

佳句赏析

1. I remember that every Saturday night Mama would sit down by the scrubbed kitchen table and with much wrinkling of usually placid brows count out the money Papa had brought home in the little envelope. (Page 1, Lines 14-17)

我记得每逢星期六晚上，妈妈总是坐在厨房里洗刷得干干净净的桌子边，把平常颇为宁静的眉头皱起，点数爸爸在一个小信封里带回来的钱。

(1) 句中 *would* 表示过去经常做的事或者习惯性的动作。如：

When we worked in the same office, we would often have coffee together.

我们过去在同一间办公室工作的时候，经常一起喝咖啡。

On summer evenings they would sit out in the garden.

夏天的晚上他们老是坐在外面的花园里。

(2) *with much wrinkling of usually placid brows* 为“with+名词”的结构，表示一种状态，作伴随状语。如：

With the cheering of the crowd, the President got off the car.

随着群众的欢呼声，总统下了车。

placid adj. 平静的，宁静的

The lake was placid and still under the moonlight.

月光下，湖面平静，没有一丝波纹。

2. Papa called Mama's Uncle Chris a “black Norwegian”—because of his singular swarthy and dark mustache; but there were others in the family who maintained that old Uncle Chris was “black” in a different way. Notably in his heart. (Page 19, Lines 1-4)

爸爸管妈妈的舅舅克里斯叫“黑挪威”，因为他皮肤黝黑，还留着黑黑的八字胡。不过，家族里也有人说，他的“黑”是另有含意，很显然，是指他心黑。

(1) *singular adj.* 异常的；奇异的

Through years of efforts, he finally made a singular achievement.

经过多年的努力，他最终取得了非凡的成就。

The young man has a singular ear for music.

这个年轻人对音乐有非凡的欣赏力。

(2) *swarthy* 是 *swarthy* 的名词形式，意为“肤色深，皮肤黝黑”，常指人或人脸。

(3) *maintain vt.* 坚持认为，坚持说……

The man maintained (that) he was out of the store when the crime was committed.

这个男子坚持声称罪案发生时他在商店外面。

3. Only after Papa said that it would be nice to be your own boss and have a place of your own, instead of being a carpenter—only after we children and Nels had coaxed and pleaded—did Mama reluctantly agree to the move across the Bay. (Page 29, Lines 20-23)

直到爸爸说自己当老板，拥有自己的地盘总比当个木匠好，我们和纳尔斯对妈妈又是恳求又是巧言相劝，妈妈才勉强同意搬到湾区对面去。

(1) 本句为部分倒装结构，当“only+状语/状语从句”位于句首时，主句用部分倒装。如：

Only then did she tell him about the attack.

直到那时她才把袭击的事告诉他。

Only with joint efforts can we solve the problem of global warming.

只有共同努力我们才能解决全球变暖问题。

注意: only 后接句子主语时, 句子不倒装。如:

Only the lawyer can understand this agreement. 只有那个律师才懂得这份协议。

(2) reluctantly *adv.* 不情愿地;勉强地

reluctant *adj.* be reluctant to do... 不情愿做某事

She was reluctant to admit she was wrong.

她不愿承认自己有错。

Many parents feel reluctant to talk openly with their children.

很多父母都不愿意和儿女们敞开心扉交谈。

4. I was obsessed with the idea of showing the “clique” what a wonderful cook my mother was; of bringing some “tidbit” that would so outshine the other contributions that the Occasion would stand out in their memories forever. (Page 66, Lines 5-8)

我一心想着让那帮人看看妈妈做的拿手好菜, 一心想着我的“珍馐”会比别人的都出彩, 让所有人永远记住那个重大的时刻。

(1) be obsessed with 对……着迷

Why are people so obsessed with money?

人们为什么对金钱如此着迷?

He was obsessed with science fiction movies.

他对科幻片很着迷。

(2) 排比句: the idea of ... of

可参照该句句式仿写, 如:

I was obsessed with the idea of showing off my graceful dance; of outshining other girls at the party.

我一心想着展示我优雅的舞蹈, 一心想着从聚会上的女孩中脱颖而出。

5. And all the way up to Mr. Schiller’s drugstore, the graduation present in my arms, I thought of how hard it must have been for Mama to ask Mr. Schiller to take the brooch as payment. (Page 102, Lines 13-16)

我一路往席勒先生的药房去, 捧着我的毕业礼物, 想到妈妈要求席勒先生拿胸针抵货价的时候, 一定非常为难吧。

(1) the graduation present in my arms 是独立主格结构, 如:

The meeting being over, all of us went home.

开完会后我们都回家了。

The teacher came in, book in hand.

老师进来了, 手里拿着书。

Weather permitting, they will go on an outing to the beach tomorrow.

如果天气允许的话, 他们将在明天组织一次海滨小游。

(2) all the way up to Mr. Schiller’s drugstore 和 the graduation present in my arms 放句首起到了强调和修饰的作用, 这两个细节描写使得故事情节更加真实生动, 并从侧面展现出主人公的愧疚和不安。

6. Even the fact that the quinine had a way of lingering on my hands for hours afterward and imparting a bitter taste to anything I might eat did not diminish my tremendous feeling of importance. (Page 105, Lines 13-16)

好几个小时以后，我手上仍然会有奎宁味，甚至吃东西的时候，我都会闻到奎宁苦涩的味道，即便如此，我觉得自己是个重要人物的感觉丝毫没有减弱。

本句中 the fact 后接 that 引导的同位语从句，用来对其前面的抽象名词进行解释说明。如：

I heard the news that our team had won.

我听到了我们队获胜的消息。

He must answer the question whether he agrees with it or not.

他必须回答他是否同意这样一个问题。

7. It was as if her tongue had been dipped in the acid that Mr. Schiller kept in a rubber-topped bottle on the back of the shelf because a drop of it could sear off your flesh. (Page 110, Lines 3-5)

她的舌头上仿佛蘸了酸性溶液一般，就在席勒先生放在架子后面的橡皮头瓶子里，因为她说的每一句话都像那酸性溶液一样能灼烧你的皮肤。

这里把席勒太太的刻薄斥责比喻成酸性溶液，生动形象地刻画出了席勒太太尖酸的嘴脸。句中 as if 引导的句子作 was 的表语从句，as if 意为“好像，仿佛，犹如”，相当于 as though。它们经常引导一个状语从句或表语从句。二者引导的从句中的谓语部分经常使用虚拟语气，说明与事实不符或相反。如果从句所陈述的内容符合事实，也可以使用陈述语气。如：

I feel as if I were in a terrible dream.

我感觉好像做了一个噩梦。（虚拟语气）

He walks as though he is drunk.

他走路来好像喝醉了似的。（陈述语气）

8. It was the first time one of us children had deliberately gone against Mama and Papa, and it was a strange and saddening thing (Page 137, Lines 6-8)

这是头一回，我们孩子里头有一个故意不听妈妈和爸爸说话，这是一件奇异得叫人伤心的事情。

(1) 本句中 it was the first/second... time + that 从句，从句中用过去完成时；

it is the first/second... time + that 从句，从句中用现在完成时。如：

It is the first time that I have visited the small village.

这是我第一次参观这个小村庄。

It was the second time that Jerry had been awarded the prize.

这是杰瑞第二次被授予这项奖。

(2) go against 反对；违背

What you have done goes against your parents' wishes.

你所做的事与你父母的愿望相反。

We mustn't do anything that goes against the interest of the people.

我们决不能做违反人民利益的事。

