的要点归纳一下好吗?

② **commitment** *n.* 承诺; 保证。如: **a commitment to pay £100 to charity** 承诺向慈善事业捐赠 100 英镑。

③ **all-out** *adj.* 全力以赴的。如: **The team is making an all-out effort to win the championship.** 这个队为争取冠军而全力以赴。

④ **blast** *n.* 爆炸; (由爆炸所引起的具有破坏力的) 气浪; 冲击波。此处作者引申出乐趣。

⑤ **walk-in** *adj.* (指壁橱、衣柜等) 宽敞得可走进去的。如: **a walk-in closet** 大壁橱; 小储藏室。

There is understanding. I understand why he must play basketball with the guys. And he understands why, once a year, I must get away from the house, the kids—and even him—to meet my sisters for a few days of nonstop talking and laughing.

There is sharing. **Not only do we share household worries and parental burdens, we also share ideas.** ① Scott came home from a convention last month and presented me with a thick historical novel. Though he prefers **thrillers and science fiction** ②, he had read the novel on the plane. He touched my heart when he explained it was because he wanted to be able to exchange ideas about the book after I'd read it.

There is forgiveness. When I'm embarrassingly loud and crazy at parties, Scott forgives me. When he **confessed losing some of our savings in the stock market** ③, I gave him a hug and said, "It's okay. It's only money."

There is sensitivity. Last week he walked through the door with that look that tells me it's been a tough day. After he spent some time with the kids, I asked him what happened. He told me about a

① **Not only do we share... , we also share ideas.** 我们不仅分担家庭的烦恼和赡养义务,而且互相交流观点。**not only...but also** 可连接两个句子,或两个并列的成分,表达汉语“不仅……而且”之意,强调后者。当连接两个句子“**not only**”位于句首时,“**not only**”引导的句子要倒装。如: **Not only did he know the results of the experiment, he also knew how to do it.** 他不仅知道实验的结果而且知道怎样来做这个实验。

② **thrillers and science fiction:** 恐怖小说和科幻小说。

③ **confessed losing some of our savings in the stock market:** 承认在股票市场损失了一些钱。**confess doing sth:** 承认/坦白做了某事。

60-year-old woman who'd had a **stroke**<sup>①</sup>. He wept as he recalled the woman's husband standing beside her bed, caressing her hand. How was he going to tell this husband of 40 years that his wife would probably never recover?

I shed a few tears myself. Because of the medical crisis. Because there were still people who have been married 40 years. Because my husband is still moved and concerned after years of hospital rooms and dying patients.

There is faith. Last Tuesday a friend came over and confessed her fear that her husband is losing his courageous battle with cancer. On Wednesday I went to lunch with a friend **who is struggling to reshape her life after divorce**<sup>②</sup>. On Thursday a neighbor called to talk about the frightening effects of **Alzheimer's disease**<sup>③</sup> on her **father-in-law's**<sup>④</sup> personality. On Friday a childhood friend **called long-distance**<sup>⑤</sup> to tell me her father had died. I hung up the phone and thought: This is too much heartache for one week.

After saying a prayer, I descended the stairs to **run some errands**<sup>⑥</sup>. Through my tears, I noticed the **boisterous orange blossoms of the gladiolus**<sup>⑦</sup> outside my window. I heard the delighted laughter of my son and his friend as they played in our basement. After backing

① **stroke** *n.* 中风。

② **who is struggling to reshape her life after divorce**: 她正努力重新设计离婚后新的生活方式。此处为定语从句修饰先行词“a friend”。

③ **Alzheimer's disease**: 阿耳茨海默氏病; 老年性痴呆病。根据德国医生 Alois Alzheimer 的姓命名。

④ **father-in-law**: 公公。-in-law 表示姻亲关系。如: **mother-in-law** 婆婆; **son-in-law** 女婿; **daughter-in-law** 儿媳。

⑤ **called long-distance**: 打长途电话。

⑥ **run some errands**: 办点事。errand *n.* 短程差使。

⑦ **the boisterous orange blossoms of the gladiolus**: 绽放着艳丽的桔黄色花的剑兰。

out of my driveway, I caught sight of a wedding party emerging from a neighbor's house. The bride, dressed in satin and lace, tossed her bouquet to her cheering friends.

That night I told my husband about these events. We helped each other acknowledge the cycles of life and that joys counter the sorrows. It was enough to keep us going.

Finally, there is knowing. I know Scott will throw his laundry just **shy of the hamper**<sup>①</sup> every night; he'll be late to most appointments and eat the last chocolate in the box. He knows I sleep with a pillow over my head; I'll lock us out of the house **on a regular basis**<sup>②</sup>, and I will also eat the last chocolate.

I guess our love lasts because it's comfortable. No, the sky is not bluer: it's just a familiar hue. We don't feel particularly young: we've experienced too much **that's contributed to growth and wisdom, taken its toll on our bodies, and created our memories**<sup>③</sup>.

I hope we've got what it takes to make our love last. As a bride, I had Scott's wedding band engraved with **Robert Browning's line "Grow old along with me!"**<sup>④</sup> We're following those instructions.

① **shy of the hamper**: 还不满的篮子。 **shy of**: (口语)不是的;缺乏的。

② **on a regular basis**: 经常地。

③ **that's contributed to growth and wisdom, taken its toll on our bodies, and created our memories**: 它们能使我们不断成熟,同时也为我们增添了不少的智慧,它们虽已损害了我们的肌体,但也为我们留下了太多的记忆。 **contribute to sth**: 增加某事物;添加到某事物中。 **take its toll (of sth)**: 造成损失、损坏等。如: **The war took its heavy toll of human life.** 这次战争夺去了许多人的生命。

④ **Robert Browning's line "Grow old along with me!"** 罗伯特·勃朗宁的一句诗:“和我一起白头偕老!”罗伯特·勃朗宁是19世纪中期英国著名诗人,本句摘自“**Rabbi Ben Ezra**”。

## COMPREHENSION

Decide whether each of the following statements is true or false.

- ( ) 1. The narrator and her husband have been married almost 20 years.
- ( ) 2. Sometimes Scott could get angry with his wife as he once flipped a rubber band at her and they had an all-out war.
- ( ) 3. The narrator was a good wife and mother for she deserted all her friends after she got married.
- ( ) 4. Scott got used to hospital rooms so as to become indifferent to dying people.
- ( ) 5. Though they have lived together for almost 20 years, there are still surprises between them.
- ( ) 6. Both the narrator and her husband like eating chocolate.
- ( ) 7. Scott is a punctual man and he has never been late to any appointments.
- ( ) 8. The narrator runs through her marriage with Scott and hopes readers may learn something from her experience and live a happy life.

## Activities

1. Match each idiom with the correct definition.

1. rave about ( )

a. using all possible  
strength and resources

2. run through ( )

b. large enough to walk into

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 3. all-out <i>b</i>           | c. increase sth; add to sth                  |
| 4. walk-in <i>b</i>           | d. cause loss, damage, etc.                  |
| 5. contribute to sth <i>c</i> | e. speak about with enthusiasm or admiration |
| 6. take its toll <i>d</i>     | f. review or sum up                          |

**II. Fill in the blanks with the expressions given below. Change the form where necessary.**

rave about; run through; all-out; walk-in; contribute to; take its toll; struggle to; on a regular basis

- Every year at Christmas drunken driving \_\_\_\_\_.
- Her work has \_\_\_\_\_ enormously \_\_\_\_\_ our understanding of this difficult subject.
- When I came in, he was \_\_\_\_\_ his holidays on the island.
- Could we \_\_\_\_\_ your proposals once again?
- The team is making an \_\_\_\_\_ effort to win the championship.
- I like my new apartment which has a \_\_\_\_\_ wardrobe.
- They have physical examinations \_\_\_\_\_.
- The sleepy boy was \_\_\_\_\_ keep his eyes open to watch the cartoon.

## Idioms *习语*

rave about	热情或赞赏地说
run through	复查; 总结
all-out	全力以赴的
walk-in	宽敞得可走进去的
take its toll	造成损失或损坏



## 第二篇

### 苦 恋

(节选自《英语爱情故事精粹》)

乔治·塔吉特

