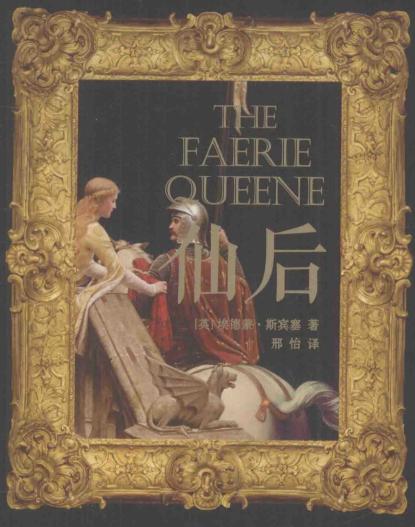
EDMUND SPENSER



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第三卷 布里弢玛特(贞节)传奇

The Legend of Britomartis, or of Chastitie

1

It falls me¹ here to write of Chastity,
The fayrest vertue, far above the rest;
For which what needes me² fetch from Faery
Forreine ensamples,³ it to have exprest?
Sith⁴ it is shrined in my Soveraines brest,
And formd so lively in each perfect part,
That to all Ladies, which have it profest,
Neede but behold the pourtraict⁵ of her hart,
If pourtrayd it might bee by any living art.

我需要在此对贞节大书几笔, 比起其他的能量,唯它最有力; 这就是为何我要从仙土异地, 取一些可以用来佐证的范例。 因为它在君主心中神圣至极, 与每个部分完美地融为一体, 体现在女性身上,充满了生机, 倘若有能描绘它的鲜活技艺, 只要看看她的心相就已足矣。

2

But living art may not least part expresse,

Nor life-resembling pencill⁶ it can paynt,

All were it Zeuxis or Praxiteles:⁷

His dædale⁸ hand would faile, and greatly faynt,

And her perfections with his error taynt:

Ne⁹ Poets witt, that passeth Painter farre

In picturing the parts of beauty daynt,¹⁰

So hard a workemanship adventure darre,

For fear through want¹¹ of words her excellence to marre.

可如今的艺术没有能力表达, 根本无法活灵活现地描绘它, 即使那人是最优秀的艺术家: 代达尔之手也丝毫没有办法, 美点会因他的过失而被糟蹋, 若要将美的要素构成一幅画, 诗人不比画家更能遣词说话, 这种工艺犹如冒险, 难度很大, 因为我总怕溢美绝辞会匮乏。

注:

1. falls me:由我负责。2. what needes me:我为何需要。3. cnsamples:例子。4. Sith:由于。5. pourtraict:肖像。6. 即创造"栩栩如生的艺术品"的那支艺术家的画笔。7. Zeuxis or Praxiteles: 宙克西斯是古希腊画家;普拉克西特利斯是古希腊雕塑家。他们都以刻画女性的高超技艺著名。8. dadale:熟练的,灵巧的,擅长于。代达罗斯是希腊神话中在克里特岛上建造迷宫的名匠。他用蜡和羽毛为自己和儿子伊卡洛斯(karus)做了翅膀。9. Ne:谁都不知道斯宾塞频频使用的这个词怎么发音。牛津词典给出的发音是长"c"。蒙提派森给出的音是短"i"(在"The Knights Who Say 'Ni'"中);一些学者大声朗诵时将其发成长"a";其他人则用中性母音(非重读元音,"about"中的 a 音,"item"中的 c 音,或"cdible"中的 i 音)。10. daynt:优美的,可爱的。11. want:图乏的。

How then shall I, Apprentice of the skill,

That whilome¹ in divinest wits did rayne,

Presume so high to stretch mine humble quill?²

Yet now my luckelesse lott doth me constrayne

Hereto perforce. But O dredd³ Soverayne

Thus far forth pardon, sith that choicest witt

Cannot your glorious pourtraict figure playne,

That I in colourd showes may shadow itt,⁴

And antique⁵ praises unto present persons fitt.

而我一介初学写诗的学徒娃, 又岂能像泰斗那样洋洋洒洒? 用支枯笔书写崇高难度太大。 但如今不幸的命运向我施压, 高贵的女王,我敬畏您,也很怕, 故而,我恳求您能否将就一下, 画圣未能为您画一幅肖像画, 而我也只能采用象征的手法, 用之乎者也式赞辞来将您夸。

4

But if in living colours, and right hew,⁶
Thy selfe thou covet to see pictured,⁷
Who can it doe more lively, or more trew,
Then that sweete verse, with Nectar sprinckeled,
In which a gracious servaunt pictured
His Cynthia, his heavens fayrest light?⁸
That with his melting sweetnes ravished,
And with the wonder of her beames bright,
My sences lulled are in slomber of delight.

但假如您想看到自己的肖像, 生动逼真,色彩自然,浓淡适当, 谁能写出更生动逼真的诗章, 比月亮女神之像用色更鲜亮。 画她肖像的是一位顶级画匠, 耐克塔喷洒甘露他才能那样。 用他那销魂夺魄的玉液琼浆, 诱他画出辛西雅神奇的光芒, 可我的灵魂蛰伏在快乐梦乡。

注:

1. whilome:从前的。2. 一个作者谦虚地说自己能力有限是一种客套话,但我们决不能对斯宾塞的自贬太轻描淡写。因为事实是他无法确定伊丽莎白女王是否会对他用讽喻的方式表现她短处与美德的史诗感到满意。而且他也自知自己正在撰写英国历史上第一部史诗,似乎太不自量力。3. 即但严格按照这个(胆敢写伊丽莎白女王)来刻画是我的职责所在;dredd:担忧。君主因为能够激发诗人的惶恐心,崇敬心和爱戴心而备受称赞。4. 即有关斯宾塞对象征概念的讨论。参阅他写给沃尔特·罗利的信。5. Antique:一语双关,"antic"意思是"滑稽怪异"。6. Hew:形式,形态。7. pictured:三音节。打着拍子大声朗读斯宾塞会给人一种一般情况下诗人期望结尾不发音的感觉。8. 斯宾塞的朋友沃尔特·罗利爵士曾经为伊丽莎白谱写过一首挽歌,名字叫"辛西雅,海域女王"。

But let that same delitious Poet¹ lend
A little leave unto a rusticke Muse
To sing his mistresse prayse, and let him mend,
If ought amis her liking may abuse:²
Ne let his fayrest Cynthia refuse,
In mirrours more then one her selfe to see,
But either Gloriana let her chuse,
Or in Belphæbe fashioned to bee:
In th'one her rule, in th'other her rare chastitee.³

但请让那位妙笔生花的诗家, 借我粗野的缪斯几句漂亮话, 好让他对女王称颂赞美有加, 若有败笔,也好让他粉饰一下: 也不要让他那美丽的辛西雅 推辞接纳,因为画像有乙有甲。 可我随君主选作格洛莉娅娜, 或选贝尔芙波那个时髦娇娃: 一个君临天下,一个朴实无华。

注:

- 1. 斯宾塞这里所说的那位妙笔生花的诗家指的正是沃尔特·罗利爵士。2. 即倘若他对哪里不满意也随他去改。
- 3. 斯宾塞在《仙后》中将伊丽莎白女王刻画成了两个人物:一个是格洛莉娅娜(从来没出现过,但却频频提及);另一个是贝尔芙波。斯宾塞将贝尔芙波塑造成月亮与狩猎女神戴安娜的形象。忠诚的伴侣即使与其配偶在性生活方面很积极也是"贞节"的表现。正如弥尔顿,斯宾塞将贞节这一美德与权力和爱联系在一起,而非仅仅为回避不正当的爱情。他用贝尔芙波象征第二个形象。"Belle"在意大利语中意思是"美丽的";"phoebe"在希腊语中意思是"纯洁"或"极漂亮的"。值得注意的是"贞节,贞操"未必是"童贞,纯洁"。



第一章

Guyon encountreth Britomart,

Faire Florimell is chaced: 1

Duessaes traines² and Malecastaes

champions are defaced.3

谷阳骑士与布里弢玛特遇见

美女弗劳里梅艾被人追赶:

杜艾莎玛勒卡斯塔设下机关,

一个个斗士受骗,接二连三。

1

The famous Briton Prince and Faery knight, ⁴
After long wayes and perilous paines endur'd,
Having their weary limbes to perfect plight⁵
Restord, and sory wounds right well recur'd, ⁶
Of the faire Alma greatly were procur'd, ⁷
To make there lenger sojourne and abode;
But when thereto they might not be allur'd,
From seeking praise, and deeds of armes abrode, ⁸
They courteous conge tooke, and forth together yode. ⁹

著名仙国骑士和布立吞王族, 经历了长途跋涉与千辛万苦, 筋疲力尽的身体已完全恢复, 创伤得到医治,再也没有痛楚。 美丽的阿尔玛小姐一再敦促, 劝他们二人继续在城堡小住; 但他们断不会养尊处优此处, 英雄为名寻机行侠,展露功夫, 他们彬彬有礼告辞,一起上路。

2

But the captiv'd Acrasia he sent, ¹⁰
Because of traveill long, a nigher ¹¹ way,
With a strong gard, all reskew to prevent,
And her to Faery court safe to convay,
That her for witnes of his hard assay, ¹²
Unto his Faery Queene he might present:
But he him selfe betooke another way,
To make more triall of his hardiment, ¹³
And seeke adventures, as he with Prince Arthure went.

谷阳公押送阿克拉西亚回京, 他千里迢迢,不辞辛苦,抄捷径, 路上有精壮的卫兵协助引领, 将女巫安全移交给仙国法庭, 以她做自己艰辛一场的见证, 他本可亲自向仙后陛下上呈, 但是骑士却踏上另一段征程, 为有机会试炼自己何等勇猛, 寻机冒险,故而与亚瑟王同行。

注:

- 1. chaced:一语双关"贞节的"和"被追赶的"。2. traincs:俘获。意即计谋。4. 即亚瑟王和谷阳。5. plight:情况。6. recur'd:治愈。
- 7. procur'd:敦促。8. abrode:到处,广泛。9. conge:再见,再会,一路平安; yode:去,走。10. Acrasa:荡妇; he:谷阳爵士。
- 11. nigher: 更近一些。12. assay: 努力, 尝试, 尽力。13. hardiment: 勇气与刚毅。

Long so they traveiled through wastefull¹ wayes,
Where daungers dwelt, and perils most did wonne,²
To hunt for glory and renowmed prayse;
Full many Countreyes they did overronne,
From the uprising to the setting Sunne,
And many hard adventures did atchieve;
Of all the which they honour ever wonne,
Seeking the weake oppressed to relieve,
And to recover right for such, as wrong did grieve.

走遍了杳无人烟的海角天涯,那些地方险象环生,非常可怕,赢得一声声赞美,响亮又洪大,双脚踏遍许许多多异域国家,日落而息,日升之时重新出发,他们每到一处,必然手到擒拿,获得的赞誉和尊敬无以复加,为柔弱的受压迫者卸去锁甲,他们俩一路匡扶正义、平天下。

4

At last as through an open plaine they yode,³
They spide a knight, that towards pricked⁴ fayre,
And him beside an aged Squire there rode,
That seemd to couch⁵ under his shield three-square,
As if that age badd⁶ him that burden spare,
And yield it those,⁷ that stouter could it wield:
He them espying, gan him selfe prepare,
And on his arme addresse⁸ his goodly shield
That bore a Lion passant in a golden field.⁹

正当他们穿越一座辽阔平原, 便见一位骑士策马扬鞭向前, 一个上了年纪的随从在身边, 身体蜷缩在三角形盾牌下面, 仿佛那个年纪盾牌是个负担, 应该让给更结实的人才妥善: 那人一发现他们便准备迎战, 拿起盾牌来就将其前胸遮掩, 盾徽是一只雄狮漫步于金田。

注:

1. wastefull:荒凉的。2. wonne:住,居住,逗留。3. yode:走,去。4. pricked:策马迎去。5. couch:蜷缩。6. badd:命令,吩咐。7. yieldithose:应允。8. addresse:做好准备。9. passantinagoldenfield:斯宾塞在这里描绘了一枚底色为金黄色的徽章,上面画着一头前爪迈步的狮子。这些都是布鲁特的标志。传说布鲁特是英国的缔造者,也是这位骑士的先祖。

Which seeing good Sir Guyon, deare besought
The Prince of grace, to let him ronne that turne.

He graunted: then the Faery quickly raught

His poynant speare, and sharply gan to spurne

His fomy steed, whose fiery feete did burne
The verdant gras, as he thereon did tread;

Ne

did the other backe his foot returne,

But fiercely forward came withouten dread,

And bent

his dreadful speare against the others head.

谷阳公是仗义之士,体面荣耀,诚意恳求亚瑟允许他来接招,亚瑟同意:谷阳公快得不得了,举起尖矛,胯下之马白烟直冒,那匹马的四蹄好像着火燃烧,踩下去时将地上的青草烧焦,然而,另外一方却并未往后倒,反而无所畏惧,凶猛地往前跑,将可怕的矛直对谷阳的头脑。

6

They beene ymett, and both theyr points arriv'd,
But Guyon drove so furious and fell,⁶
That seemd both shield and plate it would have riv'd;
Nathelesse it bore his foe not from his sell,⁷
But made him stagger, as ⁸he were not well:
But Guyon selfe, ere well he was aware,
Nigh a speares length behind his crouper ⁹ell,
Yet in his fall so well him selfe he bare, ¹⁰
That mischievous mischaunce his life and limbs did spare.

双方短兵相接,尖矛撞在一起,谷阳骑士又是勇猛又是暴戾,双方盾牌铠甲似乎将成碎粒;但他却并未将对方扯下坐骑,只是打得那人摇摇晃晃而已,谷阳自己没有发觉,也未注意,自己竟离坐骑有一矛的距离,从马屁股上掉下来,安全着地,真是万幸!一点没有伤到身体。

注:

- 1. 即谷阳一发现情况便极力恳求亚瑟王赏脸允许自己迎战。在《仙后》中亚瑟王常常会带来或传达这种或那种思典。
 2. facry:谷阳; raught:伸出……以触及。3. poynant:戳,刺; to spurne:鞭策。4. Ne:(既不)……也不,(……没有)……也没有。5. bent:转向,瞄准。6. fell:残酷的,可怕的。7. sell:马鞍。8. as:仿佛,好像。9. crouper:后鞧。10. bare:支,支持。

Great shame and sorrow of that fall he tooke;

For never yet, sith warlike armes he bore,

And shivering speare in bloody field first shooke,

He fownd him selfe dishonored so sore.

Ah gentlest knight, that ever armor bore,

Let not thee grieve dismounted to have beene,

And brought to grownd, that never wast before;

For not thy fault, but secret powre unseene,

That speare enchaunted was, which layd thee on the greene.

谷阳因为落马感到惋惜羞耻; 自从出道以来这还是第一次, 手里的矛也在血地颤抖不止, 他发现自己丢脸丢到了极致, 哎哟哟,宅心仁厚的勇敢骑士, 千万莫让悲伤消磨你的意志, 你以前可从来不是这个样子, 不怪你,因为那种神力不可视, 将你打下马的矛受魔法驱使。

8

But weenedst thou,⁴ what wight thee overthrew,
Much greater griefe and shamefuller regret
For thy hard fortune then thou wouldst renew,
That of a single damzell thou wert mett
On equall plaine, and there so hard besett;
Even the famous Britomartt⁵ was,
Whom straunge adventure did from Britayne fett,⁶
To seeke her lover (love far sought alas,)
Whose image shee had seene in Venus looking glas.⁷

倘若你知道打败你的是女人, 你会更感到惭愧,更遗憾伤心, 因为你无力改变自己的厄运。 眼下你遇到的姑娘无比单纯, 她也一样,在那座平原上受困; 亦即著名布里弢马特女钗裙, 来自不列颠,寻找命中的夫君, 将她的爱(哎哟,久觅之爱)找寻, 她在爱神魔镜中见过其神韵。

注:

1. shivering:有打散其他矛的倾向;用力地抖。2. gendest:最高贵的。诗中的叙述人直接对谷阳说话。3. 这次遭遇战暗示贞节(斯宾塞的贞节包括婚后的贞洁)比节制更有力量。4. weeneds thou:倘若你知道。5. Britomart:布里弢玛特。她的名字将英国的骄傲与武功连在一起。布里弢玛特代表婚姻中的贞洁。这种贞节在希腊最著名的划时代诗人卡利马科斯笔下是半神半人的少女戴安娜。"布里弢马提斯"也叫狄克廷那;在古希腊,人们用布里弢马提斯之名膜拜戴安娜。6. adventure:机遇;(特指中世纪骑士的)追求物;fett:拿来,拿去;请来;接去。

Full of disdainefull wrath, he fierce uprose,
For to revenge that fowle reprochefull shame,
And snatching his bright sword began to close
With her on foot, and stoutly forward came;
Dye rather would he, then endure that same.
Which when his Palmer¹ saw, he gan to feare
His²toward perill and untoward blame,
Which by that new rencounter he should reare:³
For death sate on the point of that enchaunted speare.

谷阳愤然爬起,怀着不屑之愤, 为了报羞辱之仇,雪丢脸之恨, 将那把铮铮亮的剑抓得很紧, 勇敢地走上前去,向对方靠近; 受到奇耻大辱,宁死也不想忍。 黑衣行者眼见此状开始担心, 谷阳恐遭险境与不幸之厄运, 最好是能从新的冲突中抽身, 因为施魔的矛尖上沾着死神。

10

And hasting towards him gan fayre perswade,
Not to provoke misfortune, nor to weene⁴
His speares default⁵ to mend with cruell blade;
For by his mightie Science he had seene
The secrete vertue of that weapon keene,
That mortall puissaunce mote⁶ not withstond:
Nothing on earth mote alwaies happy beene.
Great hazard were it, and adventure fond,⁷
To loose long gotten honour with one evill hond.

于是急忙上前,开始好言相劝, 千万不要触怒招惹背运灾难, 也莫信矛不该纠正无情刀剑; 因为他已经运用大智慧看见, 那件锋利武器其实神力无边, 凡夫俗子之力根本无法胜算: 无人常胜不败,永远稳操胜券, 抗它是孤注一掷,愚蠢的冒险。 好名声因一次失利毁于一旦。

注:

1. Palmer: 朝圣者,尤其指那些前往耶路撒冷朝圣的人。谷阳一路都有这位朝圣者陪伴,他对谷阳做了许多伦理方面的引导。2. His: 谷阳的。3. reare: 抽身。4. weene: 相信。5. default: 犯错误,做错。6. mote: 能力。7. fond: 愚蠢的。

By such good meanes he him discounselled, From prosecuting his revenging rage; And eke the Prince like treaty handeled, ¹ His² wrathfull will with reason to asswage, And laid the blame, not to his carriage, ³ But to his starting steed, that swarv'd asyde, And to the ill purveyance of his page, That had his furnitures ⁴ not firmely tyde: So is his angry corage ⁵ fayrely pacifyde.

行者劝退谷阳全凭巧用妙计, 终于让他将报仇的念头放弃; 并且如法炮制,劝退王子攻击, 理智将一腔冲动的怒火平息, 还将过错归咎坐骑,而非自己, 因为马儿受惊,结果方向偏离, 况且随从备马工作拙劣至极, 导致马具根本没有牢牢地系: 激愤的情绪这才消了个彻底。

12

Thus reconcilement was betweene them knitt,
Through goodly temperaunce, and affection chaste,
And either vowd with all their power and witt,
To let not others honour be defaste,
Of friend or foe, who ever it embaste,
Ne armes to beare against the others syde:
In which accord the Prince was also plaste,
And with that golden chaine of concord tyde.
So goodly all agreed, they forth yfere did ryde.

于是他们达成和解,结盟于此,两个性情中人双双克己自制,这两位真心英雄真诚地发誓,无论敌友诋毁对方荣誉面子,他们都会全力运用才智阻止,也永远不会与对方刀戈剑指:亚瑟王子也加入了结盟之事,一条金链连接三位忠义之士,并肩策马前行,诸事取得一致。

注:

1. 即王子也以类似的方式恳请。2. His:谷阳的。3. his carriage:谷阳的举止表现。4. furnitures:马具和盔甲。5. corage:心主情感与思想。6. cither:每一个。7. embaste:自命卑贱。8. yfere:可交往地。

O goodly usage of those antique tymes,¹
In which the sword was servant unto right;
When not for malice and contentious crymes,
But all for prayse, and proofe of manly² might,
The martiall brood accustomed to fight:
Then honour was the meed³ of victory,
And yet the vanquished had no despight:⁴
Let later age that noble use envy,⁵
Vyle rancor to avoid, and cruel surquedry.⁶

啊,多美啊,昔日那些习俗惯例, 当时的刀剑服务于公平正义; 并非恶意争强好胜,违法乱纪, 而为赞誉,证明大丈夫的武艺, 好战的人们习惯于争夺斗力, 荣耀道义节操是胜利的奖励, 然而被征服的一方不存恨意: 高尚之举令后世之人直羡忌, 避免卑鄙憎恨和无情的傲气。

14

Long they thus traveiled⁷ in friendly wise,
Through countreyes waste, and eke well edifyde,⁸
Seeking adventures hard, to exercise
Their puissance, whylome full dernly tryde:⁹
At length they came into a forrest wyde,
Whose hideous horror and sad trembling sownd
Full griesly seemd: therein they long did ryde,
Yet tract¹⁰ of living creature none they fownd,
Save Beares, Lyons, and Buls, which romed them arownd.

慢慢长路他们同行,互帮互助, 走过了许多文明与荒芜之土, 行侠仗义,寻寻觅觅用武之处, 他们一路上历尽了千辛万苦: 眼下来到一片密林,遍布树木, 树叶迎着肃杀冷风凄凄簌簌, 他们骑行途中似乎充满恐怖, 一路未见其他生灵,人迹全无, 只有熊狮和野牛在四周漫步。

注:

1. 斯宾塞赖频赞美过去这个事实不禁让人生疑:他究竟指伊丽莎白今日的统治哪一方面。2. 注意对女汉子布里弢马特层层递进式的赞美与讽刺。3. meed:奖赏。4. despight:愤怒,愤慨;怨恨,憎恨。5. envy:崇拜,崇敬,言外之意是以自身无甚可赞为耻。6. surquedry:自大,傲慢。7. 一语双关,暗示这是一场苦旅。8. 即经过荒野与房屋密集区。9. whylome:一段时间,一会儿;dernly:痛苦地。10. tract:足迹。

All suddenly out of the thickest brush,
Upon a milkwhite Palfrey all alone,
A goodly Lady¹ did foreby² them rush,
Whose face did seeme as cleare as Christall stone,
And eke through feare as white as whales bone:
Her garments all were wrought of beaten gold,
And all her steed with tinsell trappings shone,
Which fledd so fast, that nothing mote him hold,
And scarse them leasure gave, her passing to behold.

突然,从一处很茂密的杂木林, 出现一匹乳白乘马,全速狂奔, 驮着一位漂亮女子,再无旁人, 姑娘的娇颜像水晶一般清新, 面色却因为恐惧而苍白绝伦: 姑娘的外衣上有刺绣、有镶金, 闪闪发亮的马具装饰簇簇新, 骏马跑得奇快,无法让它停顿, 经过时对他们丝毫没有留神。

16

Still as she fledd, her eye she backward threw,
As fearing evill, that poursewd her fast;
And her faire yellow locks behind her flew,
Loosely disperst with puff of every blast:
All as a blazing starre doth farre outcast
His hearie beames, and flaming lockes dispredd,
At sight whereof the people stand aghast:
But the sage wisard telles, as he has redd,
That it importunes death and dolefull dreryhedd.
⁵

姑娘一边飞奔,一边朝身后瞄, 好像是害怕有魔鬼追着她跑; 一头秀美金发披散,明亮闪耀, 千丝万缕,迎着一阵阵疾风飘: 远处看去好像彗星尾巴在扫, 缕缕长长的尾发似激情燃烧, 看得他们俩傻愣愣,呆头呆脑: 但聪明的老行者一看就知道, 那是不幸被死神纠缠的征兆。

注:

1. 弗劳里梅艾(序诗中叫"花蜜")的逃命情节令人想起《疯狂的奥兰多》第一章第三十三至第三十五节中的安吉瑞卡。她的名字和行为暗示受欲望驱使的薄命红颜。2. foreby:附近的。3. dispredd:泛滥。4. redd:认出,说明,预报。姑娘那一头在风中飘扬的长发让她看起来像彗星,恐惧的目光投向追她的那个方向引申出一个明喻。术士通常将彗星解释成大难临头的征兆。5. dreryhedd:悲哀。