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About German Literature
— The Sorrows of Young Werther

少年维特的烦恼

王正元 王燕 ① 编 李世琴 王迎春 ② 译



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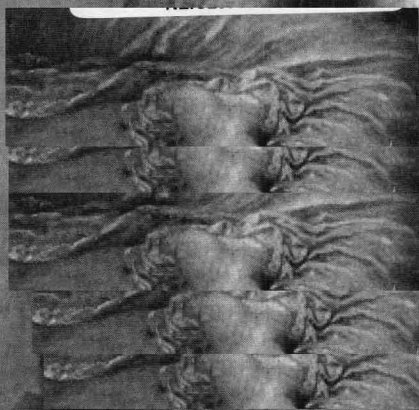
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本书荟萃了诸多德语文学作品中的精华,共收录了13篇,免去了读者穿梭于书店搜索的劳顿,为读者呈现一顿德国文学的饕餮盛宴。让读者在阅读过程中体会清风拂面、青云笼怀的阅读快感,让读者在阅读过程中体味乐音缥缈、心灵震撼的冲击力量,让读者在阅读过程中感受轻松学习、快乐参与的学习魅力。

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丛书序

Preface

我喜欢王正元、王燕两位教授主编的这套“中英双语典藏之走进文学世界”丛书，这套书包括英国文学、美国文学、加拿大文学、法国文学、德国文学各一本，每本选材都独具匠心，翻译精心，足以称得上色彩纷呈、琳琅满目、质纯形美、品味高雅，译者给读者献上了一道具有西方特色和品味的经典文学。文字是宝贵的精神食粮，好的文学作品如同好的食品——细品其味，会发现其醇厚的营养和不失光辉的品味，并从中得到新的启迪。

首先从选文来看，从欧洲到北美，跨越几个世纪，选出不同时代、不同国度、不同流派、不同风格的作家及其作品，而且还要适合今天人们的阅读追求，实在不是一件轻而易举的事情。其次是译注，这个问题忽视不得。任何一个民族的文学不仅是它经历的时代的产物，也是它悠久文化积淀最厚重的部分。如果对异国的宗教传统、文化意识、美学观念、价值取向都陌生，而仅通过语言来认识显然不够，所以翻译中的文化元素是不可忽视的。姑且不谈近年来我们在译注外国作品中出现多少错误，就拿本国人在译注本民族的文化遗产时所出现的错误也是触目惊心的！把“贵阳”译成 **Expensive Sun**（昂贵的太阳）固然荒唐，但硬将“四喜丸子”译成 **Meat Balls**（肉丸）也欠缺考虑（因为西方人不理解超大的 **Meat Ball** 为什么叫 **Lion's Head**（狮子头），于是就把菜单上的“狮子”的头割掉了）。语言文字中没有文化、歪曲文化、甚至回避文化一直是有些译注的痼疾。由此看来，真正得到一套像样的双语文学丛书确是一件值得庆幸的事情。

这套“中英双语典藏之走进文学世界”丛书的译者都是辽宁各大学的教授、副教授，是我们辽宁翻译学会的会员，他们是一批很有才气、朝气蓬勃的中年人。他们译笔不止，屡有新的译著问世。他们的翻译实践和成果，如同棕榈树，向上而挺拔。我祝愿这套丛书在译者、编辑的辛勤耕耘下，像棕榈树一样长得茁壮、挺拔，总是飘逸着令人神怡的芳香。

范 岳

译者寄语

受意大利文艺复兴的影响，德语文学在 18 世纪达到了顶峰。在德语文坛上出现过诸如歌德、海涅、席勒、莱辛和黑塞等伟大的作家，他们留给世人的作品犹如一股股清泉潺潺流过，卷去了尘埃，迎来了清莹；宛若一阵春风轻轻拂过，吹走了烦忧，荡涤了心灵；恰似一缕阳光静静泄下，抚平了创伤，留下了温情。

一部好的文学作品，应该是饱含热泪的低吟浅唱，应该是带着生命的体温与心灵的震撼，应该能给人思想的启迪并引起心灵的共鸣。她能以真美的情感、精美的语言和隽美的意境来打动人，引导人，鼓舞人，愉悦人，进而提升人的生命质量和拓展人的精神领域。这就是我们的选稿标准。本着这样的标准，编者从诸多德语文学作品中的精华中精心挑选，共选取了 13 篇，免去了读者穿梭于书店搜索的劳顿，为读者呈现出一顿德国文学的饕餮盛宴。让读者在阅读过程中体会清风拂面，青云笼怀的阅读快感，让读者在阅读过程中体味乐音飘渺，心灵震撼的冲击力量，让读者在阅读过程中感受轻松学习，快乐参与的学习魅力。

看，那个满面愁容的少年维特，在微弱的灯光下述说着他的惆怅，难言的寂寞构筑了凄婉的日志；那个变了形的大甲虫，阐释着“人变成了非人”的哲思，荒诞的情节组成了奇异的故事；那个风景秀美的茵梦湖，记下了几多美好的图景，构建了一幅浪漫的唯美篇章。

谨以此书献给那些热爱语言学习、热爱文化研究和探索，以及热爱生活的广大读者朋友们。



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The Sorrows of Young Werther

少年维特的烦恼

Goethe

歌德

歌德（Goethe, 1749—1832），德国诗人和作家。歌德 1749 年 8 月 28 日生于莱茵河畔的法兰克福，1832 年 3 月 22 日在魏玛逝世。1774 年发表的《少年维特之烦恼》使他名声大振。

《少年维特之烦恼》采用了书信体形式，开创了德国小说史的先河，描写了维特跌宕起伏的感情波澜和社会生活中的挫折经历，将他个人恋爱的不幸放置在广泛的社会背景中加以描摹，热情地宣扬了个性解放和感情自由的思想。

I have carefully collected whatever I have been able to learn of the story of poor Werther, and here present it to you, knowing that you will thank me for it. To his spirit and character you cannot refuse your admiration and love: to his fate you will not deny your tears.

And thou, good soul, who sufferest the same distress as he endured once, draw comfort from his sorrows; and let this little book be thy friend, if, owing to fortune or through thine own fault, thou canst not find a dearer companion.

MAY 4.

How happy I am that I am gone! My dear friend, what a thing is the heart of man! To leave you, from whom I have been **inseparable**^①, whom I love so dearly, and yet to feel happy! I know you will forgive me. Have not other attachments been specially appointed by fate to **torment**^② a head like mine? Poor Leonora! And yet I was not to blame. Was it my fault, that, whilst the peculiar charms of her sister afforded me an agreeable entertainment, a passion for me was **engendered**^③ in her feeble heart? And yet am I wholly blameless? Did I not encourage her emotions? Did I not feel charmed at those truly genuine expressions of nature, which, though but little mirthful in reality, so often amused us? Did I not — but oh! What is man, that he dares so to accuse himself? My dear friend I promise you I will improve; I will no longer, as has ever been my habit, continue to **ruminate**^④ on every petty **vexation**^⑤ which fortune may dispense; I will enjoy the present, and the past shall be for me the past. No doubt you are right, my best of friends, there would be far less suffering amongst mankind, if men — and God knows why they are so fashioned — did not employ their imaginations so **assiduously**^⑥ in recalling the memory of past sorrow, instead of bearing their present lot with **equanimity**^⑦.

Be kind enough to inform my mother that I shall attend to her business to the best of my ability, and shall give her the earliest information about it. I have seen my aunt, and find that she is very far from being the disagreeable person our friends **allege**^⑧ her to be. She is a lively, cheerful woman, with the best of hearts. I explained to her my mother's wrongs with regard to that part of her portion which has been withheld from her. She told me the motives and reasons of her

有关可怜的维特的故事，凡是我能搜集到的，我都尽力汇集，并在此呈现给你们。我知道你们将为此而感谢我。对于他的精神和性格，你们定会深表钦佩和爱怜；对于他的命运，你们定会洒下泪水。

善良的人呀，你正体验着他那样的烦恼，那就从他的痛苦中汲取慰藉吧；倘若由于命运的捉弄或自身的过错而觅不到知音，那么就让这本小书做你的朋友吧。

五月四日

我终于走了，心里好高兴！我的挚友，人的心好生奇怪！离开了你，离开了我如此深爱、简直难分难舍的你，我居然会感到高兴！我知道，你会原谅我的。命运偏偏安排我卷入一些感情纠葛之中，不正是为了使我这颗心惶惶不可终日吗？可怜的利奥诺拉！可是这并不是我的过错呀。她妹妹独特的魅力令我十分愉悦，而她那可怜的心儿却对我萌生了恋情，这能怨我吗？不过，我就完全没有责任吗？难道我没有培养她的感情？她发自肺腑的纯真的言谈原本没有什么可笑的，而我们却往往为之开怀大笑，我自己不是也曾以此为乐吗？难道我不曾——啊，人呀，自己抱怨一阵又有何用！亲爱的朋友，我向你保证，我要，我要改正，我不会再像往常那样，把命运加给我们的一点儿不幸拿来反复咀嚼；我要享受现在，过去的事就让它过去吧。你说得对，我的挚友，人要是没那么死心眼、不那么执著地去追忆往昔的不幸——上帝知道人为什么这样——而是更多地考虑如何对现时处境泰然处之，那么人的苦楚就会少得多。

请转告我的母亲，我会尽可能地处理好她交代的事情，并尽早把消息告诉她。我已经同姑姑谈过了，发现她并非是我们在家里所描绘的那种脾气古怪的女人。她精神焕发，快人快语，心地善良。我告诉她，母亲对她扣着那份遗产不分颇有意见；姑姑向我说明了她的目的、原因以及

① inseparable [in'sepərəbl] *adj.* 不能分的

③ engender [in'dʒendə] *v.* 造成

⑤ vexation [vek'seifən] *n.* 烦恼，苦恼

⑦ equanimity [ˌekwə'niməti] *n.* 镇定

② torment [ˈtɔːmənt] *v.* 折磨，使痛苦

④ ruminate [ˈruːmineɪt] *v.* 沉思

⑥ assiduously [ə'sɪdʒuəsli] *adv.* 勤勉地，刻苦地

⑧ allege [ə'ledʒ] *v.* 宣称，断言

own conduct, and the terms on which she is willing to give up the whole, and to do more than we have asked. In short, I cannot write further upon this subject at present; only assure my mother that all will go on well. And I have again observed, my dear friend, in this trifling affair, that misunderstandings and neglect occasion more mischief in the world than even malice and wickedness. At all events, the two latter are of less frequent occurrence.

In other respects I am very well off here. Solitude in this terrestrial paradise is a genial balm to my mind, and the young spring cheers with its bounteous promises my oftentimes misgiving heart. Every tree, every bush, is full of flowers; and one might wish himself transformed into a butterfly, to float about in this ocean of perfume, and find his whole existence in it.

The town itself is disagreeable; but then, all around, you find an inexpressible beauty of nature. This induced the late Count M to lay out a garden on one of the sloping hills which here intersect each other with the most charming variety, and form the most lovely valleys. The garden is simple; and it is easy to perceive, even upon your first entrance, that the plan was not designed by a scientific gardener, but by a man who wished to give himself up here to the enjoyment of his own sensitive heart. Many a tear have I already shed to the memory of its departed master in a summer-house which is now reduced to ruins, but was his favourite resort, and now is mine. I shall soon be master of the place. The gardener has become attached to me within the last few days, and he will lose nothing thereby.

MAY 10.

A wonderful serenity has taken possession of my entire soul, like these sweet mornings of spring which I enjoy with my whole heart. I am alone, and feel the charm of existence in this spot, which was created for the bliss of souls like mine. I am so happy, my dear friend, so absorbed in the **exquisite**[®] sense of mere tranquil existence, that I neglect my talents. I should be incapable of drawing a single stroke at

她准备全部交出遗产的条件，这还超出了我们所要求的呢——总之，我现在不想谈这件事。但请告诉我母亲，一切都会很顺利的。我亲爱的朋友，在处理这件小事情上我还发现，在这个世界上，误解和懒惰所引起的麻烦也许比奸诈和恶意还要误事。无论怎样，奸诈和恶意总是不多见的。

此外，我在这里感到很开心。在这天堂般的地方，寂寞是一剂治疗我心灵创伤的良药，而这早春时节正以它无限希望温暖着我常常寒战的心。每一棵树，每一丛灌木都开满鲜花，真想变做蝴蝶，遨游于芬芳馥郁的海洋中，藏身于其中。

这镇子本身并不可爱，但它周围自然风光之绮丽却难以言表。座座小山多姿多彩，纵横交错，形成一个个秀丽的山谷。已故的 M 伯爵为之心动，便在迷人的幽谷和群山交错处建起了一座花园。花园简朴无华，一走进去，马上就会感觉到它不是专业园艺学家设计的，而是由一位感情丰富之人设计的，以此来慰藉他敏感的心。那座已成断壁残垣的夏日别墅是已故园主人的心爱之所，也是我心爱之地，在那里我为那位业已作古的园主人洒了不少眼泪。不久我将成为花园的主人。当我到这里没几天，园丁就已对我颇有好感，而他绝不会草草行事。

五月十日

我的整个灵魂都沉浸在一种奇妙的宁静之中，犹如我以整个身心欣赏的甜美的春晨。我独自一人，在这专为像我那样的人所创造的地方感受着生活的欢欣。我是多么的快乐啊，我的挚友，我完全沉浸在宁静生活的感受之中，以至于把自己的艺术也搁置在一边。我现在无法作画，

⑨ exquisite [ˈɛkskwɪzɪt] adj. 优美的

the present moment; and yet I feel that I never was a greater artist than now. When, while the lovely valley teems with vapour around me, and the meridian sun strikes the upper surface of the impenetrable foliage of my trees, and but a few stray gleams steal into the inner sanctuary, I throw myself down among the tall grass by the trickling stream; and, as I lie close to the earth, a thousand unknown plants are noticed by me: when I hear the buzz of the little world among the stalks, and grow familiar with the countless indescribable forms of the insects and flies, then I feel the presence of the Almighty, who formed us in his own image, and the breath of that universal love which bears and sustains us, as it floats around us in an eternity of bliss; and then, my friend, when darkness overspreads my eyes, and heaven and earth seem to dwell in my soul and absorb its power, like the form of a beloved mistress, then I often think with longing, Oh, would I could describe these conceptions, could impress upon paper all that is living so full and warm within me, that it might be the mirror of my soul, as my soul is the mirror of the infinite God! O my friend — but it is too much for my strength — I sink under the weight of the splendour of these visions!

MAY 12.

I know not whether some deceitful spirits haunt this spot, or whether it be the warm, celestial^① fancy in my own heart which makes everything around me seem like paradise. In front of the house is a fountain, — a fountain to which I am bound by a charm like Melusina and her sisters. Descending a gentle slope, you come to an arch, where, some twenty steps lower down, water of the clearest crystal gushes from the marble rock. The narrow wall which encloses it above, the tall trees which encircle the spot, and the coolness of the place itself, — everything imparts a pleasant but sublime impression. Not a day passes on which I do not spend an hour there. The young maidens come from the town to fetch water, — innocent and necessary employment, and formerly the occupation of the daughters of kings. As I take my rest there, the idea of the old patriarchal life is awakened around me. I see them, our old ancestors, how they formed their

一笔也画不了；然而，和以往相比，此刻我是位更了不起的画家。每当这可爱的山谷里的雾气在我周围蒸腾，正午的太阳高悬在我那片无法穿透的树叶上面，只有几束阳光悄悄射进树林中的圣地时，我便躺在涓涓溪水边的高草中；当我贴近大地时，我发现有上千种不为人知的植物；当我听到草丛中繁忙的小世界，并熟悉了这些不可胜数、不可名状的昆虫和飞蛾时，我就感到那个照他自己的模样创造我们的全能的上帝的存在，感觉到那个飘逸地将我们带进永恒快乐之中的博爱天父的呼吸；我的朋友，每当后来我眼前暮色朦胧、我周围的天和地像情人的倩影一样栖息在我心中吸尽一切力量时，我往往便会生出憧憬，并思忖：啊，我要是能把这一切重现，要是能将我心中如此丰富、如此温馨的情景写在纸上，使之成为我心灵的镜子，犹如我的心灵是博大无边的上帝的镜子一样！哦，我的朋友——不过，对我的力量而言，太重了——在这些宏伟壮丽的愿景的重压下，我定将沉陷。

五月十二日

我不知道，这地方是有迷惑人的精灵在游荡，还是我心里温馨、美妙的奇思异想把我周围的一切变得如伊甸园般美好。花园前面有一口水井，——我像梅露西娜及其姐妹一样，对这口井着了迷。走下一道缓坡，就是一座拱门，再往下走二十级台阶，便有一股清泉从大理石岩缝中喷涌而出。泉水四周砌了窄窄的围墙高树环抱，凉爽宜人。这一切既让人流连忘返，又令人崇敬。我每天都去那儿坐上一小时，一天不落。城里的姑娘都来这儿打水，这是一种最普通且最必需的家务，从前国王的女儿也要亲自操持。每当我坐在那儿，古代宗法社会的情景便会在我

⑩ celestial [si'lestʃəl] *adj.* 天上的

friendships and contracted alliances at the fountain-side; and I feel how fountains and streams were guarded by beneficent spirits. He who is a stranger to these sensations has never really enjoyed cool repose at the side of a fountain after the fatigue of a weary summer day.

MAY 13.

You ask if you shall send me books. My dear friend, I beseech you, for the love of God, relieve me from such a yoke! I need no more to be guided, **agitated**^①, heated. My heart ferments sufficiently of itself. I want strains to lull me, and I find them to perfection in my Homer. Often do I strive to allay the burning fever of my blood; and you have never witnessed anything so unsteady, so uncertain, as my heart. But need I confess this to you, my dear friend, who have so often endured the anguish of witnessing my sudden transitions from sorrow to immoderate joy, and from sweet melancholy to violent passions? I treat my poor heart like a sick child, and gratify its every fancy. Do not mention this again: there are people who would censure me for it.

MAY 15.

The common people of the place know me already, and love me, particularly the children. When at first I associated with them, and inquired in a friendly tone about their various trifles, some fancied that I wished to ridicule them, and turned from me in exceeding ill-humour. I did not allow that circumstance to grieve me: I only felt most keenly what I have often before observed. Persons who can claim a certain rank keep themselves coldly aloof from the common people, as though they feared to lose their importance by the contact; whilst wanton idlers, and such as are prone to bad joking, affect to descend to their level, only to make the poor people feel their impertinence all the more keenly.

I know very well that we are not all equal, nor can be so; but it is my opinion that he who avoids the common people, in order not to lose their respect, is as much to blame as a coward who hides himself from his enemy because he fears defeat.

眼前浮现：先祖们在水井旁结识、联姻，仁慈的精灵翱翔在水井和溪水的上空。谁要是没有在意暑劳顿跋涉之后享受了井畔的清凉而感到神清气爽，他对我的体会就不会感同身受。

五月十三日

你问要不要给我寄书。亲爱的朋友，我求你看在上帝的份上，别让书籍来打扰我了！我不想再要什么指导、嘉勉和激励，我这颗心本身就已经够激荡翻腾的了；我需要的是摇篮曲，我在荷马的作品中已经找到了好多。我常常将它们低声吟诵，以使我极度兴奋的热血冷静下来，因为像我这颗那么变幻无常、捉摸不定的心，你还从未见过呢。亲爱的朋友，你见我由苦闷变为放纵，由甜蜜的忧郁转为伤骨伤精的激情，你在替我担着很大的心，这还用我对你说吗？我自己也把我这颗心当成一个生病的孩子，任其随心所欲。这些情况请不要告诉别人，说不定有人要怪罪我的。

五月十五日

当地的下层老百姓已经认识我了，并且很喜欢我，尤其是孩子们。起先我去接近他们，友好地向他们问这问那，于是有人就以为我是要取笑他们，便粗暴地将我打发走。对此我倒并不生气，只不过我对我以前常说的事有了极其生动的体会：某些人对老百姓总是冷冰冰地采取疏远的态度，他们似乎以为接近老百姓有失他们的身份；还有一些浅薄之辈和捣蛋的家伙，他们做出一副纡尊降贵的姿态，好在穷苦百姓面前显得更鹤立鸡群。

我知道，我们并不平等，也不可能平等；但是我却认为，那些以为必须远离所谓普通民众以维护自己尊严的人，同那些因为怕吃败仗，所以见了敌人就躲起来的胆小鬼一样，应该受到谴责。

⑪ agitate [ˈædʒɪteɪt] vt. 使激动，使不安

The other day I went to the fountain, and found a young servant-girl, who had set her pitcher on the lowest step, and looked around to see if one of her companions was approaching to place it on her head. I ran down, and looked at her. "Shall I help you, pretty lass?" said I. She blushed deeply. "Oh, sir!" she exclaimed. "No ceremony!" I replied. She adjusted her head-gear, and I helped her. She thanked me, and ascended the steps.

MAY 17.

I have made all sorts of acquaintances, but have as yet found no society. I know not what attraction I possess for the people, so many of them like me, and attach themselves to me; and then I feel sorry when the road we pursue together goes only a short distance. If you inquire what the people are like here, I must answer, "The same as everywhere." The human race is but a *monotonous*[®] affair. Most of them labour the greater part of their time for mere subsistence; and the scanty portion of freedom which remains to them so troubles them that they use every exertion to get rid of it. Oh, the destiny of man!

But they are a right good sort of people. If I occasionally forget myself, and take part in the innocent pleasures which are not yet forbidden to the peasantry, and enjoy myself, for instance, with genuine freedom and sincerity, round a well-covered table, or arrange an excursion or a dance opportunely, and so forth, all this produces a good effect upon my disposition; only I must forget that there lie dormant within me so many other qualities which moulder uselessly, and which I am obliged to keep carefully concealed. Ah! This thought affects my spirits fearfully. And yet to be misunderstood is the fate of the like of us.

Alas, that the friend of my youth is gone! Alas, that I ever knew her! I might say to myself, "You are a dreamer to seek what is not to be found here below." But she has been mine. I have possessed that heart, that noble soul, in whose presence I seemed to be more than I really was, because I was all that I could be. Good heavens! Did then a single power of my soul remain unexercised? In her presence could I not display, to its full extent, that mysterious feeling with which my