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THE SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON

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I LORNA DOOVE

Introduction

R D Blackmore

Richard Doddridge Blackmore was born in 1825, the son of a Church of England priest. He went to school in Tiverton, which is where we meet John Ridd in the first chapter of this book.

Blackmore went to Exeter College, Oxford, and then studied law. He practised as a lawyer in the courts for a few years, but poor health forced him to leave London, and he started growing flowers, fruit and vegetables for the market. At the same time, he wrote poetry, not very successfully. His first novel, *Clara Vaughan*, was much more successful when it appeared in 1864.

His historical novel Lorna Doone appeared in 1869. It was not a great success when it first came out in three volumes. Some people liked the way the hero, John Ridd, was presented on his Exmoor farm, the way his love of the country became clear. They spoke to others about the book, its exciting adventures and its tender love story, and so more people read it. It became a classic, although neither the writer nor the booksellers expected it. And it is still a well-loved classic, often used today as material for films and television.

It was partly an accident that the novel became a "bestseller". A young member of the company which had produced

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I LORNA DRONE

My name is John Ridd. My home is in Oare, a village in a part of England called Somerset. My father was a farmer. The farm came to him from his father; it had been our farm for hundreds of years. I went to school in Tiverton. I learnt a little at school, but I left school early.

This is how I left school on the twenty-ninth of November, 1673.

We came out of school at five o'clock. A long line of horses was coming down the road with soldiers guarding them. The horses were carrying goods. They were being guarded because it was said that Tom Faggus was near and might steal the goods. Tom Faggus was my cousin. He was well known as a highwayman

We all ran to the gate to see the soldiers pass. Just then a man with horses came round the corner.

"Have any of you seen John Ridd?" he asked.

The man was John Fry; he was a servant at our home.

I went forward and spoke to him. "Why have you come at this time, John?" I asked, "School doesn't end until next month. There is a month more of school."

4名著简写,原汁原味 外籍英语专家根据原著 精心简写,用词简洁, 句型简单,既保留了原 著精彩的故事情节,又 保证了语言的原汁原味 和通俗易懂,易于提升 读者阅读的成就感。



| ●英汉对照,扫除障碍 全书英文部分全部配有 参考译文。译文除了能 帮助读者更好地理解作 品外,还可以帮助读者 通过英汉文字的对比, 了解两种语言不同的表 达方式,提升语感和翻 译写作能力。 | |
|--|---|
| ④推词注释、积累词汇 书中对部分难词和重点 词进行了汉语注释,这 | <text><text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text> |
| 有利于保证读者在阅读 英文时的连贯性,并借 助于上下文更好地理解 和运用这些词汇。 | 007 |





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The Swiss Family Robinson

Introduction

Johann Rudolph Wyss (1782—1830) was a professor in Berne in Switzerland. He was well known as a student of **folklore**—the special national or group beliefs, customs, etc, that have been passed from parents to children for hundreds of years. But he is more widely remembered as the man who gave the world *The Swiss Family Robinson* in 1812. This novel was his own work, but it began as an uncompleted story by his father, Johann David Wyss.

Wyss took the idea for *The Swiss Family Robinson* from **Daniel Defoe's** *Robinson Crusoe*. So we had better look at Defoe's novel first in this introduction.

The idea for *Robinson Crusoe* came from the real adventures of Alexander Selkirk. Selkirk quarrelled with the captain on his ship, and was put on to the island of Juan Fernandez in 1704. He was **rescued** when another ship visited the island in 1709. Daniel Defoe took Alexander Selkirk's story and added descriptions and events of his own. He didn't **pretend** that *Robinson Crusoe* (1719) was a true story, though many people believed it was. The story telling was so like a real-life account that it seemed completely true. Remember that the novel, as

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简介

folklore

n. 民俗学, 民 间传说 约翰·鲁道夫·怀斯(1782 - 1830) 是瑞士伯尔 尼的一位知名教授,主要研究民俗学。所谓民俗学即 某民族或群体特有的信仰和风俗,它们历经数百年的 岁月,代代相传。不过,现在被更多人记住的却是 他的另一贡献:他于1812 年发表的小说《海角一乐 园》。这部小说虽出自于他的手笔,但却源于他父亲 约翰·戴维·怀斯的一个没有讲完的故事。

Daniel Defoe

丹尼尔·笛福 (1660-1731): 英国作家,作品 包括《魯滨逊漂 流记》、《摩尔・ 弗兰德斯》、《骑 士日志》等

rescue v. 营救

pretend v. 声称 坏斯的《海角一乐园》创作灵感源于丹尼尔・ 笛福的《鲁滨逊漂流记》,我们不妨在简介中先把笛 福的小说介绍一下。

《鲁滨逊漂流记》的灵感来源于亚历山大·塞尔 扣克的真实冒险经历。由于与船长发生口角,塞尔 扣克于1704年被抛弃在胡安·费尔南德斯岛上,直 到1709年才被路过该岛的一艘船救回。丹尼尔·笛 福把亚历山大·塞尔扣克的经历写进书中,又铺陈描 绘,加入自己的经历。笛福从未说过《鲁滨逊漂流记》 (1719)是一个真实的故事,但许多人却相信它是真 实的。小说把故事讲得有声有色,就好像描述的是真 人真事一般。要知道,小说这种文学形式直到1740

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a form of literature, didn't appear in England until about 1740. Defoe's story has Robinson Crusoe describing very carefully how he used the things he saved from the ship and the things he found on the island. He also describes his fight to **keep command of** his own mind during the long years alone on the island. Exciting moments are his discovery of a foot mark in the sand, his seeing a group of man-eating **savages** visiting the island, and his saving from them the man he calls Friday, who becomes his servant.

Robinson Crusoe was not written to teach any special lessons. Wyss's The Swiss Family Robinson was different. The idea was to show a family working together in perfect family love through every kind of difficulty. The father, who is the narrator (the person who tells the story), teaches his sons lessons that the readers ought to learn. Most of all, they must learn the value of patience, hard work and helping each other. There is a great deal of religious teaching in the original very long (two volumes) book, but modern editions usually shorten the story and keep the more exciting and **adventurous** parts.

At the time of the story, ships often carried such birds and animals as hens, ducks, pigs, sheep, cows, goats and donkeys. Some of these were owned by passengers who were on their way to **settle** in newly discovered countries. Some were to supply fresh food on long voyages because, as we must remember, the sailing ships of the time were slow, and they had no canned food and certainly no form of cold storage.

We may think the Swiss family were very lucky to find on

年才在英国出现。笛福在故事中竭尽笔墨描述了鲁滨 逊·克鲁索是如何利用从沉船上捞起的器物和在孤 岛上找到的东西,同时还描绘了鲁滨逊如何竭尽全力 保持理智孤身一人在岛上度过漫漫岁月。这段孤岛岁 月中也有一些激动人心的时刻:沙滩上发现一个足 印、目睹一群食人族登上孤岛,从食人族手中救下 一个男子。后来那男子成为他的仆人,他称他为"星 期五"。

笛福写作《鲁滨逊漂流记》并没有任何特别的 说教目的;而怀斯的《海角一乐园》则不然,他的故 事展现了一个家庭如何团结一致,克服一切困难。家 中的父亲也是故事的叙述者,他对儿子们的言传身教 是广大读者所应该学习的。读者最应该学习的是忍 耐、勤奋以及同舟共济这些价值观。在这部长篇巨著 里(原著为两卷本)有大量的宗教训导,但是现代的 版本通常压缩故事的篇幅,但保留了比较惊险刺激的 部分。

adventurous adi. 惊阶的

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savages n. 野蛮的: 野

settle

ν.定居,安顿

在故事发生的那个时代,轮船上常常搭载家禽 和牲畜,如鸡、鸭、猪、羊、牛和驴。有些禽畜是要 到新发现的国家定居的旅客带来的,有些则是为漫长 的旅程预备的食物。要知道在那时,客轮的速度非常 缓慢,又没有罐装的食物,当然也没有任何冷藏设 备。

我们可能会认为这个瑞士家庭在一个小岛上竟

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one small island all the animals, plants and other things they used. Again there is something we must remember: even as late as 1812 there was very little known about many parts of the world. **James Cook's** voyages of discovery in the South Pacific were made between 1768 and 1779. Wyss must have read about them, but there was still a great deal to be learnt about the places whose coasts Cook visited and other places which had not yet been discovered. The first readers of this book would not have been at all surprised about the great number of different things found on the island.

Although we may find it harder than the first readers to believe in the island. *The Swiss Family Robinson* is still an interesting and exciting story about the way people can build their lives in a strange and difficult place.