

樱花译语 | 调情指南：掌握失落艺术的26种方式（上）

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Gay Flirting Guide: 26 Ways to Master a Lost Art [i]

调情指南：掌握失落艺术的26种方式（上）

By Alexander Cheves



HOW TO FLIRT

如何调情

I have had so many mishaps in my attempts to charm guys. Poet Matthew Dickman calls it the ‘slow dance’—the bizarre and confounding ritual of meeting new people, figuring them out, and constructing this polite world of casual conversation and discreet sexual cues, pulled over our primal animal instincts like a blanket. We call this ‘flirting’.

Sometimes the mishaps work. Sometimes saying the wrong thing leads to the right thing. And sometimes a perfectly executed flirty conversation sends you home alone. There is no formula, no surefire way to make sparks fly. Chemistry depends on the strange alchemy of place and chance.

Although there are no hard rules for success, there are some important things to keep in mind. Here’s my guide to flirting — enjoy the dance.

在我尝试吸引男孩儿们的过程中，我曾遇到很多波折。诗人Matthew Dickman将这称之为‘曼舞’——一种奇异而恼人的仪式。在我们认识新的朋友，约他们外出，并且借助随和的交谈和微妙的性暗示来构建一个优雅的场所时，它就像一条被掀开的覆盖在我们动物本能上的浴巾。我们称它为‘调情’。

有时候这种恼人的仪式起作用了。就像笨拙的言语有时也能导致好的结果一样。但有时候，一个近乎完美的调情却让你在昏黄的路灯下独行回家。关于调情的一切并没有什么定则，并没有一种一定能让激情的火花成功闪烁的方式。荷尔蒙的激发取决于环境和时机奇异的化合作用。

虽然并没有硬规则可以保证调情的成功，一些重要的东西仍应当被意识到。以下是我对于调情的导引——享受这曼舞。

1

Being brave enough to introduce yourself is never a failure.

勇敢地介绍自己永远没错。



Every time you talk to someone, it's a win —even if they're not interested. Consider it a practice run. It's not easy to talk to strangers and everyone needs practice. Every time you build up the courage to introduce yourself and make small talk, you successfully complete a trial run for the times you do this and it clicks —the times when you start flirting and they flirt back. You never know who they'll be.

每当你和人说话的时候，你就成功了一次——就算他们不感兴趣。把这当成热身好了。和陌生人说话并不容易，每个人都需要练习。每当你有勇气介绍你自己，并开始一段小对话的时候，你就成功地完成了一次实验，这为你以后可能的成功做了铺垫——你释放的信号得到了回应。你永远不知道谁会是回应你的人。（译者按：从概率学的角度而言，尝试交往更多的人能促进优化匹配的實現）

2

You have one chance to be polite.



In our fast-paced world, rude people don't get second chances. Most of us create snap opinions from interactions that last only a few seconds. No one knows that you're having a bad day—if you're rude, they likely won't try to talk to you again.

在这个快节奏的世界，粗鲁的人没有第二次机会。我们大多通过几秒钟的交互就能够获得一个临时的看法。没有人在意你是否在那一天很糟糕——如果你表现的粗鲁了，他们大概不会再尝试和你说话。

3

Make eye contact.

眼神交流



Every level of social interaction, from casual flirting to long-term romance, depends on gaze. It's one of the most primal and intimate things humans do, which is why so many of us avoid it.

Meet their gaze and hold it for second so you both acknowledge that you're looking at each other. That 'I was just scanning across the room' routine where you casually look elsewhere doesn't work. If you start chatting, look them in the eye when you're talking to them.

无论哪一层次的社交，从简单的调情到长期的浪漫关系，都依赖着彼此的凝视。这是人类最为基础和亲密的一件事——这是为什么很多人不去这样做的原因。

与他的眼神接触，持续几秒，然后你就会意识到你们正注视着彼此。那种“我只是刚好扫视一下整个房间”——随意看着一些东西的方式是错误的。当你们在交流时，如果你想建立更深的联系，看着他的眼睛。

4

Ask for their pronouns.

询问他们的代称



When you meet someone new, ask what pronouns they use (pronoun options include gendered pronouns like 'he' and 'him' and 'she' and 'her' and nongendered pronouns like 'they' and 'them'). If someone is confused by the question, politely explain by telling them your pronouns and seize it as a teaching moment.

Genderqueer cartoonist Archie Bongiovanni (who uses they/them pronouns) explains: 'You can't assume anyone's pronouns based on their gender presentation, haircut, clothing, makeup or no makeup, because the truth is anyone who presents any way can use any pronoun.' Don't assume someone's pronouns — ask.

Asking is not just polite — it also sends a clear message of your politics. Gauging their reaction will give you a hint about whether or not they're worth chasing.

当你与一个新人见面的时候，要向他询问他的代称是什么（比如他、她、他的、她的、他们、它们）。如果有人为此感到疑惑，礼貌地向他介绍你自己的代称并且告诉他为什么要这样做。

性别酷儿漫画家Archie Bongiovanni（使用他们、它们代称）解释道：“你不能基于他人的性别表征来预设任何人的性别代称，诸如发型、服饰、妆扮或不化妆。因为一个使用任何代称的人都可以具有任何性别表征。不要预设别人的代称——问一问（译者按：不要预设约会对象的攻受——问一问）

询问并不仅仅是一种礼貌——它同样是一个清晰地告诉你你是否受到认可的信号。评估他的反应能给你一个他们是否值得追求的线索。

5

Humor is our universal ice-breaker.

幽默是普遍的破冰方式



If you can make someone crack a smile, you're off to a good start. Cracking a joke calms nerves, eases tension, and makes people feel comfortable. You don't have to be a comedian (my sense of humor is terrible). A funny observation about the place or about yourself is all you need.

如果你能让他真心地微笑，你就有了一个好的开始。微笑能平复紧张，舒缓神经，并且使人觉得舒适。你不需要成为一个喜剧演员（我的幽默感很糟糕）。对于自己或者周围环境有趣的见地是你所需要的。

6

Put your phone away.

把手机拿开



There's a queer dance venue in Brooklyn called Sutherland (named after the iconic character from Andrew Holleran's pre-AIDS gay novel *Dancer From The Dance*) that requires attendees to check their phones at the door. It's refreshing to be there—you have to talk to people (they have paper and pens at the bar in case you want someone's number). Don't let your phone be a crutch or inhibit you in a place where you're supposed to be sociable and meet people.

在Brooklyn有一个叫Sutherland的酷儿跳舞场地要求出席者在门口那里关上他们的手机。去那儿使人恢复精神——你必须与人交流。（他们的吧台有纸和笔以备你想要某个人的号码）。不要让你的手机在你应当认识朋友的时候妨碍了你。

7

In the real world, instantaneous connections are rare.

在现实世界，两个人同时喜欢上彼此的情况是极少的



Life isn't a romantic comedy. It's rare to click with someone the first time you meet them. In the real world, flirting happens easier over multiple interactions. It's easier to flirt with guys you see at the bar every weekend, or that person who comes to the gym at the same time you do. Build up your confidence, say hello, strike up a light conversation, ask a question or two, and let that be it. Too much too fast (like in most movies) feels uncomfortable.

生活并不是浪漫的喜剧。第一次的见面的时候，两个人的心跳同时加速的情况是很少的。在现实世界，调情比多元互动更容易发生（译者按：指聚会这种多对多进行交往的活动）。与你在bar里每周都看到的人调情会更容易，又或者那个人总是和你在相同的时间到达健身房。建立自信，say hi，尝试一段简短的交流，询问一两个问题。这样就足够了。在短时间内发展太快并不好。

8

Ask questions.

询问问题



Get the conversation going —ask a question. Questions can be as simple as, “Do you have the time?” or “Is this the start of the line?”

让对话持续下去——问一个问题。问题可以非常简单，比如“有空吗？”，或者“这是我们交往的开始吗？”

9

Compliments are the bread and butter of flirting.

示意是调情的材料



Once conversation ignites, be playful and sincere, and give them compliments. Not overtly sexual ones —this is the stage where you'd call someone 'cute,' not 'sexy' (this may not be the case at certain cruisy bars with a more sexual atmosphere). Compliment their clothes or their shoes and say it looks 'cute' —that's pretty much all you need to do. The word is an instant signal that communicates your interest without being too forward.

对话一旦开始，就要有趣而且真诚，并且告诉他你的想法。不是明明白白的“啊，性感的尤物”——这时候你应该说“可爱”，而不是“想x”（这可能在那种更加具有性暧昧气氛的找性伙伴的bar不适用）。赞美他们的服饰并且说“你好可爱”——这是你更应该做的。这种词是一种展现你兴趣的直接信号，而且并不太过分。

10

Bring gum and mints to social places.

带口香糖和薄荷糖去社交场合



Humans engage all senses when communicating, and our second most erotically-charged sense is olfaction. Fresh breath will save the day.

人们在交流的时候，所有的感官都是参与进来的，并且我们第二重要的填充性欲望的感觉就是嗅觉。清新的呼吸将使日子更美好。

11

Don't monopolize their time.

不要垄断别人的时间



Flirting is generally considered something that happens in the realm of 'small talk' or 'lighthearted banter'. That said, don't turn this into a long conversation. Give them an exit ramp quickly in case they want to do something else (or keep doing what they were doing before you walked up).

If you're at a bar, tell them you're going to run to the restroom or get another drink (ask if they want one, of course). This gives them time to either find friends, compose an exit narrative ("I'm going to go look for my friend, but it was nice to talk to you!"), or ghost. If they're still game to keep chatting when you return, you're off to a good start.

调情一般被认为是以一种轻交谈和愉快地挑逗的方式展开的。这意味着，不要把变成成长谈。给对方一个短暂停顿的台阶——以备他们想去做一些别的事（或者做在你来之前他们正在做的事）

如果你在一个bar，告诉他你想去一下洗手间或者再来一杯（当然，要询问他们是否也需要再来一杯）。这使得他有时间来寻找朋友，或者构思一段离开的话（我的论文还没写完，下次再见！），或者flop你。如果你回来时他还在，祝贺你，这是一个好的开始。

12

It's OK to ask someone to repeat their name.

再问一遍他们的名字是不得事的



It's hard to remember names. My English friends say that one common Britishism is an aversion to asking someone their name more than twice. 'After the first conversation, if you don't remember their name then and there,' one friend said, 'your only option is to never talk to them again.'

Get over that. I'm half-Deaf, which means I both forget names and fail to hear them in the first place. It's always OK to ask someone to repeat their name. Doing so confidently will actually be impressive.

记住名字真是太困难了。我英国的朋友说，英国人有一个共识，那就是很讨厌别人一再地询问他们的名字。我的一个朋友说：“在第一次交谈之后，如果你忘记了他的名字，你唯一的选择就是不要跟他们再交谈了。”

忘了它吧，我听力不好，这意味着我总是容易忘记别人的名字。询问别人的名字总是没问题的。自信地询问可能给别人留下深刻的印象。

Introduce them to your friends.

将他们介绍给你的朋友



It's polite, and it gives you (and them) a short break. You can see how they talk and meet the people you're with, and it gives you a chance to mentally 'check in'. Tell yourself you're doing a good job, pop a breath mint, and keep going.

这是礼貌的，并且也能给你一个短暂的停歇。你能看到他怎样和你的朋友交流，这给了你一个观察他举止的机会。告诉你自己做的不错，深呼吸，然后继续下去。

14

Playing disinterested is not flirting.

表现得不感兴趣并不是调情



Many people do this —myself included. We look at everyone in the room except the person we think is cute, and we avoid them at all costs. This is not a successful flirting method —no one thinks to themselves, 'Aha! That person who won't look at

me actually likes me!' If you present disinterest, they'll think you're disinterested.

很多人这样做——我也是。我们会看着所有其他人，除了我们觉得可爱的那个，并且我们总是试图避开他。这并不是成功的调情所应该的样子——没有人会告诉自己，“哈！那个没有看过我的人实际上喜欢我！”如果你表现得不感兴趣，他就会真的认为你不感兴趣。

15

If you're at the gym, ask about their workout.

如果你在健身房，询问他们的健身动作



Since exercise consumes the majority of my non-working hours, a great deal of my casual human interaction happens in gyms. The best way to strike up conversation with a gym-goer is to ask about the workout they're doing. Gym people love talking about their lifts. While we all generally act stone-faced and disinterested in everything around us, I've never met someone in a gym who wasn't friendly after I got their attention (you may have to wave —many people work out while listening to music).

因为健身消耗的主要是非工作时间，我的许多交际都发生在健身房里。和健身房的人搭讪的最好方式就是询问他们的健身动作。健身房的人喜欢讨论他们撸铁的姿势（译者按：比如我）。虽然我们一般面对的都是一些面无表情并且看起来对周围不太感兴趣的人，但我还从未遇到过一个被我搭讪后表现得不友好的人。（也许你需要挥挥手，很多人一边健身一边听音乐）

16

This should be obvious: Don't be mean.

这应当是显然的：不要刻薄



I've never bought the claim that people are mean to those they like. Our longstanding cultural tradition of telling young girls that boys who pick on them 'have crushes on them' teaches women from an early age to recognize affection as abuse and to give mean men a free pass—a cruel facet of our patriarchal culture. One way to guarantee my permanent disinterest is to be rude, judgmental, or mean.

我从不认为人们对喜欢的人刻薄。我们长期以来的文化传统是这样教导女孩子的，男孩儿们欺负你就是对你有意思，这让女孩儿从很小的年纪开始就将虐待认作是爱恋，并对这种男性毫不设防——这是我们父权文化的残酷方面。我永远对粗鲁、有偏见的和刻薄的人不感兴趣。

未完待续

[1]<https://www.advocate.com/sexy-beast/2018/10/19/gay-flirting-guide-26-ways-master-lost-art#media-gallery-media-16>

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