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# 王子与贫儿

*THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER*

每周读一部英文名著

原著: [美] 马克·吐温 (M. Twain)

改写: [英] D. K. 斯旺 (D. K. Swan)

M. 韦斯特 (M. West)

翻译: 郭梅

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## Introduction

# The Prince and the Pauper

## Introduction

### *Mark Twain*

The real name of the writer of this book was Samuel Clemens. He was an American who knew Europe well.

Samuel Clemens was born in Missouri in 1835. He was trained as a printer, but he soon began writing for the newspapers. He loved travel, and he loved the **steamboats** that went up and down the Mississippi River. He became a steamboat pilot, and the stories he wrote for the papers were often about the people of the steamboats and the river banks. Some of the stories were about real people and places, seen with a keen eye, and told with a love of fun. Some were **fiction**, like *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County* (1865).

At about this time, Samuel Clemens began to call himself, as a writer, "Mark Twain". The words were one of the calls of the "leadsman" on a river boat. "Mark twain" meant that the line from the boat into the water showed two **fathoms** (about 3.7 metres) deep, plenty of water for a river steamboat.

In 1867 he went to Europe and **the Holy Land** with a large group of American tourists. The letters he wrote, collected in a book as *The Innocents Abroad*, are more about the tourists

## 简介

## 马克·吐温

本书作者原名塞缪尔·克莱门斯，是一个非常熟悉欧洲的美国人。

塞缪尔·克莱门斯 1835 年生于密苏里州。他曾受训做印刷工，但不久就开始给报纸撰稿。他喜爱旅行，更对往来于密西西比河上的轮船十分迷恋。他当过轮船领航员，写给报纸的故事也常与轮船上及河两岸的人有关。有的故事是真人实景，且视角敏锐，语调诙谐风趣，而有的故事则是虚构的，如《卡拉韦拉斯县驰名的跳蛙》（1865 年）。

大约在这个时候，身为作家的塞缪尔·克莱门斯开始称自己为“马克·吐温”。这几个字原本是船上的“测深员”常喊的几句话之一，意指船的吃水线显示水深为两呎（约 3.7 米），足够河中轮船运行了。

1867 年，他随一大群美国游客去了欧洲和圣地。这期间他写的信件收集在一本名为《傻子国外旅行记》的书里。这些信涉及更多的是那些游客的

steamboat

n. 汽船；轮船

fiction

n. 虚构，捏造，  
想象

fathom

n. 呎（合六英尺）

the Holy Land

圣地（指中东的一些地区，  
《圣经》上记载  
的大部分故事  
发生于此）



themselves than about the places they visited. America, and later many other countries, laughed joyfully at the tourists and their funny **adventures**.

Mark Twain's first novel, *Tom Sawyer* (1875), is still widely read and enjoyed. It is perhaps more like a collection of separate adventures than the modern novel, but the reader ends by knowing Tom Sawyer and his friends as if they were real people. One of the friends is Huckleberry Finn, and his name appears again in the title of Mark Twain's most famous novel *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884).

*The Prince and the Pauper* (1882) was Mark Twain's first historical novel. It has been made into a film more than once.

### *The Prince and the Pauper*

A few notes about the real history of the time may be helpful to readers.

*King Henry VIII* died in 1547 at the age of 56. He had been married six times. By his first wife, he had a daughter, *Mary*. By his second wife, he had another daughter, *Elizabeth*. And by his third wife, he had a son, *Edward*, who is the "Prince" of this story.

*Edward VI* was king for only six years, 1547—1553.

*Mary* followed *Edward*. She was queen from 1553 to 1558.

*Elizabeth I* followed her half-sister. She was queen from 1558 to 1603.

adventure

n. 奇遇; 冒险  
经历

pauper

n. 穷人; 乞丐

趣事, 而不是风景名胜。包括美国在内的许多国家的读者, 对那些游客和他们的滑稽经历都忍不住捧腹大笑。

马克·吐温的第一本小说《汤姆·索耶历险记》(1875年) 现在仍被广为阅读, 深受喜爱。与其说这是一部现代意义上的小说, 不如说更像一部各自独立的冒险故事集, 但到最后, 大家都会熟悉汤姆·索耶和他的伙伴们, 就好像他们不是虚构的人物。小伙伴中有一位名叫哈克贝利·芬恩, 后来这个名字又出现在马克·吐温最著名的《哈克贝利·芬恩历险记》(1884年)。

《王子与贫儿》(1882年) 是马克·吐温的第一本历史小说, 曾不止一次被拍成电影。

### 《王子与贫儿》

对当时那段真实的历史加一些注释也许对读者有所帮助。

国王亨利八世死于1547年, 时年56岁。他一生有六次婚姻, 与第一位夫人生了女儿玛丽, 与第二位夫人又生一女伊丽莎白, 与第三位夫人生了一个儿子, 取名爱德华, 即故事中的“王子”。

爱德华六世仅做了六年国王(1547—1553)。

爱德华六世之后, 玛丽登基, 于1553年至1558年任英国女王。

伊丽莎白一世继其同父异母的姐姐之后, 于1558年至1603年为英国女王。

**London** is now a city of 1,580 square kilometres with more than seven million people, but at the time of our story there were about 200,000 people crowded into a city of about 274 hectares. The rich lords had their **town houses** to the west of the city, between it and **Westminster**, where the king's palace was.

伦敦现在是一个拥有1,580平方公里、人口超过七百万的城市，但在我们的故事发生时，大约只有20万人口拥挤在约274公顷的城市中。富有的领主们在城市以西，威斯敏斯特宫附近，拥有他们的城镇房屋。

威斯敏斯特宫是英国君主加冕和举行重要仪式的地方。它现在是英国议会所在地。

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hectare

n. 公顷 (等于  
10000平方米)

town house

(除乡村住宅  
外同时拥有  
的) 城市住宅

Westminster

威斯敏斯特,  
现在是包括伦  
敦市中心西区  
大部分地区的  
一个自治区,  
建有威斯敏斯  
特教堂、议会  
大厦和白金汉  
宫。

伦敦现在是一座方圆1580平方公里,拥有700多万人口的大都市。而在故事发生的时代,该城人口大约20万,人们拥挤在面积约274公顷的城里。那时,有钱的贵族把府邸建在城市的西边,即伦敦城区与王宫所在地威斯敏斯特之间。



## CHAPTER 1

# Tom Canty

汤姆·坎迪

### · QUESTIONS BEFORE READING ·

- ▶ Why was Tom Canty's father a pauper? (Because . . . )
- ▶ What did the children do to get money?
- ▶ Who taught Tom Latin?
- ▶ What was the name of the king?

Tom Canty was very poor. He and his family were paupers. There were a great many paupers in London in the year 1547. Sometimes the father of the family couldn't work, and they were paupers for that reason. But Tom Canty's father didn't *want* to work. He and his wife and his mother and his three children all lived in one room in an old house in the poorest part of London. The children had no beds; they slept on the floor.

There were two girls, Bet and Nan, and one boy, Tom. Canty never did any work: every day he sent out his three children to beg for money in the streets. They had to stand at the side of the road and say, "Please give a **penny** to a poor child!" If they didn't bring money to John Canty in the evening he beat them and gave them no food.

It was a very unhappy life for the children.

Father Andrew lived in the same house. He had a little room at the back of the house. He was a very learned man. Tom went to sit with Father Andrew every day, and Father Andrew told him stories about kings and princes.

Tom said, "I want to be like a prince. I want to speak nicely,

penny

n. 便士，英国货币单位。当时 12 便士为 1 先令，20 先令为 1 英镑。

汤姆·坎迪一贫如洗，他和他的家人都是乞丐。在 1547 年，伦敦城里有很多这样的乞丐。有时因为家中做父亲的找不到活干，全家人就只好行乞。但汤姆·坎迪的父亲却根本不想干活。他与妻子、母亲以及三个孩子全都住在伦敦贫民区一座旧宅中的一个房间里，孩子们没床，只好睡在地上。

孩子中有两个女孩，分别叫贝特和娜恩；有一个男孩，名叫汤姆。父亲坎迪什么也不做，只是每天打发三个孩子到街上去讨钱。孩子们只好站在路旁说：“求求你，给穷孩子一便士吧。”如果到了晚上他们不能给约翰·坎迪带回钱来，坎迪就要打他们，也不给他们饭吃。

对孩子们来说，生活很不幸。

安德鲁神父也住在这个宅子里，宅子后部有他的一个小房间。他很有学问。汤姆每天都去神父那里陪伴他，听他讲国王和王子的故事。

汤姆说：“我要学王子的样子。我要像王子们那



as princes do; and I want to learn Latin, because princes learn Latin." So Father Andrew taught Tom how to speak nicely and how to be like a prince, and he taught him Latin.

When Tom was with other boys he **played at** being a prince. Sometimes the boys laughed at him and called him Prince Tom, but they liked him. They played by the river and went swimming in the water. Tom could swim very well.

The King of England at that time was King Henry the Eighth. He had one son, Edward. Prince Edward would be king when his father died.

King Henry the Eighth lived in **Westminster Palace** in London.

Father Andrew said to Tom: "You should go to Westminster Palace and see a real prince. Prince Edward is the king's son. He lives there, and perhaps one day you would see him."