

世·界·文·学·经·典·名·著·文·库

Jane Austen

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

傲慢与偏见



W 世界图书出版公司

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王闯 王丽萍 注释

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[英] JANE AUSTEN

世界图书出版公司

西安 北京 广州 上海

(陕)新登字 014 号

责任编辑·张群刚

封面设计·王晓勇

内文插图·刘学训

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[美]珍·奥斯汀 著 王闯·王丽萍 注释

世界图书出版西安公司 出版发行

(西安市南大街 17 号 邮编 710001)

各地新华书店、外文书店经销

西安翔云印刷厂印刷

开本:787×1092 1/32 印张:11.125 字数:422 千字

1999 年 10 月第 1 版 2002 年 7 月第 4 次印刷

ISBN 7-5062-3131-X/I·23

Wx3131 定价:12.20 元



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作者简介

珍·奥斯汀(Jane Austen 1775—1817)是英国著名女作家。她的作品具有简洁、慧黠的风格,敏锐讽刺的内涵,介于十八世纪新古典主义和十九世纪浪漫运动的抒情主义之间。

奥斯汀生于英国的一个小镇史蒂文顿(Steventon)的一个牧师家庭。她在家排行第七,有一个姐姐、五位兄长和一个弟弟。姐姐卡桑德拉(Cassandra)与她情感甚笃,二人均终身未嫁,与家人同住。1782年至1787年姐妹二人受过一些正规教育,之后一直在家学习。曾就读牛津大学的父亲经常鼓励孩子学习,母亲机智灵敏,以其即兴韵文和小说闻名。所以在这么一个家庭中,读书和写作是家庭活动的主要部分。所有这些都为奥斯汀后来的写作奠定了很好的基础。奥斯汀一家长期居住在封建保守势力相当强大的农村,生活圈子十分狭窄,所接触的主要是中产阶级和牧师。因此,她总是以女性的敏锐和细腻来描写恬静舒适的田园式绅士淑女的爱情和婚姻生活。

奥斯汀上承艾迪生(Joseph Addison)的评论风格、约翰逊(Samuel Johnson)的伦理观及菲尔丁(Henry Fielding)小说中的英国新古典主义文学法则,熟习前浪漫派诗人柯林斯(Collins)、格雷((Gray)、柯柏(Cowper)等人的诗作,并具有斯特恩(Laurence Sterne)的煽情技巧。在浪漫派文人方面,主要师法斯科特(Scott)和拜伦(Lord Byron)。18世纪英国主要的小说家均对其写作有所影响,但最明显的是理查森(Richardson)、伯尼(Fanny Burney)和埃奇沃思(Maria Edgeworth)。她长于讽刺前辈作家的滥情滥感,而且很早即以嘲弄的方式模仿沃波尔(Horace Walpole)和拉德克利夫(Radcliffe)那种歌德式的煽情主义。

早期作品多在 18 世纪 90 年代完成,对当代小说的缺失多有讥讽。在她的著作中,经常让书中喜剧式的女主角不断晕倒,或郑重其事地自我警惕不可晕倒,来讽刺自查理森以来英国小说中充斥的那种乏味的滥情描写。

成年时期的作品为六部。1811 年出版《理智与感性》(Sense and Sensibility)。该书严厉抨击滥情滥感是因贫乏而起。书中对价值观的认定更为复杂,理性与想像力不再针锋相对,而是反讽式的相互关联。1813 年出版《傲慢与偏见》(Pride and Prejudice)。该书近似 18 世纪的讽世喜剧,是她最受读者欢迎的小说。1814 年出版《曼斯菲尔德山庄》(Mansfield Park),该书运用一连串精采的喜剧情节和毫不留情的写实描述。书中反讽技巧显然是她小说中用得最普遍,也是最突出的部分。1816 年出版的《爱玛》(Emma)可能是她结构最完美的小说,书中使用反讽观点来探究女主角的种种幻想。1818 年出版了她的遗著《规劝》(Persuasion)和《诺桑觉寺》(Northanger Abbey)。前者特别运用了如诗般的自然意象,展现出精致的抒情内涵。后者对歌德式恐怖小说的讽刺更为精到。书中除讽刺女主角煽情式的幻想外,还揭露了其笔下人物在传统文雅外表下隐藏着的歌德式的恐怖兽性。

奥斯汀的代表作是《傲慢与偏见》和《爱玛》。这两部小说都是描写爱情与婚姻的。小说生动地反映了当时农村的阶级关系、风俗习惯和社会心理,衬托出 18 世纪末至 19 世纪初英国乡村生活的保守和闭塞。作者在这两部小说中通过几个乡镇中产阶级少女对终身大事的处理表达了她的婚姻观:为了财产和地位而结婚是错误的,但结婚不考虑财产也是愚蠢的。在《傲慢与偏见》中,作者既反对为金钱而结婚,又反对把婚姻当儿戏,比较强调感情对于缔结理想婚姻的重要性。《爱玛》一般被认为是奥斯汀作品中艺术上思想上最为成熟的一部。与其他几部小说相比,它的现实主义成份增多,戏剧性的夸张减少,结构更为严谨。女主人公爱玛不再是理想化的人物,她既有单纯直率的

一面,也有养尊处优的富家独生女的任性、势利、自以为是的一面。她把邻近的一个孤女哈丽叶特置于自己的保护之下,武断地安排她的恋爱和婚姻,却屡遭失败。最后爱玛和哈丽叶特都结成了门当户对的婚姻。这表明作者已认为在中产阶级社会中,爱情和婚姻是与财产和社会地位相联系的。这部小说描写的婚姻,不再象《傲慢与偏见》中那样不计较门第,对世事也不那样乐观。

18世纪70年代以后,英国文学中有40年左右没有出现过一流的小说。社会上充斥着“伤感小说”和“歌德小说”。奥斯汀最初的创作就是为了嘲讽这类流行小说,后来她进而以高超的艺术技巧反映了18世纪末19世纪初尚未受到资本主义工业革命浪潮冲击的英国乡村中产阶级的日常生活场景。虽然反映的生活面不广,但扭转了当时小说创作的庸俗风气,在英国小说发展史上起到了承上启下的作用。

故事梗概

班纳特先生一家得到消息说，一位富有的绅士租下了隔壁的花园。班纳特太太唯一的希望就是替每一位女儿觅得如意郎君。所以她坚持让丈夫去拜访这位单身的绅士，班纳特先生去过之后转弯抹角地把消息告诉了家人，逗得他们着急，他却自得其乐。

那位绅士彬格莱先生很快回访了他们并请他们参加一个舞会。在舞会上，彬格莱很快发现吉英是最漂亮的女孩子并对她非常殷勤。据说彬格莱的朋友达西是非常富有的，但举止傲慢，引起了大家的反感。达西只跟彬格莱的妹妹跳舞，并且很轻蔑地评价了伊丽莎白。由于彬格莱喜欢吉英，所以他的妹妹们也就跟吉英成了朋友。通过接触，达西开始发现伊丽莎白很有吸引力，特别是她的眼睛。他们在卢卡斯家的舞会上又一次见面，达西请伊丽莎白跳舞却遭到拒绝。

彬格莱为吉英而痴迷，所以他的妹妹们便邀请吉英到他们家去。班纳特太太想使吉英在彬格莱家里过夜，明知道要下雨还让吉英骑马前去。吉英淋雨得了感冒，不得不在彬格莱家多住几天。跟姐姐很要好的伊丽莎白独自一人步行三英里去看望姐姐，却遭到彬格莱妹妹的耻笑。伊丽莎白陪姐姐一起住了几天，达西几次与她交谈却话不投机。彬格莱小姐自己喜欢达西，但看出达西对伊丽莎白感兴趣，所以不断赞扬达西的观点以讨好他，并不断提醒达西注意伊丽莎白不太光彩的家庭背景。

班纳特先生的财产是由他的侄子而不是他的女儿们继承，班纳特太太对此尤为不满。她侄子叫柯林斯，他听说班纳特府上的几位姑娘都很漂亮，便受其庇护人咖苔琳夫人的规劝来到班纳特府上寻找未来的妻子。柯林斯是一位浅薄的、讲实利的

人，他那浮夸的举止及对咖苔琳夫人过头的赞美遭到了众人的嘲笑。

伊丽莎白的两个妹妹丽迪雅和吉蒂象她们的母亲一样轻薄愚蠢。她们经常借口去姨妈家而实际上是去看住在那里的民兵团的军官。一次姐妹四人和柯林斯一起去姨妈家，路上经人介绍认识了韦翰先生。达西和彬格莱也正巧路过，达西和韦翰都很尴尬。伊丽莎白很快成了韦翰的目标，韦翰温文而雅的举止吸引了每一个人，伊丽莎白也是其中一个。韦翰告诉伊丽莎白是达西毁了他的前程。

彬格莱举办了一次舞会，韦翰却没有参加，这使伊丽莎白对达西的偏见更加坚固了，但她还是跟达西跳了舞。班纳特一家在这舞会上出尽了丑。学究气十足的玛丽歌唱得太多，班纳特太太大声谈论吉英要嫁给彬格莱。达西耳闻目睹了这一切，还忍受着柯林斯吹嘘自己为咖苔琳夫人的受俸牧师。舞会之后，彬格莱一家移居伦敦。彬格莱小姐写信告诉吉英，他们可能不会回来了。虽然吉英竭力掩饰，她还是很沮丧，她母亲的焦虑只能使事情变得更糟。

班纳特太太此时已是焦虑不安，柯林斯在她的指导下向伊丽莎白求婚却遭到拒绝。柯林斯坚持要娶伊丽莎白，但班纳特先生支持他的女儿。所以不久柯林斯便向伊丽莎白的好友夏绿蒂求婚，长相平平的夏绿蒂马上答应了柯林斯的求婚，因为对她来讲也许不会再有人来求婚了。这使班纳特太太非常生气。

圣诞节期间，吉英去拜访住在伦敦的舅舅家。韦翰继续诋毁达西的名声，尽管韦翰在追求一位女继承人，伊丽莎白仍然站在韦翰一边为他辩护。到了三月份，吉英完全放弃了对彬格莱的希望，并且看出了他妹妹的虚伪。彬格莱小姐在伦敦只拜访了吉英一次，告诉吉英彬格莱很可能会与达西小姐结婚。

同时，威廉爵士请伊丽莎白一起去看望他的女儿夏绿蒂。他们一起与咖苔琳夫人进餐，咖苔琳夫人喜欢让别人恭维。不久她的侄子达西和费茨威廉也来到庄园，伊丽莎白喜欢费茨威

廉，费茨威廉也喜欢伊丽莎白，但费茨威廉希望娶一个有钱的女人。在此期间，达西经常与伊丽莎白见面。虽然夏绿蒂认为达西爱上了伊丽莎白，但是伊丽莎白反觉得达西的举止很奇怪。达西终于克服了对班纳特家庭的偏见，隐藏不住对伊丽莎白的爱而向她求婚，却出乎意料地遭到拒绝。因为此前，费茨威廉上校告诉了伊丽莎白许多事情，使她认识到是达西拆散了吉英和彬格莱。更令伊丽莎白生气的是，达西似乎完全以为伊丽莎白会接受他的求婚，所以讲了许多他在向伊丽莎白求婚之前所做的思想斗争并显示出极其傲慢的样子。伊丽莎白果断地拒绝了达西的求婚并责备他看不起她的出身，责备他不该把吉英和彬格莱分开，还责备他不该那样对待韦翰。达西伤害了伊丽莎白的自尊心，伊丽莎白也伤害了达西的自尊心，达西控制了自己的怒气走开了。第二天，达西亲自给了伊丽莎白一封信，信中为自己的行为做了辩解。伊丽莎白起初是怀着强烈的偏见读信的，然而读了几遍之后却为她对韦翰和达西的误解感到害臊，甚至还理解了达西把吉英和彬格莱分开的原因。

伊丽莎白随同姨父姨妈外出旅游。得知达西不在庄园，伊丽莎白便同意去参观达西的住所彭伯里庄园。达西的管家奶奶给伊丽莎白一行介绍了许多达西的品行和韦翰的事情。达西本来计划第二天回家，可是碰巧他提前一天回府，在路上遇见了伊丽莎白。两个人都很尴尬，但达西却表现得彬彬有礼。不久他们又一次相遇，伊丽莎白把他介绍给了姨父姨妈。伊丽莎白对达西的改变非常吃惊，达西也对伊丽莎白亲戚的高雅举止表示惊讶。之后，达西又安排他们与达西小姐见面还遇到了彬格莱兄妹们。

伊丽莎白突然收到吉英的信说她妹妹丽迪雅与韦翰私奔了，她的精神崩溃了。她告诉达西家里发生的一切，并且责怪自己没有揭露韦翰的真实品质。达西离开了。伊丽莎白本以为可以嫁给达西，这时已不可能。她回到家里，看见母亲整日呆在自己的房间焦虑不安，父亲已去伦敦寻找丽迪雅和韦翰。虽然吉

英认为丽迪雅和韦翰有可能结婚，但是伊丽莎白绝不相信，因为她听说韦翰是由于欠了一大笔债才逃跑的，他根本不爱丽迪雅。班纳特先生回来了，一无所获。几天后，嘉丁纳先生来信说已经找到韦翰，而且韦翰已答应与丽迪雅结婚。班纳特太太一下子从沮丧变得兴高采烈。班纳特先生和伊丽莎白都认为嘉丁纳先生给了韦翰一大笔钱。

班纳特先生极不情愿地允许了韦翰和丽迪雅在去北方定居以前回家小住。这对新婚夫妇丝毫没有悔悟的表现。丽迪雅不留神说出了达西也出席了他们的婚礼，伊丽莎白又从她舅妈嘉丁纳太太那里知道了事情的经过。原来是达西在伦敦找到的韦翰并给了他一大笔钱要他与丽迪雅结婚，并推荐他到北方工作。达西不想让别人知到他做的这些，以此来作为弥补他的过失。

韦翰夫妇离开了，彬格莱和达西回来了。没有了达西的约束，彬格莱很快就恢复了对吉英的恋情。伊丽莎白知道了达西帮助丽迪雅的事情，所以对嫁给达西又恢复了希望。突然有一天咖苔琳夫人闯入了班纳特家里，因为她从柯林斯那里听说了达西和伊丽莎白的事情，所以来此想威胁伊丽莎白离开达西。她还声称达西自幼就与她那体弱多病的女儿有了婚约。伊丽莎白据理力争，一点儿也不让步。后来达西得知了他姑姑的来访，而鼓起勇气再一次向伊丽莎白求婚。伊丽莎白感谢达西为帮助丽迪雅而尽的努力，达西说这一切都是为伊丽莎白而做。伊丽莎白告诉了达西她自己对达西感情的变化，他俩都为过去的错误而坦白和道歉。

吉英第一个为达西和伊丽莎白订婚的消息而震惊，班纳特先生以自己婚姻的失败为教训，劝导伊丽莎白不要做没有爱情的婚姻的牺牲品。而班纳特太太很快就转变了她对达西的看法，认为他是非常有魅力的男人。小说结尾简单介绍了主要人物以后的生活：班府的两个大女儿生活美满幸福，丽迪雅经常打扰她这两个姐姐，向她们要钱。吉蒂、玛丽以及嘉丁纳夫妇都

从达西夫妇那里获得了满足，而咖苔琳夫人在与侄子大闹一通之后，终于言归于好。

CHAPTER 1

IT is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife.

However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his first entering a neighbourhood, this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families, that he is considered as the rightful property of some one or other of their daughters.

"My dear Mr. Bennet," said his lady to him one day, "have you heard that Netherfield Park is let at last?"

Mr. Bennet replied that he had not.

"But it is," returned she; "for Mrs. Long has just been here, and she told me all about it."

Mr. Bennet made no answer.

"Do you not want to know who has taken it?" cried his wife impatiently.

"You want to tell me, and I have no objection to hearing it."

This was invitation enough.

"Why, my dear, you must know, Mrs. Long says that Netherfield is taken by a young man of large fortune from the north of England; that he came down on Monday in a chaise and four to see the place, and was so much delighted with it that he agreed with Mr. Morris immediately; that he is to take possession before Michaelmas, and some of his servants are to be in the house by the end of next week."

"What is his name?"

"Bingley."

"Is he married or single?"

"Oh, single, my dear, to be sure! A single man of large fortune; four or five thousand a year. What a fine thing for our girls!"

"How so? how can it affect them?"

"My dear Mr. Bennet," replied his wife, "how can you be so tiresome? You must know that I am thinking of his marrying one of them."

"Is that his design in settling here?"

"Design? nonsense, how can you talk so! But it is very likely that he *may* fall in love with one of them, and therefore you must visit him as soon as he comes."

"I see no occasion for that. You and the girls may go, or you may send them by themselves, which perhaps will be still better; for as you are as handsome as any of them, Mr. Bingley might like you the best of the party."

"My dear, you flatter me. I certainly *have* had my share of beauty, but I do not pretend to be anything extraordinary now. When a woman has five grown-up daughters, she ought to give over thinking of her own beauty."

"In such cases a woman has not often much beauty to think of."

"But, my dear, you must indeed go and see Mr. Bingley when he comes into the neighbourhood."

"It is more than I engage for, I assure you."

"But consider your daughters. Only think what an establishment it would be for one of them. Sir William and Lady Lucas are determined to go, merely on that account; for in general, you know, they visit no newcomers. Indeed you must go, for it will be impossible for *us* to visit him if you do not."

"You are over-scrupulous, surely. I daresay Mr. Bingley will be very glad to see you; and I will send a few lines by you to assure him of my hearty consent to his marrying whichever he chooses of the girls; though I must throw in a good word for my little Lizzy."

"I desire you will do no such thing. Lizzy is not a bit better than the others; and I am sure she is not half so handsome as Jane, nor half so good-humoured as Lydia. But you are always giving *her* the preference."

"They have none of them much to recommend them," replied he—"they are all silly and ignorant like other girls; but Lizzy has something more of quickness than her sisters."

"Mr. Bennet, how can you abuse your own children in such a way? You take delight in vexing me. You have no compassion on my poor nerves."

"You mistake me, my dear. I have a high respect for your nerves. They are my old friends. I have heard you mention them with consideration these twenty years at least."

"Ah, you do not know what I suffer."

"But I hope you will get over it, and live to see many young men of four thousand a year come into the neighbourhood."

"It will be no use to us if twenty such should come, since you will not visit them."

"Depend upon it, my dear, that when there are twenty I will visit

them all. "

Mr. Bennet was so odd a mixture of quick parts, sarcastic humour, reserve, and caprice, that the experience of 'three-and-twenty years had been insufficient to make his wife understand his character, *Her* mind was less difficult to develop. She was a woman of mean understanding, little information, and uncertain temper. When she was discontented, she fancied herself nervous. The business of her life was to get her daughters married; its solace was visiting and news.

CHAPTER 2

MR. BENNET was among the earliest of those who waited on Mr. Bingley. He had always intended to visit him, though to the last always assuring his wife that he should not go; and till the evening after the visit was paid she had no knowledge of it. It was then disclosed in the following manner. Observing his second daughter employed in trimming a hat, he suddenly addressed her with,—

“I hope Mr. Bingley will like it, Lizzy.”

“We are not in a way to know *what* Mr. Bingley likes,” said her mother resentfully, “since we are not to visit.”

“But you forget, mamma,” said Elizabeth, “that we shall meet him at the assemblies, and that Mrs. Long has promised to introduce him.”

“I do not believe Mrs. Long will do any such thing. She has two nieces of her own. She is a selfish, hypocritical woman, and I have no opinion of her.”

“No more have I,” said Mr. Bennet; “and I am glad to find that you do not depend on her serving you.”

Mrs. Bennet deigned not to make any reply; but, unable to contain herself, began scolding one of her daughters.

“Don’t keep coughing so, Kitty, for Heaven’s sake! Have a little compassion on my nerves. You tear them to pieces.”

“Kitty has no discretion in her coughs,” said her father; “she times them ill.”

“I do not cough for my own amusement,” replied Kitty fretfully.

“When is your next ball to be, Lizzy?”

“To-morrow fortnight.”

“Ay, so it is,” cried her mother. “And Mrs. Long does not come back till the day before; so it will be impossible for her to introduce him, for she will not know him herself.”

“Then, my dear, you may have the advantage of your friend, and introduce Mr. Bingley to *her*.”

“Impossible, Mr. Bennet, impossible, when I am not acquainted with him myself; how can you be so teasing?”

“I honour your circumspection. A fortnight’s acquaintance is certainly very little. One cannot know what a man really is by the end of a fortnight. But if *we* do not venture, somebody else will; and, af-