

星火 5元 丛书

名人英语情书

Love Letters of Elites



杨平 编著

中国对外经济贸易出版社

元丛书第三辑 英语名人名篇

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杨平
编著

丛书主编 马德高 范希春

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丛书致读者

腹中贮书一万卷，不肯低头在草莽。

这是中国历史上那位最为狂放的伟大诗人李白留下的最为令人怦然心动的诗句，也是每一位读书人的心里话。可以说，每一个人，从初涉人世起，就怀有一种渴望——那就是实现自身的价值。

本丛书所选的文章，全部出自名人之手，这些名人，不是一般意义上的 famous persons，而是严格意义上的 eminent，也就是说，这些人都是在人类文明发展史上做出过卓越贡献的人物——一群实现了自身价值的人物，属人中龙凤的那一类。

我们编辑出版这套丛书，目的就是要向读者提供最优秀的人创作的最经典的英文作品。

读其书而想见其人，只有读过了这些文章，你才能理解这些在不同领域做出了非凡成就的卓尔不群的人物，发现他们身上所折射出的人的光辉，明了人之所以为人的真谛。并体味他们成功的艰辛和快乐，失败时的沮丧和痛苦，从中汲取精神的力量，使自己变得深沉、积极、乐观起来，在人生的道路上奋然前行。

年轻的朋友们，学习最优秀的英文，学做最优秀的人，请自阅读本丛书始！

范希春

2000年6月18日

于中国社会科学院研究生院

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Napoleon Bonaparte to Josephine (I)

拿破仑·波拿巴致约瑟芬(之一)

【作者简介】

拿破仑·波拿巴(Napoleon Bonaparte 1769—1821),法国著名的政治家、军事家。他率领法国军队横扫欧洲,创造了军事上的奇迹。1804 建立法兰西第一帝国,并加冕皇帝。后在滑铁卢战败,被流放在地中海上的一个孤岛上,度过余生。

【作品原文】

Verona, November 13th, 1796

I don't love you, not at all; on the contrary^①, I detest^② you—You're a naughty, gawky^③, foolish Cinderella^④. You never write me; you don't love your husband; you know what pleasure your letters give him, and yet you haven't written him six lines, dashed off^⑤ casually!

What do you do all day, Madam? What is the affair so important as to leave you no time to write to your devoted^⑥ lover? What affection stifles and puts to one side the love, the tender and constant love you promised him? Of what sort can be that

① on the contrary: 相反。

② detest: 憎恨,讨厌。

③ gawky: 害羞的。

④ Cinderella: 灰姑娘,才干和美貌尚未被人赏识者。

⑤ dash off: 乱写一通。

⑥ devoted: 忠实的,忠诚的。

marvelous being, that new lover who absorbs every moment, tyrannizes^① over you days, and prevents your giving any attention to your husband? Josephine, take care! Some fine night, the doors will be broken open, and there I'll be.

Indeed, I am very uneasy^②, my love, at receiving no news of you; write me quickly four pages, pages full of agreeable things which shall fill my heart with the pleasantest feelings.

I hope before long to crush you in my arms and cover you with a million kisses burning as though beneath the equator.

Bonaparte

【作品点评】

与拿破仑的个性一样,他的情书大胆而热烈,对所追求的东西具有一种坚定的信念,同时他对约瑟芬的移情别恋又充满本能的嫉妒和不安。

① tyrannize: 占有。

② uneasy: 焦虑的,不安的。

Napoleon Bonaparte to Josephine (II)

拿破仑·波拿巴致约瑟芬(之二)

【作品原文】

Milan, November 27th, 1796, three
o'clock afternoon.

I arrive at Milan, I rush to your apartment, I have left everything to see you, to press you in my arms... You were not there; you run from town to town after the fêtes; you leave as I am about to arrive; you do not concern yourself about your dear Napoleon any more. It was a caprice that caused you to love him; inconstancy makes him indifferent to you. Accustomed to^① dangers, I know the remedy^② for the ennui^③ and evils of life. The ill-fortune I experience is beyond reckoning^④, I should have been exempt^⑤.

I shall be here until the evening of the 9th. Do not put yourself out; run the round of pleasures; happiness is made for you. The whole world is too happy if it can please you, and your husband alone is very, very unhappy.

Bonaparte

【作品点评】

① accustomed to: 习惯于。

② remedy: 补救。

③ ennui: 苦恼, 忧愁。

④ beyond reckoning: 难以言说, 一言难尽的。

⑤ exempt: 避免, 逃避。

约瑟芬的所作所为使拿破仑感到透彻骨髓的忧伤和痛苦，
爱到深处人孤独！恋爱中的人更容易受到伤害。

Napoleon Bonaparte to Josephine(Ⅲ)

拿破仑·波拿巴致约瑟芬(之三)

【作品原文】

Berlin

November 6th, 1806, 9 o'clock in the evening.

I have received your letter in which you show yourself vexed^① at certain hard things I say about women; it is true that beyond all I hate intriguing^② women. I am accustomed to good, sweet and conciliatory^③ women; they are the ones I love. If they have spoiled me, it is not my fault; but yours. Besides, you will see that I have been very good to one woman who showed herself sensible and good, Madame d'Hatzfeld. When I showed her the letter of her husband, she said to me, sobbing with profound emotion and ingenuously^④ "Ah, that is indeed his writing!" When she read it, her tone went to my soul; she made me suffer. I said to her: "Ah! well, Madame, throw that letter into the fire; I shall never now be able to order your husband to be punished!" She burned the letter and seemed to me very happy. Her husband is now freed of^⑤ anxiety. Had the above meeting occurred two hours later it would have been too late. You see that I love good, ingenuous, and sweet women; but it is because they resemble

① vex: 使气愤、使恼怒。

② intrigue: 私通。

③ conciliatory: 安慰的, 抚慰的。

④ ingenuously: 坦白地, 老实地, 诚朴地。

⑤ is now freed of: 免除。

you.

Adieu, my love; I am well.

Napoli

【作品点评】

拿破仑以委婉的方式道出了自己对女人品性的标准：规、温柔、体贴。这封信也暗示了他对约瑟芬的不满。

Napoleon Bonaparte to Josephine (IV)

拿破仑·波拿巴致约瑟芬(之四)

【作品原文】

Marmirolo

I have your letter, my adorable^① love. It has filled my heart with joy... Since I left you I have been sad all the time. My only happiness is near you. I go over^② endlessly in my thought your kisses, your tears, your delicious jealousy. The charm of my wonderful Joséphine kindles a living, blazing fire in my heart and senses. When shall I be able to pass every minute near you, with nothing to do but to love you and nothing to think of but the pleasure of telling you of it and giving you proof of it? I fancied that I loved you some time ago; but since then I feel that I love you a thousand times better. Ever since I have known you I adore you more every day. That proves how wrong is that saying of La Bruyère "Love comes all of a sudden."^③ Ah, let me see some of your faults; be less beautiful, less graceful, less tender, less good. But never be jealous and never shed tears. Your tears send me out of my mind—they set my very blood on fire. Believe me that it is utterly impossible for me to have a single thought that is not yours, a single fancy that is not submissive to your will. Rest well. Restore your health. Come back to me and then at any rate before we die we ought to be able to say: "We were happy for so

① adorable: 崇拜的。

② go over: 想起, 回想, 回忆。

③ love comes all of a sudden: 一见钟情。

very many days!” Millions of kisses, even to your dog.

【作品点评】

热恋中的情感犹如一团火，只能熊熊地燃烧而无法令其熄灭。在热恋中，人的理智也退避三舍。

Balzac to Madame Hanska

巴尔扎克致汉斯卡夫人

【作者简介】

巴尔扎克(Honorede Balzac 1799—1850),法国十九世纪批判现实主义文学的杰出代表,长篇小说巨匠之一。1819—1829年,是他练习写作的十年。1819年,他离开司法界,投身于文学事业,一面大量阅读各种书籍,一面卖文为生。1829年完成历史小说《朱安党人》,迈开了走向现实主义的第一步。以后二十余年中创作颇丰,直至1850年8月,病逝于巴黎。巴尔扎克的世界观是充满矛盾的:倾向大革命,同情劳动人民,但又维护资本主义制度。这些复杂的思想都在艺术创作中得到了充分的体现。巴尔扎克是个多产的作家,仅收入《人间喜剧》的长、中、短篇小说就有九十多部。这是一部封建贵族的没落衰亡史和一部资产阶级的罪恶的发迹史。其中的名篇有《欧也妮·葛朗台》、《高老头》等。巴尔扎克作为一个伟大的现实主义作家,在创作中他的褒贬常离不开抽象的道德观,因此不能深刻地揭示资本主义剥削的阶级实质,这是老巴的局限。

【作品原文】

I entreat^① you to separate the author entirely from the man and to believe in the sincerity of the sentiments which I have had to express vaguely in the correspondence you have obliged me to carry on with^② you. If you are kind enough to excuse the folly of

① entreat: 请求。

② carry on with: 与…联系,与…通信。