



CONTEMPORARY CHINESE
SHORT STORIES

VOL. I

Compiled by

Jorgensen

現代中國小說選

趙景深編註



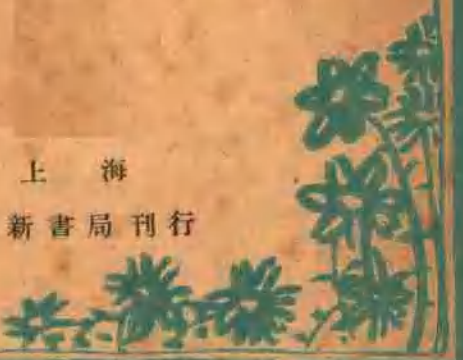
漢英對照
現代中國文學叢刊

現代中國小說選

趙景深編註

上海

北新書局刊行



目 次

十字架	郭沫若 2
自殺	茅盾 32
遺腹子	華伯鈞 68
花匠	俞平伯 102
第一次宴會	冰心 117
蕭蕭	沈從文 154
柏子	沈從文 198

十字架

郭沫若

“住在上海的時候使你受了多少累贅，臨行真是又勞苦了你不少了。

臨行的那天，天氣還好，但從正午以後海便荒暴了起來，我是真正的苦了。三個孩子都吐，和兒吐得頂厲害的樣子，但是第二天也就好了。到長崎的時候又是大風，雪是落得非常厲害的。到福岡的時候已經是晚上了。在石川家裏只宿了一晚上，我們便到御虎家的樓上來了。

“樓居是很危險的，兩天後又要搬家，小孩太多，樓上一人是不能住的，並且又是破了的房子，真是冷得沒法，冷得沒法呢。租了一家二十塊錢一月的房子，念到孩子們的分上，家後有菜園，有橘子樹，覺得也好。

在回上海以前從我們住過的那家樓上不是可以望見的嗎？在隣近有一家有園子的，便是現在所說的住家了。本想先問你後再定奪，但爲兒子們設想，很想早一

註：(1) Burden 負擔，即累贅之意。

(2) Sick 嘔吐（不作生病解）

(3) Rental 租金總額

The Cross

By Kuo Mu-jo

" . . . When I was living in Shanghai I was a burden' to you, I know, and when I finally departed I had to cause you even more trouble.

"The weather was not bad when we left, but that afternoon the sea was violent and we were all very uncomfortable. The three children were sick,² Little Peace worst of all, but next day he recovered. It was snowing when we reached Naga aki, and was still stormy when late in the afternoon we came into Fugun. We spent the night there in Shih Chuan's home. In the morning we went to Yuhu's.

"We had lived at Yuhu's for only two days, however, when we wanted to move. You know that second story of his is not safe. It is cold, and the timbers are unsound. Moreover, with children running in and out, and requiring to be watched, it is inconvenient to be living upstairs. I've therefore rented a house for twenty dollars a month, and it is attractive, with a little garden of orange-trees where the children can play.

"Perhaps you remember it? From where we lived before we could just see those trees. Don't you recall it? That's the place. At first I thought of consulting you by letter before taking it, as the ten a' is a little higher, but I finally took the

刻移住稍爲好一點的房子，所以一個人便決定了，雖是覺得太貴了一點。從昨天起我在自己飯碗吃了。

“你在上海的生活又是怎麼樣呢？我依然是寂寞，無論走到甚麼地方去，一種深不可測的孤獨的悲哀好像洄漩一樣旋湧起上來。今天刮大風下大雪，覺得很困苦。別來不過纔半個月的光景，就好像已經隔了一年的樣子。

“大前天天氣晴了，把三個孩子帶着上街去買東西，走過電影館的時候，孩子們說要看，便引他們進去看了。做着三個孩子看電影，真是再苦沒有的事呢。回來的時候，各人吃了一碗湯麵。佛兒真鬱悶起來了，背了半日，夜來身子痛得不能動彈了。

“好像想寫的東西很多，但一寫起來，這樣也想不寫，那樣也想不寫，結局是甚麼也不能寫下去了。像我這無力的人簡直沒有法子。被賦與了的東西也被剝奪了，把持着了的東西也失掉了，我以後正不知如何。在心裏留剩着的只有這麼一點，女人到了三十無論什麼事情都遲了！我是只有這一點遺憾。孩兒的爹爹，我對你說。人生是怎樣短促的喲！

“不知道為何，只是這樣被深不可測的悲哀攪亂着。……隨後再寫。”

註：(1) Morbid mood 悲觀態度。

(2) Task 工作，引伸為苦差事，即“再苦沒有的事”。

(3) Noodles 和麵粉條，姑代湯麵。

decision by myself because for the children's sake I thought we should move in as soon as possible. I can afford the expense for the present.

"How are you living in Shanghai? I still feel desolate, with a lonely sorrow for ever whirling along in my mind. Outside it is still bitter, there is a heavy snowfall, and I am in a morbid mood ' We have been parted only half a month, yet it seems to me already a year.

"The day before yesterday the sky cleared for a while, and I took the children with me to shop in the market. We passed by the cinema and they begged me to take them in. It was a task² to sit through it. Returning, we stopped to have some noodles,' and Sonny Fu then wanted to be carried; he had eaten so much! I took him on my back for nearly half the way. How heavy he is becoming! I ached with a sore back that night and could not sleep.

"There are so many things I want to write to you, and yet now that I have begun I can say nothing, and this all ends without any significance. I cannot help being depressed. I am no longer young, many of the things I once valued most in the world are gone, and those precious things I held in my hands have somehow slipped through them. I feel dreadfully uncertain about the future. How brief life is! Is there anything left of it for a woman after the age of thirty? What is your opinion, father of my children?

"But my head is a confusion of loneliness and fatigue! . . . I shall write to you later."

愛牟夫人回日本後將近三個禮拜了，還不曾有甚麼消息轉來。起初寫信去懇求，後來漸漸生怒，又後來漸漸懷疑以爲是生出甚麼意外了——在這樣搖曳不定的悲情之下苦惱着的愛牟，在今天的早晨，突然纔接到了這麼一封長信。他急切地揭開信來展讀，他的心尖很敏速地戰顫起來，胸膛緊張得好像要爆裂，讀一句，他的眼鼻只是漲痛一次。

信是用鉛筆寫的，字跡異常草率。兒童們旁邊攪擾着的光景，可以歷歷看取。信的後半部更顯然是夜深人靜後犧牲着睡眠的時間寫的了。一面憂心着目前的兒童，一面又思念着海外的丈夫，應該歡聚的生活却不能不爲生活分離。愛牟讀了一遍又讀一遍，他的眼淚只如貫珠一樣滴落在信紙上，和紙上舊有的淚痕，融合而爲一體。

“不錯，人生原是短促的！我們爲空間所囿，我們爲時間所囿，使我們這簡短的一生也不得享受一些兒安慰，我們簡直是連牛馬也還不如，連狗彘也還不如！但牛馬狗彘還有悠然而遊，怡然而睡的時候，而我們是無論睡遊，無論晝夜，都是爲這深不可測的隱憂所盪擊，都是浮沈在悲愁的大海裏。

“我們在這世間上究竟有甚麼存在的必要，有甚麼

-
- 註：(1) Legible 清楚易讀。
(2) Adjusting 調整。
(3) Chastie 混亂。
(4) Men are mortal 人是要死的。
(5) Exert 用。

* * *

Mrs Ai-mao had been in Japan almost three weeks, and nothing had been heard of her. Her husband had written a letter asking for news, and when none had come he had been much annoyed. Then he had begun to worry. Here was a letter at last. He carefully read every character of it, his eyes taking it in eagerly, his nostrils turned out, his breath quickening.

It was written in pencil and was hardly legible.¹ From the nervous scrawl he understood that she must be troubled by the children, moving, and adjusting² herself. The end of it was so chaotic³ that he decided she must have written during a sleepless night. When she was not caring for the children evidently she was longing for him. Well, it couldn't be helped: they could not continue to live with him if he were to make a living. He reread her words, and at the end a few tears mingled with those that his wife had shed on the letter as she had written it.

"Yes, truly, men are mortal⁴ and their mortality is short! Yet living under such pressure as we do we are not even allowed to enjoy these few years! We are more to be pitied than cows and horses. Even the dog has liberty to go where he chooses and to sleep in peace, but we are denied this! We suffer deeply from suppressed griefs, and we struggle vainly in a sea of troubles.

"Why do we live? Why do we exert⁵ our brains at all? Isn't the whole process only conducted for the benefit of money-grabbers?

存在的必要呢！我們絞盡一些心血，到底爲的是甚麼？爲的是替大小資本家們做養料，爲的是養育兒女來使他們重蹈我們的運命的舊轍！我們真是無聊，我們的血簡直是不值錢的莧菜水！甚麼叫藝術，甚麼叫文學，甚麼叫名譽，甚麼叫事業嘍！這些鍍金的套狗圈，我是甚麼都不要了。

“我不要丟去了我的人性做個甚麼藝術家，我只要赤裸裸的做着一個人！我就當討口子也可以，我就死在海外也可以，我是要做我愛人的丈夫，我是要做我愛子的慈父。我是你的，我是你的，我永遠是你的！我不久便要跑到你那裏來，實在不能活的時候，我們把三個兒子殺死，然後緊緊抱着跳在博多灣去死了！”

“你請不要悲哀，我是定要回來。

“我們的雜誌也快要一年了，我同朋友們說過，我只擔負一年的全責，還只有三四十天了，把這三四十天的有期徒刑住滿之後，無論續辦與否，我是定要回來的。我們是預備着生，還是預備着死，那時候聽你自由採決，我是甚麼都可以。你所在的地方我總隨你去。無

註：(1) We are insufferable creatures! we are vegetables, we are water. 此數語似將莧菜水三字分成三樣東西：莧，菜與水，而把莧誤認爲動物。

(2) Prestige 威信。

(3) Enterprise 事業。

(4) Delusions 妄念。

(5) Our magazine is publishing on a contract of only one year, and its first issue must appear within thirty or forty days. “我們的雜誌只訂一年的合同，第一期一定要在三四十天內出版。”此語與原意不符，原意爲：“我們的雜誌也快要一年了，我只擔負一年的全責，還只有三四十天了。”原意爲“一年已過十月餘，只剩一月餘。”現則改爲“一年尚未開始”；原意爲“已出版不少期”現則改爲“創刊號將出版”，故與原意完全相反。

(6) Appears 因誤解爲創刊，故用“出現，”實應譯作Continues。

(7) I shall decide 與原文“聽你自由採決”不符。

Don't we do it only to impose upon our descendants exactly the same rôle as we ourselves are living in the present world? We are really insufferable creatures! We are vegetables, we are water, we are even baser! Art? Literature? Prestige and reputation? Finally, enterprise? Are they not all merely gold-plated trap-words, delusions?

"I don't want to sacrifice my character in order to be an artist. I want to create out of myself a man! In the end I may become a beggar, I may die abroad, but at least I want to be the sweetheart of my wife, I want to be the beloved father of my children, however many crosses I may bear! I am yours, now and to-morrow, permanently yours, my chosen wife! How I long for you! Should it prove impossible for us to live, we can at least destroy our children, and end everything by jumping together into the Poto!

"Sorrow no more! I shall return, I certainly shall return!

"Our magazine is publishing on a contract of only one year, and its first issue must appear within thirty or forty days.³ I am responsible for its publication. When these first thirty or forty days are over I shall return, certainly I shall return, whether the magazine appears or not! Whether we are destined to live or to die, this I shall decide in that time, and nothing can stop me from following you! Where you go I shall follow you! Through fire, water, or suicide! Where you make your home there my home will be also."

論水也好，火也好，鐵道自殺也好，我總隨你去，我誓不再離開你一刻兒，你所住的地方我總隨你去的呀！”

他自言自語地發了一陣牢騷，又痛痛快快地流了一陣眼淚，他的意識漸漸清晰了起來。他是在一個小小的堂屋裏踱來踱去地步着。時候已近午後二小半了，淡淡的陽光抹過正面的崇墻照進窗來，好像是在哀憐他，又好像是在冷笑他的光景。堂屋裏除去一些書櫥桌椅之外，西壁正中釘着一張歌德的像，東壁釘着一張悲多汶的像。

“你這樣意志薄弱的低能兒！你這憂鬱成性的白癡，你的生活是怎樣的無聊，你的思想是怎樣的淺薄，你的感情是怎樣的自私！像你這樣的人正是褻瀆藝術的罪人，褻瀆詩文的罪人！”

這種尖刻的罵聲，好像從兩壁中迸透出來，但是他也全不介意，他只是在堂屋中踱來踱去地步着。“悲多汶，歌德，你們莫用怒視着我，我總不是你們藝術的國度裏的居民，我再不掛着你們的羊頭賣我的狗肉了，我要同你們告別，我是要永遠同你告別。”他顧盼着兩人的像片自語了一陣。

註：(1) Remonstrated 勸說。

(2) Subject to discipline 聽候訓練。

(3) Billowed 大浪澎湃，作湧起解。

(4) Adjacent 附近的。

(5) Insipid 淡而無味，沉悶，無生氣。

(6) Notions 見解。

(7) Profane 褻瀆。

(8) Scolding himself in this way “他像這樣罵他自己”此語與原意不符。原文在一段話裏還有這樣兩句話：“這兩位偉人的雕像都帶着嚴厲的面孔好像在鄙夷他的樣子。”下文又云：“這種尖刻的罵聲好像從兩壁中迸透出來。”可見非愛辛自罵，而為歌德與悲多汶之雕像罵愛辛也。

(9) Partitions 壁。

(10) Asunder 分為二，粉碎。

He remonstrated¹ to himself in this manner for some time, weeping bitterly. Then his senses gradually became more subject to discipline.² He moved back and forth in his small room. It was early afternoon, scarcely two o'clock, and the sunlight billowed³ in from a side window. The warm rays seemed now encouraging, now cynical, disillusioning. The walls were bare except for his bookshelves and a portrait of Goethe on one side and on the wall adjacent⁴ to it a print of Beethoven.

"How insipid⁵ are your feelings! What a habitually complaining person you are! How self-pitying is your daily life! And how narrow and selfish are your thoughts! Such notions⁶ as you've had only prove the ease with which you profane⁷ the artist that's in you! You are a criminal-souled artist after all!"

Scolding himself in this way⁸ he felt that his spirit was repressed between two partitions,⁹ threatening to burst asunder¹⁰ both of them. But he ignored and mastered this conflict within himself and walked thoughtfully back and forth across the room. "My Beethoven! My Goethe! Don't stare at me! I no longer claim any kinship with you. I promise never to 'put on your sheep's head to sell my dog's meat'—no, never again! I shall bid farewell to you, farewell for ever." And actually he looked at the two images before him as if he were bidding them good-bye for all time as he muttered to himself.

Ai-mao had suffered deeply, and at last he

他只覺得他的心尖異樣的戰慄。他想給他夫人寫一封回信去。但他纔要落筆的時候，大門的門環響了。

——這兒是愛牟先生的貴寓嗎？

——是的。

——愛牟先生在家嗎？

——我便是。

——哦哦！

兩個客人特別表了一次敬意，但他們的眼光有幾分不相信的樣子。愛牟把他們請進客堂。他們便各道了姓氏，其實在他們剛進門時，愛牟看見他們的容貌，聽見他們的聲音，早知道他們的來歷了。

他們是從四川的C城來的。

在兩禮拜前C城的紅十字會給愛牟拍了一張電報來，仍然要找他去當醫生，說不日當派員攜款來迎，務希俯就等等。隔不幾日愛牟又接到他的長兄由C城寄來一封快信：

在敝在渝在萬時均有致弟函，迄未得一覆。不知吾弟究係何意，總希明白表示。

頃C城紅會致我一函，附有電稿，特連函送吾

註：(1) Communicate 直言不諱。

(2) Deferentially 恭敬的。

(3) Convinced 令人深信。

(4) Relieved 緩和。

(5) Delivery 發表。

(6) Perfunctory—done with the least possible effort 毫無效力。

decided to communicate' to his wife the degree and nature of his sorrow after reading her letter. Just when he put brush to paper, however, he heard a knock at his door.

"Is it Ai-mao's house?"

"Yes."

"Is Mr Ai-mao in?"

"I am Ai-mao."

"Eh! Eh!"

The two guests bent deferentially' to him, and yet they seemed not quite convinced.' Ai-mao invited them into his rooms, and they relieved' themselves of their names. That delivery' was really perfunctory,' as Ai-mao had already identified them from their features and their dialect.

They came from the city of A —, of the far western province of Szechuan.

Two weeks earlier Ai-mao had received a telegram from the Red Cross Society of C — City, asking him to return there again and take up his post as a doctor. The message stated that the Red Cross was sending representatives to bring him money, and begged him to accept their offer. A few days later this long express letter had come from his eldest brother in C —

I have written to you several times, but thus far no letter has come in reply. I wonder if there is any special reason for it, and if so I wish you would tell me, fully, what it is.

A letter has come to me from the Red Cross of C —. I enclose it, together with a copy of their telegram, and you will see what

第一閱，便知此中底蘊。須知現在世局，謀事艱難，

謀長遠之事尤難。紅會局面較大，比之官家較為可

靠。幸勿付之等閒也。

父母老矣，望弟之心甚切，迅速摒擋，早日自

途來滬，一闔良晤，至盼至切。

順詢近好，并候曉芙母子旅祺。兄W再拜。

W仁兄親家大鑒：愛牟兄準定聘請。月薪四百，即

因經費支絀，暫作捌成開支。一俟經費充足，即照約開
支。

即希台端備函轉致，誠恐愛牟兄在滬就聘他事。今

註：(1) Connexion 關係。

(2) Nominally 名義上。

it is about. I want to tell you that it is very difficult finding a job now. It is especially hard to find a good permanent position. The Red Cross is organized on a big scale here, more so than in other places, and it is more dependable than any official connexion. I hope you will not reject this opportunity.

You know your parents are getting older. They are expecting much of you. I will personally appreciate it very much if you can come back as soon as possible.

With affectionate regards to you, and remembrances to Hsiao Fu (Mrs Ai-mao) and the children,

Sincerely,

W.

The letter enclosed read as follows:

Dear brother W,

We have come to a decision here to invite Ai-mao to join us. The salary offered is nominally 400 dollars a month, but actually, due to our financial condition at present, there will be a discount on this of 20 per cent., which means he will collect 320 dollars per month. When our finances are in better shape we will pay him accordingly.

We are hoping that you will write to him about this matter. I am afraid that Ai-mao will have taken another position in Shanghai by the time this reaches him, so that I have already telegraphed him our proposal. I shall be glad to send representatives of ours to meet him, and