PEARSON

亚瑟王与圆桌骑士

King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table

改写：【英】D. K. 斯旺（D. K. Swan）
M. 韦斯特（M. West）
翻译：陈丽辉

★每周读一部英文名著★
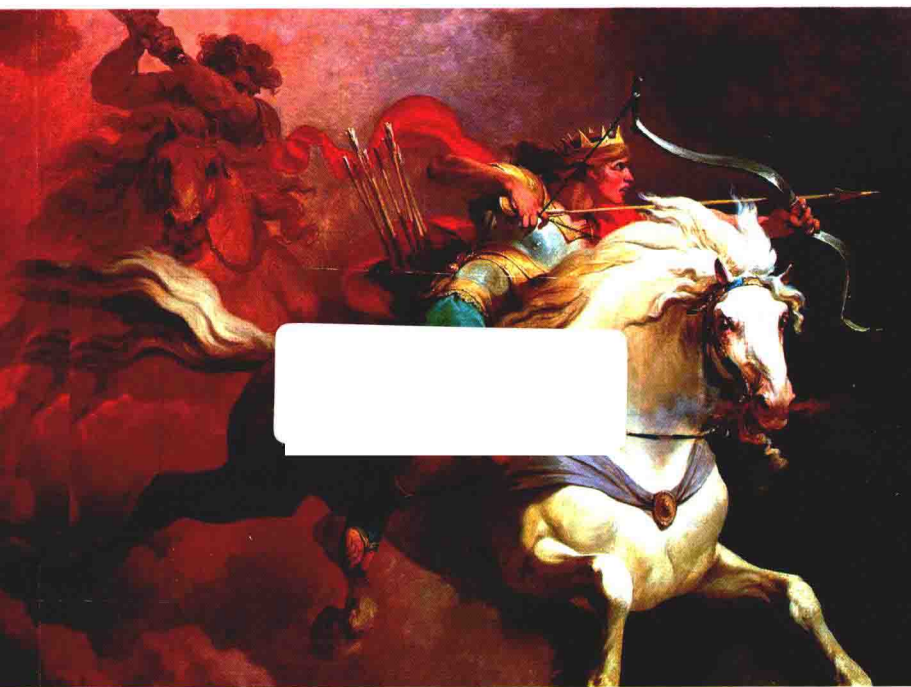
每周读一部英文名著

亚瑟王与圆桌骑士
King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table

改写：[英] D. K. 斯旺 (D. K. Swan)
　　　　M. 韦斯特 (M. West)
翻译：陈丽辉

目 录
CONTENTS

King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table

Introduction

The legends about King Arthur are very old. We think they started as stories about a real **Celtic** war leader who fought against the **Anglo-Saxons** landing in Britain between the years 400 and 600. A historian, **Nennius**, wrote about him three hundred years later, when the story-tellers had already had time to add to the truth.

It was perhaps from Nennius that **Geoffrey of Monmouth** got any facts that there may be in his "history" of Britain (about 1100). But we think the legends were already mixed with the romantic dreams of the story-tellers. Geoffrey of Monmouth added some of his own dreams, we believe.

The stories about King Arthur were told in the west of England, in Wales, and in **Brittany**. Those are the parts of Europe that the Celts were driven to by people from the north and east.

In the **Middle Ages**, about 1000 to 1500, there was great interest in romantic stories of the kind the Arthurian legends had become. Writers and story-tellers in several European countries added their own colour. They described the knights and ladies of their own time. Even the castles, armour, lances

简 介

<div style="float:left">

Celtic
凯尔特人的。凯尔特人为西欧一民族，包括古代的高卢人，布立吞人以及现代的布列塔尼人，康沃尔人，盖尔人，爱尔兰人，马恩岛人，威尔士人等

Anglo-Saxon
盎格鲁—撒克逊人，属于古代日耳曼人部落，公元5至7世纪侵入英国

Nennius
内尼厄斯，威尔士古文物家，曾编纂《不列颠史》，书中有对亚瑟王的描述

Geoffrey of Monmouth
（蒙茅斯的）杰弗里（?—1155），英格兰中世纪编年史家，其《不列颠史》出版于1135—1139年间，引入了亚瑟王的形象

</div>

有关亚瑟王的种种传说都十分古老。我们认为这些传说起源于一个真实的凯尔特人军事领袖的故事，他曾带头抵抗于公元400年至600年间在不列颠登陆的盎格鲁—撒克逊人。300年后，历史学家南尼厄斯在写到了他，这时，众多的故事讲述人已经有时间给事实真相添枝加叶了。

蒙茅斯的杰弗里所写的不列颠"历史"（约公元1100年）中可能含有的任何真实成分，或许是取自南尼厄斯的著作，但是我们认为，此时的各种传说已经同故事讲述人的浪漫主义梦想掺杂在一起了。我们相信，蒙茅斯的杰弗里也把他自己的一些梦想添加进去了。

有关亚瑟王的故事在英格兰西部、威尔士和布列塔尼被人们所传诵。这些地方都是凯尔特人在欧洲的聚居区，他们是被北方和东方来的民族驱逐到此的。

在中世纪，约从公元1000年到1500年，人们对浪漫传奇故事抱有浓厚的兴趣，而有关亚瑟王的传说便属于这一类故事。在不少欧洲国家，作家和故事讲述人又给这些故事添加了自己的色彩。他们描述的是他们自身所处那个时代的骑士和贵妇们。甚至他们

and shields they described were those of the Middle Ages, not those of a war leader of a thousand years before their time.

Wace of Jersey, a French writer, added the "Round Table". And legends about other men and women, gods and goddesses, magicians and fairies got changed to make them fit into the King Arthur "cycle" of romances.

People in France and Britain, and in other parts of Europe, began to think up and write their own stories about the knights and ladies of King Arthur's court, One of the best-known British stories of this kind is *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. We don't know who wrote it. It was written before 1400 in very fine poetry.

The first book of stories of King Arthur and the knights of his Round Table to be printed was the **Morte d'Arthur of Sir Thomas Malory.** **Caxton** printed it in 1484 (he had set up the first printing house in England in 1476). It is not in poetry but in very good clear English of the time. It is a putting together of the best-known Arthurian stories of Malory's time. Most of them were translated by him from the French.

The stories in this book are taken from Malory's book. We have made some changes for readers of modern English, and you may be interested to see (with only the spelling modernised) a sentence:

Whoso pulleth out this sword of this stone...
is rightwise King born of all England.

描述的那些古堡、甲胄、长矛及盾牌都取材于中世纪的实物，而不是早于他们1000年之久的一位军事领袖拥有的那些东西。

泽西岛的韦斯是法国作家，添加了"圆桌"这一故事元素。此外，有关其他男人女人、男神和女神、魔法师和仙女的传说都作了相应改动，使之切合于亚瑟王的"系列"传奇故事。

在法兰西和不列颠，以及在欧洲其他地区，有人开始编各具特色的有关亚瑟王朝廷里的骑士与贵妇人的故事。在英国人写的这类故事中，最负盛名的是《高文爵士与绿色骑士》。故事的作者不得而知，只知道是于公元1400年前以极其优美的诗句写成的。

有关亚瑟王和他的圆桌骑士的故事，最早付诸印刷的是托马斯·马洛里爵士的《亚瑟王之死》。卡克斯顿于1484年印刷出版了该书（他于1476年开设了英格兰第一家印刷厂）。它不是用诗体写成，而是用当时非常优美清楚的英语写的，它是马洛里时代最著名的亚瑟王故事的集大成者，其中大部分故事是马洛里由译自法语。

本书中的故事均取自马洛里的《亚瑟王之死》一书。为了给学习现代英语的读者们提供方便，我们作了一些改动。你看到下面一句话（只是改成了现代拼法），可能会觉得有趣：

Whoso pulleth out this sword of this stone . . .
is rightwise King born of all England.

Brittany
布列塔尼（半岛），法国西北部一地区
Middle Ages
（欧洲历史上的）中世纪（公元500年左右到1500年左右）
Wace of Jersey
（泽西岛的）瓦斯，法国盎格鲁一诺曼语诗人（1100?—1180?），著有诗体编年史《布鲁特传奇》和《鲁的传奇》
Morte d'Arthur
（法语）《亚瑟王之死》
Sir Thomas Malory
托马斯·马洛礼爵士（?—1471），英国作家，《亚瑟王之死》的编著者，于1469—1470年间在狱中完成此书
Caxton
指William Caxton
（威廉·卡克斯顿，1422?—1491），英国印刷商，编译家，创办英国第一家印刷所（1476），出版第一部英文百科全书，译书多种
Whoso=
whosoever
pulleth=pulls

CHAPTER 1
Arthur and Merlin

亚瑟王与默林

· QUESTIONS BEFORE READING ·

▶ What was Uther?

▶ What was Merlin?

▶ Who married Igraine?

▶ Who gave Arthur to Sir Ector?

▶ What was in the stone, and what was on the stone?

▶ What could none of the great men do?

▶ What did Sir Kay and Arthur want to do?

▶ How many times did Arthur take the sword from the stone?

▶ Who became King Arthur's wife?

▶ What would happen if a bad man sat in the Seat Perilous?

Once there was a king in Britain called King Uther. He was a great and good king. He loved the beautiful Princess Igraine, and he wanted to marry her, but she did not love him. He was very sad, and everyone thought that he would die.

There was a magician named Merlin. He could change himself into any animal or bird; he could change **so that** no one could see him. He could go from place to place by **magic**. One day Merlin came to King Uther. He said, "King Uther, I will help you. You shall marry Princess Igraine, and she will have a son. I will help you if you will give that son to me."

"I will give him to you," said the king.

So King Uther married Igraine, and they had a son. They named the son, Arthur. When Arthur was three days old, a very old man was seen at the door of the king's house. It was Merlin. Then King Uther took the child in his arms and went out and gave him to Merlin.

Soon after that, King Uther became very ill. He knew that he was going to die. Then Merlin said, "Call all your **knights** and great men and tell them, 'My son, Arthur, will be king after me!'"

从前，在不列颠有个国王，叫做尤瑟王。他是个伟大而善良的国王。他爱着美丽的伊格蕾茵公主，想要娶她，但是她不爱他。国王非常伤心，人人都认为他会伤心而死。

有一个魔法师名叫默林。他能把自己变成各种动物或鸟儿；他能够隐身，谁也看不见他；他能利用魔法从一个地方到另一个地方。有一天，默林来见尤瑟国王。他说道："尤瑟国王，我来帮助你。你将迎娶伊格蕾茵公主，她将生下一个儿子。如果你应允把那个儿子给我，我就帮助你。"

"我答应把他给你。"国王说道。

这样国王就娶了伊格蕾茵，他们生了个儿子。他们给儿子取名亚瑟。在亚瑟出生三天后，人们看见在国王的宫门口有一个年迈苍苍的老者。那就是默林。然后尤瑟王抱起孩子，出去把他交给了默林。

此后不久，尤瑟王病重，自知行将不起。于是默林说道："召集你所有的骑士和要臣，并告诉他们，'我的儿子亚瑟将在我身后为国王！'。"

so that 以便，以致（引出结果）

magic n. 魔法

knight n. 骑士，欧洲中世纪受过正式训练的骑马武士；现在只是一种荣誉称号

King Uther did that before he died. But all the knights and great men began to fight: each wanted to make himself king. Merlin took Arthur away. He gave the child to a good knight named Sir Ector. Arthur grew up with **Sir** Ector's son, Kay, and became a man.

When Arthur was a man, Merlin went to the **archbishop** (the head of the Church) and said, "Call all the great men of Britain to London. Then they shall see the man who will be their king."

All the great men came to London. They went into the church, and the archbishop spoke to them. When they came out of the church they saw in front of the church door a great stone. There was a sword in the stone, and there was writing on the stone:

THE MAN WHO CAN TAKE THIS SWORD OUT OF THE
STONE IS THE KING OF BRITAIN

All the knights tried, one after another, to take the sword out of the stone, but none of them could do it. The sword would not come out.

At the same time there was a great **joust** in London. All the great knights jousted in it. They began on their horses with spears. They rode quickly, and met—CRASH! Some knights fell off their horses, and then they fought on foot with swords.

Sir Ector went to the joust with Sir Kay and Arthur. The two young men wanted to joust, but Sir Kay had no sword. Arthur said, "There is a sword in a stone outside a church. I saw it on the way here. I'll get it and fight with it, and you can have my

尤瑟王死前如此照办了。但这些骑士和大人物们随即互相攻伐：人人都想自立为王。默林携亚瑟离开当地。他把孩子交给一个名叫埃克特爵士的好心骑士。亚瑟和埃克特爵士的儿子凯伊一起长大成人。

亚瑟成年后，默林去谒见大主教（他是教会的领袖），说："请您召集全不列颠的要人到伦敦来，那时候他们就会看到将成为他们国王的那个人。"

所有的要人都来到了伦敦。他们走进教堂，大主教对他们讲了话。待他们走出教堂时，便看见教堂门前有一块巨石。石中插着一把剑，石上写着铭文：

> 能将此剑拔出巨石者即为不列颠的国王。

众骑士逐一试着把剑拔出巨石，但没有一人能拔出。剑就是拔不出来。

与此同时，在伦敦举行了盛大的马上比武大赛。所有身怀绝技的骑士都参加了比赛。刚开始，他们身骑战马，手执长矛，然后策马疾驰，迎面相刺——发出"砰"的撞击声，有些骑士被撞下马来，随即手持长剑进行步战。

埃克托爵士带上凯伊爵士和亚瑟一起去参加比武。两位年轻人都想参赛，但凯伊爵士没有剑。亚瑟说："教堂外面的一块大石上插着一把剑。我在来这儿的路上看到了。我去把它拔出来，用它比武，而你

Sir
n. 爵士（英国用于骑士或男爵名字前的尊称）

archbishop
n. 大主教，主教长；枢机主教

joust
骑马执矛比武（中世纪比较流行的一种比武大赛，用以取悦国王和检验骑士的马术作战能力）

sword, Sir Kay."

They rode to the church. Arthur got off his horse; he took the sword in his hand—and it came out of the stone.

They went back to the field. When Sir Ector saw the sword, he kissed Arthur's hand and said, "You are my king."

They went to the archbishop. Then the archbishop called all the knights.

The archbishop said, "Put the sword back into the stone." Arthur put the sword back into the stone. All the knights tried again to take it out, but it did not move.

Arthur took it out again. So they cried out, "Arthur is king! Arthur is king!"

They all went into the church, and the archbishop made Arthur King of Britain.

So Arthur became king. He married, the most beautiful lady in England, **Princess Guinevere**, and she became his queen.

Then Merlin made the Round Table.

There were one hundred and fifty places at the table. Each knight had his name written in his place. There were one hundred and twenty-eight knights at the table. As time went on other brave and good knights came, and King Arthur gave them places. One place was not **filled** for a long time. That place was for a knight who had never done any bad thing to anyone. It was called the "Seat **Perilous**": if a bad man sat in it, he would die. After many years Sir Galahad came and was given that place.

可以用我的剑，凯伊爵士。"

他们骑马前往教堂。亚瑟下马，用手握住剑——剑从石中出来了。

他们回到比武的场地。埃克特爵士见到那剑时，吻了亚瑟的手并说道："您是我的国王。"

他们去见大主教。于是，大主教召集所有的骑士。

大主教说："把剑插回到大石里。"亚瑟把剑插回到大石中。所有的骑士再一次试着拔剑，但剑岿然不动。

亚瑟再一次把剑拔了出来。于是众人欢呼道："亚瑟是王！亚瑟是王！"

众人都进到教堂里面，大主教随即加冕亚瑟为不列颠的国王。

就这样，亚瑟当上了国王，他娶了英格兰最美丽的女子吉尼维尔公主，她便是王后。

Princess
Guinevere
皇后吉尼维尔

然后默林制作了一张圆桌。

圆桌周边有150个座位。每个骑士的名字都写在各自座位上。当时的桌边坐着128名骑士。随着时间的推移，其他勇敢而善良的骑士陆续来到，亚瑟王都给他们赐了座位。有一个座位空了很久。它为一个从未对任何人行过恶事的骑士而设，称为"危险席位"：如有恶人坐了它，他就会死。许多年之后，加拉哈德爵士来到此地，得到了这个座位。

fill
v. 填充，填补

perilous
adj. 危险的；
冒险的