

英语诵读范文精华

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前言

在论及学好英文的要诀时，一代文学家、翻译家林语堂先生曾经说：“学外语与学古文同一道理，须以背诵为入门捷径。”“学习英语的唯一正轨，不出仿效与热诵。仿效即整句的仿效，热诵则于仿效之后必回环练习，必须脱口而出而后已。”

现代很多英语专家也都认为：要学好英语，就必须背诵一定数量的英文名作。概括起来，诵读英语名篇佳作至少有以下四点好处：

第一，诵读有助于培养学习者朗读英语的能力。

本文中的许多文章，如罗素的《我为什么活着》、马丁·路德·金的《我有一个梦想》、海伦·凯勒的《三天的光明》等，都是饱含激情的传世之作，具有极强的艺术感染力，不仅思想内容深刻，读起来亦是抑扬顿挫、朗朗上口。读者若能有感、有节奏地朗读这些文章，必然会在开口用英语进行交流时有充分的自信。

第二，诵读有助于调动学习者多种感官的学习效能，巩固记忆。

明代大学问家朱熹认为读书有三到，谓：眼到、口到、心到。在“三到”的过程中，学习者的情感会被自我的声音激起，其理解力和想象力也由此喷薄而出，而大脑的这种兴奋状态对于学习者加深记忆无疑是大有裨益的。

第三，更重要的是，诵读有利于学习者培养英语语感。

所谓“读书百遍，其义自见”，在反反复复的诵读中，学习者可能会发现：每多读一遍，自己对文章的理解就加深了一层。久而久之，学习者不仅能从诵读中摸索到语法规律，更能感悟到名作中思想之深刻、谋篇之巧妙、文笔之优美。

第四，诵读文质兼美的英语文章可以极大地激发学习者对英语的兴趣和热情。

离开一定的语境，孤立地去学习单词和语法是枯燥乏味的，也必定是徒劳无功的。而背诵自己喜欢的英文佳作则能唤起读者的情感共鸣，“佳作 + 诵读”的模式能让英语学习者始终感到乐在其中。

本书跨越时空，荟萃了一百余篇短小精悍的英语佳作，囊括了散文、诗歌、演讲、小说等不同的文学体裁，在阅读中，我们可以感受马丁·路德·金在讲述《我有一个梦想》时的澎湃激情，聆听富兰克林对人生哲理的思考，与海伦·凯勒一起在黑暗中寻找光明，像霍桑一样在秋日的阳光下对大自然充满感恩……其中，也有几篇文章虽然并非出自名家之手，但它们朴实清新的文笔亦不乏动人之处，所以也一并收入书中。

书里涉及的众多话题按其内容分为自然、情感、励志、历史演讲、讽刺与幽默等九个单元，它们与读者的日常生活

息息相关，容易使读者产生共鸣与喜爱。

每一单元均围绕一定的主题展开，以便读者对几篇题材接近的文章进行比较、鉴赏和学习，也更利于将从诵读中学到的语言付诸运用。

在每个独立的单元内，编者又将内容进行了细分。例如在第一篇“自然的礼赞”中，既有春夏秋冬的奇妙轮回，又有赏心悦目的花草树木；既有瑰丽雄奇的尼亚加拉大瀑布，也有后院一畦菜园给人带来的闲情雅致；最后以爱默生的论述自然之美的散文作为收束，令人再一次惊叹于大自然鬼斧神工的魔力。读者若能对这些文章“诵于口，会于心”，达到融会贯通的地步，日后碰上类似题材时又何愁言之无文呢？

为了便于读者保持良好的阅读习惯，更自由地吸收原版英文的营养，书中采用了前英文后中文的编排方式。相信对于每一篇作品，读者都会有自己的体会与欣赏。由于编者学养有限，还希望书中的译文能起到抛砖引玉的作用。书中的作者简介和注解可在阅读时帮助读者了解相关的背景知识和扫除理解障碍。

编者不揣浅陋，愿借此书与读者共享英语诵读之乐趣。书中多有不当之处，望读者不吝指正，本人将深以为幸。

编 者

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1. Spring

James J. Kilpatrick

Spring does come. In the garden the rue anemones come marching out, bright as toy soldiers on their parapets of stone. The dogwoods float in casual clouds among the hills.

This is the Resurrection time. That which was dead, or so it seemed, has come to life again—the stiff branch, supple; the brown earth, green. This is the miracle: there is no death; there is in truth eternal life.

So, in the spring, we plunge shovels into the garden plot, turn under the dark compost, rake fine the crumbling clods, and press the inert seeds into orderly rows. These are the commonest routines. Who could find excitement here?

But look! The rain falls, and the sun warms, and something happens. It is the germination process. Germ of what? Germ of life, germ inexplicable, germ of wonder. The dry seed ruptures and the green leaf uncurls. Here is a message that transcends the rites of any church or creed or organized religion. I would challenge any doubting Thomas¹ in my pea patch.

Everywhere, spring brings the blessed reassurance that life goes on, that death is no more than a passing season. The plan never falters; the design never changes. It is all ordered. It has all been always ordered.

Look to the rue anemone, if you will, or to the pea patch, or to the stubborn weed that thrusts its shoulders through a city street. This is how it was, is now, and ever shall be, the world without end. In the serene certainty of spring recurring, who can fear the distant fall?

【作者简介】

詹姆斯·基尔帕特里克（1920—），美国专栏作家、编辑、评论员。

第一篇

自然的礼赞

【注释】

1. doubting Thomas 持怀疑态度的人

【译文】

春

詹姆斯·基尔帕特里克

春天的确来了。花园里的芸香花和银莲花竞相开放，像一列列光彩照人的玩具兵站在矮墙边。山茱萸就像飘浮在山岭间的朵朵闲云。

这是万物复苏的季节。那些已经死去、或貌似死去的事物都活了过来——僵硬的树枝变得柔软了，褐色的土地变绿了。这就是奇迹：这里没有死亡，只有真真切切的永恒的生命。

在春天，我们用铲子翻开园子里的黑土，再用耙子把弄碎的土块耙匀，然后把那些了无生气的种子一排排地栽下去。这些只是最平凡的日常劳动，谁能从中找到激情呢？

可你看！下雨了，阳光温暖起来了，奇迹发生了。这是萌芽的过程。什么的萌芽？这是无可名状的生命的萌芽，奇迹的萌芽。干瘪的种子裂开了，嫩绿的叶子舒展了。这里包含的信息超越了任何宗教的仪式和信条，超越了任何宗教组织。如果有谁不相信这一点，我会用我的豌豆田来说服他。

春天处处带来上天的祝福，告诉我们：生命在继续，死亡只属于已经逝去的季节。大自然的计划从不踌躇，大自然的设计从不更改。一切都进行得有条不紊。从古到今都这么有条不紊。

如果你愿意，就请去看一看那芸香、银莲和豌豆田吧；也可以看一看那些倔强的小草，它们已经顶出地面，使满城披上了绿装。这就是我们的世界生生不息的原因。过去如此，现在如此，将来也是如此。春回大地，一切都是那么宁静而又不容置疑，谁还会惧怕那遥远的秋天呢？

2. April Days

Hamlin Garland

Days of witchery, subtly sweet,
When every hill and tree finds heart¹,
When winter and spring like lovers meet
In the mist of noon and part—
In the April days.

Nights when the wood frogs faintly peep
Once—twice—and then are still,
And the woodpeckers' martial voices sweep
Like bugle notes from hill to hill—
Through the pulseness haze.

Days when the soil is warm with rain,
And through the wood the shy wind steals,
Rich with the pine and the poplar smell,
And the joyous earth like a dancer reels—
Through April days!

【作者简介】

哈姆林·加兰（1860—1940），美国小说家，他的故事和小说主要描绘美国中西部农民的艰辛生活。

【注释】

1. find heart 重现生机勃勃的景象。借“lose heart”反其义而用之，喻冬去春来，万物重现生机。

【译文】

四月的日子

哈姆林·加兰

迷人的日子，发出微微的甜香，
每座山和每棵树都焕发生机，
冬天和春天像情人一样
在正午的薄雾中相聚又分离——
在这四月的日子里。

夜晚，树蛙的鸣声若有若无，
一声，两声，接着一片寂静，
啄木鸟雄赳赳的嗓音
像军号掠过重重山峦——
穿过沉沉雾霭。

在那些日子里，雨水浸润的土地暖意融融，
害羞的风儿悄悄地穿过树林，
饱含着松树和白杨的清香，
还有欢乐的大地，如舞蹈家般翩翩起舞——
在这四月的日子里！

3. A Summer Day

Charles Dickens

One day thirty years ago Marseilles lay in the burning sun. A blazing¹ sun upon a fierce August day was no greater rarity² in southern France then than at any other time before or since. Everything in Marseilles and about Marseilles had stared at the fervid³ sun, and been stared at in return, until a staring habit had become universal there. Strangers were stared out of countenance⁴ by staring

white houses, staring white streets, staring tracts of arid road, staring hills from which verdure⁵ was burnt away. The only things to be seen not fixedly staring and glaring⁶ were the vines drooping under their loads of grapes. These did occasionally wink a little, as the hot air barely moved their faint leaves.

The universal⁷ stare made the eyes ache. Towards the distant blue of the Italian coast, indeed, it was a little relieved by light clouds of mist slowly rising from the evaporation of the sea, but it softened nowhere else. Far away the staring roads, deep in dust, stared from the hillside, stared from the hollow, stared from the interminable plain. Far away the dusty vines overhanging wayside cottages, and the monotonous⁸ wayside avenues of parched trees without shade, dropped beneath the stare of earth and sky. So did the horses with drowsy⁹ bells, in long files of carts, creeping slowly towards the interior; so did their recumbent drivers, when they were awake, which rarely happened; so did the exhausted laborers in the fields. Everything that lived or grew was oppressed by the glare; except the lizard, passing swiftly over rough stone walls, and cicada, chirping its dry hot chirp, like a rattle. The very dust was scorched brown, and something quivered in the atmosphere as if the air itself were panting¹⁰.

Blinds, shutters, curtains, awnings, were all closed and drawn to keep out the stare. Grant it but a chink or a keyhole, and it shot in like a white-hot arrow¹¹.

【作者简介】

查尔斯·狄更斯(1812—1870)，英国小说家。第一部作品《波兹特写集》(1836)是一本散文集。《匹克威克先生外传》(1837)使他一举成名。其他小说主要有《大卫·考柏菲尔》(1850)、《艰难时世》(1854)、《双城记》(1859)和《远大前程》(1861)等。

【注释】

1. blazing 燃烧的
2. rarity 罕见的事
3. fervid 热烈的
4. out of countenance 局促不安
5. verdure (诗或文) 青翠的草木
6. glaring (光) 耀眼刺目的
7. universal 无处不在的
8. monotonous 单调的
9. drowsy 瞌睡的
10. pant 气喘吁吁
11. Grant it but a chink or a keyhole, and it ... 即使只给它一条小缝或者一个钥匙孔, 它就会……Grant 意为“给”, it 指 the stares。

【译文】

夏 日

查尔斯·狄更斯

三十年前的一天, 马赛躺在似火骄阳之下。在法国南部, 八月酷暑的日子里赤日炎炎, 在那时以前或以后这都不是什么稀罕事。马赛范围内以及马赛周围的一切都盯着灼热的太阳瞧, 而太阳反过来也盯着它们瞧, 直到那儿到处都变成明晃晃的一片。白色的房屋, 白色的街道, 一段段干旱的大路, 青青草木被烤得干枯的小山都十分耀眼, 像在盯着人瞧似的, 使初来乍到的人们手足无措。唯一能看到的不在刺眼地直盯着人瞧的, 只有坠着串串葡萄的葡萄藤, 热空气微微吹动无力的藤叶时, 葡萄确实也偶尔眨眨眼。

这无处不在的强光令人眼睛发痛。实际上, 要远到意大利海岸的天空, 由于海水蒸发冉冉升起的团团雾气, 这强光才有所减弱, 但是除此之外别的地方, 它一点也不曾柔和下来。远处, 满是尘土的耀眼大路, 从山坡上, 从地表凹陷处, 从一望无际的平

原盯着人看。远处, 悬挂在路旁小屋上落满尘埃的葡萄藤, 还有路旁单调的成行的晒焦了不能遮荫的树木, 都在大地和天空的凝视下低垂着。长长的大车队中, 伴着催人欲睡的铃铛声, 马儿也牵拉着脑袋, 朝着内地缓缓行进; 斜靠在车上的车夫们即使在难得醒来时, 也牵拉着脑袋; 田野里精疲力尽的农夫们也牵拉着脑袋。所有生物都被这耀眼的光芒压抑着, 例外的只有在那粗糙的石墙上敏捷爬行的蜥蜴和拨浪鼓似地发出强烈鸣声的蝉儿。连那尘土都被烤成了褐色, 大气中有东西在微微颤动, 仿佛空气本身也在气喘吁吁。

竹帘子、百叶窗、窗帘、遮篷全都关上或拉上, 把这强烈的光线挡在外面。哪怕只露出一条小缝或者一个钥匙孔, 它就会像一支白热的箭直射进来。

4. An October Sunrise

Richard D. Blackmore

I was up the next morning before the October sunrise, and away through the wild and the woodland. The rising of the sun was noble in the cold and warmth of it; peeping¹ down the spread of light, he raised his shoulder heavily over the edge of gray mountain and wavering length of upland. Beneath his gaze the dew-fogs dipped and crept to the hollow places, then stole away in line and column, holding skirts and clinging subtly at the sheltering corners where rock hung over grass-land, while the brave lines of the hills came forth, one beyond other gliding.

The woods arose in folds, like drapery of awakened mountains, stately with a depth of awe, and memory of the tempests. Autumn's mellow² hand was upon them, as they owned already, touched with gold and red and olive, and their joy towards the sun was less to a

bridegroom than a father.

Yet before the floating impress of the woods could clear itself, suddenly the gladsome light leaped over hill and valley, casting amber, blue, and purple, and a tint of rich red rose, according to the scene they lit on, and the curtain flung around; yet all alike dispelling fear and the cloven hoof of darkness, all on the wings of hope, advancing, and proclaiming, "God is here!" Then life and joy sprang reassured from every crouching hollow; every flower and bud and bird had a fluttering sense of them, and all the flashing of God's gaze merged into soft beneficence.

So, perhaps, shall break upon us that eternal morning³, when crag and chasm shall be no more, neither hill and valley⁴, nor great unvintaged ocean; when glory shall not scare happiness, neither happiness envy glory; but all things shall arise, and shine in the light of the Father's countenance, because itself is risen.

【作者简介】

理查德·布莱克莫尔（1776—1839），英格兰作家。

【注释】

1. peep 隐约出现
2. mellow 醇厚芳香的，成熟的
3. 此句为主语后置的倒装句。
4. valley 此处指幽谷，阴森而令人恐惧的地方。《圣经》《诗篇》中有 the valley of the shadow of death（死荫幽谷）的说法。

【译文】

十月日出

理查德·布莱克莫尔

次日清晨，在十月的日出之前，我已经起床，并穿过了原野

和丛林。冉冉升起的朝阳在寒暖交织的晨曦中显得高贵而庄重。它从一片光芒中隐约显现，从灰色的山岗和连绵起伏的高地后面沉重地抬起肩膀。在它的照耀之下，带着露水的雾气向下沉降，蔓延到了洼地，接着便丝丝缕缕地消散了。只有在悬崖之下的草地上，雾气还迟迟萦绕不去。群山巍峨的轮廓在这云蒸霞蔚中渐渐凸显出来。

山上的树重重叠叠，仿佛是刚刚苏醒的山峦的帷幔。它们深邃而令人敬畏，让人想起暴风雨时突变的风云。在醇厚的秋意的熏染之下，它们呈现出金黄、丹红和橄榄绿的颜色。它们满怀喜悦迎接朝阳，这喜悦与其说是献给一个新郎的，不如说是献给自然之父的。

然而，在人们对树木的浮光掠影的印象还没有消逝时，那欢腾的阳光突然掠过峰峦和山谷，把琥珀色、蓝色、紫色和富丽的玫瑰色投射到眼前的景物上。天地之幕猛然拉开了。所有的一切都在驱散恐惧和黑暗的魔影；所有的一切都乘着希望的翅膀，一边向前飞一边欢呼着：“上帝到了！”于是生命力和欢乐不再蜷缩在洞穴里，而是放心大胆地一跃而出。一切花朵、蓓蕾和鸟雀都因此而颤动。上帝注视人间的目光熠熠闪耀着，与这片温柔的恩泽融合在一起。

也许，那永恒的晨光就会这样降临于我们。到那时将不再有峭壁与深渊，不再有阴森的幽谷，不再有大而无当的汪洋；到那时荣耀不会吓走幸福，幸福也不会妒忌荣耀；因为太阳已然升起，自然万物都将在主的光辉中升腾和闪耀。

5. Autumn

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Still later in the season Nature's tenderness waxes¹ stronger. It is impossible not to be fond of our mother now; for she is so fond of us!

At other periods she does not make this impression on me, or only at rare intervals²; but in those genial³ days of autumn, when she has perfected her harvests and accomplished every needful thing that was given her to do, then she overflows with⁴ a blessed superfluity of love. She has leisure to caress⁵ her children now. It is good to be alive at such times. Thank Heaven for breath—yes, for mere breath—when it is made up of a heavenly breeze like this! It comes with a real kiss upon our cheeks; it would linger fondly around us if it might; but, since it must be gone, it embraces us with its whole kindly heart and passes onward to embrace likewise the next thing that it meets. A blessing is flung abroad and scattered far and wide⁶ over the earth, to be gathered up by all who choose. I recline upon the still unwithered grass and whisper to myself, “O perfect day! O beautiful world! O beneficent God!” And it is the promise⁷ of a blessed eternity; for our Creator would never have made such lovely days and have given us the deep hearts to enjoy them, above and beyond all thought, unless we were meant to be immortal. This sunshine is the golden pledge⁸ thereof⁹. It beams through the gates of paradise and shows us glimpses far inward.

【作者简介】

纳撒尼尔·霍桑（1804—1864），美国小说家。生于清教徒家庭，思想上倾向于先验主义，他的最著名的小说有《红字》、《有七面山墙的房子》、《故事新编》等。霍桑反对清教徒虚伪的传统道德，但深受宗教思想影响，认为人类具有罪恶的天性。他的注意力集中于自知犯有过错的男男女女的内心世界，深入挖掘和剖析诸如虚荣、仇恨、利己主义、野心、骄傲等在人们精神和心理上所引起的后果。

【注释】

1. wax 增加，月亮由亏转盈

2. at intervals 每隔一段时间
3. genial 温和的、宜人的
4. overflow with 充满着
5. caress 爱抚，接吻
6. far and wide 到处，广泛地
7. promise 预示，暗示
8. pledge 保证，誓言，抵押
9. thereof 由此，因此，关于它的

【译文】

秋

纳撒尼尔·霍桑

入秋渐深，而大自然的温柔亦与日俱增。此时此刻我们不可能不爱我们的大自然母亲，因为她对我们是如此深情！在别的季节里，她并没有给我留下这种印象，要是有的话，也不过是很偶然的而已；可是在这温暖宜人的秋日，大自然完成了收获，完成了她需要做的每件工作，她对我们就充满了无限的慈爱。她现在有了余暇，可以爱抚她的孩子了。能生活在这种时候，真是一种福气。感谢上天赐给我们这样的和风，是的，仅这风就足以让我们感激，因为此风只应天上有！它拂面而过时就像在亲吻我们的脸颊，它能够的话，一定会柔情依依地在我们身边逗留；可是它不得不走，因此它十分慈爱地把我们拥抱了一下以后，就往前走，去拥抱它将遇到的东西。和风吹拂所经之处，天地之间遍撒上天的赐福，真可谓俯拾即是。我仰面躺在尚未枯黄的草地之上，喃喃自语道：“哦，完美的日子！美丽的世界！仁慈的上帝！”这种感觉也就预示着“永生”吧。假如造物主无意让我们进入天堂去享受“永生”，他为什么要赐给我们如此可爱的日子，以及尽情享受这可爱日子的美好心情呢？金色的阳光就是“永生”的保证：阳光穿过天堂之门的缝隙照射下来，让我们略为窥见天堂深处的情景。

6. The First Snow

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

The first snow came. How beautiful it was, falling so silently all day long, all night long, on the mountains, on the meadows, on the roofs of the living, on the graves of the dead! All white¹ save² the river, that marked its course by a winding black line across the landscape; and the leafless trees, that against the leaden sky now revealed more fully the wonderful beauty and intricacies³ of their branches. What silence, too, came with the snow, and what seclusion⁴! Every sound was muffled⁵, every noise changed to something soft and musical⁶. No more tramping hoofs, no more rattling wheels! Only the chiming⁷ of sleigh-bells, beating as swift and merrily as the hearts of children.

【作者简介】

亨利·沃兹沃思·朗费罗（1807—1882），英国诗人。其抒情诗受德国浪漫主义影响，深受 19 世纪欧美读者的喜爱。

【注释】

1. All white All was white
2. save 除……以外
3. intricacies 树枝纵横交错
4. seclusion 幽静，僻静
5. muffle 减弱
6. musical 悦耳的
7. chiming 钟鸣，和谐

【译文】

第一场雪

亨利·沃兹沃思·朗费罗

第一场雪来了，真美啊！它整日整夜无声无息地飘着，落在

7. Night

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Night has fallen over the country. Through the trees rises the red moon, and the stars are scarcely seen. In the vast shadow of night the coolness and the dews descend¹. I sit at the open window to enjoy them; and hear only the voice of the summer wind. Like black hulks², the shadows of the great trees ride at anchor³ on the billowy⁴ sea of grass. I cannot see the red and blue flowers, but I know that they are there. Far away in the meadow gleams⁵ the silver Charles⁶. The tramp of horses' hoofs sounds from the wooden bridge. Then all is still save the continuous wind of the summer night. Sometimes I know not⁷ if it be the wind or the sound of the neighboring sea. The village clock strikes; and I feel that I am not alone.

How different it is in the city! It is late, and the crowd is gone. You step out upon the balcony, and lie in the very bosom⁸ of the cool, dewy night as if you folded her garments about you. Beneath lies the public walk with trees, like a fathomless⁹, black gulf, into whose silent darkness the spirit plunges, and floats away with some beloved spirit clasped in its embrace. The lamps are still burning up and down the long street. People go by with grotesque¹⁰ shadows, now

foreshortened, and now lengthening away into the darkness and vanishing, while a new one springs up¹¹ behind the walker, and seems to pass him revolving like the sail of a windmill. The iron gates of the park shut with a jangling clang. There are footsteps and loud voices;—a tumult¹²;—a drunken brawl;—an alarm of fire;—then silence again. And now at length the city is asleep, and we can see the night. The belated moon looks over the roofs, and finds no one to welcome her. The moonlight is broken. It lies here and there in the squares, and the opening of the streets—angular¹³ like blocks of white marble.

【作者简介】

纳撒尼尔·霍桑（1804—1864），美国小说家。生于清教徒家庭，思想上倾向于先验主义，最著名的小说有《红字》、《有七面山墙的房子》、《故事新编》等。霍桑反对清教徒虚伪的传统道德，但深受宗教思想影响，认为人类具有罪恶的天性。他的注意力集中于自知犯有过错的男男女女的内心世界，深入挖掘和剖析诸如虚荣、仇恨、利己主义、野心、骄傲等在人们精神上和心理上所引起的后果。

【注释】

1. descend 下降，降落
2. hulk 废船
3. anchor 抛锚
4. billowy 巨浪般的，汹涌的
5. gleam 闪烁，发微光
6. the Charles 查尔斯河
7. know not 文学描写的用法，即 not know
8. bosom 胸怀，内部，中间
9. fathomless 深不可测的
10. grotesque 奇形怪状的
11. spring up 突然出现

12. tumult 骚动，混乱

13. angular 有角的，棱角分明的

【译文】

夜

纳撒尼尔·霍桑

夜已降临乡间。红色的月亮从树林间升起，天上几乎看不到星星。在这巨大的夜的阴影中，寒气与露水降下来了。我坐在敞开的窗前欣赏着这夜色，耳边只听到夏天的风声。大树的阴影像黑色的弃船，抛锚在起伏的草的海洋上。虽然我见不到红色和蓝色的花朵，但我知道它们在那儿。在远处的草地上，查尔斯河银光闪烁。木桥那边传来了马蹄声。接着，一片寂静，能听到的只有夏夜不停的风声。有时，我根本不知道它究竟是风声，还是附近的海浪声。村里的钟儿敲起来了，所以我并不觉得孤独。

在城市里是多么不同呀！夜深人散，你走到阳台上，躺在清凉、沾着露湿的夜之中，仿佛用夜的外衣将自己团团裹住。阳台下面是栽着树木的人行道，像一条深不可测的黑色海湾，一个精灵就投入了这漆黑沉静的大海湾，拥抱着某个它所爱的精灵漂浮而去。长长的大街上，街灯依然亮着。人们从灯下走过，拉出各种各样奇形怪状的影子，影子时而缩短，时而伸长，最后消失在黑暗中；与此同时，一个新的影子又突然出现在那个行路人的身后，这影子似乎像风车翼一样旋转着出现在他的前后。公园的铁门当啷一声关上了。耳边可听见脚步声和响亮的说话声，一阵骚动，一阵酒醉后的争吵声，一阵火灾的报警声，然后又是一片沉寂。于是，城市终于睡着了，我们终于能看到夜的景色。姗姗来迟的月亮俯视着屋顶，发觉没有人在欢迎她。破碎的月光这一块、那一块地撒落在各个广场上和各条大街的开阔处，像一块块白色的大理石一样棱角分明。

8. Trees

Joyce Kilmer

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

【作者简介】

乔伊斯·基尔默（1886—1918），美国诗人。

【译文】

树

乔伊斯·基尔默

我想我永远不会看到
一首诗像树一样可爱。

一棵树，她饥渴的唇压在
大地流淌着甘甜乳汁的胸膛上；

一棵树，她终日仰望苍天，
高举着枝繁叶茂的胳膊，祈祷着；

夏天，会有一窝知更鸟
在树的头发里栖息；

冬天，树的胸前堆积着白雪，
她和雨亲密地相处。

诗可以由像我这样的傻瓜来写，
但树只能由上帝来创造。

9. Pines

John Ruskin

The pine, placed nearly always among scenes disordered and desolate¹, brings into them all possible elements of order and precision. Lowland trees may lean to this side and that, though it is but a meadow breeze that bends them, or a bank of cowslips from which their trunks lean aslope². But let storm and avalanche do their worst, and let the pine find only a ledge of vertical precipice to cling to, it will nevertheless grow straight. Thrust a rod from its last shoot down the stem; it shall point to the center of the earth as long as the tree lives. It may be well also for lowland branches to reach hither and thither³ for what they need, and to take all kinds of irregular shape and extension. But the pine is trained to need nothing and endure everything. It is resolvedly whole,

self-contained⁴ desiring nothing but rightness, content with restricted completion. Tall or short, it will be straight.

【作者简介】

约翰·拉斯金 (1819—1900), 英国评论家和散文家, 社会改革家。1853 年开始了演说生涯。他的艺术评论深刻, 范围广泛。

【注释】

1. desolate 荒凉的
2. aslope 倾斜的
3. Hither and thither here and there
4. self-contained 独立的

【译文】

松 树

约翰·拉斯金

松树几乎总是长在凌乱荒凉的地方, 却尽可能使周围的环境井然有序。低地上的树木会东倒西歪, 虽说使它们俯下身躯的不过是草地上吹来的微风; 它们的躯干或者歪到一边, 不过是由于一排九轮草的影响。可是, 尽管风暴和雪崩恶劣至极, 尽管松树所能紧贴的只是陡壁上一块凸出的岩石, 它依然长得笔直。如果你把一根杆子从树的顶梢顺着树杆插下去, 只要这树活着, 杆子将直指树下地面的中心。低地上的树可能为了获得它们所需要的东西, 枝桠左冲右突, 形成各种不规则的形状, 任意扩张。然而松树却经千锤百炼, 什么也不需要, 什么都能忍受。它坚定, 完整, 独立, 除了长得挺拔正直别无它求, 满足于在环境的种种限制中保持自己的一份完整。不管是高是矮, 它将永远笔直地屹立。

10. The First Jasmines

Rabindranath Tagore

Ah, these jasmines, these white jasmines!

I seem to remember the first day when I filled my hands with these jasmines, these white jasmines.

I have loved the sunlight, the sky and the green earth;

I have heard the liquid murmur of the river through the darkness of midnight;

Autumn sunsets have come to me at the bend of a road in the lonely waste, like a bride raising her veil to accept her lover.

Yet my memory is still sweet with the first white jasmines that I held in my hands when I was a child.

Many a glad day has come in my life, and I have laughed with merry-makers on festival nights.

On grey mornings of rain I have crooned many an idle song.

I have worn round my neck the evening wreath of bakulas¹ woven by the hand of love.

Yet my heart is sweet with the memory of the first fresh jasmines that filled my hands when I was a child.

【作者简介】

泰戈尔 (1861—1941), 印度诗人、作家、艺术家。1913 年获诺贝尔文学奖。本篇选自《新月集》。

【注释】

1. bakula 醉花, 一种香气馥郁的热带乔木。

【译文】

第一束茉莉花

泰戈尔

啊，茉莉花啊，洁白的茉莉花！
我还记得第一次手捧茉莉花，这些洁白的茉莉花。
我也曾深爱着阳光、天空和青翠的大地；
也曾倾听着河流在黑暗的午夜中潺潺低语；
秋天的落日，也曾在落寞的荒原弯道上等我，
像新娘撩起面纱迎接情郎。
然而，我仍为孩提时代初捧茉莉花的记忆感到甜蜜。

我的生活中曾有多少快乐的日子，
也曾在节日之夜与大家纵情欢笑，
也曾在雨雾迷蒙的早晨浅吟低唱，
也曾在黄昏下戴过爱人编织的醉花花环，
然而，我仍为孩提时代初捧茉莉花的记忆感到甜蜜。

11. The Violet

James Taylor

Down in a green and shady bed
A modest violet grew;
Its stalk was bent, it hung its head,
As if to hide from view.

And yet it was a lovely flower,
Its colors bright and fair;
It might have graced a rosy bower,
Instead of hiding there.

Yet there it was content to bloom,
In modest tints arrayed¹;
And there it spread its sweet perfume,
Within the silent shade.

Then let me to the valley go,
This pretty flower to see;
That I might also learn to grow
In sweet humility.

【作者简介】

詹姆斯·泰勒（1825—1892），美国诗人。

【注释】

1. in modest tints arrayed 倒装句，即(It was) arrayed in modest tints.

【译文】

紫罗兰

詹姆斯·泰勒

在绿荫掩映的低地
生长着谦逊的紫罗兰；
她俯身低头
好像不愿被人看见。

然而她是多么可爱，
她的色彩美丽动人；
她本可以去装点玫瑰闺房，
而不必屈就此处。

她一身素雅，