



探险与传奇世界经典文学
双语必读系列丛书



野性的呼唤 THE CALL OF THE WILD



[美] 杰克·伦敦 著 / 青闰 译注

清华大学出版社





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导 读

“探险与传奇世界经典文学双语必读系列丛书”第四辑新增了《老人与海》和《野性的呼唤》。

“探险与传奇世界经典文学双语必读系列丛书”顾名思义是让读者在我们营造的探险与传奇的文学氛围中领略大师经典，晓畅自如地穿行在英语世界的广阔天地中，采撷芬芳，咀嚼英华，潜移默化，分享知识带来的快慰和力量。

杰克·伦敦（1876～1916），美国20世纪著名现实主义作家，被称为“美国无产阶级文学之父”，在现代美国文学和世界文学中都有重要的地位。

1876年1月12日，杰克·伦敦出生于美国旧金山一个破产农民家庭，自幼当童工，漂泊在海上，跋涉在雪原，后来半工半读才在文学上取得了巨大成就。他带有传奇浪漫色彩的短篇小说常常描写太平洋岛屿和阿拉斯加冰天雪地的土著人和白人生活，大部分都可以说是他短暂一生的历险记。在前后十六年的创作生涯中，杰克·伦敦出版的作品达五十余部，为世人留下了丰富的文学遗产。

《野性的呼唤》是杰克·伦敦最著名的动物小说之一。这部作品发表于1903年，它的出现，使杰克·伦敦成了世界瞩目的天才作家，在美国文坛的地位迅速提高。在这部小说里，作者为我们描述了一条叫巴克的狗历经磨难，最终回到了自然野生环境的故事。整个故事以阿拉斯加淘金热为背景，讲述了在北方险恶的环境下，巴克为了生存，如何从一条驯化的南方狗发展到似狗非狗、似狼非狼的野蛮状态的过程。巴克是一条硕大无比的杂交狗，它被人从南方的主人家偷出来并卖掉，几经周折开始踏上淘金的道路，成为一条拉雪橇的苦役狗。在残酷的驯服过

程中，它意识到了公正与自然的法则；恶劣的生存环境让它懂得了狡猾与欺诈，后来它自己将狡猾与欺诈发挥到了让人望尘莫及的地步。经过你死我活的残酷斗争，它终于确立了领头狗的地位。在艰辛的拉雪橇途中，主人几经调换，巴克与最后的一位主人桑顿结下了难舍难分的深情厚谊。这位主人曾将他从极端繁重的苦役中解救出来，而它又多次营救了它的主人。最终，在它热爱的主人惨遭不幸之后，它便走向了荒野，响应它这一路上多次聆听到的、非常向往的那种野性的呼唤，并成为狼群之首。

杰克·伦敦的创作笔力刚劲，语言质朴，情节富于戏剧性。他的作品场景宏阔，诗意盎然，人物往往展现出最原始的本能；他常常将笔下人物置于极端严酷、生死攸关的环境之下，以此展露人性中最深刻、最真实的品格。他赞美勇敢、坚毅和爱这些人类高贵的品质，他笔下那“严酷的真实”常常使读者受到强烈的心灵震撼。他的作品独树一帜，气势逼人，充满阳刚之气。他喜欢粗犷强烈的生活，常常把冒险中的困难当作享受，把拓荒中的遭遇当作欢乐。他的作品干净利落，生机勃勃，健康乐观。

他的小说细节描写简练生动，对人性的剖析用笔如刀。本书在作品选择上以突出刻画人性，表现人与自然抗争时展示的强大生命力的作品为主。所选作品共同为我们展示了一个遥远而真实的世界：形形色色的鲜活人物，人与自然的严酷搏斗，人与人之间错综复杂的社会关系……杰克·伦敦深刻、大气的文字令读者精神为之一振，不同年龄、不同生活阅历的读者都会从这些经典作品中找到心灵的出路。

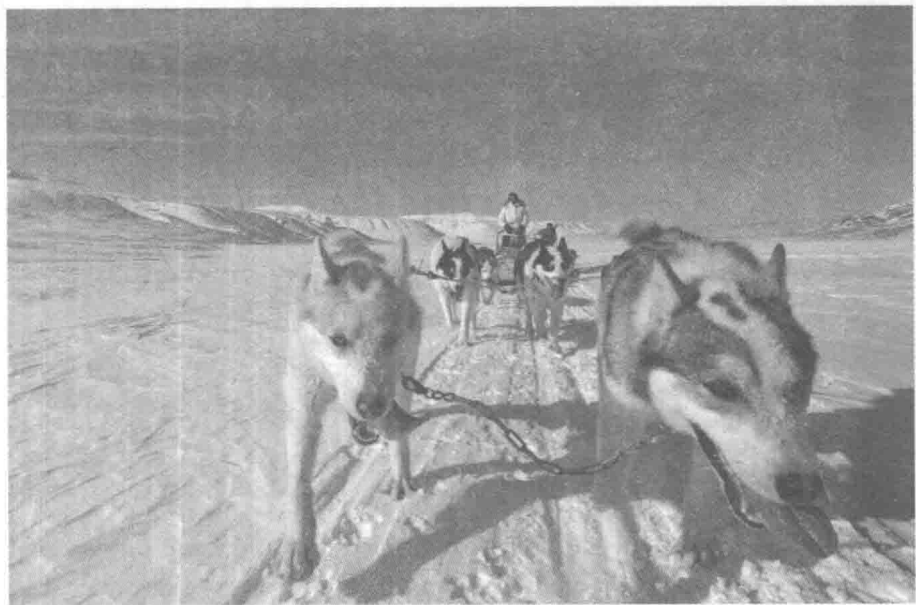
本书在翻译过程中，得到了东华大学出版社沈衡先手的大力支持，也得到了廉凤仙、宋娟、宰倩、张连亮、刘君武等同志的热情帮助，在此深表感谢。

焦作大学 青 闰

2015年8月29日

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《野性的呼唤》是杰克·伦敦最著名的动物小说之一。这部作品的出现，使杰克·伦敦成了世界瞩目的天才作家。在这部小说里，作者为我们叙述了一名叫巴克的狗历经磨难，最终回到了自然的野生环境。整个故事以阿拉斯加淘金热为背景，讲述了在北方险恶的环境下，巴克为了生存，如何从一条驯化的南方狗发展到似狗非狗、似狼非狼的野蛮状态的过程。在艰辛的拉雪橇途中，主人几经调换，巴克与最后的一位主人桑顿结下了难分难舍的深情厚谊。这位主人曾将他从极端繁重的苦役中解救出来，而它又多次营救了它的主人。最后，在它热爱的主人惨遭不幸之后，它便走向了荒野，响应它这一路上多次聆听到的、非常向往的那种野性的呼唤，并成为狼群之首。

Chapter 1 Into the Primitive

*"Old longings **nomadic**¹ leap,
Chafing **at**² custom's chain;
Again from its brumal sleep
Wakens the **ferine**³ strain."*

Buck did not read the newspapers, or he would have known that trouble was **brewing**⁴, not alone for himself, but for every tide-water dog, strong of muscle and with warm, long hair, from Puget Sound to San Diego. Because men, groping in the Arctic darkness, had found a yellow metal, and because steamship and **transportation**⁵ companies were **boom**⁶ the find, thousands of men were rushing into the Northland. These men wanted dogs, and the dogs they wanted were heavy dogs, with strong muscles by which to toil, and furry coats to protect them from the frost.

¹ nomadic /nəu'mædɪk/ *adj.* 游牧的; 流浪的

² chafe /tʃeɪf/ *at* 对……发怒

³ ferine /fɪəraɪn/ *adj.* 野生的

⁴ brew /bru:/ *v.* 酝酿; 行将发生

⁵ transportation /træns'pɔ:teɪʃən/ *n.* 运输

⁶ boom /bu:m/ *vt.* 大肆宣扬

第一章 进入荒原

“往昔流浪欲望涌，
面对陈规雷震动；
野性历经一冬眠，
今又唤醒自梦中。”

巴克不看报纸，否则它早会知道麻烦就要来了，这不仅是它自己的麻烦，也是从皮吉特海峡到圣地亚哥海边低地每条肌肉发达的温暖长毛狗的麻烦。因为人们在北极的黑暗中探索，发现了一种黄色金属，加上轮船和运输公司大肆宣扬那次发现，所以成千上万人涌向北方那个地区。这些人需要狗，他们需要的是体型巨大、肌肉发达，既能艰苦跋涉，毛皮又能御寒的狗。

Buck lived at a big house in the sun-kissed Santa Clara Valley. Judge Miller's place, it was called. It stood back from the road, half hidden among the trees, through which glimpses could be caught of the wide cool **veranda**¹ that ran around its four sides. The house was approached by **gravelled**² driveways which wound about through wide-spreading lawns and under the **interlacing**³ boughs of tall poplars. At the rear things were on even a more **spacious**⁴ scale than at the front. There were great stables, where a dozen grooms and boys held forth, rows of vine-clad servants' cottages, an endless and orderly **array**⁵ of outhouses, long grape **arbors**⁶ green pastures, orchards, and berry patches. Then there was the pumping plant for the artesian **well**⁷, and the big cement tank where Judge Miller's boys took their morning plunge and kept cool in the hot afternoon.

And over this great **demesne**⁸ Buck ruled. Here he was born, and here he had lived the four years of his life. It was true, there were other dogs. There could not but be other dogs on so vast a place, but they did not count. They came and went, resided in the populous **kennels**⁹, or lived **obscurely**¹⁰ in the **recesses**¹¹ of the house **after the fashion of**¹² Toots, the Japanese pug, or Ysabel, the Mexican hairless—strange creatures that rarely put nose out of doors or set foot to ground. On the other hand, there were the fox terriers, a **score**¹³ of them at least, who **yelped**¹⁴ fearful **promises**¹⁵ at Toots and Ysabel looking out of the windows at them and protected by a **legion**¹⁶ of housemaids armed with brooms and mops.

¹ veranda /və'renda/ *n.* 阳台; 走廊

² gravel /grævəl/ *vt.* 铺碎石于

³ interlace /,intə(:)leis/ *v.* 交错; 交织

⁴ spacious /speɪʃəs/ *adj.* 广大的; 大规模的

⁵ array /ə'reɪ/ *n.* 排列

⁶ arbor /'ɑ:bə/ *n.* 树阴处; (树枝等形成的) 藤架

⁷ artesian /ɑ:'ti:zjən/ *well* 自流井

⁸ demesne /dɪ'mein/ *n.* 领地

⁹ kennel /kenl/ *n.* 狗窝; 狗屋

巴克住在阳光照射的圣克拉拉山谷的一座大房子里。人们把这座房子称为米勒法官的住宅。房子远离大路，半隐半现在树林中。透过树林，可以瞥见房子四周宽敞凉爽的游廊。几条碎石车道蜿蜒着穿过开阔的草坪和枝杈交错的高大白杨，通向这座房子。房后放有一些东西，甚至比房前更宽敞。那儿有几座大马厩，有十几个滔滔不绝的马夫和男仆，有一排排爬满藤蔓的仆人小屋，有一排望不到头的整齐外屋，有长长的葡萄架，有绿色牧场，有果园，还有浆果地。然后，还有自流井泵站和大水泥池，米勒法官的小子们上午在那儿跳水，炎热的下午在那儿乘凉。

巴克统治着这一大片领地。它出生在这儿，已经在这儿生活了四年。的确，这儿还有别的狗。这么辽阔的一个地方不可能没有其它狗，但它们都不重要。它们来来去去，要么住在那些拥挤的狗窝里，要么默默无闻地住在房子的幽深处；模仿日本哈巴狗图兹或墨西哥无毛狗伊莎贝尔的样子——是一些很少把鼻子伸出门外或走到外面的怪家伙。另一方面，还有一些猎狐犬，至少有二十条，它们狂吠吓唬图兹和伊莎贝尔，这两只狗从窗户向外看着它们，由许多手拿扫帚和拖把的女仆保护。

¹⁰ obscurely /əb'skjuəli/ *adj.* 模糊地

¹¹ recess /ri'ses/ *n.* (常用复) 幽深处

¹² after the fashion of 模仿

¹³ score /skɔː, skɔə/ *n.* 二十

¹⁴ yelp /jelp/ *v.* 狗吠

¹⁵ promise /prəmis/ *n.* 预兆；预示

¹⁶ legion /li:dʒən/ *n.* <书> 众多；大批

But Buck was neither house-dog nor kennel-dog. The whole **realm**¹ was his. He plunged into the swimming tank or went hunting with the Judge's sons; he **escorted**² Mollie and Alice, the Judge's daughters, on long twilight or early morning **rambles**³; on wintry nights he lay at the Judge's feet before the roaring library fire; he carried the Judge's grandsons on his back, or rolled them in the grass, and guarded their footsteps through wild adventures down to the fountain in the stable yard, and even beyond, where the **paddocks**⁴ were, and the berry patches. Among the terriers he stalked **imperiously**⁵, and Toots and Ysabel he utterly ignored, for he was king—king over all creeping, crawling, flying things of Judge Miller's place, humans included.

His father, Elmo, a huge St. Bernard, had been the Judge's inseparable companion, and Buck **bid fair to**⁶ follow in the way of his father. He was not so large—he weighed only one hundred and forty pounds—for his mother, Shep, had been a Scotch shepherd dog. **Nevertheless**⁷, one hundred and forty pounds, to which was added the dignity that comes of good living and universal respect, enabled him to carry himself in right royal fashion. During the four years since his **puppyhood**⁸ he had lived the life of a sated **aristocrat**⁹; he had a fine pride in himself, was even a trifle **egotistical**¹⁰, as country gentlemen sometimes become because of their **insular**¹¹ situation. But he had saved himself by not becoming a mere **pampered**¹² house-dog. Hunting and kindred outdoor delights had kept down the fat and hardened his muscles; and to him, as to the cold-tubbing races, the love of water had been a **tonic**¹³ and a health preserver.

¹ realm /reɪlm/ *n.* 领域

² escort /ɪs'kɔ:t/ *v.* 护卫; 陪同

³ ramble /ræmbəl/ *v.* 漫游

⁴ paddock /pædək/ *n.* (马厩或宅房的)小牧场

⁵ imperiously /ɪm'pɪəriəsli/ *adv.* 专制地; 妄自尊大地

⁶ bid fair to 有……的希望

⁷ nevertheless /neveðə'les/ *conj.* 然而; 不过

但是，巴克既不是看门狗，也不是窝里狗。整个领地都是它的。它跟法官的儿子们一起跳进游泳池或去打猎；它陪法官的女儿莫丽和爱丽丝在漫长的黄昏或早晨散步；冬夜，它卧在法官脚边，烤着书房的熊熊炉火；它要么驮着法官的孙子们，要么跟他们在草地上打滚，保护他们拼命冒险跑到马厩院的水槽边，甚至远到小牧场和浆果地。在猎狐犬中，它昂首阔步、不可一世，而对图兹和伊莎贝尔，它则完全熟视无睹，因为它是首领——主宰着米勒法官住处所有的飞禽走兽，包括人类。

巴克的父亲埃尔默是一条奇大无比的圣伯纳犬，常常形影不离陪伴着法官，巴克有希望步它父亲的后尘。它没有那么大的个头——它只有一百四十磅重——因为它的母亲舍普是一条苏格兰牧羊犬。不过，一百四十磅的体重，再加上养尊处优的生活和大家的尊敬带来的高贵体面，使自己具有了十足的王者风范。在幼年成长的四年里，它过着心满意足的贵族生活；它对自己洋洋得意，甚至有点儿自高自大，就像没有见过世面的乡绅们有时表现的那样。但是，它没有沦为一条仅仅饱食终日的看门狗。打猎之类的户外娱乐运动减少了脂肪，锻炼了肌肉；对它来说，像洗冷水浴的物种一样，爱好玩水也起到了强身健体的作用。

⁸ puppyhood /pʌpihʊd/ *n.* (狗等的) 幼年时期

⁹ aristocrat /æristəkræt/ *n.* 贵族

¹⁰ egotistical /i:ɡə'tistikəl, eg-/ *adj.* 自我本位的；任性的

¹¹ insular /'insjule/ *adj.* 孤立的；超然物外的

¹² pampered /pæmpəd/ *adj.* 饮食过量的

¹³ tonic /'tonik/ *adj.* 滋补的

And this was the manner of dog Buck was in the fall of 1897, when the Klondike **strike**¹ dragged men from all the world into the frozen North. But Buck did not read the newspapers, and he did not know that Manuel, one of the gardener's helpers, was an undesirable acquaintance. Manuel had one **besetting**² sin. He loved to play Chinese lottery. Also, in his gambling, he had one besetting weakness—faith in a **system**³; and this made his damnation certain. For to play a system requires money, while the wages of a gardener's helper do not lap over the needs of a wife and numerous **progeny**⁴.

The Judge was at a meeting of the **Raisin**⁵ Growers' Association, and the boys were busy organizing an athletic club, on the memorable night of Manuel's **treachery**⁶. No one saw him and Buck go off through the orchard on what Buck imagined was merely a stroll. And with the exception of a **solitary**⁷ man, no one saw them arrive at the little **flag station**⁸ known as College Park. This man talked with Manuel, and money **chinked**⁹ between them.

"You might wrap up the goods before you deliver 'm," the stranger said **gruffly**¹⁰, and Manuel doubled a piece of stout rope around Buck's neck under the collar.

"Twist it, an' you'll choke 'm plentee," said Manuel, and the stranger grunted a ready **affirmative**¹¹.

¹ strike /straik/ *vt.* 撞击; 侵袭

² besetting /bi'setin/ *adj.* 不断攻击的

³ system /sistem/ *n.* 方法

⁴ progeny /prodʒini/ *n.* 后代; 后裔

⁵ raisin /reɪzn/ *n.* 葡萄干

⁶ treachery /tretʃəri/ *n.* 背叛; 背信弃义

⁷ solitary /solitəri/ *adj.* 孤独的

这就是 1897 年秋天巴克犬的情形，当时“克伦代克发现”把世界各地的人吸引到了冰天雪地的北方。但是，巴克不看报纸，也不知道曼纽尔——园丁的一个助手——是一个不受欢迎的相识。曼纽尔有一个改不掉的恶习。他爱打中国牌九。而且，他在赌博时有一个改不掉的毛病——就是对某种方法坚信不移；这也使他注定要倒霉。因为这样赌需要钱，而一个园丁助手的工钱要养活妻子和一大堆孩子，满足不了需要。

在曼纽尔吃里扒外的那个难忘之夜，法官在参加葡萄干种植者协会的一个会议，男孩们在忙着组织一个运动俱乐部。谁也没有看到曼纽尔和巴克穿过果园离开，巴克以为只是去散散步。只有一个人看到他们到了一个叫学院公园的信号车站。这个人跟曼纽尔交谈，接着两人之间就响起了叮叮当当的数钱声。

“你包裹一下再交货吧。”那个陌生人粗声地说。于是，巴克曼纽尔用一条粗绳在巴克项圈下的脖子上绕了两圈。

“拧一下，你就会勒紧好多。”曼纽尔说，陌生人咕哝了一声，算是同意。

⁸ flag station *n.* 信号车站（只有在打信号旗时火车才停的车站）

⁹ chink /tʃɪŋk/ *vi.* 叮当响

¹⁰ gruffly /grʌfli/ *adv.* 粗暴地；粗声地

¹¹ affirmative /ə'fə:mətɪv/ *adj.* 肯定的

Buck had accepted the rope with quiet dignity. To be sure, it was an **unwonted**¹ performance: but he had learned to trust in men he knew, and to give them credit for a wisdom that **outreached**² his own. But when the ends of the rope were placed in the stranger's hands, he growled **menacingly**³. He had merely **intimated**⁴ his displeasure, in his pride believing that to intimate was to command.

But to his surprise the rope tightened around his neck, shutting off his breath. In quick rage he sprang at the man, who met him halfway, **grappled**⁵ him close by the throat, and with a **deft**⁶ twist threw him over on his back. Then the rope tightened mercilessly, while Buck struggled in a fury, his tongue **lolling out**⁷ of his mouth and his great chest panting **futilely**⁸. Never in all his life had he been so **vilely**⁹ treated, and never in all his life had he been so angry. But his strength ebbed, his eyes **glazed**¹⁰, and he knew nothing when the train was flagged and the two men threw him into the **baggage car**¹¹.

The next he knew, he was dimly aware that his tongue was hurting and that he was being **jolted**¹² along in some kind of a **conveyance**¹³. The hoarse shriek of a **locomotive**¹⁴ whistling a crossing told him where he was. He had travelled too often with the Judge not to know the sensation of riding in a baggage car. He opened his eyes, and into them came the **unbridled**¹⁵ anger of a kidnapped king. The man sprang for his throat, but Buck was too quick for him. His jaws closed on the hand, nor did they relax till his senses were choked out of him once more.

¹ unwonted /ʌn'wəʊntɪd/ *adj.* 不寻常的; 异常的

² outreach /aʊt'reɪtʃ/ *vt.* 超越; 胜过

³ menacingly /'menəsɪŋli/ *adv.* 胁迫地; 险恶地

⁴ intimate /'ɪntɪmɪt/ *vt.* 宣布; 明白表示

⁵ grapple /'græpl/ *vt.* 与……格斗

⁶ deft /deft/ *adj.* 敏捷熟练的; 灵巧的

⁷ loll out 伸出

⁸ futile /'fjuːtaɪl, -tɪl/ *adj.* 无用的; 无效果的

⁹ vilely /'vaɪli/ *adv.* 讨厌地; 卑劣地

巴克不失体面地默默接受了那条绳子。固然，这是一个不同寻常的行动，但它已经学会了信任它认识的人，之所以对他们信任，是因为他们有一种胜过它自己的智慧。但是，当绳子的两端放到陌生人手里时，它发出了威胁的低吼。它只是明确表示自己的不满，自豪地相信，明确表示就是发出命令。

但让他吃惊的是，它脖子上的绳子勒紧，勒得它喘不过气来。巴克马上勃然大怒，向那个人扑去。那个人半道迎住它，勒紧它的脖子，敏捷熟练地拧了一下，就把它仰面摔倒在地。随后，绳子无情地勒紧，巴克狂怒挣扎，舌头从嘴里伸出来，宽大的胸部徒劳地喘息着。它长这么大，从来没有受过如此虐待，也从来没有发过这么大的火。但是，它的力气越来越小，眼睛变得模糊；当火车到站停下，两个人把它扔进行李车后，它就什么也不知道了。

接下来它知道的是，它模糊意识到舌头刺痛，正在某种运输工具里晃来晃去。火车头通过道口时发出的刺耳汽笛声告诉它自己身在何处。它经常跟法官一起旅行，却不知道乘行李车是什么感觉。它睁开眼睛，眼里冒出无法控制的怒火，就像被绑架的国王那样。那个人扑向它的脖子，但巴克比他的动作还快，一口咬住他那只手，直到它又一次被勒得失去知觉才松开。

¹⁰ glazed /gleɪzd/ *adj.* 光滑的；像玻璃的

¹¹ baggage car *n.* (铁路)行李车厢

¹² jolt /dʒəʊlt/ *v.* 摇晃

¹³ conveyance /kən'veɪəns/ *n.* 运输工具

¹⁴ locomotive /ləʊkə'məʊtɪv/ *n.* 机车；火车头

¹⁵ unbridled /ʌn'braɪld/ *adj.* 放肆的