

英语温馨夜读系列

# 爱的舞蹈

(英汉对照)

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## 内容简介

这是“英语温馨夜读系列”之一,共 24 篇,英汉对照,详加注解。本书选材广泛,视角独特,新颖精彩,原汁原味,时代感强,具有温馨迷人的爱的氛围。《银色火焰》、《午夜来客》、《门门上的手》、《爱情茶》、《我生命中的 325 美元》……悬念迭出,不同凡响;《展翅试飞》、《爱的舞蹈》、《伴女同行》、《十六岁花季》、《蓝色连衣裙》……青春激情,纯洁新鲜。这里既是你消遣娱乐、陶冶情操的情感花园,也是你领略英语风采、了解英语世界的一道美丽风景线。

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## 编者的话

“英语温馨夜读系列”是我们继去年的“英语晨读系列”之后，策划推出的又一个精品系列。我们之所以称为“英语温馨夜读系列”，一方面是和“英语晨读系列”遥相呼应、互为补充，另一方面是让读者朋友在夜晚熄灯之前这个非常时段既消遣娱乐，又增加对英语的感悟，在我们营造的浓郁、浪漫、温馨而又惊险的故事情调中潜移默化、融会贯通，增加对英语的兴趣和阅读品味。

“英语温馨夜读系列”首批四本《美丽的失误》、《把爱留住》、《冰人行动》和《爱情传真》推出后，受到大学生及教师的欢迎，赞誉颇高。应广大读者的要求，我们又适时组编了《失火的恋情》和《爱的舞蹈》两本。在编写原则上，我们仍然遵循故事性、娱乐性和科学性的相对统一，既适合青年读者的阅读品位，又可以为广大英语工作者提供良好的范文作为参照。

在编写特点上，我们将生词置于原文之中进行解释，选文之后还设有难句解析、阅读理解和问题简答，同目前的四、六级考试有着密不可分的渊源关系，但又不囿于其刻板的限制，能使读者在不知不觉中领悟到知识带给我们的精髓和动感。

在每本书的最后，我们给读者提供有参考答案和译文。译文力求准确到位，一方面便于读者正确理解英语原文，另一方面可以帮助读者锤炼汉语言的驾驭能力和表达能力，达到一箭双雕的良好效果。

在选材上，我们披沙拣金，精心配制。这里既有纯情浪漫的校

园风采 ,又有缠绵悱恻的爱情故事 ,还有人与自然的水乳交融 ;这里既有同学情、友情 ,又有父子情、母女情 ,还有恋人情、夫妻情 .....生花妙笔、精彩纷呈 ,让你百读不厌。

本套丛书由青闰担任主编 ,负责选文、翻译、导语、生词注释、难句解析和最后统稿等。参加编写的还有 :白秀玲、余冬梅、殷南刚、李丽君、李玉莲、张玲、张灵敏、张卫红、王琨等同志 ,张玲、张卫红、谷德敏等同志参与了部分文章的翻译 ,在此一并致谢。

由于能力有限和各方面条件的制约 ,本套丛书肯定会存在这样或那样的缺憾 ,恳请读者不吝赐教 ,以便我们精益求精 ,进一步修订 ,得到更多读者朋友的青睐。

编 者

2000 年 1 月 20 日

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*Key to Exercises*

# *1. The Hand on the Latch*

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## 门上的手

那女人站在窗边，默默地注视着入冬以来的第一场积雪。突然，她听到一阵低低的、急促的敲门声从外面传来……

**T**he woman stood at the window , listening. She had been standing there for a few minutes. She was alone in the log house , looking at the desolate prairie( 草原 ) and the first snow of winter.

Not until she had heard that sound was she really frightened.<sup>1</sup> Her husband had often left her alone like this , for days at a time. Only now , when she was at last sure that she was going to bear a child( 生孩子 ) , things seemed different. Why hadn 't she told her husband the news before he rode away ?

He had been too distraught( 极其烦恼的 ). If he had known she was with child , he would not have left her. But he was troubled enough , as it was. She could recall him as he had stood near this very window , hands on her shoulders , and told her about the money. He was tax collector of that frontier( 边境 边疆 ) county ; he had brought home a large bag of money and had stowed( 储藏 ; 收藏 ) it in a biscuit tin which he 'd buried under a plank( 厚木板 ) in the kitchen floor.<sup>2</sup>

“ Why ? ”

Well , bad news ! Their own little store of savings in a distant village was threatened by a failing bank. He must hurry there and try to save their money if he could. He wouldn 't dare travel that far with the county 's money on his person , so he 'd buried it here. After their own savings were taken care of , he would go to the town where the state bank was and deposit( 储存 ) the people 's cash there.

“ Promise me that while I 'm away you will not leave this house ,<sup>3</sup> ” he had said , “ Or let anybody come in , on any pretext( 借口 托词 ). ”

“ I promise , ” she answered .

Now he had been gone for several hours ;night was coming on ( 开始 ;发生 ) , snow and darkness were falling on the lonely house and she had heard a noise . It was not the wind ;she knew the sound the wind made as if trying doors and windows with a furtiv( 偷偷摸摸的 ) hand . Not , what she heard was a knocking , low and urgent . By pressing her cheek against the extreme corner of the windowpane ( 窗玻璃 ) she could make out a man 's figure( 隐约可见的人影 ) leaning against the front door . He had been knocking for a while .

Hastily she drew back from the window , went to the mantel ( 壁炉台 ) , and took down her husband 's pistol . He had taken his other pistol with him , and bitter luck , had carried off the powder flask . So the remaining pistol was useless . With the empty weapon in her hand , she hastened to the locked door .

“ Who is there ? ” she called .

“ I am a wounded soldier . I 've missed my way and I can 't drag myself any further . Please let me in . ” He had been muttering these words over and over again before she called .

“ My husband made me promise not to let anybody in while he is away , ” she told him honestly .

After a while , he pleaded , “ Open the door and look at me . You 'll see that I can do you no harm . ”

“ My husband will never forgive me , ” she sobbed , but she let him in . He seemed at the last point of exhaustion( 精疲力尽 )—a tall , shambling( 蹒跚的 ) fellow with flakes of snow on his pale , harsh face and bandaged arm .

She put him in her husband 's chair by the fire , dressed his wound and wrapped it in fresh bandages . She set before him the supper she had prepared for herself . When he had eaten , she made

up a bed of rugs and blankets for him in a back room. He lay down and seemed to fall instantly asleep.

But was he really asleep? Had she been trapped(使堕入圈套)? Was he merely waiting for her to go to sleep?

In torment(痛苦,烦恼) she walked the floor of her room, expecting anything. The night became very still, except for the soft crackling of the log fire. And then... a very low sound, small, purposeful, aware of itself. It was not louder than the whittling(啃咬声) of a mouse. Where did it come from? The man in the next room? Taking up the lamp, she crept down the narrow passage and stood listening. Surely, his breathing was too loud; he was pretending. She opened the door, went in, and bent over the sleeping man. He seemed really asleep.

She left the room, and at once she heard the noise again. This time she knew what it was: someone was trying to pick(撬开) the lock of the front door.

From the toolbox she got out her husband's great clasp knife(折刀), then crept back to the man's bedside. She shook him by the shoulder and he opened his eyes with a groan.

"Listen!" she whispered. "Someone has been trying to break into the house. You must help me!"

"Who has been breaking in? A thief?" he asked dazedly(茫然地,恍惚地), "There's nothing here to take."

"Yes, there is—there's a lot of money hidden under the kitchen floor." And then she could have bitten off her tongue for having told him.

"Take my pistol," he said. "I can shoot only with my right hand, and that's useless. Give me your knife."

For an instant she hesitated. Then, as she heard again the

sound at the latch , she swiftly made the exchange , putting the knife into his uninjured hand.

“ You ’ll have to take care of the first one that comes in , ” he said. “ Stand near the door and the minute it opens , fire. Here are six bullets. Keep on firing till he goes down and stays down. I ’ll be waiting behind you with the knife to meet the second one. As soon as we ’re in position , blow out the lamp. ”

“ The sound of picking has been going on for the last few minutes , ” she told him and she blew out the lamp. All was dark. The sound of picking ended , and there came a sound of wrenching( 猛扭 抢取 ). The bar was giving. Then the door opened and a man slipped in.

For an instant she saw his figure clearly against the snow , and she fired. He fell , but immediately scrambled( 爬 ) to his feet , and she shot again. He fell and dragged himself to his knees , and she shot him once more. Then he sank slowly with his face against the wall and moved no more.

The soldier leaned forward , with an oath. “ So there was only one ! ” he cried. “ Good shot , missu( 太太 ) ! ”

He pulled the body over on its back and they saw that the face was covered with a mask. The woman drew near as the soldier pulled the mask from the dead man ’s face.

“ Do you know him ? ” he asked.

“ He ’s a stranger to me ! ” she replied. And with eyes steadfast ( 坚定的 ) with courage , she continued to look down on the face of the man who had come back to rob himself—her husband.

## Notes

1. Not until she had heard that sound was she really frightened. not until

放在句首 ,要进行部分倒装 ,所以便将 was 放在了主语 she 的前面。

2. he had brought home a large bag of money and had stowed it in a biscuit tin which he 'd buried under a plank in the kitchen floor. which 引导的是一个定语从句 ,对 biscuit 进行补充说明。
3. Promise me that while I 'm away you will not leave this house. 这是一个祈使句 ,that 从句中又包括一个 while 引导的时间状语从句。

## Exercises

### 1. Comprehension :

1) What did the husband do ?

- A. He was a bank clerk.
- B. He was a tax collector.
- C. He was a soldier.
- D. He was a businessman.

2) The husband carried off the powder flask \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. by mistake
- B. because he did not have enough bullets
- C. on purpose
- D. because his wife did not need it

### 2. Questions :

1) When and where did the story happen ?

2) Why did the husband bring the money home and bury it under the kitchen floor ?

# 爱情茶

詹姆斯决定将自己的事务推迟半小时 ,亲自到她那里去一趟 ,但他心里又七上八下 ,不知如何是好.....

James Cushat-Prinkly was a young man who always knew that one of these days he would marry ;<sup>1</sup> but up to the age of thirty-four he had done nothing at all about it. He liked and admired a great many women generally without picking out one for a wife , just as one might admire the Alps without feeling that one wanted any particular mountain as one 's own private property( 私人财产 ).

His lack of will in this matter made his women relatives rather impatient. His mother , his sisters , an aunt , and two or three others watched his most casual dates in the way in which a group of unexercised( 未经训练的 ) dogs concentrates on the slightest movements of a human being who may possibly take them for a walk.<sup>2</sup> James Cushat-Prinkly was aware how much his family hoped he 'd find a wife. When his Uncle Jules died and left him a comfortable amount of money it really seemed only correct to find someone to share it with him.

Meanwhile , most of his female relatives had clearly decided on Joan Sebastable as the most suitable young woman among his friends to whom he might propose marriage( 求婚 ). James became gradually used to the idea that he and Joan would go together through the usual stages. It was necessary , however , to ask the lady what she thought about the matter ;the family had so far helped the relationship along as much as possible , but the actual proposal would have to be James ' own effort.

Cushat-Prinkly walked across the Park towards the Sebastable home. He was glad to feel that he was going to get the thing settled and off his mind that afternoon. Proposing marriage , even to a nice girl like Joan , was a rather troublesome( 麻烦的 ) business , but one could not have a honeymoon and then a life of married happiness

without proposing first.

His thoughts were interrupted by the sound of a clock striking (敲) the half-hour. Half-past four. A frown settled on his face. He would arrive at the Sebastable home just at the hour of afternoon tea. Joan would be seated at a low table, covered with all sorts of silver pots, milk jugs and delicate teacups. Her voice would tinkle (发出琅琅声) pleasantly in a series of little friendly questions about weak or strong tea, how much, if any, sugar, milk, cream, and so forth(等等). "Is it one lump(块) of sugar? I forgot. You do take milk, don't you? Would you like some more hot water, if it's too strong?"

Cushat-Prinkly had read of such things in novels, and hundreds of actual experiences had told him that they were true to life. Thousands of women, at this afternoon hour, were sitting behind delicate tea sets(茶具), with their voices tinkling pleasantly in a flow of little questions.

Cushat-Prinkly hated the whole system of afternoon tea. According to his theory of life a woman should lie on a sofa, talking with charm and wit, or merely silent as a thing to be looked on. From behind a silk curtain a small servant boy should silently bring in a tray with cups and sweets, to be accepted silently, without endless talk about cream and sugar and hot water. If one was really in love, how could one talk sensibly(理智地) about weekend tea! Cushat-Prinkly had never told this opinion to his mother; all her life she had tinkled pleasantly at tea-time behind her teacups and her silver, and if he had spoken to her about sofas and servant boys and so on she would have thought him rather crazy.

Now, as he passed through the streets that led to Joan's house he became horrified at the idea of finding Joan Sebastable at her

table. A momentary relief presented itself on one floor at the noisier end of Esquimault Street lived Rhoda Ellam. Rhoda was a distant cousin, who made a living by creating hats out of expensive material. The hats really looked as if they had come from Paris; the money she got for them unfortunately never looked as if it was going to Paris. However, Rhoda found life amusing and had a fairly good time.

Cushat-Prinkly decided to walk up to her place and put off by half-an-hour or so the important business which lay before him. With luck he could thus reach the Sebastable mansion(宅邸) after the last teacups had been cleared away.<sup>3</sup>

Rhoda welcomed him into a room that was wonderfully clean and comfortable.

“ I 'm having a picnic meal , ” she announced. “ There 's caviare (鱼子酱) in that jar by your arm. Begin on that brown bread-and-butter while I cut some more. Find yourself a cup ;the teapot is behind you. Now tell me about hundreds of things. ”

She said no more about food , but talked amusingly and made her visitor talk amusingly too. At the same time she cut the bread-and-butter with great skill and brought out red pepper and sliced lemon. Cushat-Prinkly found that he was enjoying an excellent tea without having to answer any questions about it whatsoever( = whatever ,语气比后者强 ).

“ And now tell me why you have come to see me , ” said Rhoda suddenly. “ I hope you 've come about hats. I heard that you now have some money , and , of course , I thought that it would be a beautiful thing for you to celebrate by buying expensive hats for all your sisters. They may not have said anything about it , but I feel sure they think this way too. ”