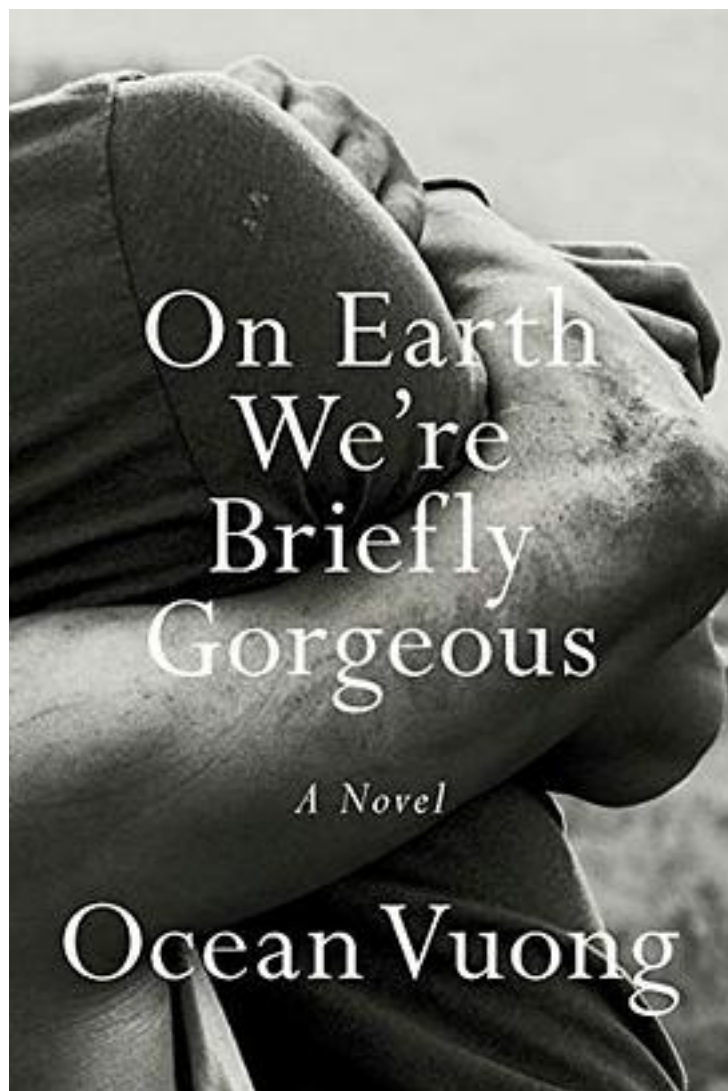


# On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous



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著者:Ocean Vuong

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On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous is a letter from a son to a mother who cannot read. Written when the speaker, Little Dog, is in his late twenties, the letter unearths a family's history that began before he was born — a history whose epicenter is rooted in Vietnam — and serves as a doorway into parts of his life his mother has never known, all of it leading to an unforgettable revelation. At once a witness to the fraught yet undeniable love between a single mother and her son, it is also a brutally honest exploration of race, class, and masculinity. Asking questions central to our American moment, immersed as we are in addiction, violence, and trauma, but undergirded by compassion and tenderness, On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous is as much about the power of telling one's own story as it is about the obliterating silence of not being heard.

作者介绍:

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标签

小说

英文原版

美国

LGBT

长篇小说

当代欧美文学

OceanVuong

越南

## 评论

这本书给我看哭了好几次。个人2019年最美小说了。作者是诗人。越南人，在美国。以给妈妈写信的形式写的小说？回忆录？儿童时期被人打得鼻青脸肿  
用镊子给奶奶夹白发  
妈妈去店里买牛尾不会英语，扮演牛的样子转圈，指指自己屁股。羞耻感让作者下定决心要学会英语！还有妈妈的巴掌打在脸上 奶奶的逃离  
蝴蝶的迁徙，猴子的记忆，越南战争，美国隔阂，融合得天衣无缝。  
让人心碎而又美丽

作者真的太知道自己和自己所处的文化圈子要什么、要读（写）什么了。就主题来说，身份政治那一套书写【种族的、性别（向）的、历史文化的.....】凭什么天然深刻高级？西贡少年的成长困惑顾影自怜（阮海洋）和第一世界白人青少年的乏善可陈（萨莉·鲁尼）有什么本质区别？就风格来说，像是北美郭敬明、写小说的蹩脚frank ocean和Tori Amos的基佬粉同人文。

语言太美了

写法还是非虚构和诗的写法，出版社强扭成小说推销，读起来反倒有违和感。我对用美的语言描述暴力仍然持一定保留态度，就像阿多诺说，奥斯维辛之后，写诗是野蛮的。

那些依然羞於向你坦白的事，也只能用你看不懂的语言写出来了。

“A page, turning, is a wing lifted with no twin, and therefore no flight. And yet we are moved.”

语言美到无法形容 Ocean大概诗人出身 书的结构略散 更多是意识流写作  
但是读得出真情实感 such raw emotions make you feel vulnerable too  
读完一边想掉眼泪一边想要去拥抱作者 we're all so very alone yet not at all

this is depressingly good

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还挺满足老外对东南亚的想象的

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整本书里最喜欢的是那几页诗（想起了anne carson的autobiography of red

-----  
Maybe we look into mirrors not merely to seek beauty, regardless how illusive, but to make sure, despite the facts, that we are still here. That the hunted body we move in has not yet been annihilated, scraped out. To see yourself still yourself is a refuge men who have not been denied cannot know.

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"Sometimes you are erased before you are given the choice of stating who you are."  
"Because the sunset, like survival, exists only on the verge of its own disappearing. To be gorgeous, you must first be seen, but to be seen allows you to be hunted."  
真实得宛如切肤之痛。

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读完之后的几天里时不时地想念他

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Some sparkling vivid prose, some overwrought pronouncements "just on the right side of vague to seem meaningful" (Irishtimes review). Frustratingly precious, sometime hypnotic, sometimes empty. A semi-fictional memoir exploring intergenerational trauma. Haunting passages on the nail salon and young gay sex.

-----  
有很多特别喜欢的瞬间，但觉得过于匠气，设计感太强。跟Sam聊的时候他说这是小说不止是漂亮的词句的组合的好例证[Sam推荐]

-----  
读不下去。too sentimental。Andras Schiff在Royal College of Music的一堂Master class上讲到舒伯特即兴曲时说道：always (play with) sentiments, but never sentimental. James Baldwin looked through and beyond his pain, as a black man, as a gay man, as a foreigner. But this writer can't seem to think beyond his pain. It's a dump of inflictions, offering no catharsis.

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Endless stream of consciousness.

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audiobook

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breathtaking

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RIP Rose

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## 书评

不知道大家知不知道 这种以书信形式写的小说叫epistolary novel 可以epistolary各种  
比如Cheryl Strayed的“Tiny Beautiful Things: Advice on Love and Life from Dear  
Sugar” 是epistolary essay 分享好了拜拜

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Truth be told, reading this book was not pleasant at all. In other words, I find this novel  
demanding, distracting and discomforting. My limited vocabulary and the narrator's  
stream of consciousness prevented me from understanding and completing it. As I t...

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