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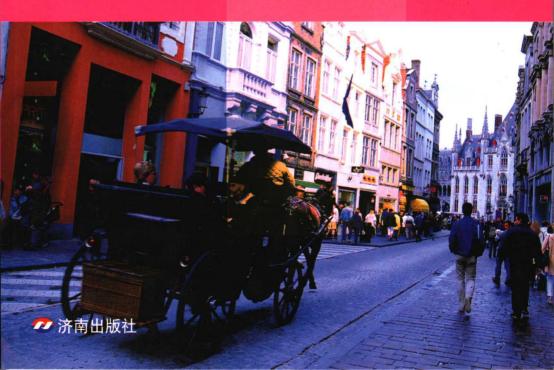


READING IN THE WEST

節類在區方

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本书主编 王艳红 张 艳 副主编 张林栋 冉范生





阅读在西方

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前言

徐光启第一次见到圣母的西洋油画时,久久凝视而不离去;晚明大儒冯应京读到利玛窦的〈天主实义〉时,爱不释手,马上翻刻;李卓吾曾几次和利玛窦见面,帮其修改奏书,赠其诗文,称他为"极标致之人"。三棱镜的神奇,红衣大袍的威力,《几何原本》的实用,天文观测的准确,西学为我们带来了如许才华横溢、思想严谨的学者。如今,中国文化和西方文化的交流、融合,使我们的生活更加丰富多彩。通过阅读,了解一些西方文化及在这一文化熏陶下人们的思维方式、生活习俗、价值观念和世态风情,对我们来说总是有些益处的。

此其一。

大量阅读英文书籍是从根本上提高英语学习者 英语水平的首选途径。阅读可以有效地复习和巩固 学过的知识,培养和提高语言能力,同时还可以开阔 视野,扩大知识面,丰富异国文化背景知识,增强语 感。此外,通过大量阅读,读者的假设判断、分析归



纳、推理验证和逻辑思维等能力也能得到很好的培 养。由此可见英语阅读的重要性。

本书精心选编了有关西方经典名著和重要人物的几十篇文章,原汁原味,新颖别致,内容贴近生活,富有时代气息,融趣味性和知识性于一体,有助于提高阅读能力和扩大知识面。文章后的参考译文有助于读者深入地理解原文,提高翻译技能。针对每篇文章,我们还精心策划了"非常收获"板块,其内容广泛,形式多样,仔细研读,必定收获非常。

此其二。

现今社会,老的少的,中的青的,每日风风火火, 忙忙碌碌,读书成了一种奢侈。可是——如果能用 "可是"的话,我们更希望此书能作为一种消遣,沉静 而着迷的消遣。花红柳绿时,梧桐秋雨时,长夏无聊 时,围炉听雪时,手执一卷,或坐或卧,树荫里,灯光 下,安安静静,读上一页两页,一篇两篇……

此其三。

编 者 2006年5月

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280 Dell Boy Made Good 戴尔的成功之路 没有一种娱乐像读书那样便宜,也没有任何乐趣像读书那样持续久远。阅读最大的好处不在于我们记得的内容,而在于受到的心灵启迪。一本好书经常起着一根火柴的作用,点燃我们自身潜在的火药。好书就是益友,常常拨动我们心灵深处最敏感的那根琴弦,激发我们对生活的热爱和思维的潜能。

在这一部分,我们会读到很多伟大作家的经典小说。一部部传世经典小说演绎着百态人生,潜移默化地影响着我们的人生观和世界观。经典小说是反映世界各族人民生活变迁的一面镜子,带领我们纵横古今、穿越时空、领略世态万干。我们喜爱的作家是我们倾心仰慕、心悦诚服的老师,我们借助他们的眼睛观察世界、洞察人生、感悟生活、亲近生命。

正如我们不能避免呼吸的空气的影响一样,我们也不能避免阅读书籍带给我们身心的愉悦和享受。人生、梦想、家庭、社会、奋斗、成败、爱恨、情仇,一幕又一幕的人间悲喜剧向我们展示着大干世界的风采,丰厚和滋润着我们日趋浮躁和单调的人生。



阅读提示

《现代喜剧》是福賽特家庭纪事史(1886~1926)的一部分。在这部纪事史中,高尔斯华绥以精雕细琢的英国生活为背景,生动地描绘了一个中上层阶级大家庭的生活。《现代喜剧》内容充实,十分易读,除了具有文学价值外,也是重要的社会文献。它包括原先作为单行本发表的《白猿》、《钥匙》和《天鹅之歌》等三部长篇小说以及两个插曲。高尔斯华绥的社会历史记载了20世纪20年代英国的各种生活潮流,是很有价值的。

A Modern Comedy

John Galsworthy

Soames Forsyte was a member of the board of the Providential Premium Reassurance Society. Against his better judgment, the society had invested much of its holdings in foreign securities. Because the European exchange was so unstable, Soames insisted that the report to the stockholders be detailed. Not long afterward, Butterfield, a clerk in the P.P.R.S. office, overheard a conversation between Elderson, the manager, and a German. The German insisted that Elderson, who had received commissions on the society's investments in Germany, should see to it that the board made good any losses if the mark fell in value. Accused of bribery, Elderson denied the charge and dismissed Butterfield. When pressed, however, Elderson escaped to the continent. The stockholders were outraged that the board had permitted Elderson to get away. Although Soames explained that any early revelation of the manager's dishonesty would have been futile, he received very little support from his listeners. He resigned from the board.

Michael Mont, Soames' son-in-law, was a publisher. When Butter-field lost his job with the P.P.R.S., Soames asked Michael to give the

现代喜剧

[英]约翰·高尔斯华绥



索姆斯·福赛特是天佑再保险会的董事。这家 再保险会违反他明智的判断,用了大笔股金购买品 国债券。由于欧洲汇兑行市极不稳定,索姆斯坚决 要求必须对股东提出详细的报告。不久之后,天佑 再保险会的办公室职员巴特菲尔德偷听到经理埃 尔德森和一个德国人的谈话。由于埃尔德森已经得 到再保险会购买德国债券的佣金,那个德国人硬要 埃尔德森保证,如果马克贬值,董事会必须赔偿他 们的损失。埃尔德森因此被控受贿,但他拒不接受 指控,而且还辞退了巴特菲尔德。可是,在追查逼问 之下,他又慌忙逃往欧洲大陆。股东们对董事会居 然让埃尔德森脱身感到愤慨。尽管索姆斯解释说, 即使及早揭露经理的欺骗行为也无济于事,但他几 乎得不到股东们的支持。于是他辞去了董事职务。

6 resigne v. 辞职,

索姆斯的女婿迈克尔·蒙特是出版商。在巴特 菲尔德失去天佑再保险会的工作后.索姆斯就叫迈

I fell in value: 贬值

2 bribery n. 行贿; 受贿

3 outraged a. 愤慨 的.义愤的

4 revelation n. 泄 露.透露

引退



clerk employment. Butterfield prospered as a salesman of special editions.

Michael's wife, Fleur, had been spoiled by her father. She was restless, passionate, and not in love with her husband. Wilfred Desert, an artist, was deeply in love with her, but she knew that he could provide only adventure, not love. Wilfred finally left the country for Arabia. For a time the relationship of Michael and Fleur appeared happier, and Fleur gave birth to a son, whom they named Christopher.

Before she married Michael, Fleur had been in love with her cousin, Jon Forsyte, but because of a family feud she could not marry him. Jon had gone to America, where he fell in love with a Southern girl, Anne Wilmot, and married her.

A year or so after Christopher's birth, Michael entered Parliament. To help her husband and to provide herself with diversion, Fleur entertained many prominent people. One night Soames overheard one of Fleur's guests, Marjorie Ferrar, speak of her as a snob. He asked Marjorie to leave the house. Fleur was impatient with her father for interfering, but she criticized Marjorie for creating an unpleasant scene. Marjorie demanded an apology. After an offer of settlement from Soames, Marjorie still insisted on the apology and took her suit into court, Soames and his lawyer managed to prove that Marjorie was a woman of irresponsible morals. Fleur won the case, but the victory brought her so many snubs from former friends that she was more unhappy than ever.

Francis Wilmot, whose sister Anne had married Jon, arrived from America to see what England was like. He stayed for a time with Fleur and Michael but, having fallen in love with Marjorie Ferrar, he moved 使成功

■prosper v. 兴隆, 纂克尔雇用他。巴特菲尔德当上特制版本的推销员, 計十分成功。

■passionate a. 易怒 的

迈克尔的妻子弗勒已经被她的父亲娇宠坏了。 她生性不安,性情暴躁,并且不爱自己的丈夫。艺术 家威尔弗雷德·德塞特深深地钟情于她, 但她知道 🏿 他所能带给自己的只是冒险,而不是爱情。威尔弗 雷德最后离开了英国,前往阿拉伯。有一段时间.迈 克尔和弗勒的关系似乎融洽一些。弗勒生了一个儿 子,取名克里斯托弗。

feud n. 宿仇,宿 怨

弗勒在嫁给迈克尔之前、曾爱过她的堂兄乔 恩·福赛特, 但由于家庭之间的宿怨而不能和他结 婚。乔恩到了美国,在那里爱上一位叫安妮·威尔莫 特的南方姑娘,后来就娶她为妻。

■prominent a. 著名 的,杰出的

克里斯托弗出生约一年之后,迈克尔进入了议 会。为了帮助丈夫,也为了自己消遣,弗勒招待大批 知名人物。一天晚上,索姆斯偷听到弗勒的一个客 人马乔里·弗拉尔说弗勒是一个势利鬼。于是他就 叫马乔里滚蛋。弗勒对父亲的好管闲事很不耐烦, 但也批评马乔里无事生非。马乔里要求对方赔礼道 歉。在索姆斯提出解决办法之后,马乔里仍然坚持 自己的要求,并向法庭提起诉讼。索姆斯和他的律 师成功证明了马乔里是一个毫无道德责任感的女 人。弗勒打贏了官司,但这场胜利却招致朋友们对 她的冷落,使她感到更加不快活。

Msnub n. 怠慢

弗朗西斯·威尔莫特是乔恩的内兄. 他从美国 前来想见识一下英国的生活。他在弗勒和迈克尔的 家里住了一段时间,但由于爱上了马乔里,在马乔



out after the unpleasantness between Marjorie and Fleur. Marjorie refused to marry him, however, and go to what she felt would be a dull life in America. Francis contracted pneumonia in a lonely hotel and would have died but for the kindliness of Fleur. He recovered and went back to America.

Fleur, discontented with her life in London, persuaded Soames to take her on a trip around the world. Michael could not leave until the current session of Parliament had adjourned. He was fostering Foggartism—a plan for a return to the land and for populating the dominions with the children of the British poor—and he felt that he must remain in London. It was arranged that he would meet Fleur and Soames in Vancouver five months later. Meanwhile, little Christopher would be in the care of his grandmother, Soames' wife.

While in Washington, Fleur, Michael, and Soames stayed at the hotel where Jon Forsyte and his mother, Irene, were also staying. It was Soames' first sight of his divorced wife in many years. He kept discreetly in the background, however, and saw to it that Fleur did not encounter Jon.

Back in London, with the Marjorie Ferrar affair almost forgotten, Fleur was eager for activity. When the general strike of 1926 began, she opened a canteen for volunteer workers. One day she saw Jon there. He had come over from France to work during the strike. Jon's conscience would not let him fall in love again with Fleur, but she managed to be near him as often as she could. After a single night together, Jon wrote that he could not see her again.

Foggartism having met with high disfavor and unpopularity, Michael became interested in slum improvement. Fleur, still smarting from Jon's rebuff, established a country rest home for working girls.

Econtract v. 感染

里和弗勒之间发生不愉快的事件之后,他就搬了出去。可是,马乔里却不肯和他结婚,她不愿去过她认为是索然无味的美国生活。弗朗西斯住在一家僻静的旅馆里,患了肺炎。如果没有弗勒善意的照顾,他是活不成的。病愈之后,他返回美国去了。

弗勒不满她在伦敦的生活。她说服索姆斯带她去周游世界。当时议会正在开会,迈克尔不能走开。他正在宣扬"福加特主义",即一项号召人们回到田里去以及把英国穷人子女移居到海外属地去的计划。因此他认为自己必须留在伦敦。根据安排,他将在5个月后到温哥华与弗勒和索姆斯会合。在这期间,小克里斯托弗将由其外祖母——索姆斯的妻子照看。

在华盛顿时,弗勒、迈克尔和索姆斯,与乔恩·福赛特和他的母亲艾琳住在同一家旅馆里。这是索姆斯多年来第一次看到他的前妻。但是,他一直谨慎地躲在幕后,设法使弗勒和乔恩不要相遇。

弗勒回到伦敦后,差不多已经忘记了马乔里· 弗拉尔事件。她渴望着参加社会运动。当 1926 年总 罢工开始时,她为志愿工人创办了食堂。有一天,她 在那里见到了在罢工期间从法国回来工作的乔恩。 乔恩的良心已不允许他再和弗勒相爱,但弗勒却设 法尽可能地接近他。他在和弗勒共度一夜之后,便 写信说再也不能同她见面了。

由于福加特主义不得民心,迈克尔转而又对改进贫民窟问题发生兴趣。遭到乔恩拒绝而仍感痛苦的弗勒,也为女工们设立了一个乡音休息所。迈克

discreetly ad. 谨慎地:考虑周到地

■disfavor n. 冷遇; 失众望

Trebuff n. 拒绝



Michael's work had taught him that the poor would never have consented to part with their children, even though keeping them would always mean privation and suffering. He realized that he was well out of Foggartism.

Soames, unhappy in an environment of post-war confusion and family unrest, spent more and more time among his collection of great paintings. One night, awakened by the odor of smoke, he discovered that his picture gallery was on fire. With the aid of his chauffeur, he managed to save many of his pictures by tossing them out the window. At last, when they could stay in the house no longer, they went outside, where Soames directed the firemen as well as he could. Then he saw that one of his heavily framed pictures was about to fall from the window above. He also saw that Fleur was deliberately standing where the frame would fall on her. He ran to push her out of the way, and received the blow himself. He died from exhaustion and from the injury. Fleur was further desolated because she knew that her own desire for death had killed her father. The death of Soames brought her to her senses, however. Michael was assured that her affair with Jon was over forever.