

走向英语世界

简易英语
录音小说

EDGAR ALLEN POE
STORY TELLER

美国新闻总署英语教学部
改编

Oral & listening skills
Book 1 for students
of the Intermediate
level

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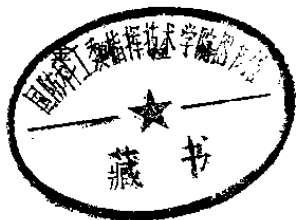


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走向英语世界——
简易英语录音小说

Edgar Allen Poe: storyteller

美国新闻总署英语教学部改编



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Sincerely,



Joseph Duffey
Director

序

我代表美国新闻总署祝贺北京师范大学出版社出版“英语教学文库”图书。

这些书原由美国新闻总署出版。每本书都为学生提供了提高英语知识水平、学习更多的美国文化、习俗和历史的机。教师会发现这些书是中国中学和大学英语课程教学的有益补充材料。

美国新闻总署致力于中美两国人民之间的相互了解。中国人民能够有效地用英语交流、美国人民能够熟练地运用汉语是加深两国人民相互了解的关键。

本书以及这套丛书的其他书籍将帮助中国学生准备参与国际商业竞争和从事东西方文化交流,在这两种活动中英语知识是必不可少的。

美国新闻总署署长
约瑟夫·达菲

序

许嘉璐

这套美国《英语教学文库》是美国新闻总署英语教学部编辑出版的,现在由北京师范大学出版社在中国出版发行。

这套书的内容丰富实用。书中有切合教与学的语法、词汇、听力、会话、写作和阅读的基本知识;其语言材料则注意选择当今美国最为广泛使用的简便精练的语言;其中的对话大都置于日常生活中最容易碰到的各种场合,并写进很多目前在美国最为流行的短语和短句;全套书风格是生动活泼的,不会让读者承受枯燥无味之苦。在这套书中有十二部美国著名小说的缩写本。缩写者的技巧是很高的,在保证原书内容完整的前提下,非常注意语言的通俗晓畅,凡掌握了1000到3000个单词的人都可以兴味盎然地阅读。这样,这套书就把适用的范围扩大了,这是很聪明的做法。全套书大多都配有原声录音带,边听边读,更可以提高学习的兴趣和效率。

在中国出版这套丛书,是中国英语教学和英语普

及工作中的一件很有意义的事。随着世界的“缩小”，学习母语之外的其它语言，特别是学习别国的语言，不仅仅是工作的需要，交流的需要（合起来就是一个国家生存、发展的需要），也将成为人们精神生活的需要，成为一个人文化教养高低的标志之一。在这样的形势下，学习用书的选择就成为至关重要的事。作为在中国有着重要影响，特别是在教学用书方面经验丰富、成绩卓著的北京师范大学出版社刊行这套丛书，是再合适不过的了，这也将是该社对我国外语教学所作的又一重要贡献，是奉献给选择学习用书的读者的一份厚礼，理应表示祝贺。

在我国，第二语言的教学还是一个比较年轻的学科，教材的编写、教学理论的研究都有待加强和提高。这套丛书的出版或许可以对这些方面起到“助威”的作用——从事第二语言教学和研究的，可以从中借鉴美国同行的一些经验；至今还没有认识到这一领域的重要的，应该从中看到这一工作的意义和难度。

这套丛书的出版同时也是中美文化交流的产物。美国新闻总署在中美文化交流方面做过不少工作；北京师范大学也曾出版过不少介绍美国 and 适合美国人民学习汉语的读本——这次的合作是很自然的，也是对双方都有利的。我希望双方的真诚合作能够不断得到加强，为两国人民的友好交往再做出新的成绩。

（1994. 3. 1.）

前 言

本书所配的录音材料专门帮助那些已学了一些英文的人理解正确的美国英语。书中的讲话和富有戏剧性的小说由经过特殊训练的艺术家和教育工作者朗读。

本书对词汇和语法结构都进行了精心的控制,以有助于学习和强化。尽管如此,词汇和语法结构仍比较复杂。学生应该已经掌握主要不规则动词的变化形式(课文中几乎包括了所有不规则动词)、主、被动语态和各种时态。本书各篇小说的读速适中、语音语调准确。

为了便于教学,对较难的语法结构和词汇均给予注释,练习题根据录音材料设计,不太常用的词收入附录,并在书中以*号标出。另一个附录是不规则动词表,这些动词都是在本书中出现的。

配本书的磁带原来为“美国之音”的“英语广播教学节目”所用,该部门的负责人是菲力普·特纳博士。电台广播的时间一律为14.5分钟,为了适合课堂或语言实验室的教学,磁带的开头和结尾略去了播音员的开始语和结束语,这样每一篇或一节小说的时间为11—13分钟。

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The Life and Writings of Edgar Allan Poe

Part One

A Talk By

PROFESSOR F. COWLES STRICKLAND

THE AMERICAN WRITER EDGAR ALLAN POE is probably better known outside the United States today than any other American writer. There was something about his poems and especially his short stories which interested people all over the world. Some of them were people whose whole way of living was completely different from his own.

Perhaps it was the certain knowledge we all have that we must die which joins us together; perhaps that is what we feel we have in common with Edgar Poe. For his short stories, at least the ones people read today, are filled with death, with more than fear — with terror*; they deal with murders without reason, with murders for revenge*; they deal with beautiful women who softly and slowly pass from life into death, so quietly that no one knows just* when they died — or even whether they died at all! Poe's stories deal with the strange and the wonderful, with unreal happenings which seem real.

Indeed, they seem so real that it appears Poe could not

have written them at all if he had not himself had the experiences he describes. And so, as the years went by, people began to picture in their minds a man named Poe who was like the men in Poe's stories; a man who did not have complete control of his mind, a man who was mad, perhaps, or half-mad; a man who was in some strange manner being destroyed.

There is no doubt that Poe used his own experiences in writing his own stories. This does not, however, mean that Poe was the men in his stories. Who was he, then? What was he? Edgar Poe was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in January of 1809. His mother and father were actors. They moved around in the eastern part of the United States, travelling from city to city, acting in plays which no one remembers today. They had no real home; only hotel rooms.

One day, when Poe was only nine months old, his father went away and was never seen again. No one knows why. Poor Mrs. Poe was left with two small children and a third one still unborn. And Poe was only two years old when his mother died and he and his brother and baby* sister were left alone in the world.

This happened in Richmond, in the state of Virginia. A man named John Allan took Poe into his home in Richmond. But Mr. Allan never adopted Poe; that is to say, he never made Poe his son by law. And Mr. Allan never took Poe into his heart, either. This was the cause of many of Poe's

troubles as he grew older. However, Mrs. Allan didn't have any children of her own, and she wanted a child very much. So she loved Poe more than was good for him. This, too, probably caused him trouble as the years passed.

Mr. Allan did¹, however, provide young Poe with a good education. Poe went to good schools from the time he was four years old until he was seventeen. When Poe was seventeen he began to do special studies to prepare himself to go to a university. In those days not many young people were able to go to a university. But by that time Mr. Allan had become quite rich. For this reason it is difficult to understand what happened when Poe arrived at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Before Mr. Allan went back to Richmond he gave Poe some money; but he didn't give him nearly enough. Poe couldn't pay for even the most necessary things. The result was that at the end of his first day at the university he owed money to at least two people. He wrote to Allan, asking for more money; Allan sent him some, but again it was a small amount. By this time, however, Poe had discovered that the businessmen of Charlottesville would let him take things without paying. They did this because they knew that Mr. Allan was rich. They thought that Allan would pay.

But this is only part of the story. Poe was a young man; and he was living and studying in the company' of other young men. He did the things they did. One of the things

they did was gamble; they played games with cards and the winner took money from the loser. That is, from all losers except Poe, for Poe had no money. And he often lost. The result was that Poe owed still more money.

Another one of the things these young university students did was drink. In English, when we use the word drink we usually tell what the person is drinking; water, milk, Coca Cola. But when we say, "He drinks," without telling what the person drinks, we mean that he drinks things like wine and gin and whiskey, things that have alcohol in them. These are the drinks which make a person feel good for a little time — unless he drinks so much that he can't remain standing, or so much that he gets² sick.

Well, Poe began to drink. I was about to say that he learned how to drink; the trouble is that he didn't³. In those early days of the young United States life was rougher* than it is today. Most men did not think badly of another man just because he drank; but if the man didn't know how to drink — if he drank too much or at the wrong time of day or in the wrong place — then men felt that drinking was wrong. Poe was one who didn't know how. Oh, we mustn't think that Poe drank all the time. If that had been true he could not have written anything. No, there were long periods* when Poe didn't drink at all; but there were other periods when he felt he couldn't continue to exist* without drinking. Thus, Poe created* trouble for him-

self. This is not the only example of how Poe did the wrong thing, knowing that it was the wrong thing. Apparently it was a part of his character to do so⁴. Poe recognized this problem in himself. In his story The Black Cat, he wrote:

Who has not, a hundred times, found himself doing wrong, doing some evil thing for no other reason than because he knows he should not? Are not we humans at all times pushed, ever driven⁵ in some unknown way to break the law just because we understand it to be the law?*

At the end of the school year Mr. Allan came to the university to get² Poe. Poe's life had been a pleasant* enough⁶ life until then. But his troubles were about to begin. For Allan learned what Poe had been doing. Now, Mr. Allan was a businessman. I can see him, in my mind's eye, his face red with anger, declaring that young Poe "didn't know the value of a dollar." Allan did¹ pay some of the money Poe owed, but not the money Poe lost playing cards. And so when Poe left the university he still owed a lot of money; and there was hardly* a day for the rest of his life that he didn't owe money to someone.

Allan took Poe back to Richmond. He told Poe that he would give him no further⁷ money to continue his studies at the university. Allan wanted Poe to work for him, in his business. Poe, of course, was the kind of person who would be very unhappy as a businessman. One day in March of 1827, after more angry words, Poe ran away from home.