



高等教育“十三五”规划教材

# 英美文学

## 经典作品赏析

主 编 陶丽丽 吕艳 李方木  
副主编 徐科吉 王华 张学义

中国矿业大学出版社

China University of Mining and Technology Press

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《英美文学经典作品赏析》是在多年课程教学实践基础上集体智慧的结晶。它适用于大学英语提高阶段的学习,也可以满足喜爱英美文学知识的读者的阅读需求。

2011年,山东科技大学根据教育部大学英语教学改革的要求,在大学英语学习的最后一个学期增加了模块形式的拓展课程,以构建个性化的大学英语教学模式,提高学生的英语综合应用能力。这一年,在经过深入的思考、讨论和研究后,治学严谨的张学义副教授、博览群书的吕艳老师、旅美学者王华老师和笔者首次开设了“英美文学经典作品赏析”这门课,旨在通过阅读经典,使大学生感知英美文学的魅力,体会文学世界的精彩,了解多样的文化,从而增进语言学习的兴趣,提高人文素养。当时没有教材,老师们就在探索学习中自己组织合适的学习材料,顺利完成了教学任务;2013年,因系部人员调整,这门课由吕艳老师、王华老师和笔者担任。我们不断总结经验教训,进一步完善了教学讲义;2015年,北京外国语大学的文学博士李方木老师加入我们的团队,并与吕艳老师、王华老师和笔者一起,共同修订并更新了教学讲义,使之更加符合大学生英语学习的要求,圆满地完成了这门课的教学任务,达到了较好的教学效果。至此,教学讲义已经有了雏形,于是我们决定出版成册,以方便学生的阅读与学习。

编写过程中,为了呈现给大学生们一本更加丰富有趣的文学赏析教材,我们不断地阅读文献、参考资料等,进行重新选编,希望尽可能多地发掘合适的素材,并摒弃过去讲义中的缺陷,力争能够站在前人和巨人的肩膀上,突破现有此类图书专业性强和学习难度高的障碍,使之成为既能提升大学生人文修养,又能提高语言能力的一本集知识、趣味于一体的英语工具书。然而,英美文学浩瀚而博大,因书稿的篇幅有限,本次选编不得不割爱众多优秀作家和作品,深以为憾!最终,如履薄冰,

辗转斟酌,选取了一批能够反映一个时代或者一种文学思潮特征的代表作家和作品。章节顺序打破了英美不同国籍作家的界限,基本按照作家所处的年代先后排列。编写分工如下:笔者编写了乔叟、莎士比亚、弥尔顿、笛福、华兹华斯、雪莱、拜伦与奥斯汀等中古时代到19世纪早期作家的内容(其中,雪莱与拜伦同为浪漫主义代表,不分伯仲,难以取舍,只能弄拙列入同一章节)。吕艳老师编写了19世纪代表作家欧文、霍桑、勃朗特、狄更斯、哈代、狄金森与马克·吐温等作家的内容,而乔伊斯、艾略特、福克纳、海明威、贝克特、莫里森与贝娄等20世纪的作家的内容由李方木老师负责编写。徐科吉老师和王华老师才学渊博,本次屈居副主编,主要是因为工作和科研方面比较忙碌,但仍然在百忙之中为我们的编写工作提供了诸多帮助,比如查阅资料、修改润色等。

在此,我要特别感谢我的导师宋建福教授多年来的教诲与指导,以及张琳老师、高艳丽老师和吴桂金老师等各位专家的栽培,他们都是我的引路人,是我学习的榜样。本书的出版更离不开院领导唐建敏教授的鼎力支持与同事们的热情帮助。最后,限于笔者水平,书稿虽增删数次也难免存在疏漏与不足之处。因此,笔者热切地期待同行专家、学者、教师和同学们能够批评指正,不吝赐教!

陶丽丽

2016.09

## CONTENTS | 目录

---

- Geoffrey Chaucer 杰弗里·乔叟 / 1
- William Shakespeare 威廉·莎士比亚 / 8
- John Milton 约翰·弥尔顿 / 19
- Daniel Defoe 丹尼尔·笛福 / 28
- William Wordsworth 威廉·华兹华斯 / 45
- George Gordon Byron & Percy Bysshe Shelley 乔治·戈登·拜伦与  
波西·比希·雪莱 / 53
- Jane Austen 简·奥斯汀 / 64
- Washington Irving 华盛顿·欧文 / 74
- Nathaniel Hawthorne 纳撒尼尔·霍桑 / 82
- Emily Bronte 艾米莉·勃朗特 / 89
- Charles Dickens 查尔斯·狄更斯 / 99
- Thomas Hardy 托马斯·哈代 / 107
- Emily Dickinson 艾米莉·狄金森 / 115
- Mark Twain 马克·吐温 / 123
- James Joyce 詹姆士·乔伊斯 / 133
- T. S. Eliot 艾略特 / 143
- William Faulkner 威廉姆·福克纳 / 152
- Earnest Hemingway 欧内斯特·海明威 / 159

Samuel Beckett 塞缪尔·贝克特 / 167

Toni Morrison 托尼·莫里森 / 183

Saul Bellow 索尔·贝娄 / 190

参考文献 / 200

# Geoffrey Chaucer 杰弗里·乔叟

## Memorable Lines:

“Thanne is it wisdom, (“Then is it wisdom,)

as it thynketh me, (as it seems to me,)

To maken vertu of necessitee” (To make a virtue of necessity)”

— *The Canterbury Tales* (from “The knight’s tale”)

“心甘情愿地做非做不可的事，

对我而言，

就是智慧。”

——乔叟《坎特伯雷故事集》(选自“骑士的故事”)

## 1 About the Author 作家简介



Geoffrey Chaucer (1300?—1400), the founder of English poetry, was born in a prosperous wine merchant’s home in London, and is said to have studied at Oxford and Cambridge. And he began his career as a page in a nobleman’s household. In 1359 he accompanied the English army to France and was taken prisoner on one of the campaigns of the Hundred Year’s War. On his return, he married Philippa, a maid of honour to the queen and relative of John of Gaunt, the Duke of Lancaster, who became his patron. In 1367 he entered the service of King Edward III, who sent him to the Continent on diplomatic missions. Then in 1373 he received the post of a controller of Customs in the port of London. He had to work in the Customs House all day long, and only night time was left to him to write poems. However, he went through some ups and downs in 1386. After elected Member of Parliament, he was dismissed from his office as controller in the



same year. Then he experienced some years of poverty. In 1389, he was granted some pension by the new king Henry IV. The poet died on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1400 and was buried in Westminster Abbey, thus founding the "Poets' Corner".

## 2 About the Works 作品概述

Chaucer's creative works reflected the life and society in his age vividly. The foundations of the feudal system had already begun to crumble. The people's uprising in 1388 destabilized the feudalism. The glory of the Catholic Church was on the wane. England was on the brink of a great historical change. And it was at the historical moment of the European Renaissance. The poet was attracted to the European literary works very much, as he translated some from French poems like *The Romaunt of the Rose* (《玫瑰传奇》), and adapted some from the Italian like *Troilus and Criseyde* (《特洛伊罗斯与克瑞西达》). In his late years he began to write creatively in English with his own choice of subject, grasp of character, diction and plot, *The Canterbury Tales* (《坎特伯雷故事集》) included. And Chaucer's verse has also been renowned for its humor, understanding of human character and innovations in poetic vocabulary and meter.

## 3 Selected Reading 名篇选读

### Introduction 内容简介

*The Canterbury Tales* is Chaucer's masterpiece and one of the monumental works in English literature.

The whole poem is a collection of stories told by pilgrims to the Canterbury Tales in an early spring. It opens with a general prologue which is a splendid masterpiece of realistic portrayal, where we are told of a company of pilgrims that gathered at Tabard Inn in Southwark, a suburb of London. They are on their way to the shrine of St. Thomas Becket at Canterbury. The 30 pilgrims including Chaucer himself set out together with the Inn keeper, who proposed that each pilgrim should tell two tales on the way to the Canterbury and two more on the way back. The best story-teller shall be treated with a fine supper at the general expense at the end. According to Chaucer's plan, there should be 124 stories in total. And unfortunately only 24 tales were written. Though incomplete as they are, these tales demonstrate a strikingly brilliant and picturesque panorama of Chaucer's time and his country.

The prologue, which contains a group of vivid sketches of many typical medieval characters, provides a framework for the tales. All classes of the English feudal society, except the royalty and the poorest peasant, are represented by these thirty pilgrims. They range from the knight, squire and prioress to the drunken cook and humble plowman. There are also a doctor, a lawyer, monks, nuns, priests, a summoner, a sailor, a miller, a carpenter, a yeoman, an Oxford scholar and the Wife



of Bath, the owner of a large cloth factory. Every character is drawn with the accuracy of a portrait. It is no exaggeration to say that the Prologue supplies a miniature of the English society in Chaucer's time.

### Excerpt 选段

(Here chosen is the modern English translation by Theodore Morrison for Chaucer's original metrical form, the heroic couplet, is used.)

#### General Prologue

As soon as April pierces to the root  
 The drought of March, and bathes each bud and shoot  
 Through every vein of sap with gentle showers;  
 5 When zephyrs<sup>①</sup> have breathed softly all about  
 Inspiring every wood and field to sprout,  
 And in the zodiac<sup>②</sup> the youthful sun  
 His journey halfway through the Ram has run;  
 When little birds are busy with their song  
 10 Who sleep with open eyes the whole night long  
 Life stirs their hearts and tingles in them so,  
 Then off as pilgrims people long to go,  
 And palmers to set out for distant strands  
 And foreign shrines renowned in many lands.  
 15 And specially in England people ride  
 To Canterbury from every countryside  
 To visit there the blessed martyred saint<sup>③</sup>  
 Who gave them strength when they were sick and faint.  
 In Southwark at the Tabard one spring day  
 20 It happened, as I stopped there on my way,  
 Myself a pilgrim with a heart devout  
 Ready for Canterbury to set out,  
 At night came all of twenty-nine assorted  
 Travelers, and to that same inn resorted,

① Zephyrs: gentle breeze, west wind. 西风

② Zodiac: a diagram used by astrologers to represent the positions of the planets and stars. It is divided into twelve sections, each of which has its own name and symbol. The zodiac is used to try to calculate the influence of the planets on people's lives. (占星中的) 黄道带

③ Martyred saint: saint killed for the sake of principle, here it refers to St. Thomas Becket (1119 or 1120—1170), former archbishop in Canterbury. He is venerated as a saint and martyr by both the Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion. He engaged in conflict with Henry II, King of England over the rights and privileges of the Church and was murdered by followers of the king in Canterbury Cathedral. 殉道圣人

25 Who by a turn of fortune chances to fall  
 In fellowship together, and they were all  
 Pilgrims who had it in their minds to ride  
 Towards Canterbury. The stables doors were wide,  
 The rooms were large, and we enjoyed the best,  
 30 I had so talked with each that presently  
 I was a member of their company  
 And promised to rise early the next day  
 To start, as I shall show, upon our way.  
 But none the less, while I have time and space,  
 35 Before this tale has gone a further pace,  
 I should in reason tell you the condition  
 Of each of them, his rank and his position,  
 And also what array they all were in;  
 And so then, with a knight I will begin.

.....

118 There was also a nun, a prioress  
 Whose smile was gentle and full of guilelessness.  
 120 “By St. Loy!<sup>①</sup>” was the worst oath she would say.  
 She sang mass well, in a becoming way,  
 Intoning through her nose the words divine,  
 And she was known as Madame Eglantine<sup>②</sup>.  
 She spoke good French, as taught at Stratford-Bow<sup>③</sup>  
 125 For the Parisian French she did not know.  
 She was schooled to eat so primly and so well  
 That from her lips no morsel ever fell.  
 She wet her fingers lightly in the dish  
 Of sauce, for courtesy was her first wish.  
 130 With every bite she did her skillful best  
 To see that no drop fell upon her breast.  
 She always wiped her upper lip so clean  
 That in her cup was never to be seen

① By St. Loy: better known as Saint Eligius (c. 588—1 December 660) is the patron saint of goldsmiths, other metalworkers, and coin collectors. Eligius was chief counsellor to Dagobert I, Merovingian king of France. Eligius worked for twenty years to convert the pagan population of Flanders to Christianity.

② Eglantine: sweetbriar, here it is a name for female. 野蔷薇

③ Stratford-Bow: a convent of Benedictine nuns established at the nearby Priory of St Leonards, in modern Bromley-by-Bow. Geoffrey Chaucer immortalized this Priory in his *Canterbury Tales* as “Stratford-atte-Bowe” originally.



- A hint of grease when she had drunk her share,  
 135 She reached out for her meat with comely air.  
 She was a great delight, and always tried  
 To imitate court ways, and had her pride,  
 Both amiable and gracious in her dealings.  
 As for her charity and tender feelings,  
 140 She melted at whatever was piteous.  
 She would weep if she but came upon a mouse  
 Caught in a trap, if it were dead of bleeding.  
 Some little dogs that she took pleasure feeding  
 On roasted meat or milk or good wheat bread  
 145 She had, but now she wept to find one dead  
 Or yelping from a blow that made it smart,  
 And all was sympathy and loving heart.  
 Neat was her wimple in its every plait,  
 Her nose well formed, her eyes as gray as slate.  
 150 Her mouth was very small and soft and red.  
 She had so wide a brow I think her head  
 Was nearly a span broad, for certainly  
 She was not undergrown, as all could see.  
 She wore her cloak with dignity and charm,  
 155 And had her rosary about her arm,  
 The small beads coral and the larger green,  
 And from them hung a brooch of golden sheen,  
 On it a large A and a crown above;  
 Beneath, "All things are subject unto love."

### Appreciation 作品赏析

一打开总序,我们就呼吸到了英国春天的清新空气,感受到了万物复苏的四月美景,雨露、西风、太阳、百鸟等等,无不散发着大自然的生机和魅力。接着我们进入朝圣客所住的地方——泰巴旅店,然后作者用具体而又风趣的笔法,对朝圣客逐一介绍,在我们面前展开了一幅又一幅生动的肖像画。对修女院长的生动描写,不仅使人物呼之欲出,还以幽默、风趣的笔调呈现了当时的社会风尚,比如修女的世俗化,餐桌礼仪和妇女的装饰打扮等等。诗人还刻画了骑士、僧侣、商人、学生、旅店老板等三十余人的形象,揭示了他们的生活习俗、情趣理想和乐观的精神,展现了充满中古时代气息的英国社会的图景,加深了整个作品的现实主义深度。让我们惊讶的是乔叟笔下的人物与风尚同现代的英国社会相差无几,也就是说,乔叟有一种现代气质,正如戴维·洛奇所说:韵诗《坎特伯雷故事集》具有现代性。

## 4 Unique Writing Tactics 写作特色

乔叟两次出使意大利,受到意大利文艺复兴的熏陶,特别是但丁和薄伽丘的影响。在《坎特伯雷故事集》中,使用伦敦方言,绝大部分(一万七千余行)用“英雄双韵诗体”(heroic couplet)写成。

**Heroic couplet** refers to poems constructed from a sequence of rhymed pairs (*aa*, *bb*, *cc*, and so on) of iambic pentameter(五步抑扬格) lines. The adjective “heroic” was applied in the later seventeenth century because of the frequent use of such couplets in heroic (that is, epic) poems and in heroic dramas. This verse form was introduced into English poetry by Geoffrey Chaucer (in *The Legend of Good Women* and most of *The Canterbury Tales*), and has been in constant use ever since.

From the age of John Dryden through that of Samuel Johnson, the heroic couplet was the predominant English measure for all the poetic kinds; some poets, including Alexander Pope, used it almost to the exclusion of other meters.

## 5 Comparison with Similar Literary Works 经典文学比较

首先,《坎特伯雷故事集》与薄伽丘的《十日谈》(*Decameron*, 1348—1353)在形式上,皆具有框架结构的特色;在思想上,它们是文艺复兴时代的姊妹篇,是新兴资产阶级崛起时期进步的人文主义精神结晶,思想与艺术方面有着类似的审美旨趣和特色,甚至弱点。其东方渊源有古印度的《五卷书》和阿拉伯民间传说《一千零一夜》等作品。

其次,“英国文学之父”乔叟在《坎特伯雷故事集》总序中,将“四月”描述为万物复苏、大地回春的季节,一个象征生命、象征生机的意象:“当四月的甘霖渗透了/ 三月枯竭的根须,/ 沐濯了丝丝茎络,触动了生机,/ 使枝头涌现出花蕾……”,成为英国文学传统。而20世纪的诗碑艾略特(T. S. Eliot)在《荒原·死者的葬仪》开头,这样写道:“April is the cruelest month, breeding/ Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing/ Memory and desire, stirring / Dull roots will spring rain……”(1—4) (“四月是最残忍的一个月,荒地上/ 长着丁香,把回忆和欲望/ 掺合在一起,又让春雨/ 催促那些迟钝的根芽……”)。艾略特把“四月”称为“最残忍的月份”,不但颠覆了“四月”的传统意义,显示了与传统的断裂,也揭示了现代人生活中不再存在所谓的生命力,从而为全诗定下基调。

## 6 Questions for Discussion 讨论与思考

- (1) How do you understand the portrait of the prioress?
- (2) Recite at least one Chinese poem to describe spring and compare.

## 7 Cultural Extension 文化拓展

(1) **Humanism**(人文主义) is a philosophical and ethical stance that emphasizes the value and agency of human beings, individually and collectively, and generally prefers critical thinking and evidence (rationalism, empiricism) over acceptance of dogma or superstition. Generally humanism refers to a perspective that affirms some notion of

human freedom and progress. Coined in the sixteenth century, the word humanism became to be applied to the view of human nature, the general values, and the educational ideas common to many Renaissance humanists, as well as to a number of later writers in the same tradition.

乔叟的文学思想具有人文主义倾向。人文主义是指社会价值取向倾向于对人的个性的关怀,注重强调维护人性尊严,提倡宽容,反对暴力,主张自由平等和自我价值体现的一种哲学思潮与世界观。人文主义是文艺复兴时期新兴资产阶级反封建反教会斗争中形成的思想体系、世界观或思想武器,也是这一时期资产阶级进步文学的中心思想。它主张一切以人为本,反对神的权威,把人从中世纪的神学枷锁中解放出来。宣扬个性解放,追求现实人生幸福;追求自由平等,反对等级观念;崇尚理性,反对蒙昧。人文主义是文艺复兴核心思想,是新兴资产阶级反封建的社会思潮,也是资产阶级人道主义的最初形式。它肯定人性和人的价值,要求享受人世的欢乐,要求人的个性解放和自由平等,推崇人的感性经验和理性思维。而作为历史概念的人文主义,则指在欧洲历史和哲学史中主要被用来描述 14 到 16 世纪间较中世纪比较先进的思想。一般来说今天历史学家将这段时间里文化和社会上的变化称为文艺复兴,而将教育上的变化运动称为人文主义。

“人文主义之父”彼特拉克(Francesco Petrarca, 1304—1374),意大利诗人,1304 年 7 月 20 日生于阿雷佐城,1374 年 7 月 19 日卒于阿尔夸。其家庭是佛罗伦萨的望族。他自幼随父亲流亡法国,后攻读法学。父亲逝世后专心从事文学活动,并周游欧洲各国。他还当过神甫,有机会出入教会、宫廷,观察生活,追求知识,最早提出以“人学”对抗“神学”,是西方文艺复兴第一个人文主义者。



(2) 1972 年上映的电影,帕索里尼中世纪古典文学三部曲的第二部 *I racconti di Canterbury* (《坎特伯雷故事集》),改编自 14 世纪英国文学先驱乔叟的同名诗体小说集。本片由几个小故事组成,反映了中世纪英国的社会百态:有穷奢极欲的城主,有专营告密敲诈的小人,有故弄玄虚勾引邻家少妇的学生,有放荡荒淫的女财主,也有生活在社会底层的小无赖。故事短小精悍,流畅明快,是一集幽默、夸张、嘲讽与哲理于一体的佳作。

# William Shakespeare 威廉·莎士比亚

## Memorable Lines:

All the world's a stage,  
And all the men and women merely players;  
They have their exits and their entrances;  
And one man in his time plays many parts.

—William Shakespeare (from *As You Like It*)

整个世界是一座舞台，  
所有的男男女女不过是演员罢了；  
他们有上场的时候，也有下场的时候；  
一个人一生要扮演好几种角色。

——威廉·莎士比亚(《皆大欢喜》)

## 1 About the Author 作家简介



William Shakespeare (1564—1616), one of the greatest in all English authors, was born on April 23, 1564, in Stratford-on-Avon, a small town in Warwickshire. His father, John Shakespeare, dealt with trade in gloves, leathern articles, wool and hides(兽皮). At the age of seven young Shakespeare was sent to the local grammar school which he attended for six years. Besides reading and writing he picked up some Latin and Greek there. When he was about fourteen years old, he left school to help support his family as a schoolmaster in

the country.

In 1582 Shakespeare got married with Anne Hathaway, a farmer's daughter, who was eight years older than her husband, and they had three children together.



Shakespeare arrived in London in the year of 1586 or 1587, when the drama was rapidly gaining popularity among the people. There is a legendary story about the reason Shakespeare left home, according to which, he poached(偷猎)on the lands of a certain Sir Thomas Lucy, a rich landlord. He got caught by the keepers and severely punished (whipped and imprisoned, it was said). Shakespeare avenged himself by composing a satirical ballad, which became so popular that Sir Lucy was enraged and redoubled his persecution. At last Shakespeare was compelled to leave Stratford and seek refuge in London.

In London after going through some hardships, he was known to have been an actor and playwright and a shareholder of a theatre later when he proved himself to be a practical and just man. His activities as a dramatist, poet, actor and proprietor, lasted till the year of 1612 when he retired from the stage and returned to Stratford. The great writer died on April 23, 1616.

## 2 About the Works 作品概述

For more than 25 years Shakespeare had been associated with the best theatres of England. After several years of apprenticeship in dramatic art, he produced 37 plays, two narrative poems and 154 sonnets during the twenty-two years of his literary career. His literary work may be divided into three major periods: the first period from 1590 to 1600, the second period from 1601 to 1608, and the third from 1609 to 1612.

*A Midsummer Night's Dream* (《仲夏夜之梦》), *The Merchant of Venice* (《威尼斯商人》), *As You Like It* (《皆大欢喜》), and *Twelfth Night* (《第十二夜》) have been considered Shakespeare's four great comedies. In them he depicted young people's life. He sang of their youth, love and ideal of happiness. The victory of their humanist ideal is inevitable, though it is to be attained only after severe struggle against all obstacles. The heroes and heroines fight against destiny itself and mould their own fate according to their own free will. As becoming the sons and daughters of the Renaissance, they trust not in God or King but in themselves, and their efforts are crowned with success. The general spirit is optimism.

*Hamlet* (《哈姆雷特》), *Othello* (《奥赛罗》), *King Lear* (《李尔王》), and *Macbeth* (《麦克白》) have been regarded as Shakespeare's four great tragedies. At that period, the cooperation between the crown and the rising bourgeoisie, which was the basis of the Elizabeth's regime, was over. The economic and social crises which began at the end of Elizabeth I's reign continued right up to the English Revolution (in 1640). Shakespeare exposes the social contradictions of general unrest at that time penetratingly.

There are also about ten histories (or historical plays)(历史剧), such as *Richard II* (查理二世), *Henry IV* (亨利四世), *Henry V* (亨利五世) and so on. They show the



horrors of civil war, the responsibility of an efficient ruler, and the importance of legitimate succession to the throne. The principle idea of these plays is the necessity for national unity under one king.

His other comedies, like *The Winter's Tale* (《冬天的故事》), *Tempest* (《暴风雨》) and so on are sometimes called his “romances” or tragic-comedy. These plays portray a wide range of tragic events, pathetic emotions, and difficult conditions, but they all end in reconciliation and reunion and emphasize upon a renewal of hope that comes from repentance and forgiveness, together with a faith in the younger generation, who by love will heal the wounds inflicted in the past.

Shakespeare also created some popular long narrative poems, such as *Venus and Adonis* (《维纳斯与阿多尼斯》), and *The Rape of Lucrece* (《鲁克丽丝受辱记》), and a collection of 154 sonnets, commonly thought to be written between 1593 and 1599.

### 3 Selected Reading 名篇选读

#### (1) Drama

##### Introduction 内容简介

*Hamlet*, written in 1601—1602 and published in 1603, is regarded to be the summit of Shakespeare's creative works. It was adapted from some old sources of Prince Amleth which can be traced to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, while the medieval Danish story assumed new meanings and significance under Shakespeare's pen. *Hamlet* is the profoundest expression of Shakespeare's humanism and his criticism of social life at that time.

The action of the play is set up in Denmark. The sudden death of the King of Denmark gives his brother Claudius a chance to succeed the crown as the new king, who marries the late king's widowed queen Gertrude within two months. Grief-stricken Prince Hamlet, son of the late king, returns home from the University of Wittenberg, suspecting foul play on the part of his uncle Claudius. Then his father's ghost appears to him at the castle of Elsinor, and confirms Hamlet's suspicion. The ghost adds that Claudius was guilty not only of murder(谋杀) but also of incest(乱伦) and adultery(通奸).

He should undertake to avenge the murder on his Uncle Claudius. But the introspective (内省的) prince debates with himself the problem of whether or not to carry out the ghost's commands, for fearing that it might have been a devil sent to torment him. To numb Claudius' vigilance, Hamlet pretends to go mad. However, his madness is taken by the garrulous old chamberlain(宫廷大臣)Polonius to be an emotional disturbance resulted from lovesickness for his daughter Ophelia. At the moment of his constant uncertainty and melancholy, a company of actors visits the castle and Hamlet seizes the chance to discover whether Claudius is guilty by having the players enact a play resembling the late king's

