



Agnes Grey

阿格尼丝·格雷

【英】勃朗特 著



韦哲伊 薛磊 徐敏娜 译

主审◎韩霆一 顾问◎许渊冲



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序

敦煌文艺出版社即将推出《世界英语文学名著双语阅读》系列丛书，现将与该系列丛书相关的一些情况介绍如下：

一、出版本丛书的理由

1. 阅读的重要性

阅读可以获取信息和增长知识。Francis Bacon(弗朗西斯·培根)在 Of Studies(《论读书》)中说：“Reading makes a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man.”(读书使人渊博，论辨使人机敏，写作使人精细。) 阅读中，通过不断获取信息和不断增长知识，就能达到这里的“渊博”。

阅读可以学习语言。华东师范大学黄源深教授(2006)在《好的英语是“读”出来的——阅读的重要性》一文中说：“学习任何语言都需要大量阅读。学习英语也需要大量阅读。英语学得好的人，一般说来，都读过相当数量的书；反之，也只有读得比较多的人，才能真正学好英语。”英语学习在我国缺乏天然的语言环境，因此，在整个英语学习中突出“读”不失为是具有中国特色的外语教学方法。用英语思维是许多英语学习者都希望达到的一种境界。但对于一个生活在非英语环境中的中国学生来说，要做到部分或全部用英语思维有很大困难。众多英语学习者的经历证明，坚持大量阅读是实现这一目标最有效的途径之一。

阅读可以愉悦身心。阅读需要读者的情感投入，尤其是阅读戏剧、小说、故事类等。在阅读此类文章时，读者的身心会自觉不自觉地投入其中，关注和感受作者的情感、态度。这样，阅读将会更有兴味。

阅读可以构建思想。阅读不只是获取信息，也不只是学到某些语言形式，而是读者积极主动地将自己已有的知识经验(“图式”)和语篇中的信息结合，从而产生新的思想。当读者思想与语篇中的信息相遇时，它不是被动地吸收而是积极地进行构建和编辑。

阅读可以欣赏和消遣。阅读可以欣赏到原汁原味的英语语言的美；感受到世界上多元文化的魅力，体味到不同民族的思维特点，享受到跨文化交际的乐趣；领略到异国风情、异域风光；等等。比如，阅读英美文学作品，可使我们丰富审美体验，提高审美能力；促进批判性思维能力的形成；更好地了解多元文化。又如，欣赏性文章在审美价值方面给读者的影响是巨大的。阅读这些文章时，读者有时被美好的



描述深深触动，有时又被带有偏见的争论激怒，但有时又会从古怪离奇的情节中享受到极大的乐趣。

阅读可以提高素养，塑造人生。一本好书，一篇好文章，可以塑造人的灵魂，改变人的性格，可以激励一个人从此积极向上，成为一生的转折。有人说：“主动的、大量的阅读能提高审美情趣，充实精神营养，完善人格塑造。”比如，当你读了《钢铁是怎样炼成的》之后，你会不被保尔·柯察金百折不挠的精神感动吗？有人读了此书后，认识到理想是一个人一生的向往和追求。一个没有理想的人，就像大海中一条无舵的小船，随波逐流；一个人有理想，且目标明确，就会对国家，对民族，对人类做出大的贡献。

下列英语谚语有力地体现了读书对提高素养，塑造人生的作用：

A good book is the best of friends, the same today and forever. (好书即挚友，相伴一生。)

Enlarge your views by reading. (读书以开阔视野增长见识。)

There is no friend so faithful as a good book. (最忠实的朋友莫过于一本好书。)

Use a book as a bee does flowers. (读书犹如蜜蜂采花酿蜜。)

Reading is to the mind what exercise to the body. (阅读对于心灵之重要，犹如运动之于身体。)

2. 扩大外语学习中的“量”

中国人学习外语，精读、精听有余，但泛读、泛听远远不够。因此，中国人学习外语，在注重“精”的同时，必须更加注重“泛”，即必须在“量”上狠下工夫。有了“量”的积累，才会有“质”的飞跃。

外语学习有一个“点一线一面”的问题。一本书只是一个点，无数本书连成一条线，更多的线形成一个面。所谓“水平”就是面的问题。拿阅读来说，首先要读大量的初级书。当读完30本英语初级读物后，读第31本时，可能就会没几个生词，就会轻松地读懂，这时就可以读中级水平的读物了。需要知道，量的积累在基础阶段最为重要。金字塔的魅力就在于它完美的建筑结构。有宽广深厚的基础，才能造就塔尖的辉煌。我国许多老一代的外语专家在谈及外语学习方法时，无不一言以蔽之地说：“学习外语最重要的就是一个‘多’字！”

3. 体现外语学习中的循序渐进

许多中国人学了一段时间英语后常感到困难重重。其中，相当一部分人会觉得再也学不下去了，只好半途而废。如大学里学英语的学生从图书馆借来一本英语原著，一边看一边查生词，在书上记词义，写得密密麻麻，第一页看起来就有二十几



个生词，第二页还有二十几个，到了第五页已不知道第一页所云了。阅读对他们来说确实艰难、枯燥。读英语原著成了查英语词典、记英语生词，成了标准的苦差事。究其原因，就是学习材料太难，违背了“循序渐进”的原则。

在英语学习初级阶段可读一些英语原著改写的简易读物，方法是：先读 500 ~ 800 单词写成的读物，再读 800 ~ 1500 单词写成的，然后再读 1500 ~ 2500 单词写成的。这样逐步加深，循序渐进，就能读下去，就会读懂。这样，你读的材料，比如是小说，就会吸引你不断地读下去。就像小学生初次读西游记一样，可能会爱不释手。在阅读过程中，你会记住许多英语单词，学到许多英语表达，也会复习学过的句型结构和语法知识。你的英语水平就这样不知不觉地提高了。循序渐进阅读的巨大优点是：易于进行；增添兴趣；能产生成就感，培养自信；容易做到学以致用。

4. 双语阅读的必要性

母语在外语学习中既有促进作用，也有干扰作用。如果运用恰当，学习者在双语阅读中，母语的促进作用会不时地体现出来。教学实践证明，完全脱离母语，不符合中国人外语学习的实际，也不能有效地提高学习效率。

外语学习中本族语的影响不可避免。仅就初中学生而言，他们在开始学英语时，已有十三、四岁。可以说，他们已经熟练地掌握了本族语。他们已习惯于用本族语思维，用本族语理解和表达。在这种情况下始学英语，跟“幼儿学语”已有很大的不同。幼儿学说话时，他们很自然地把所学的话跟周围的事物联系起来，直接理解。而初中学生始学英语时，他们理解问题，表达思想，却很自然地首先想到了本族语。更何况是成人学习英语了。据此，英语学习中，某些学习阶段中的双语阅读是非常必要的。

5. 学习中外文化的重要渠道

学习外语，不仅要学语言，还要学文化。阅读世界名著，可以更多地了解所学语言国家的历史地理、风土人情、传统习俗、生活方式、行为规范、文学艺术、价值观念等。双语阅读，读者在接触和了解外国文化的同时，可加深对中华民族优秀传统文化的认识，接受属于全人类的先进文化的熏陶，提高对中外文化异同的敏感性和鉴别能力。

二、本系列丛书的特点

1. 选材经典

《世界英语文学名著双语阅读》系列选录的全部是英语国家的经典文学名著。其中有：《基督山伯爵》、《苔丝》、《汤姆·索亚历险记》、《哈姆雷特》、《傲



慢与偏见》、《巴黎圣母院》、《悲惨世界》、《雾都孤儿》、《牛虻》、《红与黑》、《飘》、《简·爱》、《呼啸山庄》、《战争与和平》、《双城记》、《荆棘鸟》、《昆虫记》、《小王子》、《吸血鬼》，等等。因此，这里提供的是原汁原味的原创英语，而不是经过改编的二手英语。

2. 文本权威

英文原著保证了英语语言的权威性。而译文，由于是由知名英语专家重新翻译的，因而也保证了汉语语言权威性。

3. 印装精美

传承敦煌文艺出版社一贯的优良作风，本系列丛书的印装是一流的，印刷精细，装帧精美。无论是第一眼，还是从头至尾阅读，都会让读者赏心悦目。

三、写序者心语

写序者去敦煌一游后，无比感叹辉煌的敦煌文化；今天，写序者浏览了敦煌文艺出版社即将出版的《世界英语文学名著双语阅读》系列丛书的书稿后，高度赞叹书中流的中外文笔。禁不住，感叹和赞叹交织成以下七言诗：

敦煌文艺社一体颂

敦煌珍稀经洞藏，名著精粹艺社扬。神窟仙画惊世卷，金句银段不锈章。

描眉点睛展魂魄，握笔走纸舞刀枪。古辉今放耀华梦，他劲我借助国强。

鉴于以上情况，本人诚挚地将敦煌文艺出版社出版的《世界英语文学名著双语阅读》系列丛书推荐给当代大学生和英语爱好者。

田式国 教授

2015年11月1日



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CHAPTER I—THE PARSONAGE

All true histories contain instruction; though, in some, the treasure may be hard to find, and when found, so trivial in quantity, that the dry, shrivelled kernel scarcely compensates for the trouble of cracking the nut. Whether this be the case with my history or not, I am hardly competent to judge. I sometimes think it might prove useful to some, and entertaining to others; but the world may judge for itself. Shielded by my own obscurity, and by the lapse of years, and a few fictitious names, I do not fear to venture; and will candidly lay before the public what I would not disclose to the most intimate friend.

My father was a clergyman of the north of England, who was deservedly respected by all who knew him; and, in his younger days, lived pretty comfortably on the joint income of a small incumbency and a snug little property of his own. My mother, who married him against the wishes of her friends, was a squire's daughter, and a woman of spirit. In vain it was represented to her, that if she became the poor parson's wife, she must relinquish her carriage and her lady's-maid, and all the luxuries and elegancies of affluence; which to her were little less than the necessities of life. A carriage and a lady's-maid were great conveniences; but, thank heaven, she had feet to carry her, and hands to minister to her own necessities. An

第一章 教区牧师的家

所有真实的历史都隐含着教益，只是某些故事里的宝藏也许不容易寻找，一旦找到了，又会觉得它分量太轻，好比不嫌麻烦地敲开硬壳果只找到一枚干瘪的果仁一样，实在得不偿失。我无法断定自己所讲的故事会不会也是这样。有时我想，它对一些人会有益处，对另一些人也会从中得到娱悦。究竟如何，还是让世人自己作出判断吧。好在我是个默默无闻的人，叙述的都是陈年旧事，又用了几个虚构的名字，因此我就不怕冒险一试了。我要把对最亲密的友人都不愿披露的事忠实地展现在读者诸君的面前。

我的爸爸是英格兰北方的一名牧师，凡是了解他的人都很尊敬他，他也确实值得人们的尊敬。他年轻时靠担任教职所得的收入和一小笔足以维持生活的财产，日子过得相当舒适。我的妈妈是一位乡绅家的小姐，她违抗亲人们的意愿嫁给我的爸爸。她是个有志气的女人。亲人们曾告诫过她：她如果成为那位穷牧师的妻子，就得放弃她的四轮马车，侍女以及已成为她生活必需品的一切奢华精美的东西，但是她不听。有专用马车和侍女固然方便得多，可是，感谢上帝，她有脚，会自己走路，有手，可以自己料理日常的生活起居。家 奢华，庭院宽敞固然不容藐视，然而，她宁愿伴随理查德·格雷在一座乡间小屋里栖身，也不愿和任何别的人一起住进宫殿。



elegant house and spacious grounds were not to be despised; but she would rather live in a cottage with Richard Grey than in a palace with any other man in the world.

Finding arguments of no avail, her father, at length, told the lovers they might marry if they pleased; but, in so doing, his daughter would forfeit every fraction of her fortune. He expected this would cool the ardour of both; but he was mistaken. My father knew too well my mother's superior worth not to be sensible that she was a valuable fortune in herself: and if she would but consent to embellish his humble hearth he should be happy to take her on any terms; while she, on her part, would rather labour with her own hands than be divided from the man she loved, whose happiness it would be her joy to make, and who was already one with her in heart and soul. So her fortune went to swell the purse of a wiser sister, who had married a rich nabob; and she, to the wonder and compassionate regret of all who knew her, went to bury herself in the homely village parsonage among the hills of ---. And yet, in spite of all this, and in spite of my mother's high spirit and my father's whims, I believe you might search all England through, and fail to find a happier couple.

Of six children, my sister Mary and myself were the only two that survived the perils of infancy and early childhood. I, being the younger by five or six years, was always regarded as the child, and the pet of the family: father, mother, and sister, all combined to spoil me—not by foolish indulgence, to render me fractious and ungovernable, but by ceaseless kindness, to make me too helpless and dependent—too unfit for buffeting with the cares and turmoils of life.

Mary and I were brought up in the strictest seclusion. My mother, being at once highly accomplished, well informed, and fond

她的爸爸终于明白任何劝说都已无济于事，就告诫这两位恋人说：他俩可以根据自己的意愿结为夫妇，但是，他的女儿一旦结婚，就必须放弃她的全部财产。他原以为这番话会使他俩燃烧的热情冷却，然而，他想错了。我爸爸深知我妈妈具有无比优越的价值，对她本身能带来巨额财产的事倒并不敏感，只要她答应嫁给他，使他光宗耀祖，那么任何条件他都乐意接受。至于她，宁愿受苦受累也决不愿与她心爱的人分离。她的全部心灵早就已经与他融为一体了，能使他幸福就是她的快乐。于是她的那份财产就添进了那位比她精明的妹妹鼓鼓的钱包，她妹妹后来嫁给了一位大富翁，而她却隐没在山区一座简朴的乡村牧师家里。所有认识她的人都对此感到迷惑不解，并抱着同情的态度为她惋惜。尽管发生了这一切，尽管我妈妈个性强。爸爸好冲动，但是我相信，即使找遍整个英格兰也不会找到比他们更幸福的一对儿。

在他们的六个儿女中，只有玛丽姐姐和我两人熬过了婴幼儿时期的种种危难而活下来。我比玛丽小五六岁，总被看成是小娃娃，家里的小宝贝。爸爸、妈妈、姐姐合起来宠着我。他们并不是愚蠢地纵容我，使我变得脾气暴躁，野性难驯，而是始终对我体贴关怀，使我缺乏自主能力，事事要依靠别人。我实在太不适合在这充满烦恼和纷争的人生中拼搏了。

玛丽和我是在与世隔绝的状态下抚养长大的。我妈妈多才多艺。知识广博，又喜欢劳动，于是把我俩的教育任务全都包了。只



of employment, took the whole charge of our education on herself, with the exception of Latin—which my father undertook to teach us—so that we never even went to school; and, as there was no society in the neighbourhood, our only intercourse with the world consisted in a stately tea-party, now and then, with the principal farmers and tradespeople of the vicinity (just to avoid being stigmatized as too proud to consort with our neighbours), and an annual visit to our paternal grandfather's; where himself, our kind grandmamma, a maiden aunt, and two or three elderly ladies and gentlemen, were the only persons we ever saw. Sometimes our mother would amuse us with stories and anecdotes of her younger days, which, while they entertained us amazingly, frequently awoke—in me, at least—a secret wish to see a little more of the world.

I thought she must have been very happy: but she never seemed to regret past times. My father, however, whose temper was neither tranquil nor cheerful by nature, often unduly vexed himself with thinking of the sacrifices his dear wife had made for him; and troubled his head with revolving endless schemes for the augmentation of his little fortune, for her sake and ours. In vain my mother assured him she was quite satisfied; and if he would but lay by a little for the children, we should all have plenty, both for time present and to come: but saving was not my father's forte. He would not run in debt (at least, my mother took good care he should not), but while he had money he must spend it: he liked to see his house comfortable, and his wife and daughters well clothed, and well attended; and besides, he was charitably disposed, and liked to give to the poor, according to his means: or, as some might think, beyond them.

有拉丁文这一门课由我爸爸教。因此，我们姐妹俩甚至从未进过学校。我家附近没有我们的交际圈子，我们与外人仅有的交往就是偶尔和邻近的农民还有商人举行一次庄重的茶话会，以免别人指责我们太骄傲，不屑与邻居们为伍。此外，就是一年一度到爷爷家去探亲。我们在爷爷家里，除爷爷外，只能见到慈爱的奶奶。一位未婚的姑姑以及两三位年长的女士和先生。为了让我们高兴，妈妈有时讲故事和她年轻时的种种轶事给我们听，我们听得津津有味。在这些故事的启发下，我们——至少我是这样的——暗暗产生这样一个希望：能对这个世界了解得稍多些。

我想，妈妈以前一定生活得很幸福，但是她似乎从不对往昔的时光感到惋惜。然而，我的爸爸——他的性情既不宁静又不开朗——却时常想到他的爱妻为他作出的牺牲，并为此过分地折磨自己。为了她，也为了我们姐妹俩，他脑子里不断苦苦盘算着，设计出各种计划，想增加他那份小小的财产。我妈妈向他保证说，她对目前的生活十分满意，让他放心，但这没有用。妈妈说，如果他能为孩子们存一小笔钱，那么无论现在或将来，我们都会很富足了。但是，爸爸可不善于储蓄。他虽然还不至于负债（至少，我妈妈非常注意，不让他这么做），但是，他只要手里有钱就一定花掉的。他喜欢看到自己家的房子令人惬意，妻子、女儿穿戴得整整齐齐，给伺候得舒舒服服的。此外，他生性慷慨，喜欢尽可能周济穷人，也许有人会觉得他做的善事已经超过了他的经济能力。



At length, however, a kind friend suggested to him a means of doubling his private property at one stroke; and further increasing it, hereafter, to an untold amount. This friend was a merchant, a man of enterprising spirit and undoubted talent, who was somewhat straitened in his mercantile pursuits for want of capital; but generously proposed to give my father a fair share of his profits, if he would only entrust him with what he could spare; and he thought he might safely promise that whatever sum the latter chose to put into his hands, it should bring him in cent. per cent. The small patrimony was speedily sold, and the whole of its price was deposited in the hands of the friendly merchant; who as promptly proceeded to ship his cargo, and prepare for his voyage.

My father was delighted, so were we all, with our brightening prospects. For the present, it is true, we were reduced to the narrow income of the curacy; but my father seemed to think there was no necessity for scrupulously restricting our expenditure to that; so, with a standing bill at Mr. Jackson's, another at Smith's, and a third at Hobson's, we got along even more comfortably than before: though my mother affirmed we had better keep within bounds, for our prospects of wealth were but precarious, after all; and if my father would only trust everything to her management, he should never feel himself stinted: but he, for once, was incorrigible.

What happy hours Mary and I have passed while sitting at our work by the fire, or wandering on the heath-clad hills, or idling under the weeping birch (the only considerable tree in the garden), talking of future happiness to ourselves and our parents, of what we would do, and see, and possess; with no firmer foundation for our goodly superstructure than the riches that were

后来,一位好心的朋友向他提出了一项建议,说是能使他的私人财产立刻增加一倍,以后还能继续增加,达到前所未有的巨大数额。这位朋友是个富于冒险精神的商人,他的才能毋庸置疑,那时他正在做一笔生意,由于资金短缺而力不从心。他慷慨地向爸爸建议说:如果爸爸能把筹集到的资金全部交给他支配,将来就可以分享他的一部分数量相当可观的利润。他完全可以担保:无论爸爸交给他多少钱,每一分钱他都能加倍偿还。爸爸小小的祖传产业很快就售出了,所得的全部款项都交给了这位商人朋友;后者迅速行动,把货物装上船,准备出海。

爸爸可高兴啦,我们也一样,全都为那光明的前景所鼓舞。诚然,目前我们家的收入减少到只剩牧师薪俸这一项了;但是,爸爸似乎觉得还不必励行节约,使收支能够相抵。所以他在杰克逊先生店里立了一份长期赊购的账号,后来又在史密斯先生店里立了第二份,在霍布逊先生店里立了第三份。就这样,我们的日子过得比以前更加舒适了,尽管妈妈竭力主张决不能超支,因为,不管怎么说,我们发财致富的前景还很不可靠呢。如果爸爸能把一切事情都托付给她,由她来安排,他就永远也不会感觉到家里的开销过于俭省了。但是,这一次他却固执己见起来。

玛丽和我度过了多么快乐时光啊,当我们坐在炉火前做针线活,在石南覆盖的山头漫步,或是在发出低吟的白桦树(花园里仅有的大树)下闲逛时,总会谈论我俩和父母未来的幸福生活,设想我们将来会干什么;见到什么;拥有什么。事实上,我们心目中的宏伟大厦并没有坚实的基础,只是企盼着那位好商人的冒险活动能获得成功,给我



expected to flow in upon us from the success of the worthy merchant's speculations. Our father was nearly as bad as ourselves; only that he affected not to be so much in earnest: expressing his bright hopes and sanguine expectations in jests and playful sallies, that always struck me as being exceedingly witty and pleasant. Our mother laughed with delight to see him so hopeful and happy; but still she feared he was setting his heart too much upon the matter; and once I heard her whisper as she left the room, 'God grant he be not disappointed! I know not how he would bear it.'

Disappointed he was; and bitterly, too. It came like a thunder-clap on us all, that the vessel which contained our fortune had been wrecked, and gone to the bottom with all its stores, together with several of the crew, and the unfortunate merchant himself. I was grieved for him; I was grieved for the overthrow of all our air-built castles: but, with the elasticity of youth, I soon recovered the shock.

Though riches had charms, poverty had no terrors for an inexperienced girl like me. Indeed, to say the truth, there was something exhilarating in the idea of being driven to straits, and thrown upon our own resources. I only wished papa, mamma, and Mary were all of the same mind as myself; and then, instead of lamenting past calamities we might all cheerfully set to work to remedy them; and the greater the difficulties, the harder our present privations, the greater should be our cheerfulness to endure the latter, and our vigour to contend against the former.

Mary did not lament, but she brooded continually over the misfortune, and sank into a state of dejection from which no effort of mine could rouse her. I could not possibly bring her to regard the matter on its bright side as I did: and indeed I was so fearful of being charged

们带来巨额的财富。我们的爸爸的想法几乎和我俩的同样荒谬，只不过他装出一副并不急切的样子：用开玩笑。讲俏皮话的方式表达他对光明前景的乐观希望。他的诙谐常使我折服，我觉得他的话十分机智。令人愉快。妈妈看到他信心十足。心情愉快，也会高兴得笑起来，但是，她仍担心他的心思过多地寄托在这件事情上了。有一次，我听到她在走出房间时悄悄地说：“愿上帝不要使他失望！我真不知道他怎么能经受得起。”

他终于失望了，而且失望得很惨。这消息象晴天霹雳似地落在我们全家人的头上：装载着我家全部财产的那艘船失事了，它带着全部货物。几名船员和那位不幸的商人一起沉入了海底。我为他而悲伤，我为我们的整个空中楼阁而悲伤。然而，我毕竟还有年轻人的坚韧性，很快就从这个打击下恢复过来了。

尽管富裕的生活很诱人，但是，对于像我这样一个毫无人生经验的女孩子来说，贫困却并不可怕。说实话，想到我们已陷入绝境，今后只能完全靠自己时，反倒使人精神振作起来。我只希望爸爸。妈妈。玛丽的的心思都和我一样，大家都不要为已经发生的灾难而哀叹，而是高高兴兴地投入工作，以挽回这场大祸；困难越大。目前的生活越贫苦，我们越是应该以更加乐观的态度去应付贫苦，以更加饱满的精神去克服困难。

玛丽并没有哀叹，但是她的心始终摆脱不开这场灾难，她陷入了极度的沮丧，任凭我竭尽全力也无法使她振作起来。我不能使她像我一样从这件事中看到光明的一面，因为我明明知道他们不会赞成我的看法。我真怕他们会指责我年少轻浮或麻木不仁，因此



with childish frivolity, or stupid insensibility, that I carefully kept most of my bright ideas and cheering notions to myself; well knowing they could not be appreciated.

My mother thought only of consoling my father, and paying our debts and retrenching our expenditure by every available means; but my father was completely overwhelmed by the calamity: health, strength, and spirits sank beneath the blow, and he never wholly recovered them. In vain my mother strove to cheer him, by appealing to his piety, to his courage, to his affection for herself and us. That very affection was his greatest torment: it was for our sakes he had so ardently longed to increase his fortune—it was our interest that had lent such brightness to his hopes, and that imparted such bitterness to his present distress. He now tormented himself with remorse at having neglected my mother's advice; which would at least have saved him from the additional burden of debt—he vainly reproached himself for having brought her from the dignity, the ease, the luxury of her former station to toil with him through the cares and toils of poverty. It was gall and wormwood to his soul to see that splendid, highly-accomplished woman, once so courted and admired, transformed into an active managing housewife, with hands and head continually occupied with household labours and household economy. The very willingness with which she performed these duties, the cheerfulness with which she bore her reverses, and the kindness which withheld her from imputing the smallest blame to him, were all perverted by this ingenious self-tormentor into further aggravations of his sufferings. And thus the mind preyed upon the body, and disordered the system of the nerves, and they in turn increased the troubles of the mind, till by action and reaction his health was seriously impaired; and not one of us could convince him that the aspect

我十分注意，很少把我那乐观的想法和重新振作起来的心情直接说出来。

我妈妈一心只想安慰爸爸，还清债务，并用一切可行的办法节省开支。但是，爸爸已被这场灾难完全压垮了：这一打击损害了他的健康，使他体力衰退，精神沮丧，最终也没能完全恢复过来。妈妈竭力想凭藉他对宗教的虔诚。他的勇敢以及对妻女的爱，使他重新振作，但是没有用。带给他最大痛苦的正是这种挚爱之情：他这么想发财正是为了我们的缘故，对我们的关切曾使他充满光明的希望，如今又使他的忧伤如此苦涩难忍。现在他用悔恨折磨自己，悔不该忽视我妈妈的忠告，否则的话，他至少还不至于在旧债之外又添新债——他一直无益地谴责自己，不该带她离开以前那种尊贵。安逸。奢华的社会地位，陪伴他在贫困生活的忧虑和辛劳中苦苦跋涉。她以前曾是被众人倾羡。爱慕的女人，如此光彩夺目。多才多艺，如今竟变成一个积极操持家务的家庭主妇，手上干的是家庭杂事，脑子里想的是如何省钱，看到这种变化，他心里充满痛楚。她总是以心甘情愿的态度恪尽职责，忍受挫折时始终带着愉快的表情；她对他体贴入微，绝无丝毫责备之意。然而，这一切却在爸爸那敏感的。自我折磨的心里起着相反的作用，使他的痛苦更加剧烈。就这样，心中的痛苦折磨着他的身体，使他神经系统失调，神经系统失调又反过来加重了他心中的痛苦，如此反反复复，他的健康终于受到严重的损害。我们三个人谁都没法使他相信：我们家的景况还远远没有糟到像他那病态的想象所描绘的那样黑暗。那样绝望的地步。



of our affairs was not half so gloomy, so utterly hopeless, as his morbid imagination represented it to be.

The useful pony phaeton was sold, together with the stout, well-fed pony—the old favourite that we had fully determined should end its days in peace, and never pass from our hands; the little coach-house and stable were let; the servant boy, and the more efficient (being the more expensive) of the two maid-servants, were dismissed. Our clothes were mended, turned, and darned to the utmost verge of decency; our food, always plain, was now simplified to an unprecedented degree—except my father's favourite dishes; our coals and candles were painfully economized—the pair of candles reduced to one, and that most sparingly used; the coals carefully husbanded in the half-empty grate: especially when my father was out on his parish duties, or confined to bed through illness—then we sat with our feet on the fender, scraping the perishing embers together from time to time, and occasionally adding a slight scattering of the dust and fragments of coal, just to keep them alive. As for our carpets, they in time were worn threadbare, and patched and darned even to a greater extent than our garments. To save the expense of a gardener, Mary and I undertook to keep the garden in order; and all the cooking and household work that could not easily be managed by one servant-girl, was done by my mother and sister, with a little occasional help from me: only a little, because, though a woman in my own estimation, I was still a child in theirs; and my mother, like most active, managing women, was not gifted with very active daughters: for this reason—that being so clever and diligent herself, she was never tempted to trust her affairs to a deputy, but, on the contrary, was willing to act and think for others as well as for number one; and whatever was the business in hand, she was apt to think that no one could do it so well as herself: so that whenever I offered to assist her, I received

我家那辆很有用的敞篷马车连同喂得好。长得强壮的马一起卖掉了。那匹矮种马是我家的宠物，我们早就说过，决不能卖给别人，而要让它在我家平静地终其天年。那间不大的车房以及马厩都出租了。男仆和两名女仆中较能干。工资也较高的那一位也都辞退了。我们的衣服经缝补。翻改。织补后照样穿，直到实在不成样子时才不穿。我们本来就不讲究饮食，如今更是简朴之极，只保留爸爸喜欢吃的几样菜。煤和蜡烛节省到可怜的程度，两支蜡烛减为一支，就那一支还得省着用。为了省煤，常常让壁炉半空着，爸爸上教区执行公务或因病卧床时尤其如此，那时我们就坐着把双脚搁在炉围上，不时地将余烬刮在一起，偶尔往上添一小撮煤末和小煤渣，好让它不熄灭。我们把那几块早就磨得露出织纹的地毯补了又补，比穿的衣服还要俭省。为了省下一名花匠的费用，花园就由玛丽和我负责照管。烹饪和应付杂务单靠那名年轻女仆实在忙不过来，就由妈妈和姐姐分担，我也偶尔帮帮忙，但只能干一丁点儿，因为尽管我自认为已是个人了，但在她们眼里我还是个孩子。像世上大多数有活力。善于当家的女人一样，妈妈也没有很能干的女儿；正因为这样，既聪明又勤劳的妈妈从来不想把自己的事交给别人去做，相反，她却乐意为人服务，就像对待自己的事一样尽心尽力。无论手头干什么事情，她总觉得谁也不会比她干得更好。所以，每当我向她提议要帮帮她时，她总是这样回答：“不，宝贝，你真的还干不了——这儿没有你能干的事。去帮帮你姐姐吧，要么和她出去散散步，告诉她，不要老是在屋里坐着，这样下去人会消瘦，会没有精神的。”



such an answer as—‘No, love, you cannot indeed—there’s nothing here you can do. Go and help your sister, or get her to take a walk with you—tell her she must not sit so much, and stay so constantly in the house as she does—she may well look thin and dejected.’

‘Mary, mamma says I’m to help you; or get you to take a walk with me; she says you may well look thin and dejected, if you sit so constantly in the house.’

‘Help me you cannot, Agnes; and I cannot go out with you—I have far too much to do.’

‘Then let me help you.’

‘You cannot, indeed, dear child. Go and practise your music, or play with the kitten.’

There was always plenty of sewing on hand; but I had not been taught to cut out a single garment, and except plain hemming and seaming, there was little I could do, even in that line; for they both asserted that it was far easier to do the work themselves than to prepare it for me: and besides, they liked better to see me prosecuting my studies, or amusing myself—it was time enough for me to sit bending over my work, like a grave matron, when my favourite little pussy was become a steady old cat. Under such circumstances, although I was not many degrees more useful than the kitten, my idleness was not entirely without excuse.

Through all our troubles, I never but once heard my mother complain of our want of money. As summer was coming on she observed to Mary and me, ‘What a desirable thing it would be for your papa to spend a few weeks at a watering-place. I am convinced the sea-air and the change of scene would be of incalculable service to him. But then, you see, there’s no money,’ she added, with a sigh. We both wished exceedingly that the thing might be done, and lamented greatly that it could not. ‘Well, well!’ said she, ‘it’s no use complaining.

“玛丽，妈妈让我来帮帮你，要不就和你一起出去散步，她说：要是你老在屋里坐着，你会瘦下去，会没有精神的。”

“阿格尼丝，你帮不了我；我也不能和你一起出去，我的活儿多着呢。”

“那就让我帮你干吧。”

“亲爱的孩子，你真的干不了。去练琴吧，要么去和小猫玩玩。”

家里要做的针线活总是很多，但是我还从来没有学过裁剪长衣服呢。我只会干些简单的镶边。缝口的活，就是这些活也没多少会留给我干，因为她俩都断言：与其为我作准备，还不如她们自己干省事呢。再说，她们更愿意看我做功课或是玩……等我那只心爱的小猫咪变成一只态度沉着的老猫时，我有的是时间像个庄重的家庭主妇似的低头做我的活计。在这种情况下，尽管我比小猫的用处也大不了多少，我的游手好闲也不是全无藉口可寻的。

虽然家计艰难，我却从来没有听见妈妈抱怨过钱不够化。除非有那么一次：夏天到了，妈妈对玛丽和我说：“要是能让爸爸到海滨去休养几个星期那该多好。我相信海边的空气和改换一下环境会对他有极大的好处。不过，你们知道，我们家没钱。”说到这里她叹了一口气。我们姐妹俩真希望这个设想能够实现呀，既然实现不了，我俩伤心透了。“算了，算了！”妈妈说，“抱怨有什么用？也许为促使这个打算变为现实，我们能够做些事情。玛丽，你画得棒极了。你用你最好的风