

相约星期二

世界名著学习馆
哈佛双语导读本

Tuesdays with Morrie

双语导读

[美] Mitch Albom
导读 Sparknotes
主译 张滨江

天津出版传媒集团

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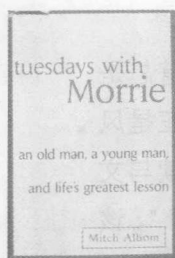
致读者

亲爱的读者,在这个多元文化的世界里,渴望知识、钟情文学、热爱英语的你是否想过站在巨人的肩膀上摘星呢?

名著是经典传承的历史明珠,尽管岁月变迁,经典名著总是在各个时代给我们启迪和指引。哈佛双语名著导读丛书正是风行全美的经典名著导读笔记,是由哈佛学生们将名著阅读与文学学习融会贯通,编写而成的名著导读本,可谓"名著名导"。该系列精选了来自世界各国的杰出经典著作,以经典性和流行性并重的名著为素材,突出"导读"特色,以明晰的风格和地道的语言,解读名著精华和具有时代性的主题和思想。每一分册都包括著作的创作背景、人物分析、主题解析、篇章讲解、重要引文释义、作品档案,并且附有相关思考题及推荐阅读篇目。

这样的编排使你不仅仅停留在对名著内容上的了解,更可迅速、全面、深入地掌握经典名著的精华和内涵,同时也可对英语语言和文化做进一步的了解和研究。本丛书精辟、明晰的编写风格让"半天阅读一本名著"成为现实,帮你在有限的闲暇时间内享受文学,提高文学修养,同时在地道的语言环境中迅速提高英语水平,增强语言能力。

CONTEXT



1997, 英文版

Mitch Albom was born in New Jersey in 1958, though he spent the greater part of his youth in Philadelphia. In 1979, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, where met and studied under his beloved professor, Morrie Schwartz, the title character of *Tuesdays with Morrie*. In 1982, Albom was awarded a Master's degree from Columbia University in New York. After failed stints as an amateur boxer and nightclub musician, Albom began his career as a sports journalist, writing articles for newspapers such as the *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and *The Detroit Free Press* where he was employed from 1985 until his reunion with Morrie in 1995. Albom also has his own nationally syndicated radio show, *Monday Sports Albom*. In 1995, Albom began gathering notes for his book, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, which documents his and Morrie's discussions on the meaning of life which they hold each Tuesday of every week in Morrie's home.



米奇·阿尔博姆
(1959-), 美国著名专栏作家, 电台主持人。代表作:《相约星期二》、《你在天堂遇见的五个人》、《一日重生》等。

作品·溯源

米奇·阿尔博姆 1958 年生于美国新泽西州,并在费城度过了大部分青年时代。1979 年,他毕业于美国马萨诸塞州沃尔瑟姆市的布兰戴斯大学,获得了文学学士学位。在学期间,阿尔博姆有幸师从莫里·施瓦茨先生,即《相约星期二》一书的主角。1982 年,阿尔博姆从纽约州的哥伦比亚大学获得硕士学位。他曾经是一名业余拳击手,还想到夜总会当个音乐家,但都没能如愿。此后他成了一名体育记者,专门为《费城观察家报》和《底特律自由报》这类报刊撰稿。《底特律自由报》从 1985 年开始聘用他,直到 1995 年阿尔博姆与莫里重逢。阿尔博姆也有自己的广播节目,在全美联播,叫《阿尔博姆周一体育》。1995 年,他开始为《相约星期二》一书收集资料,该书记录了每周的星期二他和莫里在莫里家里关于生命意义的种种讨论。阿尔博姆希望该书的稿酬能用来支付莫里高昂的医药费。在接受访问时,他也表示,这本热销两年的畅销书的稿酬要与施瓦茨先生的家人平分。

Albom claims to have written the book to offset Morrie's severe medical expenses, and has said in interviews that the profits from the two-year bestseller are divided between himself and the Schwartz family.

Morrie Schwartz was born in 1916. He graduated from New York City College, and went on to win a fellowship to the University of Chicago where he was awarded a Ph.D. in sociology. In 1959, he began teaching sociology at Brandeis, a nonsectarian Jewish-sponsored university, established in 1948. It was not until 1995, when he was dying from ALS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, that Morrie ended his career as a professor. A fatal neuromuscular disease, ALS is characterized by progressive muscle debilitation that ultimately results in paralysis. ALS is commonly known as Lou Gherig's disease, after the famous baseball player who died of the disease in 1941 at the age of forty.

Albom begins his visits to Morrie in mid-1995, during the climax of the O.J. Simpson murder trial. Simpson, an acclaimed star football player, had been on trial for the June 1994 murders of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her acquaintance, Ronald Goldman. Simpson had pleaded "absolutely not guilty" to the double murder, although he had been known for violence against his ex-wife and had led the police in a car chase. Major controversy surrounded jury members, who were said to have been racially biased in Simpson's favor. When in October of 1995, the jury acquitted Simpson of the murder charges, the nation suffered a severe racial division, white against black, evidenced in *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Connie's horror at the announcement of the "not guilty" verdict.

In *Tuesdays with Morrie*, Mitch recalls how the political controversies of the 1970's affected his and Morrie's years at Brandeis University. Following the nation's withdrawal from the Vietnam War

莫里·施瓦茨生于1916年。从纽约城市大学毕业后，他申请到了芝加哥大学的奖学金，并取得了该校的社会学博士学位。1959年，莫里开始在布兰戴斯大学教授社会学。这所犹太人资助的无教派大学建校于1948年。莫里教授一直工作到1995年生命垂危之际，此时他已经罹患ALS症，即“肌萎缩性侧索硬化症”。这种病是肌肉神经方面的绝症，症状是肌肉逐渐萎缩，最终导致患者瘫痪。ALS通常也被称为“卢·伽雷氏症”，得名于1941年因该病去世的年仅40岁的著名棒球运动员卢·伽雷。

阿尔博姆从1995年中期开始连续拜访莫里教授，当时正是O·J·辛普森谋杀案*审理的关键时刻。辛普森是美国大名鼎鼎的橄榄球球星，他被指控在1994年6月杀害了前妻妮科尔·布朗·辛普森和她的朋友罗纳德·高曼。辛普森对双重命案矢口否认，辩称自己“绝对清白”；案发前他曾暴力虐妻，被起诉后又与警方飞车追逐。有很多的争论围绕着陪审团人员，全部争议都是其以人种优势偏袒辛普森的。1995年10月，陪审团宣布针对辛普森的杀人指控无效，从而引发了美国国内严重的种族分歧，白人敌视黑人。《相约星期二》一书中的康妮对陪审团“无罪”宣判感到深深忧虑。

在《相约星期二》中，米奇回顾了20世纪70年代的政治风云，他和莫里教授当时都在布兰戴斯大学，生活深受政治所扰。1973年越战结束后，美国从越南撤军；



* 辛普森谋杀案之所以有如此重大的影响，除了它深刻的种族隔离背景外，更重要的原因是它集中体现了西方法律界中“程序优于权利”这一重要法律原则。

in 1973, and former President Nixon's resignation from office in 1974, the Brandeis campus, like many college campuses nation-wide, was a hot bed for political debate and protest. Continuing the thread of racial tension in *Tuesdays with Morrie*, is a story Morrie tells about an incident in which he had acted as the negotiator between the university president and a group of black students who felt that they were being oppressed by the school administration. The students had established their protesting grounds in one of the university's science buildings, and hung a banner from a window that read: "Malcolm X University." The banner paid homage to Malcolm X, a premier black leader and militant advocate of black nationalism who was assassinated* in 1965.

* assassinate vt. 暗杀; 行刺; 中伤; 诋毁

1974 年前总统尼克松引咎辞职，于是全国的大学校园都迅速成为政治辩论和抗议活动的温床，布兰戴斯大学当然也不例外。《相约星期二》一书也谈到了对种族紧张局势的担忧。书中莫里教授讲了一个故事：一群黑人学生认为被校方压制，莫里则扮演了校长和学生之间调解人的角色。那些学生们将学校的一所科研楼当成了抗议地点，并从一扇窗子里挂出这样的横幅：“马尔科姆·艾克斯大学”。横幅是为了向马尔科姆·艾克斯致敬的——他是著名的黑人领袖和黑人独立运动的积极倡导者，1965 年被人暗杀。

PLOT OVERVIEW

Mitch Albom, the book's narrator, recalls his graduation from Brandeis University in the spring of 1979. After he has received his diploma, Mitch approaches his favorite professor, Morrie Schwartz, and presents him with a monogrammed briefcase. While at Brandeis, Mitch takes almost all of the sociology courses Morrie had taught. He promises Morrie, who is crying, that he will keep in touch, though he does not fulfill his promise. Years after Mitch's graduation from Brandeis, Morrie is forced to forfeit dancing, his favorite hobby, because he has been diagnosed with ALS, a debilitating disease that leaves his "soul, perfectly awake, imprisoned inside a limp husk" of a body. Morrie's wife, Charlotte, cares for Morrie, though at his insistence, keeps her job as a professor at M.I.T.

Sixteen years after his graduation from Brandeis, Mitch is feeling frustrated with the life he has chosen to live. After his uncle dies of pancreatic cancer, Mitch abandons his failing career as a musician to become a well-paid journalist for a Detroit newspaper. Mitch promises his wife Janine that they will have children eventually, though he

情节·概览

米奇·阿尔博姆在书中采用第一人称独白的方式，回忆了1979年春天他在布兰戴斯大学毕业时的情景。一拿到毕业证书，米奇就去找他最喜欢的教授——莫里·施瓦茨，还送给教授一个印有字母的皮包。在布兰戴斯上学时，米奇在莫里教授的社会学课程上几乎节节必到。面对喜极而泣的莫里教授，米奇许诺要跟他保持联系，但是后来米奇食言了。米奇从布兰戴斯毕业几年后，莫里教授被诊断患上了ASL症，不得不放弃了最热衷的爱好——跳舞。这种病让人逐渐无力，使其“灵魂清醒无比，却被禁锢在脆弱的躯壳里”。莫里的妻子夏洛特也是大学教授，她对丈夫关怀备至，然而在莫里的坚持下，她还是继续在麻省理工大学教书。

从布兰戴斯大学毕业后的第16个年头，米奇感觉很沮丧，觉得自己选择的生活了无生趣。在叔父因患胰腺癌去世后，米奇放弃了做音乐家的梦想，成为底特律一家报社的记者，收入颇丰。他答应妻子珍妮他们总会有自己的孩子的，但是报道任务繁忙，终日劳顿不已。一天晚上，米奇正在调换电视频道，无意间听到了莫里教

spends all of his time at work, away on reporting assignments. One night, Mitch is flipping the channels on his television and recognizes Morrie's voice. Morrie is being featured on the television program "Nightline" in the first of three interviews with Ted Koppel, whom he quickly befriends. Before consenting to be interviewed, Morrie surprises and softens the famed newscaster when he asks Koppel what is "close to his heart." Mitch is stunned to see his former professor on television.

Following Morrie's television appearance, Mitch contacts his beloved professor and travels from his home in Detroit to Morrie's home in West Newton, Massachusetts to visit with him. When Mitch drives up to Morrie's house, he delays greeting his professor because he is speaking on the phone with his producer, a decision he later regrets.

Shortly after his reunion with Morrie, Mitch works himself nearly to death reporting on the Wimbledon tennis tournament in London. There, he spends much time thinking about Morrie and forfeits reading the tabloids, as he now seeks more meaning in his life and knows that he will not gain this meaning from reading about celebrities and gossip. He is knocked over by a swarm of* reporters chasing celebrities Andre Agassi and Brooke Shields, and it is then that Mitch realizes he is chasing after the wrong thing. When he returns to his home in Detroit, Mitch learns that the article he has worked so hard to write will not even be published, as the union he belongs to is striking against the newspaper he works for. Once more, Mitch travels to Boston to visit Morrie.

Following their first Tuesday together, Mitch returns regularly

* a swarm of 一大群

授的声音。莫里正参加一档名为“夜线”的电视节目,接受泰德·科佩尔的三场访谈,那天正好是第一场。莫里和科佩尔很快成了朋友。在同意接受访谈前,莫里教授就让这位著名的新闻评论员大受震撼并被深深触动,因为他问了科佩尔“什么离你的心最近”。在电视上见到昔日师长,米奇一时不知所措。

看过莫里的电视访谈,米奇跟这位自己最崇敬的教授联系上了,并且专门从底特律来到马萨诸塞州西纽顿市,准备登门拜访。可是在开车去教授家的路上,米奇接到了制片人的电话,于是不得不推迟会面,这个决定令他日后后悔不已。

*温布尔登网球公开赛:简称温网,由全英俱乐部和英国草地网球协会于1877年创办,至今已有百余年的历史,通常于每年6月最后一周至7月初定期举行。

与教授重逢后又过了些日子,米奇到伦敦去采访温布尔登网球公开赛*,忙得心力交瘁。工作间隙,他把通俗小报都丢在一边,认真思考着莫里的话,他发现自己找到了更多人生的意义,而那是无法从名人行踪和小道消息中悟到的。成群的记者疯狂地追踪着安德烈·阿加西及其女友波姬·小丝,米奇差点被撞倒,这时他发觉自己真是舍本逐末,人生找错了方向。温网结束后他回到了底特律的家中,却得知连日来苦心撰写的文章甚至不能发表,因为他所在的工会正在抵制这家报社。于是,米奇又一次前往波士顿拜访莫里。

与莫里共同度过了第一个星期二后,米奇每周的星

every Tuesday to listen to Morrie's lessons on "The Meaning of Life." Each week, Mitch brings Morrie food to eat, though as Morrie's condition worsens he is no longer able to enjoy solid food. In his first of three interviews with Koppel for "Nightline," Morrie admits that the thing he dreads most about his worsening condition is that someday, he will not be able to wipe himself after using the bathroom. Eventually, this fear comes true.

Interspersed throughout Mitch's visits to Morrie are flashbacks to their days together at Brandeis. Mitch describes himself as a student who had acted tough, but had sought the tenderness he recognized in Morrie. At Brandeis, Mitch and Morrie shared a relationship more like that between father and son than teacher and student. Soon before Morrie's death, when his condition has deteriorated so much that he can no longer breathe or move on his own, he confides that if he could have another son, he would choose Mitch.

In his childhood, Morrie had been very poor. His father, Charlie had been cold and dispassionate, and had neglected to provide for Morrie and his younger brother emotionally and financially. At the age of eight, Morrie must read the telegram that brings news of his mother's death, as he is the only one in his family who can read English. Charlie marries Eva, a kind woman who gives Morrie and his brother the love and affection they need. Eva also instills in Morrie his love of books and his desire for education. However, Charlie insists that Morrie keep his mother's death a secret, as he wants Morrie's younger brother to believe that Eva is his biological mother. This demand to keep his mother's death a secret proves a terrible emotional burden for young Morrie; he keeps the telegram all of his life as proof that his mother had existed. Because he was starved of love and affection during his childhood, Morrie seeks it out in his old age from