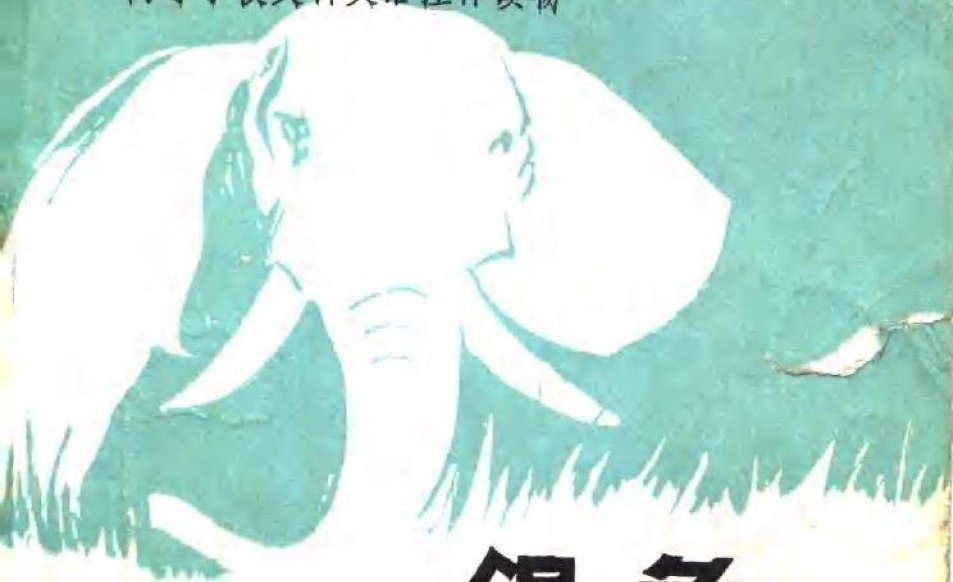


高等学校文科英语注释读物



银象

THE
SILVER
ELEPHANT

外语教学与研究出版社

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内 容 提 要

这本书里收集了《银象》、《极好的一天》等七个短篇故事。内容大部分是描写急难济危、助人为乐、青年爱情、擒贼破案等与日常生活或学校生活有关的事情，情节生动，结局新颖，不落俗套。文字简易流畅，词汇控制在700个左右，常用句型反复出现，便于记忆掌握，本书适于大学文科低年级学生阅读。

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THE SILVER ELEPHANT¹

From the first time he saw her in the office where they both worked,² Eric Warren³ liked Janet West.⁴ Eric rarely went out with girls from his office, but Janet was different. She was not only pretty, but⁵ extremely interesting to talk to. They had lunch together several times and Eric was pleased to learn that Janet liked the same things he did.⁶ Before very long,⁷ they were having dinner together, and going to the movies and to the theater. After a few months Eric knew he wanted Janet to be his wife, but he wasn't sure how she felt about him.⁸ There was another man in their office, George Perkins,⁹ who went out with Janet once in a while.¹⁰ Eric hoped in time¹¹ he, not George, would be Janet's

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1. The Silver Elephant: 银象 (本文中指一种银制象形饰针)。 2. From ...worked: 从第一次他在他们两人一起工作的办公室里看到她的时候起。
3. Eric Warren ['erik'wərin]: 埃里克·沃伦 (人名)。 4. Janet West ['dʒænit west]: 珍妮特·韦斯特 (人名)。 5. not only...but (also) ...: 不但……而且…… 6. Janet...did: Janet喜欢的东西跟他喜欢的一样。 7. Before very long: 不多久以后。 8. but...him: 但是他摸不准她对自己有怎样的看法 (是不是喜欢自己)。 9. George Perkins [dʒɔ:dʒ 'pə:kinz]: 乔治·帕金斯 (人名)。 10. Once in a while: 偶而; 间或。 11. In time: 总有一天; 最后。

choice as her husband.

Eric wanted a very unusual gift for Janet's birthday. He walked into a department store not knowing what to get for her.¹ After going from one part of the store to another, he finally came to the jewelry department.² At first, he didn't see anything he liked here either, and he was about to leave when he saw a little silver pin in the shape of an elephant.³ Eric knew immediately that the pin was exactly what he wanted for Janet.⁴

"May I see that?" Eric asked the salesman.

"The little silver elephant?" the salesman asked.

"Yes, that's the one. It's just what I've been looking for."

"You've made a good choice. This piece of jewelry is very unusual. It was made in Mexico by a man who is well-known for his fine work in silver.⁵ There are only a few others like it. Would you like me to put it in a box? This small square box looks about the right size."

"Yes, please put it in a gift box."

"I'm certain⁶ Janet's going to be very pleased," Eric thought that evening as he got dressed to go to Janet's

1. not knowing what to get for her: 不知道给她买什么好。 2. the jewelry [dʒu:əlri] department: (大商店中的) 珠宝部。 3. he...elephant: 他正想离开, 忽然看到一枚小巧的象形银饰针。 4. the pin...Janet: 这枚饰针正是他想要送给珍妮特的东西。 5. It...silver: 它是墨西哥一位干银器活技艺精湛出名的人制作的。 6. I'm certain: 我确信。

birthday party,¹ “She likes fine jewelry and this pin is very unusual.”

On the way to Janet’s house,² Eric thought about George Perkins. He knew that Janet’s family and a few friends would be at the party. He didn’t know if George was one of the “few friends.”³ He was fairly sure George’s gift wouldn’t be anything as unusual as the silver elephant.⁴

Eric was happy as he walked to Janet’s house. When she opened the door he said, “Happy...” and then stopped talking for a moment before going on, “...birthday, Janet.” He just couldn’t believe what he saw. There on Janet’s green dress was a little silver elephant pin. It was exactly the same as the one in his gift box.⁵ He couldn’t give it to her now. He put the little square box away before Janet could see it and went in the house to say hello to Janet’s mother and father.

“You’re early, Eric,” Mrs. West said. “None of the others are here yet. Please sit down. Can I get you something to drink?”

“Not now, thanks, Mrs. West,” Eric answered. All he could think about was⁶ the little silver elephant. He

-
1. birthday party:生日聚会。 2. On the way to Janet’s house: 去珍妮特家的路上。 3. He...the “few friends”:他不知道乔治是否是这“少数朋友”中的一个。 4. George’s...elephant:乔治的礼物不会是象银象一样稀有的东西。 5. It...box:它恰恰和他礼品盒中的那一个一模一样。 6. All...about was...:一心只想着……

had to know where Janet had gotten it. Could George Perkins possibly have given it to her? At the office perhaps? Eric didn't want to believe this, but he wasn't the only one who knew Janet liked jewelry¹. George knew it, too.

Janet's mother was still talking and Eric knew he should be listening to her. He had to forget about the little pin for a moment.

"How are things at the office,² Eric?" Mrs. West was saying. "I understand you've been very busy during the last few months."

"Fine—just fine—not too busy, no," Eric said.

"That's good," Mrs. West answered. "Would you excuse us for a few minutes?³ I have to help Janet prepare a few things in the kitchen."

"Oh—yes." Eric was glad to see Mrs. West and Janet leave the room. He really didn't want to talk to anyone—not about the office or about anything else. But Janet's father was still there, and now he was talking.

"Have you seen this evening's newspaper yet, Eric?" Mr. West asked. "There is a good story about..."

Janet's father went on talking, but most of the time

(3)

1. but...jewelry: 但是他不是唯一知道珍妮特喜欢珠宝的人。 2. How... office...: 工作情况怎么样…… 3. "Would...minutes?": 请允许我们离开几分钟。

Eric wasn't listening. Occasionally he would say,¹ "You're right, Mr. West," or "I think so, too," but he really wasn't sure what Janet's father was talking about. He couldn't forget the elephant pin. Eric was positive he would be the only person at the party who wouldn't have a gift for Janet.² But he couldn't give her something that she already had.³ How could he ask Janet to be his wife now?⁴ He didn't know what to do.

"What do you think about television?" Mr. West was talking about a different subject now. "Don't you think the programs could be better?"⁵

"You're absolutely right, Mr. West," Eric answered. Janet came back in the room and Eric was glad he didn't have to say any more about television. He started to tell Janet he liked the pin on her dress, thinking that he might learn where it came from.⁶ But just at this moment someone came to the door.

"It must be my aunt and uncle," Janet told Eric. "My friend, Marie,⁷ who lives next door,⁸ will be with us, too."

1. Occasionally...say: 有时他总是说。 2. Eric...Janet: 埃里克相信, 他将是客人里唯一没有礼物送给珍妮特的人。 3. But...had: 但是他不能送她已经有了的东西。 4. How...now?: 现在他怎么能向她求婚呢? 5. "Don't...better?": 你不认为电视节目能够更好一些吗? 6. thinking...from: 心想他也许可以得知它(饰针)是从哪里来的。 7. Marie ['ma:ri(:), mə'ri:]: 玛丽(人名) 8. next door: 在隔壁。

“Isn’t anyone else from the office coming?”¹ Eric asked.

“No,” she answered, then went to meet her aunt and uncle at the door.

Now Eric was almost certain the pin was from George. He must have given it to Janet in the office during the day.² What should he do? Should he say he had left his gift at home? Should he say he was getting something in New York and would give it to her later in the week?

Marie came in a few minutes later,³ and everyone sat down to have dinner.

The only good thing Eric could think about was that he was at the family dinner party and George was not.⁴

Finally Janet asked him why he wasn’t talking very much.

“I’m too busy eating this very good dinner,” he answered. He couldn’t think of anything else to say.

“Thank you, Eric,” Mrs. West said. “I’m very glad you like it. Won’t you have some more?”

Eric didn’t really want to eat anything, but he

1. “Isn’t...coming?”: 办公室里没有人来吗? 2. He...day: 他一定是白天在办公室里把它给珍妮特的。 3. in a few minutes later: 几分钟以后。 4. The...not: 埃里克唯一感到宽慰的就是他出席了家庭聚餐会而乔治则没有。

wasn't able to say no. He wished he could leave the table and go home,¹ but he couldn't do that, either.

Finally it was time for the birthday cake.² "There are twenty-one candles on the cake, Janet," Mrs. West said as she brought the cake in and put it on the dinner table. "Do you think you can blow them all out?"

"Make a wish first," Marie said to Janet. "Wish for something that you want very much before you blow out the candles. If all the candles go out,³ you will get your wish. If not, then you won't. Let's see if you'll get your wish."

"I wish I had a silver elephant pin," Janet said and she blew out all the candles.

"What?" said Eric. "What did you say?"

"The pin on my dress isn't mine. It's Marie's. She thought it looked good on this dress and she said I could have it for this evening. It's a very unusual piece of jewelry. Marie's mother got it when she was in Mexico last year."

Eric quickly put his little square box with the other gifts. He couldn't wait for Janet to open it.

"It's time to open your gifts now,⁴ Janet," Mrs.

1. He...home: 他心想他能离开餐桌回家去就好了。(虚拟语气, 实际上他不能离开。) 2. birthday cake: 生日蛋糕. 3. go out: (灯火等)熄灭.
4. It's...now: 现在是打开你的礼物的时候了。

West said.

“Yes,” said her father. “Let’s see if you get your wish.”

Janet opened all her gifts. She got a box of writing paper¹ from George. He had given it to her at the office. Her parents gave her a typewriter, her aunt and uncle gave her some phonograph records,² and Marie gave her a book. Then Janet opened the little square box. When she saw the pin, she said, “Eric, how could you possibly have known? It’s exactly what I want. You’ve made me very happy. I knew that *your* gift would be very unusual.”

Janet got her wish, and now Eric was sure he would get his wish, too. Tonight he would ask Janet to be his wife.

1. writing paper: 写字纸; 信纸.

2. phonograph records: 唱片.

AN EXTREMELY GOOD DAY

Gregory Allen¹ was a tall, thin boy about fourteen years old. Like most boys in their teens,² he was either very happy or³ extremely unhappy; he either talked too much or he didn't talk at all.⁴ One day he would do everything right and on another day he would do nothing right. Gregory had trouble with his family, too. No matter what he did,⁵ his parents were never pleased with him. They argued with him about the way he dressed, the way he talked, the way he forgot to do things.⁶ They argued about everything. They were always telling him what to do and when to do it. They reminded him to put on his coat, take off his coat, hang up his coat. His mother and father didn't understand that he was a young man now and not a child. They said that when he was able to do things without being reminded several times,⁷

-
1. Gregory Allen ['gre gəri 'ælən]: 格雷格理·阿伦(人名)。 2. Like... teens: 象大部分十几岁的男孩一样。 3. either...or...: 或者……或者……
4. at all: (常用于否定句或条件从句以加强语气) 根本。 5. No...did: , 不管他做什么事。 6. They...things: 他们和他争辩他穿衣服的习惯、说话的方式、忘了做事的情形。 7. without...times: 不用别人提醒几次。

they would believe he wasn't a child any longer.¹ They told him that when he stopped thinking about himself and began thinking about helping other people, then they would know that he was a young man.

Greg didn't know that many young people think their parents don't understand them. He believed he was the only boy who wasn't able to please his family.

Greg was usually glad to be out of the house² where no one could bother him. One Saturday morning, he told his parents he was going for a walk before breakfast, and they gave him money to get milk at the store. A few minutes after he left the house he couldn't remember what he was supposed to buy.³ If he went home without it, his family would have something else to argue with him about.

As he went down the street⁴ thinking about what he should do, he saw an old man standing on the corner. The man looked very sick, and without thinking about it Greg went right over to him.⁵

"Are you all right, sir?" he asked.

The old man answered slowly. "I think so—but I need a glass of water. I don't want to bother you, but

1. not...any longer:不再。 2. (be) glad to be out of the house:不乐意呆在家里。 3. A few...to buy:他离家几分钟以后就记不得他该买什么东西。 4. went down the street:上街。 5. without...him:格雷格就不加思索地径直向他走去。

would you mind helping me¹ ...”

“Oh, you’re not bothering me,” Greg answered quickly. “I’d be glad to help you. Let’s go into the restaurant across the street where you can sit down.²”

Greg helped the old man into the restaurant. They sat down at a table not far from the door.³ When the waiter asked them what they wanted, the old man said, “Just a glass of water, please. I don’t feel well.⁴”

“Wouldn’t you like something to eat?” the waiter asked.

The old man didn’t answer and Greg asked him, “Have you had breakfast yet, sir? Perhaps if you eat something, you’ll feel a little better.”

“Well, truthfully I haven’t had breakfast,” the old man said. “I haven’t eaten anything since yesterday morning, but I don’t have any money for...”

Greg interrupted him saying,⁵ “Please don’t talk now. You can tell me all about it later.”

Then the boy turned to the waiter and said, “My friend would like some orange juice, hot cereal, buttered toast, and coffee.”

The old man started to say something and Greg

1. would you mind helping me...:请你帮我……好吗。 2. Let’s...down: 让我们到马路对面的餐馆里去,在那里你可以坐下来。 3. not far from the door:离门口不远。 4. I...well:我感觉不舒服。 5. Greg... saying:格雷格打断他的话说。

asked him, "Would you rather have something else? That's what we usually have for breakfast..."

"Oh, no. It's fine," the man answered, "but I'm giving you too much trouble. I'll just drink the water and leave. I'm sure I'll be all right. You've helped me enough already."

"Please, sir," Greg said. "I'd like to do it."

"And what would you like to eat?" the waiter asked Greg.

"Nothing for me," Greg said. "I've already eaten my breakfast." Greg wanted to eat, too, but knew he didn't have enough money for both of them. He actually didn't have enough for the old man's breakfast. He was really going to be in trouble¹ when the waiter asked for money, and this time it wouldn't be with his parents. "Oh, well," he said to himself, "I'll think about that later."

The waiter brought the breakfast and the old man ate quickly. "I feel fine now," he said as he drank his coffee. "I'll never forget how you helped me today. You're a very unusual young man. Most people your age are too busy to think about helping an old man.²"

Greg felt very good. The old man thought of him as a young man, not a child. He wished his parents felt

1. He...trouble:他真要陷入困境了。
龄的人忙得想不起帮助老年人。

2. Most...man:大部分象你这样年