

英漢對照 世界名著



ENGLISH-CHINESE WORLD MASTERPIECE

# VANITY FAIR

Written by W. M. Thackeray

# 浮華世界

塞可雷著 張明和譯



大衆書局印行



OLD MR OSBORNE WAS A RICH MERCHANT

老歐思本先生是個富商

NOTE.—*This is the story of 'Vanity Fair', by William Makepeace Thackeray, which was first published in 1847-8.*

## CHAPTER I

## AMELIA AND BECKY LEAVE SCHOOL

ON a sunshiny morning in the year 1814, a large family coach, drawn by two fine horses, stopped outside the gates of Miss Pinkerton's school for young ladies. The coach was that of Mr John Sedley, a rich London merchant, whose daughter was that day leaving Miss Pinkerton's school, and going home to live as a fashionable young lady.

Amelia Sedley was the sort of girl best described in those days as 'a dear creature'<sup>1</sup>. That is to say, she was pretty, sweet-tempered, and kind. It was her kindness that made her beg permission from her parents to bring a fellow-pupil home with her to spend a short holiday. Her friend was going to be a governess<sup>2</sup> in a gentleman's family.

*Becky's childhood*

Rebecca Sharp—or Becky, as she was more often called—was quite unlike Amelia Sedley, both in appearance and character.<sup>4</sup> She was small, with pale face and sand-coloured hair, and large attractive eyes. She looked like a child, but had the mind of a clever woman. Her mother, a Frenchwoman, had died when Becky

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1. creature [kri:tʃə] *n.* 人；動詞。

2. beg permission from = ask permission of  
請求……允許

註：這部「浮華世界」的小說，作者威廉·麥克比斯·塞可雷，初版發行於 1847 - 8。

## 第一章 愛梅麗與貝姬離校

在一八一四年一個晴朗的早晨，兩匹駿馬，拉著一輛高大的自用馬車，停在賓克頓小姐所辦的貴族女子學校門前。那輛馬車是倫敦富商約翰·賽德雷先生的，為的是他的女兒愛梅麗小姐那天離開賓克頓學校，回家過上流社會小姐的生活哩。

愛梅麗·賽德雷是當時最為人讚賞的「可人兒」一流人，那就是說她具有漂亮的面孔、溫柔的性格、與友善的心地的女孩子。這次由於她的友善，使她徵求到父母的同意，准許她帶一位同學回家中來渡一個短假，她的朋友正準備到一位紳士家中去擔任女家庭教師。

### 貝姬的童年時代

里比卡·夏普——或者貝姬，人們常常這樣叫她——，在模樣與性格上和愛梅麗·賽德雷完全不同。貝姬身材纖細，臉色蒼白，頭髮似一堆黃沙，同時有著一對大而媚

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3. governess [ 'gʌvənɪs ]    *n.* 女家庭教師。

4. character [ kærɪktə ]    *n.* 性格，德性。

was eight years old ; and until she was seventeen, Becky lived with her father, acting as his house-keeper. Her father taught drawing at Miss Pinkerton's school. Although a good teacher, he was a bad father, spending most of his earnings<sup>1</sup> on himself, and among bad companions, whom he brought to his home. So Becky grew up knowing nothing of kindly behaviour.<sup>2</sup> All her natural cleverness was turned to ways of deceit<sup>3</sup> and of getting the best for herself in a hard world.

*Becky and Miss Pinkerton*

Then Becky's father died ; and Miss Pinkerton seeing an opportunity of getting a cheap teacher, offered to take his daughter into her school free, in exchange for<sup>4</sup> help with French and Music. Becky went there ; but the severe ways of a girls' school were not at all<sup>5</sup> to her liking after the free life she had led with her father. She hated the school, and she hated Miss Pinkerton, who really was not a lovable person. So when the time of leaving came, no sorrow was felt on either side. Indeed, as Amelia and Becky were driving away in the carriage, Becky's pale face appeared at the window, and in her hand she held a book, a dictionary, the present Miss Pinkerton gave to all her pupils when they left—which Becky now threw with force into the garden of Miss Pinkerton's school for young ladies !

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1. earning [ 'ə:nɪŋ ] *n.* 賺 ; (pl.) 收入 ; 所得。

2. kindly behaviour 寬大，仁慈，和霽的行爲。

3. deceit [ di'si:t ] *n.* 欺詐，虛偽。

人的眼睛。她看起來像一個天真爛漫的孩子；然而她卻是一個工於心計的女人。她的母親是法國人，在貝姬八歲的時候就去世了；從那時起一直到十七歲貝姬都是和她父親生活在一起，管理著家務。她的父親在賓克頓小姐的學校裏教繪畫。雖然他是一個好教師，但卻是一位壞父親，他把自己收入的極大部份都用在自己與那些邀來家中的壞朋友身上。所以在這種環境長大的貝姬對於待人接物就一點也不曉得什麼寬仁和靚了。所有她天性中的巧慧都用到虛偽欺騙，與在冷酷社會中使自己佔盡便宜的邪道上去了。

### 貝姬與賓克頓小姐

不久貝姬的父親去世了。賓克頓小姐看到一個獲得便宜教師的機會，就讓他的女兒貝姬進入她的學校，免收上學的費用而以幫助教法文與音樂作交換條件。貝姬進入學校後，由於她過慣她父親那種散漫的生活，女子學校的嚴肅生活方式她一點也不喜歡。她討厭學校生活，同時又憎恨賓克頓小姐，賓克頓小姐也實在不是一個討人喜歡的人。所以離開學校時，雙方都毫無憂傷之感。真的，當貝姬與愛梅麗坐著馬車離開時，貝姬由窗口露出她那蒼白的臉兒，手裏拿著一本書，一本字典，那是賓克頓小姐贈送給每個離校學生做紀念品的——貝姬把那本字典從車窗中用力扔到賓克頓小姐學校的花園裏，留給其他的小姐們！

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4. getting the best for herself 做使自己佔盡好處的事。

5. in exchange for 換，調。

6. not at all 一點也不。

## CHAPTER II

## THE HOME OF THE SEDLEYS

BEFORE the carriage reached the end of its journey, a great deal of<sup>1</sup> conversation had taken place between the young ladies. Becky had learned all about Amelia's home and family; and received her tender<sup>2</sup> pity for being alone in the world without friends or relations.

'But you are not alone,' said Amelia. 'You know, Rebecca, I shall always be your friend, and love you as a sister.'

'Ah, but you have rich and kind parents who love you, and who give you all you ask for<sup>3</sup>! My father was so poor, he could give me nothing. And then you have a dear brother. O! how you must love him!' said Becky.

Amelia laughed.

'What! don't you love him?'

*Joseph Sedley*

'Yes, of course, only Joseph does not seem to care much whether I love him or not. You see, he's much older than I, and he has been away from home in India so long. I was but five years old when he went away.'

'Has he come back from India a rich man, and is his wife a pretty woman?'

'O, Joseph is not married,' said Amelia, laughing again.

1. a great deal of 很多, 大量。

2. tender [ 'tendə ] a. 親切的, 溫柔, 軟。

## 第二章

### 賽德雷氏的家庭

在馬車到達行程終點以前，他們兩人盡情的暢談。貝姬已經瞭解了愛梅麗的整個家庭與家人；並接受愛梅麗對貝姬無親無友的孤苦生活所生的親切同情。

「但是，你並不孤獨。」愛梅麗說：「你知道的，里比卡，我願意永遠做你的朋友。把你當做親姊妹看待。」

「啊，但是你有那樣又富有又慈祥的雙親疼愛你，你所要的他們都給你！我的爸爸是那麼窮，他沒有什麼好給我的，而且你還有一個親愛的哥哥，噢！你一定很喜歡他！」貝姬說。

愛梅麗笑了起來。

貝姬問道：「怎麼！你不喜歡他？」

約瑟夫·賽德雷

「當然喜歡，可是約瑟夫好像不在乎我是不是喜歡他。你知道，他比我年齡大得多，何況他已經離家在印度住了那麼久。他走的時候，我只有五歲。」

「那麼，他從印度回來，一定是個富有的人了？他的太太是一個美麗的女人？」

「噢，他還沒有結婚呢！」愛梅麗說，又笑起來。

3. ask for 要求。

4. you see 你知道（see 作明白、瞭解講）。



Becky said she was disappointed<sup>1</sup> that Mr Joseph Sedley was not married, and had no little children; she loved little children, she said.

‘I should think you had enough of them at Miss Pinkerton’s school,’ said Amelia, wondering at her friend’s sudden tenderness.<sup>2</sup> But she thought no more about it then; she did not know that Becky had already begun to make her plans for making her way in the world,<sup>3</sup> and that she was saying to herself, ‘If Joseph Sedley is rich and unmarried, why should *I* not marry him?’ And Rebecca Sharp determined to make the attempt before her visit was over to become Mrs Joseph Sedley.

When at last home was reached and the two young ladies had been greeted by Amelia’s parents, Amelia showed Rebecca the big house, and, like young ladies all over the world, let her friend see her own special treasures, her books, dresses, and jewels. When the dinner bell rang, they went downstairs<sup>4</sup> together.

‘Come,’ said Amelia, ‘come and see Papa.’

But it was Amelia’s brother, not her father, whom they found in the drawing-room.<sup>5</sup>

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1. disappointed [disə'pɔɪntɪd] a. 失望。

2. wondering ... tenderness (對她的朋友的突然柔和起來感到奇怪) 爲一分詞片語，修飾 Amelia。

貝姬說，她對約瑟夫·賽德雷先生沒有結婚，沒有孩子感到惋惜。她說，她一向是喜歡小孩子的。

「我想你在賓克頓小姐的學校裏那些孩子可夠你看的了。」愛梅麗說，她奇怪她的朋友怎麼心腸突然這樣軟起來。但是她隨後就不再想這件事了；她沒想到貝姬已開始爲自己打算了。那時她心中暗自忖度：「如果約瑟夫·賽德雷有錢而未婚，爲什麼我不能嫁給他」於是里比卡·夏普就決定試圖在她的作客結束之前變成約瑟夫·賽德雷的太太。

終於到家的時候，愛梅麗的父母對她表示熱烈的歡迎。愛梅麗帶著里比卡參觀那幢大房子。像世界各地的小姐們一樣，讓她的朋友看看她自己的珍藏：她的書籍、衣服、珠寶、首飾。過一會兒，晚飯鈴響了，她們就一起下了樓。

愛梅麗說：「來，同我去看看我爸爸。」

可是她們發現在客廳裏的是愛梅麗的哥哥，不是她的父親。

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3. make one's way in the world 發跡，成功。

4. down stairs [ 'daunstɛəz ] *adv.* 往樓下，在樓下。

5. drawing-room [ drɔ:ɪŋrʊm ] *n.* 客廳。

## CHAPTER III

## MORE ABOUT JOSEPH SEDLEY

JOSEPH SEDLEY was in the service of<sup>1</sup> the East India Company. He had lived for eight years by himself in a lonely district<sup>2</sup> in India, seldom seeing a fellow-countryman, except twice a year, when one came to take away to Calcutta the taxes he had collected. Then Joseph fell ill, and had to<sup>3</sup> return to England to be cured. He was living now in an hotel in London, but making frequent visits to his family. Joseph Sedley was a lazy man, and a very fat one. He liked to think himself a man of fashion, and was very vain.<sup>4</sup> Because of this, and because of the lonely life he had led, he was always uneasy in the presence of ladies. He was sitting by the fire when the two girls entered the room, and he went red in the face as Amelia introduced Rebecca, saying, 'This is my friend Miss Sharp, whom you have heard me mention.'

'No, never,' said Joseph, trembling; 'that is, yes—I—what cold weather it is, miss'; and he began to attend to the fire, although it was the middle of June.

'He's very handsome,' whispered Rebecca, rather loudly to Amelia.

'Do you think so? I'll tell him.'

'O no, dear, don't do that!' said Miss Sharp, with pretended modesty.<sup>5</sup>

The three talked for a while, Joseph getting more uneasy every minute, till at last he said:

1. in the service of 服務於。

2. district [ 'distrikt ] n. 縣、行政區。

## 第三章

### 再談約瑟夫·賽德雷

約瑟夫·賽德雷在東印度公司做事。他在印度的荒僻地區，獨自渡過八年寂寞的生活。除了每年有兩次公司派人來領取他收得的捐稅，送到加爾各答外，他很少看到一個同胞。後來約瑟夫病了，必須回到英國來醫治。他現在住在倫敦的一家旅館裏，不過時常回家看看他的家人。約瑟夫賽德雷一個懶鬼，而且長得很胖。他喜歡把自己幻想為一個髦人物，而且虛榮心很強。由於這，由於他所過的孤獨生活，所以他見了女仕們總是感到很不安。當兩位女郎走進那房間時，他正坐在火爐旁；他臉紅了起來，當愛梅麗介紹里比卡時說：「哥哥，這位就是我時常向你提起的我的朋友夏普小姐。」

「沒有，從來也沒有提過，」約瑟夫手足失措的回答說：「那是，對——我——天氣多麼冷呀，小姐」；說完了就開始照料起火來，雖然那時正是六月中天氣。

貝姬向愛梅麗耳語，但爲了要使約瑟夫聽見，卻又故意大聲的說：「他非常英俊。」

「你認為這樣嗎？我去告訴他。」

「噢，別去，親愛的，不要那樣！」夏普小姐故意裝出害羞的樣子說。

他們三個人談了一會兒，約瑟夫感覺著如坐針氈一般，越來越不自在，最後他說：

3. had to = must 必須。

4. vain [vein] *a.* 虛榮心強的；自以爲了不起的

5. modesty [mə'disti] *n.* 害羞。

‘O, Amelia, I must go, I can’t wait, I’ve promised a friend to dine with him.’

*Joseph tries to run away*

The father of the family, with his wife, now came in, and jokingly<sup>1</sup> said :

‘What’s the matter? Have you young ladies been quarrelling with Joseph already?’

‘O, no, no,’ said Joseph, ‘but I promised a friend to dine with him, and I must go at once, I can’t wait.’

‘Nonsense<sup>2</sup>! You told your mother you were dining here.’

‘But, but, I—my clothes—’

‘Look at him,’ said his father, who liked making fun of<sup>3</sup> his son; ‘look, isn’t he handsome enough to dine anywhere, Miss Sharp?’ Then turning to Joseph: ‘Come, sir, don’t be foolish, take Miss Sharp in to dinner, and I will follow with these two young women’; and, taking an arm of wife and daughter, walked merrily off with them to the dining-room.

After that first evening, Joseph was so frightened that he stayed away from his father’s house for two or three days; but Rebecca went on with her plans for capturing him as a husband. She was respectful and grateful towards Mrs Sedley, laughed at all Mr Sedley’s jokes; and soon had the whole household<sup>4</sup>, including the servants, saying, ‘What a charming creature is Miss Sharp!’

Amelia reminded her brother of a promise made to her, that he would take her to Vauxhall.<sup>5</sup>

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1. in the service of 服務於

2. nonsense [ 'nɒnsens ] n. 廢話

「噢，愛梅麗，我要先走一步，我不能等了，我已經答應一個朋友請我吃飯呢。」

### 約瑟夫想溜走

正好這家的父親與他的太太，現在進來了。他開玩笑地問道：

「怎麼回事？你們二位小姐和約瑟夫吵嘴了？」

「噢，沒有，沒有，」約瑟夫急忙辯道：「因為我答應一個朋友請我吃飯，我必得馬上去，我不能拖延了。」

「別胡扯啦！你不是告訴你媽，要在家裏吃飯嗎？」

「但是，但是，你看我的這身衣服——」

「看看他，」他的父親一向喜歡和約瑟夫開玩笑，說：「夏普小姐，你看看哪，像他那麼英俊的人，不是到那兒都可以吃飯嗎？」接著他又向約瑟夫說：「噫，先生，別笨頭笨腦啦，你挽著夏普小姐進去吃飯，我挽著他們娘兒倆跟著。」於是一手挽著太太一手挽著女兒的臂，高高興興的走向飯廳。

自從第一晚以後，約瑟夫吓得好幾天沒敢回家。但是里比卡卻日以繼夜的謀劃如何才能攬得他為自己的丈夫。她對賽德雷太太很尊敬感激，賽德雷先生的每個笑話她都笑；果然不久便使全家的人，包括僕人，都說「夏普小姐真是個逗人喜愛的人呀！」

愛梅麗提醒她的哥哥曾答應帶她去逛佛克斯福遊藝園。

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3. make fun of 向……開玩笑

4. household [ 'haushold ] *n.* 家屬

5. Vauxhall 位於倫敦泰晤士河南岸的一個遊樂場所

‘Now that Rebecca is here,’ said she, ‘is the very time.’<sup>1</sup>

So the trip was arranged. Amelia first wrote to her fiancé,<sup>2</sup> George Osborne, to invite him to make a fourth in the party.

## CHAPTER IV

### GEORGE OSBORNE AND WILLIAM DOBBIN

GEORGE OSBORNE's father and John Sedley were business friends. Their children had known each other for most of their lives, and the marriage of Amelia and George had already been arranged a long time. George had a friend, a certain Captain William Dobbin. The two had been at school together. Now they were both officers in the King's army. Dobbin had always thought Osborne the possessor<sup>3</sup> of all the virtues<sup>4</sup>; the bravest, cleverest, and most generous of men; and if this was not true, yet as long as George lived, Dobbin acted as though it were.

Lieutenant Osborne, coming to visit the Sedleys on the day of the party, said to the ladies, ‘I hope<sup>5</sup> you have room? I've asked Dobbin to come and dine here, and go with us to Vauxhall; he's a nice, quiet fellow, as awkward as Jos, and almost as modest!’ This last was said jokingly, but George went on:

‘There is not a finer soldier in the army.’

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1. very time 最適當的時候。

2. fiancé [fi'a:nsei] *n.* (法文) 未婚夫。  
fiancee [fiɑ:nsei] *n.* (法文) 未婚妻。

「現在里比卡也在這兒，」她說：「正好大家一塊兒去。」

就是他們把遊程安排了一下，愛梅麗就寫了一封信給她的未婚夫喬治·歐思本，約他一塊去，因為這樣正好湊成兩對。

## 第四章

### 喬治·歐思本與威廉·杜賓

喬治·歐思本的父親與約翰·賽德雷都是生意上的朋友。喬治和愛梅麗二人從小就心心相印，他們的婚事在很久以前，就已由雙方家長訂下了。喬治有一個朋友，叫做威廉·杜賓上尉的人。這兩個人是老同學，而且目前都是皇家陸軍的軍官。杜賓總認為歐思本是集一切美德於一身的人，最勇敢、最聰明、最慷慨的一個人物。即使這些並不確實，然而只要喬治活一天，杜賓就當事實一樣。

陸軍中尉歐思本到了集會的那天來拜訪賽德雷一家人，他對兩位姑娘說：「我希望你們有空餘的位置，我另外約好杜賓來這兒吃晚飯，並且和我們一塊兒去瓦克斯福遊藝園；他是一位厚道、沈著的人。他有點像約瑟夫一樣地不靈活，幾乎也一樣的羞怯！」這後面一句話帶有些玩笑性質的，可是喬治又說：「陸軍裏再沒有比他更好的軍人了。」

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3. possessor [pə'zesə] *n.* 持有人，所有人。

4. virtue [və:tju:] *n.* 美德。

5. Lieutenant 陸軍中尉，海軍：英為少校，美為上尉



*Dobbin's first sight of Amelia*

When Amelia came into the drawing-room that evening, dressed all in white, and singing like a bird, she saw a tall gentleman in a soldier's coat, with large hands and feet, who advanced to meet her and made one of the most awkward bows ever performed<sup>1</sup> by any one. This was Captain Dobbin who, as he looked at Amelia, and saw her so fresh and fair, from that moment became her loyal<sup>2</sup> servant for ever.

And now the coach is at the door ; the party get in, and are then on their way to<sup>3</sup> the Gardens. All were excited, and the thought in both the girls' minds was whether on the return journey Miss Rebecca Sharp would be the promised<sup>4</sup> bride of Mr Joseph Sedley.

## CHAPTER V

## VAUXHALL AND THE DAY AFTER

THE marriage was not to be. Yet during the early part of the evening, everything seemed most favourable to it. On arriving at the Gardens, and after asking Dobbin to take care of the ladies' wraps,<sup>5</sup> George Osborne walked off with Amelia, arranging to meet the party again at supper. Joseph went away, too, with Rebecca at his side.

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1. perform [ pə:fɔ:m ] *v.* 實行, 執行, 完成。

2. loyal [ lɔɪəl ] *a.* 忠誠的。

3. on one's way to 去到……途中。