

Unit 4
Reading C

In Hot and Liquid Times 《炽热与流动的时代》

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1 Time for you and time for me,
And time yet for a hundred in decisions,
And for hundred visions and revisions,
Before the taking of a toast and tea.

— T. S. Eliot, The Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock

你有你的时间，我有我的时间，
还有时间做出百次决定，
还有时间进行百次幻想与修正，
在享用烤面包与茶之前。

——T.S.艾略特，《J·阿尔弗雷德·普鲁弗洛克的情歌》。

2 Ralph Waldo Emerson, a 19th century genius, once said, “There is a great deal of poetry and fine sentiment in a chest of tea.” Going by the number of accolades heaped on the hot drink that stimulates but not inebriates, tea can safely be called literature’s favourite brew and tea-scenes and tea drinking are found aplenty in the works of all great writers and poets. Nineteenth century stalwart Thomas De Quincey praised tea as “synonymous with civilised behaviour, decorous conversation and graceful hospitality”, while the Russian writer Alexander Pushkin felt “Ecstasy is a glass full of tea and a piece of sugar in the mouth”. Another Russian writer, Dostoyevsky, in his Notes from Underground, said, “I say let the world go to hell, but I should always have my tea.”

19 世纪的天才拉尔夫·沃尔多·爱默生曾说：“一箱茶叶里蕴含着大量的诗意和美好的情感。”鉴于人们对这种能提神却不会让人沉醉的热饮赞不绝口，茶可以当之无愧地被称为文学作品中最受喜爱的饮品。在所有伟大作家和诗人的作品中，茶的场景和喝茶的描写比比皆是。19 世纪的杰出人物托马斯·德·昆西称赞茶“是文明行为、得体交谈和优雅待客的代名词”，而俄罗斯作家亚历山大·普希金觉得“狂喜就是一杯满满的茶和嘴里的一块糖”。另一位俄罗斯作家陀思妥耶夫斯基在《地下室手记》中说：“我说让世界见鬼去吧，但我应该一直有我的茶。”

3 Tea has brought cheer and joy to people all over the world for years. Nineteenth century English essayist, wit and Anglican cleric Sydney Smith wrote, Thank God for tea! What would the world do without tea! How did it exist? I am glad I was not born before tea.” The Chinese drank tea for medicinal value and, later, as a refreshing beverage. Lu Tung (790 –AD 835), a poet of the Tang Dynasty, wrote, “The first bowl sleekly moistened throat and lips, /The second banished all my loneliness, / The third expelled the dullness from my mind, /Sharpening inspiration gained/from all the books I have read. /The fourth brought forth light perspiration, /Dispersing a lifetime’s troubles through my pores. /The fifth bowl cleansed every atom of my being, /The sixth has made me kin to the immortals. /The seventh ... /I can take no more.”

多年来，茶给全世界的人们带来了欢乐和愉悦。19 世纪的英国散文家、才子兼圣公会牧师悉尼·史密斯写道：“感谢上帝赐予茶！没有茶，世界将会怎样！它是如何存在的？我很高兴

我不是在茶出现之前出生的。”中国人最初饮茶是因为其药用价值，后来茶成为一种提神的饮品。唐代诗人卢仝（790 - 公元 835 年）写道：“一碗喉吻润，二碗破孤闷。三碗搜枯肠，惟有文字五千卷。四碗发轻汗，平生不平事，尽向毛孔散。五碗肌骨清，六碗通仙灵。七碗吃不得也，唯觉两腋习习清风生。”

4 The Japanese elevated tea drinking to a fine art in their tea ceremonies, while Dutch traders were the first in Europe to drink tea and their ships carried most of the Wonder Blatt in the 16th century. In 1669, the East India Company started bringing tea to England from Java. By the 18th century tea had emerged as a triumphant and dominant beverage in Europe. Its devotees in the Western world included royalty and eminent personalities, as well as commoners. Over the centuries, poets, writers and philosophers like William Cowper, Samuel Johnson, Samuel Pepys and Confucius lauded tea in high terms. Johnson drank gallons of it and described himself as a “hardened and shameless tea drinker” who has “for twenty years diluted his meals only with the infusion of this fascinating plant; whose kettle has scarcely time to cool; who with tea amuses the evening, solaces the midnight, and welcomes the morning”.

日本人在茶道中将饮茶提升为一种高雅艺术，而荷兰商人是欧洲最早饮茶的人，在 16 世纪，他们的船只运载了大部分的神奇茶叶。1669 年，东印度公司开始从爪哇将茶叶运往英国。到了 18 世纪，茶已成为欧洲一种胜利的、占主导地位的饮品。它在西方世界的爱好者包括皇室成员、杰出人物以及普通民众。几个世纪以来，像威廉·考珀、塞缪尔·约翰逊、塞缪尔·佩皮斯和孔子这样的诗人、作家和哲学家都高度赞扬茶。约翰逊喝了大量的茶，并形容自己是一个“顽固而无耻的饮茶者”，他“二十年来只用这种迷人植物的浸泡液来冲淡饭菜；他的茶壶几乎没有时间冷却；他用茶来消遣夜晚，慰藉午夜，迎接早晨”。

5 Tea addict Rudyard Kipling felt entirely lost without his usual cup, “We had a kettle, we let it leak;/Our not repairing it made it worse:/We haven’t had any tea for a week;/The bottom is out of the universe.” Tea drinking in England was fostered by royal patronage during the Augustan age and lavish tea parties would be thrown by the nobility. But it was only after the marriage of Charles II to Portuguese princess Catherine in 1662 that tea drinking really began to catch on. Edmund Waller, then poet laureate, extolled both the Queen and her favourite drink on her birthday, “Venus her myrtle, Phoebus had his ways;/ Tea both excels, which she vouchsafes to praise.” Tea became almost an institution during the reign of Queen Anne (1702–1714) who was a tea aficionado. In *Rape of the Lock*, Alexander Pope wrote, “Here thou great Anne, whom three realms obey, / Dost sometimes counsel take, and sometimes tea.”

茶迷鲁德亚德·吉卜林如果没有平时喝的那杯茶就会觉得完全迷失了方向，“我们有一个水壶，我们任由它漏水；我们不修理它让情况变得更糟：我们已经有一个星期没有茶喝了；宇宙的底部都露出来了。”在奥古斯都时代，英国的饮茶之风因皇室的赞助而盛行，贵族们会举办奢华的茶会。但直到 1662 年查理二世与葡萄牙公主凯瑟琳结婚后，饮茶才真正开始流行起来。当时的桂冠诗人埃德蒙·沃勒在女王生日时赞美了女王和她最喜爱的饮品，“维纳斯有她的桃金娘，福玻斯有他的方式；茶两者皆优，她欣然赞美。”在安妮女王（1702—1714 年在位）统治时期，茶几乎成了一种习俗，安妮女王是个茶迷。在《夺发记》中，亚历山大·蒲柏写道：“伟大的安妮女王，三个王国都听从你的号令，/有时你听取建议，有时你喝茶。”

6 Tea-scenes are remarkable in their frequency in the works of Dickens, Jane Austen and the

Brontë sisters. At teatime would-be lovers exchanged longing glances; mothers chose suitors for their daughters and rivals traded veiled insults in polite singsong tones. At the centre of every social situation in Austen's novels, one finds tea. In *Emma*, Miss Bates said, "No coffee, I thank you, for me? Never take coffee? a little tea if you please." In *Pride and Prejudice*, one of the supreme honours Mr. Collins can envision Lady Catherine bestowing on Elizabeth Bennet and her friends is drinking tea with her, and among many Dickensian scenes involving tea, mention can be made of the tortured interaction between Pip and Estella in *Great Expectations*.

在狄更斯、简·奥斯汀和勃朗特姐妹的作品中，茶的场景出现得极为频繁。在喝茶的时候，有情人会交换渴望的眼神；母亲们会为女儿挑选追求者，对手们则会用礼貌的、抑扬顿挫的语调含蓄地互相侮辱。在奥斯汀的小说中，每一个社交场景的中心都有茶。在《爱玛》中，贝茨小姐说：“不要咖啡，谢谢，我不喝咖啡？请给我一点茶吧。”在《傲慢与偏见》中，柯林斯先生能想象到的凯瑟琳夫人给予伊丽莎白·班纳特和她的朋友们的至高荣誉之一，就是和她一起喝茶。在狄更斯众多涉及茶的场景中，可以提到《远大前程》中皮普和艾丝黛拉之间痛苦的互动。

7 Poetry had already started proclaiming the superiority of tea over wine. Donald Campbell's *Poem on Tea* (1735) made lofty claims, "Tea is the liquor of the fair and wise, /It cheers the mind without the least disguise/But wine intoxicates and wrongs each sense/Sweet, innocent mild tea gives no offence." Later on, in the first half of the 19th century, the temperance movement of reformers advocated tea drinking as an alternative to the prevailing alcoholism. An anonymous champion of prohibition asserted, "A dish of tea more pleases me, /Yields softer joys, provokes less noise/And breeds no base design." And in Dickens's *Pickwick Papers* (1827), the Wellers, father and son, both anti-prohibitionists, voiced their alarm at the popularity of tea.

诗歌早已开始宣称茶优于酒。唐纳德·坎贝尔 1735 年的《茶之诗》提出了大胆的主张：“茶是美丽与智慧之人的佳酿，/它毫无掩饰地振奋心灵，/但酒使人沉醉且扭曲各种感官，/甜美、无害且温和的茶不会冒犯任何人。”后来，在 19 世纪上半叶，改革者们的禁酒运动提倡饮茶作为当时盛行的酗酒风气的一种替代选择。一位匿名的禁酒倡导者宣称：“一盘茶更令我愉悦，/带来更柔和的欢乐，引发更少的喧嚣，/且不会滋生卑劣的企图。”在狄更斯的《匹克威克外传》（1827 年）中，韦勒父子俩都是反禁酒主义者，他们对茶的流行表示担忧。

8 Coleridge was an avowed tea-addict. Once, asked how many cups he drank, here plied, "Cups! I don't count by cups, I count by pots." And Shelley wrote, "The liquid doctors rail at and that I/Will quaff in spite of them and when I die/Will toss up which died first of drinking tea." An anonymous Victorian poem rejects the "fleeting bliss" of wine. in favour of a cup of tea that "soothes each aching pain and restores the sick to health again". This is an early endorsement of the therapeutic value of tea.

柯勒律治是一个公开的茶迷。有一次，当被问到 he 喝了多少杯茶时，他回答说：“杯！我不是按杯来计算的，我是按壶来计算的。”雪莱写道：“那些液体医生们所谴责的东西，而我/将不顾他们一饮而尽，当我死去时/我将赌一赌是喝茶还是喝其他东西先死。”一首维多利亚时代的匿名诗歌摒弃了酒的“转瞬即逝的幸福”，而倾向于一杯茶，它“舒缓每一处疼痛，让病人恢复健康”。这是对茶的治疗价值的早期认可。

9 Tea continued to find favour with later writers. Henry James (1843–1916) wrote, "There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea." G.

K. Chesterton asserted, "Tea, although an Oriental/Is a gentleman at least;/ Cocoa is cad and coward, /Cocoa is a vulgar beast. " Famous English dramatist Arthur Pinero (1855–1934) exclaimed, "While there is tea, there is hope. "

茶继续受到后来的作家们的喜爱。亨利·詹姆斯（1843—1916）写道：“生活中很少有几个小时比专门用于被称为下午茶的仪式的那个小时更令人愉快。”G.K.切斯特顿断言：“茶，虽然来自东方/但至少是一位绅士；/可可则是下流和懦弱的，/可可是只粗俗的野兽。”著名的英国剧作家亚瑟·皮尼罗（1855—1934）惊呼：“只要有茶，就有希望。”

10 The story of tea in literature cannot be complete without a reference to the poetry inspired by the historic Boston Tea Party. In December 1773, a group of indignant Americans, disguised as Red Indians, boarded three tea-importing ships docked at Boston harbour and threw 342 chests overboard. This was in protest against the tea tax levied on America by the British. The event is beautifully rendered in Emerson's famous poem, Boston, "The cargo came and who could blame, /If Indians seized the tea, /And chest by chest let down the same/Into the laughing sea?/For what avail the plow or sail/If land, or life, or freedom fail?"

如果不提及由具有历史意义的波士顿倾茶事件所激发的诗歌，那么文学中的茶的故事就不算完整。1773 年 12 月，一群愤怒的美国人伪装成印第安人，登上了停靠在波士顿港的三艘运茶船，并将 342 箱茶叶扔入海中。这是为了抗议英国对美国征收的茶税。爱默生的著名诗歌《波士顿》将这一事件描绘得十分优美：“货物来了，谁能责怪呢？/如果印第安人抢了茶叶，/一箱又一箱地把茶叶/投入欢笑的大海？/如果土地、生命或自由都失去了，/犁或帆又有什么用呢？”

11 Tea played its part in political and social history, too. It was one of the major commodities on which the East India Company built its trade and empire, and the tax on it acted as the spark plug to the American War of Independence waged against Britain in 1773. During a summit conference between US President Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachov of the then USSR at Geneva, Nancy Reagan and Raisa Gorbacheva had tea together and quietly influenced their respective husbands to make peace and not war! The cup that cheers is also a low cholesterol diet drink, rich in minerals; and common people and scientists across the world are convinced of its many therapeutic and medicinal properties.

茶在政治和社会历史中也发挥了作用。它是东印度公司建立贸易和帝国的主要商品之一，1773 年对茶叶征收的税成为美国对英国发动独立战争的导火索。在美国总统罗纳德·里根和当时苏联的米哈伊尔·戈尔巴乔夫在日内瓦举行的一次首脑会议期间，南希·里根和赖莎·戈尔巴乔娃一起喝茶，并悄悄影响她们各自的丈夫选择和平而非战争！令人愉悦的茶也是一种低胆固醇的健康饮品，富含矿物质；全世界的普通民众和科学家都相信它具有许多治疗和药用特性。

12 The overview that emerges is that tea is the drink of today and tomorrow. If one were to look for a beverage that stimulates the body and mind, apart from being a healthy drink, tea is, indeed, a cup that cheers, cures and cares, as Faith Greenbowl wrote, "Steam rises from a cup of tea/and we are wrapped in history, /inhaling ancient times and lands, /comfort of ages in our hands. "

呈现出的总体情况是，茶是当下和未来的饮品。如果要寻找一种既能刺激身心又健康的饮品，那么茶确实是一种令人愉悦、治愈和关爱的饮品，正如费思·格林鲍尔所写：“蒸汽从一杯茶中升起/我们被历史包裹，/吸入古老的时代和土地，/手中握着岁月的慰藉。”