

外教社大学生拓展阅读系列

总主编 冯庆华 刘全福

影视

百花园

主编 杨玲
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上海外语教育出版社
SHANGHAI FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION PRESS

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外教社

英汉对照



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前言

为帮助在校大学生和英语爱好者提高英语阅读水平及英汉翻译能力,我社隆重推出了这套具有一定规模的英汉对照“外教社大学生拓展阅读系列”。该丛书由上海外国语大学冯庆华教授担任总主编,各分册编者均为上海外国语大学在读博士及硕士研究生。本丛书共 10 册,分别为《健康新概念》、《社会多棱镜》、《文苑风景线》、《影视百花园》、《科技新视野》、《都市流行风》、《人生启示录》、《人物风云榜》、《音乐新时空》、《体坛万花筒》。与同类出版物相比,“外教社大学生拓展阅读系列”具有如下特点:一是题材广泛,几乎囊括了与人们生活息息相关的诸多方面的内容,这样既可拓宽读者的视野,又能使其熟悉并掌握各种体裁的英语表达形式;二是内容新颖,选材多出自新近出版或更新的英文报刊书籍或网页,如此定位确保了语言材料的鲜活性和地道性,从而使读者在吸收新知的同时也可领略到贴近时代与现实生活的崭新表现手法;三是可读性强,所选近 300 篇文章可谓篇篇独具风格,或短或长,均不乏妙趣,细细品味,蕴涵于字里行间的精言妙义常令人不禁释然或哑然,所谓“益智”、“怡情”,二者原来可以兼得。

本丛书既是一个有机的系列,即各分册从整体上向读者展示出一面异彩纷呈的英语世界的多棱镜,同时每一分册又自成一体,各自以其丰富的内容为我们呈现出一个个色彩斑斓的万花筒。这样,读者既可分而购之,观其一隅,亦可尽收囊中,览尽精彩,若再有心细者,携一套“外教社大学生拓展阅读系列”以飨友人,那更是得体不过的事了。

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The Talented Mr. Ridley and *Gladiator*

Gladiator director Ridley Scott, enjoying a long-awaited thumbs-up from the crowds, talks about life and death.

It seemed a quixotic^① notion: “Hey, let’s make a movie in a genre that went out of fashion when *The Sound of Music* came in; that will cost \$100 million, require arduous location shooting and elaborate computer effects; whose director hasn’t made a film grossing over \$50 million domestically in 20 years; whose script will be retooled by three writers turning in new pages during shooting; and whose ‘star’ is a gifted actor but also, by all accounts, a severe rectal itch^②.” We can hear the moguls chorusing: “*Gladiator*? Thumbs down.”

Today Douglas Wick, the movie’s producer, can say, “Anyone with a little showman in his blood knew it could work.” And now the rest of Hollywood knows too. *Gladiator* is a hit. No. 1 at America’s box office, its early glow has movie people saying “Of course!” Of course there’s a magnetic pull of audiences to Roman Empire epics. Of course Ridley Scott, whose only big hit was the 1979 *Alien* but who directed influential films such as *Blade Runner* and *Thelma & Louise*, possessed the vision and stamina to bring a complex story to screen life. And you bet Russell Crowe has the unfakable^③ maleness to become one of Hollywood’s most wanted actors. He simply needed a showcase as grand as this one.

Gladiator is quite a good movie — a big, fat, rousing, intelligent,

① quixotic: 堂吉诃德式的, 愚侠的; 空想的

② rectal itch: 发痒的肠子, 引申为难以相处的人

③ unfakable: 毋庸置疑的, 真正的

天才雷德里和《角斗士》

《角斗士》导演雷德里·斯科特在沉寂很久之后获得好评如潮，以下是他眼中的人生与死亡。

这像是无稽之谈：“嗨，我们来拍这样一部电影怎么样？这种类型的电影在《音乐之声》上演时就已不再流行了；它的拍摄成本要1亿美元；现场拍摄工作繁重辛苦；电脑特技要求很高；这部影片的导演20年以来还未推出一部在国内票房超过5000万美元的影片；而且剧本将由三位编剧在拍摄过程中重新调整；它的‘影星’是一位很有才华的演员，但绝对是一个很难相处的人。”我们听到投资巨头们一起说：“《角斗士》？不行。”

今天《角斗士》的制片人道格拉斯·维克可以说：“任何一个有电影行当头脑的人都知道这部影片会很棒。”现在好莱坞其他人都知道了。《角斗士》一片获得了极大成功。在美国的票房收入位居第一。它一开始就表现出来的号召力令影人们觉得这一切是理所当然的。关于罗马帝国的史诗片对于观众当然极具吸引力。雷德里·斯科特当然具有将一个复杂的故事搬上银幕的远见和毅力。他唯一一部有着不错票房成绩的影片是1979年拍摄的《异形》，但他还执导了其他颇具影响力的影片，如《银翼杀手》和《末路狂花》。拉塞尔·克罗当然具有真正的男性魅力，能成为好莱坞最炙手可热的明星。他只是需要《角斗士》这样一个大舞台。

《角斗士》是一部相当不错的影片，场面宏伟，内容丰富，引人

daring, many-adjective-requiring entertainment. Walter Parkes, the production boss at DreamWorks who greenlighted *Gladiator*, says, “Recently there have been very successful movies — *Titanic*, *The Mask of Zorro*, *Saving Private Ryan* — that introduced classic genres to new audiences, employing modern writing and digital techniques. The Roman epic occupies a special place in the heart of moviegoers. We love the good ones like *Ben-Hur* and *Spartacus*.” Scott recalls seeing these epics in his youth. “I remembered that world vividly,” he says. “But I also knew you can’t bring that to bear today. You’ve got to reinvent it.”

The plot, familiar from the 1964 epic *The Fall of the Roman Empire*, is this: in A. D. 180, Emperor Marcus Aurelius (Richard Harris) is ailing. He anoints his best general, Maximus (Crowe), a man whose motto is “Strength and Honor,” as Protector of Rome until it can again become a republic. Before announcing his decision, Marcus informs his son Commodus (Joaquin Phoenix), who lusts to be Emperor. Commodus is displeased by the news; he smothers Marcus in his bosom, murdering him with a filial embrace, and proclaims himself Emperor. In short order, the nasty boy has swiped^① Maximus’s job, ordered his death, razed his home, and had his wife and son defiled^② and slaughtered. The soldier has reason for revenge.

Maximus escapes the executioner’s blade and is sold into a troupe of gladiators. Their job is to fight and die. Maximus’s battleground is now the arena; instead of barbarians, his opponents are hungry tigers. Proximo (Oliver Reed) tells Maximus he must make the crowd love him.

The gladiator revue^③ is such a hit in the provinces that it is soon playing in Rome. There, Maximus takes two wary allies: Senator Gracchus (Derek Jacobi), who needs help in restoring the

① swipe: 〈俚〉偷窃; 猛打

② defile: 弄脏, 糟蹋

③ revue: 娱乐性演出

人胜,智慧大胆,需要很多的形容词来描述。允许拍摄《角斗士》的梦工厂制作部负责人沃特·帕克斯说:“近期有一些非常成功的影片——《泰坦尼克号》、《佐罗的面具》、《拯救大兵雷恩》。这些影片都利用现代手法和数字技术,将经典的电影类型带给了新观众。在喜爱电影的人们心目中,关于罗马帝国的史诗片占据了一个特殊的位置。我们喜欢像《宾虚》、《斯巴达克斯》这样的好片子。”斯科特回忆起年轻时曾看过这些片子,他说:“我清楚地记着那个世界,但我知道不能把它们原封不动搬到现在。你必须重新创造。”

《角斗士》的情节与1964年的史诗片《罗马帝国的衰落》有些相似。故事是这样的:公元180年,罗马皇帝马可·奥勒利乌斯(理查·哈里斯饰)病重。他封最好的将军马克西莫斯(拉塞尔·克劳饰)为罗马护国公,直到罗马再次成为共和国。马克西莫斯信奉的是“力量与荣耀”。在宣布他的决定之前,马可将此告知了他的儿子科莫多斯(乔昆·菲尼克斯饰)。觊觎王位已久的科莫多斯对这消息深感不快。他紧紧地拥抱马可,使其窒息而死,并自立为王。邪恶的科莫多斯很快夺去了马克西莫斯的将军之职,下令处死他,并把他的家夷为平地。他的妻子遭到凌辱,与儿子一同被杀。斗士马克西莫斯有理由去复仇。

马克西莫斯逃脱了刽子手的杀害,被卖作角斗士。他们的工作是战斗和死亡。马克西莫斯的战场现在是竞技场,他的对手不是野蛮人而是饥饿的老虎。普洛克希姆(奥里弗·里德饰)告诉马克西莫斯,他必须让观众们喜欢他。

角斗士的表演在外省大受欢迎,很快就来到了罗马。在那儿,马克西莫斯找到了两个谨慎的同盟:元老院议员格拉古(德里克·雅各比饰)和鲁西亚(康尼·尼尔森饰)。前者需要他的帮助以重

republic; and Lucilla (Connie Nielsen), Commodus's sister, who loved Maximus. But it won't be easy outfoxing Commodus. His Heinous Highness loves an unfair fight.

The idea for *Gladiator* began in the '70s when screenwriter David Franzoni read Daniel P. Mannix's *Those About to Die*, a lurid history of the Roman games. When Scott was hired, he brought in John Logan to create Maximus' life as a slave and playwright William Nicholson for further character shadings.

Casting the film, Scott tested Jude Law for Commodus but went with Phoenix, an odd, inspired choice. Scott's choice of Nielsen also was resisted, but the Danish beauty brings a regal presence to the film. The exuberant Reed gave a superbly knowing performance — alas, his last. He died toward the end of shooting; one scene was accomplished with a body double and some digital legerdemain^①. Crowe was persuaded to discuss the lead role. Scott was impressed and knew he could spend more money making the film look good if he spent less for a star name.

To judge by reports from the set, Crowe could have played Maximus or Commodus; he was all warrior, all tyrant. A hard-drinking perfectionist, he got into brawls with villagers on one location and laid such waste to his rented villa in Morocco that the caretaker protested to Scott, saying "He must leave! He is violating every tenet of the Koran!" Crowe questioned every aspect of the evolving script and strode off the set when he did not get answers. A DreamWorks exec says, "Russell was not well behaved. He tried to rewrite the entire script on the spot. You know the big line in the trailer, 'In this life or the next, I will have my vengeance?'" At first he absolutely refused to say it. He did a lot of posturing and put the fear of God into some people. Thankfully, Ridley never yelled."

Crowe could be a nicer fellow but hardly a better actor. His

① legerdemain: 手法;花招

建共和国；后者是科莫多斯的妹妹，爱上了马克西莫斯。但要战胜科莫多斯不是一件容易的事情。这个可恶的君主喜欢进行不公平的较量。

拍摄《角斗士》一片的想法开始于70年代。那时剧作家大卫·弗兰索尼读了丹尼尔·马尼克斯的《将死之人》一书，书中描述了罗马人可怕的娱乐游戏。斯科特签约担任该片导演后，他找来了约翰·罗根创作马克西莫斯奴隶生活的部分，同时请剧作家威廉·尼科尔森进一步润色角色。

挑选演员时，斯科特曾打算让裘德·洛饰演科莫多斯，但最后选用了菲尼克斯，这是一个奇特而又明智的选择。斯科特选中尼尔森饰演鲁西亚一角时也曾遭到反对，但这个丹麦美女却为影片添色不少。充满活力的里德的表演驾轻就熟，不幸的是那是他最后的表演，他在拍摄快要结束时离开了人世，片中的一个场景是由替身加数字技术完成的。克罗被说服来商议出演男主角一事。斯科特对他很满意。斯科特知道，如果在男主角的片酬上少花些钱，他就可以在影片上投入更多的财力，把影片做得更好一些。

根据从拍摄现场传来的报道，克罗原本可能饰演马克西莫斯或科莫多斯。他可演战士，也可演暴君。他是一个嗜酒的完美主义者，在一个拍摄现场与当地居民打了起来。他在摩洛哥租住的别墅也惨遭破坏。别墅管理员向斯科特抗议说：“他必须离开！他违反了可兰经的每个信条！”克罗对正在创作中的剧本的每个方面都提出质疑，当没有得到答复时就离开现场。梦工厂的一个工作人员说：“拉塞尔举止粗鲁。他试图当场改写整个剧本。你知道预告片里的那句重要台词：‘今生还是来世，我能报仇雪恨？’一开始他坚决拒绝说这句台词。他总是装模作样，把一些人吓坏了。谢天谢地，雷德里从未大叫大嚷过。”

克罗的举止有需要改进的地方，但作为演员，他的表演却几乎

Maximus is a delicate, indelible portrait. To *Gladiator*, a film in need of a star and a working-class hero, Crowe brings strength and honor.

Film director Ridley Scott's triumphs, among them *Alien* and *Blade Runner*, may have made him famous. However, after *Thelma and Louise* in 1991, the British-born director had languished nearly a decade without a hit, turning out the reviled *White Squall* in 1996, followed the next year by the overhyped Demi Moore *G. I. Jane*.

He has had his high points (an Oscar nomination for *Thelma and Louise*) and Lows (1985's *Legend* was a disaster that even Tom Cruise couldn't save). *The Duellists'* producer David Puttnam, while acknowledging Scott's "erratic greatness", says the problem is that "Ridley is always in a hurry to shoot. And, although he knows that a script may have flaws, he will rely on his immense technical virtuosity^① to cover them over." Scott started as a set designer, and, 13 feature films later, he still has that designer's vision; his work offers plenty to keep the eyes dazzled. As he mines certain themes, his collective work has also, over the years, acquired a certain depth. If there's a significant female character, she'll be one tough cookie. Scott was influenced, he confesses, by "my mum. She's 95 and still going strong. During World War II, when my father was away fighting, she had to do the work of both parents. That's where I get this admiration for powerful women."

Now, like Maximus, director Ridley Scott, 62, once again hears the crowds cheering his name. In the U.S., his sword-and-scandals epic topped the box-office charts with a \$34.8 million debut weekend, and across Europe and Asia it is proving to be a similar success.

In Rome to oversee *Gladiator's* Europe roll-out, Scott knows

① virtuosity: 精湛技巧

是无可挑剔的。他对于马克西莫斯的刻画很微妙,不可磨灭。他因为这个需要明星兼劳动阶级英雄的影片《角斗士》带来了力量和荣耀。

电影导演雷德里·斯科特的成功之作包括《异形》和《银翼杀手》,这些也许已使他出名。然而,在1991年拍出《末路狂花》之后,这位在英国出生的导演有近10年的时间未推出一部卖座片。1996年他执导的《白色风暴》大受批评,第二年又推出了过度炒作的由黛米·摩尔主演的《魔鬼女大兵》。

在他的职业生涯中,他有过辉煌(《末路狂花》一片获奥斯卡提名),也有过低谷(1985年拍摄的《传奇》是票房毒药,就连男主角汤姆·克鲁斯也无能为力)。《决斗者》的制片人大卫·普特曼承认,斯科特具有一种难以捉摸的高明之处。他认为,问题在于“雷德里总是着急进入拍摄阶段。即使他知道剧本可能有瑕疵,他也会想着凭借高超的技术将它们掩盖起来。”斯科特最初是场景设计师,在拍了13部故事片后,他仍然保持设计师的眼光。他的作品足以让你眼花缭乱。在他探索一些主题时,随着时间的累积,整体而言,他的作品也有了一定的深度。如果电影中有一个重要的女性角色,那她一定是一个强悍的美女。他承认他受到母亲很大影响。“她95岁了,仍挺硬朗。二战时,父亲去了战场,母亲就得身兼两职。我对坚强女性的崇拜之情由此而来。”

现在,与马克西莫斯相仿,62岁出生于英国的导演斯科特又一次听到人们呼喊他的名字。在美国,他的这部关于“剑与丑闻”的史诗片在上映的第一个周末就获得了3480万美元的票房收入,位居票房榜首。在欧洲与亚洲,影片也获得了类似的成功。

在罗马负责《角斗士》在欧洲的推广宣传时,他知道自己重回

he is back on the A-list. He says with a smile: “Back in the seventies, when I had been making TV commercials for 10 years, I was desperate to do a film. But Hollywood would never give me anything. They doubted ad directors could handle long-form. So I got my own projects together.”

The breakthrough came with 1977’s *The Duellists*, a bizarre tale of two French soldiers who duel at every meeting. It won a special jury prize for best first work at Cannes, and attracted the interest of 20th Century Fox, which offered him *Alien*. To date, that film has grossed about \$165 million worldwide and spawned three sequels. *Blade Runner* came next. Scott was suddenly a major filmmaker.

His personal life has affected his choices. *Gladiator* brings out most vividly a theme present in all his movies: mortality. In 1980, Scott’s older brother Frank died of cancer. Soon after, Scott began work on *Blade Runner*, a film whose principal characters are fighting slow deaths. Was there a link? “Frank’s death freaked me out,” Scott concedes. “I knew that I had to work through it, had to get shooting. So I plunged into *Blade Runner*. It kept me occupied.” And for all its apocalyptic^① darkness, Scott notes that the ending of the original release of that film is fairly upbeat^②; that we will all go, but let’s make the most of life. “That,” Scott says firmly, “is a point in all my films. It’s my philosophy, and Frank certainly believed it.”

A painting of ancient Rome inspired Scott to take on *Gladiator*. “I have to see every detail,” he explains. He describes the first day’s shooting of *Gladiator* in London, when Joaquin Phoenix, who plays the evil Emperor Commodus, walked in full costume onto the set for the first time: “He stood, cigarettes in one hand, lighter in the other, completely shocked. Because the set

① apocalyptic: 启示性的

② upbeat: 上升的; 乐观的