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# 小妇人

*Little Women*



天津科学技术出版社



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## ❀ 简 介 ❀

美国作家路易莎·梅·艾考特1832年11月29日生于宾西法尼亚，以出版儿童读物著名。她一生大部分时间都在波士顿西北的康科德河沿岸度过，早期教育几乎完全来自父亲。

艾考特曾和三个极为有趣的姐妹生活在一起，这样的经历使她仅用了两个半月的时间就飞速写出了《小妇人》一书。故事是依据她自己和三位姐妹青年时期的成长经历进行创作的。《小妇人》一书于1868年9月30出版。该书出版后即刻获得了成功。艾考特笔下的梅格、乔、贝思和艾美的故事使她成为一颗新星。

小说以美国南北战争期间马奇家的四个女儿和母亲在新英格兰地区的生活经历为主线，讲述了在父亲作为联邦军队随军牧师上前线之后，四个“小妇人”在快乐、挫折、爱情、失败、忧伤和喜悦中成长的故事。

1933年小说被改编为电影后再获成功。1934年《小妇人》获得奥斯卡最佳编剧奖（改编）。同年凯瑟琳·赫本（扮演乔）获得威尼斯电影节最佳女演员奖。

## 小说人物关系谱

Jo March 乔·马奇——小说的主人公，马奇夫妇的二女儿

Meg March 梅格·马奇——乔的姐姐，马奇夫妇的大女儿

Beth March 贝思·马奇——乔的妹妹，马奇夫妇的三女儿

Amy March 艾美·马奇——乔的妹妹，马奇夫妇的四女儿

Mrs. March 马奇太太——乔的母亲

Mr. March 马奇先生——乔的父亲

Laurie 劳里——乔最好的朋友，马奇一家的邻居，后与艾美结婚

Mr. Laurence 劳伦斯先生——劳里的祖父

Aunt March 马奇婶婶——乔的婶婶

John Brooke 约翰·布鲁克——劳里的家庭教师，后与梅格结婚

Professor Friedrich Bhaer 弗里德里克·巴尔教授——乔在纽约认识的教授，同租柯克夫人的房子，最后乔爱上了巴尔教授

Hannah 汉娜——马奇家的女佣

Ned Moffat 内德·莫法特——梅格的朋友，后与萨莉·加德纳结婚

Sallie Gardiner 萨莉·加德纳——梅格的朋友

Mrs. Kirke 柯克夫人——马奇太太的朋友，乔在纽约时住在她家

Tina 蒂娜——柯克夫人的孩子

Kitty 基蒂——柯克夫人的孩子

“Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents,” grumbled Jo, sitting on the rug.

“It's so dreadful to be poor!” sighed Meg, looking down at her old dress.

“I don't think it's fair for some girls to have plenty of pretty things, and other girls nothing at all,” added little Amy, with an injured sniff.

“We've got Father and Mother, and each other,” said Beth contentedly from her corner. The four young faces on which the firelight shone brightened at the cheerful words, but darkened again as Jo said sadly, “We haven't got Father, and shall not have him for a long time.” She didn't say “perhaps never”, but each silently added it, thinking of Father far away, where the fighting was.



“要是没有礼物，圣诞节还叫什么圣诞节呀？”乔坐在小地毯上嘟囔着。

“贫穷真是讨厌！”梅格一边叹息，一边低头望着自己身上的旧裙子。

“有些女孩子享受荣华富贵，有些却一无所有，我觉得这不公平。”艾美鼻子轻轻一哼，显得挺委屈的。

“可我们拥有父母姐妹，”坐在一角的贝思满足地说。

炉火映照下，四张年轻的脸庞因为这句令人愉快的话而明亮起来。“我们没有父亲，而且很长一段时间都会没有，”乔伤心地说。听到这句话，大家的脸色又暗淡下来。她虽然没说“可能永远不会再有了”，但每个人心里都意识到了这一点，于是又想起了远在战场的父亲。

Nobody spoke for a minute; then Meg said in an altered tone, "You know the reason Mother proposed not having any presents this Christmas was because it is going to be a hard winter for everyone; and she thinks we ought not to spend money for pleasure, when our men are suffering so in the army. We can't do much, but we can make our little sacrifices, and ought to do it gladly. But I am afraid I don't."



And Meg shook her head, as she thought regretfully of all the pretty things she wanted.

"But I don't think the little we should spend would do any good. We've each got a dollar, and the army wouldn't be much helped by our giving that. I agree not to expect anything from Mother or you, but I do want to buy *Undine and Sintram* for myself. I've wanted it so long," said Jo, who was a bookworm.

"I planned to spend mine in new music," said Beth, with a little sigh, which no one heard.

"I shall get a nice box of Faber's drawing pencils. I really need them," said Amy decidedly. "I don't believe any of you suffer as I do, for you don't have to go to school with impertinent girls, who plague you if you don't know your lessons, and laugh at your dresses, and label your father if he isn't rich, and insult you when your nose isn't nice."

大家一时无语。不一会儿梅格换了个声调说：“你们知道吗？妈妈提议今年圣诞节不送礼物就是因为寒冷的冬天就要来了，我们的男人在军营里受苦受难之时，我们不应该只顾花钱享受。虽然我们能力上有限，但可以做出一些小小的牺牲，而且应该做得高高兴兴。不过我恐怕是高兴不起来了。”梅格摇摇头。一想到那些梦寐以求的漂亮礼物，她就感到十分遗憾。

“依我看我们那一丁点儿钱也帮不上什么忙。我们每人只有一块钱，就算献给部队也没多大用处。我也不指望妈妈或者你们会给我什么礼物，不过我真的很想买一本《水中女神》，那本书我早就想买了，”乔说。她是个爱书如命的人。

“我本来打算买些新乐谱的，”贝思轻轻叹了口气说，声音轻得谁也听不到。

“我要买一盒精致的费伯牌画笔。我真的很需要，”艾美干脆地说。“我相信你们没有谁比我更难受，因为你们都不用去上学。学校里那些女孩子们粗俗无礼，要是你不会功课的话，她们就让你下不了台，她们还嘲笑你的衣着，如果爸爸没有钱，就会被她们贴标签，连鼻子长得不好看也要被她们侮辱。”



“If you mean libel, I’d say so, and not talk about labels, as if Papa was a pickle bottle,” advised Jo, laughing.

“I know what I mean, and you needn’t be satirical about it. It’s proper to use good words, and improve your vocabulary,” returned Amy, with dignity.

“Don’t peck at one another, children. Don’t you wish we had the money Papa lost when we were little, Jo? Dear me! How happy and good we’d be, if we had no worries!” said Meg, who could remember better times.

“You said the other day you thought we were a deal happier than the King children, for they were fighting and fretting all the time, in spite of their money,” said Beth.

“So I did, Beth. Well, I think we are. For though we do have to work, we make fun of ourselves, and are a pretty jolly set, as Jo would say.”

“Jo does use such slang words!” observed Amy, with a reproving look at the long figure stretched on the rug.

Jo immediately sat up, put her hands in her pockets, and began to whistle.

“Don’t, Jo. It’s so boyish!”

“That’s why I do it.”

“I detest rude, unladylike girls!”

“I hate affected, niminy-piminy chits!”

“Birds in their little nests agree,” sang Beth, the peacemaker, with such a funny face that both sharp voices softened to a laugh, and the “pecking” ended for that time.



“你是想说‘诽谤’吧？别念成‘贴标签’，好像爸爸是个泡菜瓶子似的，”乔边笑边纠正。

“我知道自己在说什么，你没必要挖苦我，用好的字眼没什么不对，这样有助于增加词汇量，”艾美很有尊严地回敬她。

“别互相挑刺儿了，姑娘们。乔，难道你不希望我们拥有爸爸在我们小时候失去的钱吗？哦，如果我们没有烦恼，生活该是多么幸福美好啊！”梅格说。她依然记得过去的好时光。

“但前几天你说我们比金家的孩子要幸福多了，因为他们虽然有钱，却一天到晚打打闹闹，烦恼不断。”

“我的确这么说过，贝思。当然，我现在也还是这么想，因为虽然我们必须得干活，但我们自得其乐，而且，正像乔说的，我们是欢快的一伙人。”

“乔就是爱用这么粗俗的字眼！”艾美如此评论，以一种斥责的表情看着躺在地毯上身材修长的乔。乔立即坐起来，双手插进衣袋，吹起了口哨。

“别这样，乔，只有男孩子才这样做呢。”

“所以我才吹。”

“我不喜欢粗鲁无理、不像淑女的女孩子！”

“我受不了虚假做作、装腔作势的小丫头！”

“小巢里的鸟儿一致同意，”和平使者贝思唱起歌儿，脸上的表情十分好笑。尖着嗓门的两人相视一笑，“挑刺儿”到此结束。

“Really, girls, you are both to be blamed,” said Meg, beginning to lecture in her elder-sisterly fashion. “You are old enough to leave off boyish tricks, and to behave better, Josephine. It didn't matter so much when you were a little girl, but now you are so tall, and turn up your hair, you should remember that you are a young lady.”



“I'm not! And if turning up my hair makes me one, I'll wear it in two tails till I'm twenty,” cried Jo, pulling off her net, and shaking down a chestnut mane. “I hate to think I've got to grow up, and be Miss March, and wear long gowns! It's bad enough to be a girl, anyway, when I like boy's games and work and manners! I can't get over my disappointment in not being a boy. And it's worse than ever now, for I'm dying to go and fight with Papa. And I can only stay home and knit, like a poky old woman!” And Jo shook the blue army sock till the needles rattled like castanets, and her ball bounded across the room.

“事实上，姑娘们，你们两个都不对，”梅格开始以姐姐的身份说教了。“约瑟芬，你已经大了，不该再玩男孩子的把戏，举止也要稳重一些。你要还是个小女孩，这倒没什么，但你现在都长这么高了，还缩起了头发，你就得记住自己是个年轻淑女。”

“我可不是淑女！如果缩起头发就把我当淑女，那我宁愿就梳两条辫子，直到二十岁，”乔大声叫起来。她拉掉发网，甩开那一头栗色长发。“只要一想到长大了，得做马奇小姐，还要穿长礼服，我就很不高兴。不管怎么说，我都不愿意当个女孩子。我喜欢男孩子的游戏，喜欢男孩子的工作，喜欢男孩子的行为。做不成男孩子，这太让我失望了。而且现在比以往任何时候都要糟，我特别渴望跟爸爸一起参加战斗，却只能坐在家里缝缝补补，像个无精打采的老太太！”乔抖动蓝色的军袜，把里头的针弄得咔咔作响，线团也滚落到一边去了。



“Poor Jo! It's too bad, but it can't be helped. So you must try to be contented with making your name boyish, and playing brother to us girls,” said Beth, stroking the rough head with a gentle hand.

“As for you, Amy,” continued Meg, “you are altogether too particular and prim. Your airs are

funny now, but you'll grow up an affected little goose, if you don't take care. I like your nice manners and refined ways of speaking, when you don't try to be elegant. But your absurd words are as bad as Jo's slang.”

“If Jo is a tomboy and Amy a goose, what am I, please?” asked Beth, ready to share the lecture.

“You're a dear, and nothing else,” answered Meg warmly, and no one contradicted her, for the ‘Mouse’ was the pet of the family.

“可怜的乔！这真是不幸，可有什么办法能帮你呢？你也只能把自己的名字改得像个男孩子，假装是我们姐妹的哥哥。”贝思一面说，一面用温柔的小手抚摸着乔头发蓬乱的脑袋。

“至于你，艾美，”梅格接着说，“你过于挑剔，过于一本正经。你的神态现在看上去挺滑稽，你要是不当心点儿，长大后准会变成个装模作样的小傻瓜。如果你不故作高雅，我倒是挺喜欢你优雅的举止和不俗的谈吐，不过你那些荒谬的言语和乔的傻话却都不敢让人恭维。”

“如果乔是个假小子，艾美是个小傻瓜，请问，我是什么？”贝思问道，准备让姐姐也品评一番。

“你是个乖宝贝，仅此而已，”梅格亲热地答道。此话无人反驳，因为这位“胆小鼠”是全家人的宠儿。

As young readers like to know “how people look”, we will take this moment to give them a little sketch of the four sisters, who sat knitting away in the twilight, while the December snow fell quietly without, and the fire crackled cheerfully within. It was a comfortable room, though the carpet was faded and the furniture very plain, for a good picture or two hung on the walls, books filled the recesses, chrysanthemums and Christmas roses bloomed in the windows, and a pleasant atmosphere of home peace pervaded it.

Margaret, the eldest of the four, was sixteen, and very pretty, being plump and fair, with large eyes, plenty of soft brown hair, a sweet mouth, and white hands, of which she was rather vain.

由于年轻的读者们喜欢知道“人物相貌”，我们借此机会把这四姐妹大概描述一下。此时，她们正坐在黄昏的余晖里做着针线活儿，外面腊月的雪花正悄悄地飘落，屋里炉火噼



啪欢响。虽然地毯褪了色，家具相当简单，但是这间屋子却显得十分舒适：墙上挂着一两幅雅致的图画，壁凹处摆满了书籍，窗台上是绽放的菊花和圣诞玫瑰，温馨舒适的感觉、安宁祥和的气氛遍及房间的各个角落。

大姐玛格丽特，十六岁，出落得十分标致。她拥有丰盈的体态、白皙的肌肤、大大的眼睛、甜美的嘴唇、柔软浓密的棕色秀发、白嫩的双手，这些优点令她颇为自豪。

Fifteen-year-old Jo was very tall, thin, and brown, and reminded one of a colt, for she never seemed to know what to do with her long limbs, which were very much in her way. She had a decided mouth, a comical nose, and sharp, gray eyes, which appeared to see everything, and were by turns fierce, funny, or thoughtful. Her long, thick hair was her one beauty, but it was usually bundled into a net, to be out of her way. Round shoulders had Jo, big hands and feet, a flyaway look to her clothes, and the uncomfortable appearance of a girl who was rapidly shooting up into a woman and didn't like it.



十五岁的乔又高又瘦，棕色皮肤，她的样子总让人联想到一匹小公马。因为她修长的四肢相当碍事，她好像总是不知道该用四肢做些什么。她的嘴唇线条刚毅，鼻子长得有点可笑，灰色的眼睛十分敏锐，似乎能洞穿一切，眼神时而热烈，时而风趣，时而又像在沉思。浓密的长发是她的魅力所在，但为了方便，通常用发网束起来。她双肩圆润，大手大脚，穿着宽松肥大的衣服。她的脸上常常带着这个年龄段的女孩子所特有的尴尬表情，因为她正迅速长成一个成熟女性，对此她心里是极不情愿的。

Elizabeth, or Beth, as everyone called her, was a rosy, smooth-haired, bright-eyed girl of thirteen, with a shy manner, a timid voice, and a peaceful expression which was seldom disturbed. Her father called her “Little Miss Tranquility”, and the name suited her excellently, for she seemed to live in a happy world of her own, only venturing out to meet the few whom she trusted and loved.



Amy, though the youngest, was a most important person, in her own opinion at least. She is a regular snow maiden with blue eyes, yellow hair curling on her shoulders, always carrying herself like a young lady mindful of her manners. What the characters of the four sisters were we will leave to be found out.



伊丽莎白，也叫贝思，

十三岁，肤色红润，秀发润泽，目光清澈。她举止腼腆，声音羞怯，神情总是那样安宁，被父亲称为“宁静小姐”，真是人如其名，因为她似乎独自生活在自己的伊甸园中，只敢

出来会会几个最亲最信任的人。

艾美虽然最小，却是个十分重要的人物。至少她自我感觉如此。她身材匀称，肌肤雪白，一双蓝眼睛，金黄色的卷发披在肩头。她时时刻刻注意自己的言谈举止，十足一个讲究风度的小淑女。至于四姐妹的性格如何，我们接着来看。

The clock struck six and, having swept up the hearth, Beth put a pair of slippers down to warm. Somehow the sight of the old shoes had a good effect upon the girls, for Mother was coming, and everyone brightened to welcome her. Meg stopped lecturing, and lighted the lamp, Amy got out of the easy chair without being asked, and Jo forgot how tired she was as she sat up to hold the slippers nearer to the blaze.

"They are quite worn out. Mommy must have a new pair."

"I thought I'd get her some with my dollar," said Beth.

"No, I shall!" cried Amy.

"I'm the oldest," began Meg, but Jo cut in with a decided tone, "I'm the man of the family now Papa is away, and I shall provide the slippers, for he told me to take special care of Mother while he was gone."

"I'll tell you what we'll do," said Beth, "Let's each get her something for Christmas, and not get anything for ourselves."

"That's like you, dear! What will we get?" exclaimed Jo.

Everyone thought soberly for a minute, then Meg announced, as if the idea was suggested by the sight of her own pretty hands, "I shall give her a nice pair of gloves."

"Army shoes, best to be had," cried Jo.

"Some handkerchiefs, all hemmed," said Beth.

"I'll get a little bottle of cologne. She likes it, and it won't cost much, so I'll have some left to buy my pencils," added Amy.





时钟敲响六下，贝思已经扫干净壁炉地面，把一双便鞋放到上面烘暖。看到这双旧鞋子，姑娘们想到妈妈就快回家了，心情开朗起来，准备迎接妈妈。梅格停止了说教，点上了灯。艾美不用人说就自动离开了安乐椅。乔也忘却了疲倦，坐起身来把鞋子挪近火焰。

“鞋子太破旧了，妈妈得换双新鞋了。”

“我想用自己的钱给她买一双，”贝思说。

“不，我来买！”艾美嚷道。

“我最大，”梅格刚开口，就被乔坚决地打断了，“既然爸爸不在家，我就是家里的男子汉，鞋由我来买。因为爸爸跟我说过，他不在家的时候让我好好照顾妈妈。”

“依我说咱们应该这样，”贝思说，“我们每人送妈妈一件圣诞礼物，我们自己就什么都别要了。”

“你最善良了，好妹妹！送什么好呢？”乔嚷道。

大家都认真想了一会儿，梅格似乎从自己漂亮的双手得到启发，宣布：“我要送妈妈一副精致的手套。”

“最好送双军鞋，”乔高声说道。

“我要送些镶花边的小手帕，”贝思说。

“我要送一小瓶古龙香水，妈妈喜欢香水，而且花不了太多钱，我还可以用剩下的钱给自己买铅笔，”艾美接着说。