

<<英美短篇小说精粹>>

图书基本信息

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前言

短篇小说 (the short story) 是用散文创作的虚构类叙事作品, 通常只限于写单一背景下的一个事件, 牵涉到一两个人物的活动, 一般认为长度应在1000-20000字, 少于1000字的叫做小小说 (short short fiction, short shorts或者flash fiction)。

多于20 000字的就是中篇小说或者长篇小说了。

但有人认为纯粹以字数来分类没有道理, 爱伦·坡就提出短篇小说作为一个文类区别于中、长篇小说的应该有其自身的美学特征, 他在《创作的哲学》(“ The Philosophy of Composition ”) 一文中指出短篇小说应该具备这样一个特征: 要人坐在那里一口气可以读完 (One should be able to read it one sitting), 要具有一种长篇小说所不可能具备的“印象的统一性”。

有人认为短篇小说做到了法国古典戏剧未能真正实行的三一律: 表现一天之内一个地方所发生的一个行动, 短篇小说处理的是单一人物、单一事件、单一情感, 或者由单一情境所引发的一连串情感。

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内容概要

本书选材突出经典，选文全是英美短篇小说大师的作品，有的作品几乎是所有短篇小说集必不可少的选文，特别适合初涉文学的英语专业学生学习。

选文内容丰富，可读性强，既可作为文学教材使用，也可作为语言训练的阅读教材。

每篇小说后面都附有阅读思考题，便于教师上课使用或学生自学。

另外，本书主编还可提供教学课件供广大教师朋友参考。

作家介绍部分尽量涉及作家在短篇小说发展史上的贡献，从理论上强化读者阅读小说时所获得的关于短篇小说发展脉络的感性认识。

本书设定的阅读对象为全日制英语专业大学二、三年级学生，英语专业自考生，已经通过大学英语四级考试的非英语专业学生，以及相当程度的其他英语文学爱好者。

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书籍目录

Unit Sir Walter ScottUnit Washington IrvingUnit Nathaniel HawthorneUnit Edgar Allan PoeUnit
Charles DickensUnit Herman MelvilleUnit Mark TwainUnit Robert Louis StevensonUnit Oscar
WildeUnit Joseph ConradUnit O. HenryUnit Stephen CraneUnit Virginia WoolfUnit James
JoyceUnit Katherine MansfieldUnit William Faulkner

章节摘录

Poe was a complex person , tormented and alcoholic yet also considerate and humorous , a good friend , and an affectionate husband. Indeed , his painful life , his neurotic attraction to intense beauty , violent horror , and death , and his sense of the world of dreams contributed to his greatness as a writer. In the practical affairs of everyday life , in many of the common amenities , in the domestic circle , and in the general give and take of earthly existence , Poe was greatly lacking and frequently a complete failure. He could not and did not in any sense of the words "get along" with his fellow men. But he certainly was a charm and fascination , a magnetism and a reverse power of antagonism which caused him to be greatly loved by a few , hated by many , and memorable to everybody. As a man Poe was abnormal , and as a genius unique. Poe was the first well-known American writer to try to earn a living through writing alone and he was one of the earliest American practitioners of the short story and is considered the inventor of the detective-fiction genre. He also contributed to the emerging genre of science-fiction. His skillfully wrought tales and poems convey with passionate intensity the mysterious , dreamlike , and often macabre forces that pervaded his sensibility. His characters are either grotesques or the inhabitants of another world than this. Being a master hand at writing the short story , he is especially "clever at dropping foreshadowing hints at what would happen later and keeping the reader in suspense for as long as possible. He likes to use learned words , which makes reading his stories a little difficult for the average reader. But the fulfillment of gaining insight into human psychology gives the reader enough compensation for the hard labour of "cracking the nut" of his language.

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