



# 記樓士

KENILWORTH

著 脫 考 司

譯 民 主 孫

五洲出版社印行

墜樓記

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This is he  
Who rides on the court gale, controls its tides,  
Knows all their secret shoals and fatal eddies,  
Whose frown abases, and whose smile exalts.  
He shines like any rainbow—and, perchance,  
His colours are as transient.

*Old Play.*

The countess paused, as if what the earl last said had excited some painful but interesting train of thought; and, as she still remained silent, her husband proceeded.

“And now, loveliest, your wish is gratified, and you have seen your vassal in such trim array as accords with riding vestments; for robes of state and coronets are only for princely halls.”

“Well, then,” said the countess, “my gratified wish has, as usual, given rise to a new one.”

“And what is it thou canst ask that I can deny?” said the fond husband.

“I wished to see my earl visit this obscure and secret bower,”<sup>2</sup> said the countess, “in all his princely array; and now, methinks, I long to sit in one of his princely halls, and see him enter dressed in sober russet, as when he won poor Amy Robsart’s heart.”

“That is a wish easily granted,” said the earl, “the sober russet shall be donned to-morrow, if you will.”

1 earl 伯爵(英國以外的伯爵叫 count) 2 bower 深閨; 花塢

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這就是他

乘着宮廷的和風，控制着它的潮漲，他知道所有那些秘密陷阱和致命的漩渦，他的皺眉和笑容關係着貶職和褒獎。他像虹一樣的五光十色——或者他的色彩是暫短易逝的。 古劇

〔當英國女皇伊麗沙伯 (Elizabeth) 在位的時候，她所寵任的是兩個大臣，一個是勒司德伯爵 (Leicester)，一個是沙塞克伯爵 (Sussex)，兩人分黨爭權。女王愛勒司德，在言語舉動中，屢屢微露其意。勒司德想和女王結婚，以別黨爭，而他先已私娶一個鄉下爵士的小姐愛梅洛伯沙特 (Amy Robsart) 爲妻，深藏於甘諾爾宅 (Cumnor Place) 中，不叫人知道。有一晚他私自回宅，把他許多珍寶及勳章綬帶給愛梅看，解說來歷，他又說他寧願做一個自由的諸侯，不願娶一個北方的女王，仰她的鼻息。譯者註〕

伯爵夫人說到這裡停住了，好像伯爵以前所說的話激起她一連串的愁苦而有意義的聯想，她既然一言不發，她的丈夫就往下說。

「我的最可愛的人，已經如願以償了，妳看見了妳的臣僕照着騎馬出行的裝束整齊地打扮了；因爲大禮服和諸侯的冠冕只是在王公的殿庭穿戴的。」

伯爵夫人說道，「我是如願以償了，但是往往一願既償，又新生一願。」

這個情深的丈夫說道，「妳所要求的我怎能不答應？」

伯爵夫人說道，「我前次的願望是要我的伯爵來看看這個黑暗而秘密的藏嬌之所，陳設得如王侯宮殿那樣華美；現在，我想，我久已要坐在他的一所王侯的宮殿裡，看他穿着他的樸素的赤褐色衣服進來，就像從前他贏得可憐的愛梅的心的時候那樣。」

伯爵說道，「這願望是很容易實現的；妳若願意看，我明天就穿上那件樸素的赤褐色衣服。」

"But shall I," said the lady, "go with you to one of your castles, to see how the richness of your dwelling will correspond with your peasant habit?"

"Why, Amy," said the earl, looking around, "are not these apartments decorated with sufficient splendour? I gave the most unbounded order, and, methinks, it has been indifferently well obeyed; but if thou canst tell me aught<sup>1</sup> which remains to be done. I will instantly give direction."

"Nay, my lord, now you mock me," replied the countess: "the gaiety of this rich lodging exceeds my imagination as much as it does my desert. But shall not your wife, my love—at least one day soon—be surrounded with the honour which arises neither from the toils of the mechanic who decks her apartment nor from the silks and jewels with which your generosity adorns her, but which is attached to her place among the matronage, as the avowed wife of England's noblest earl?"

"One day!" said her husband. "Yes, Amy, my love, one day this shall surely happen; and, believe me, thou canst not wish for that day more fondly than I. With what rapture could I retire from labours of state, and cares and toils of ambition, to spend my life in dignity and honour on my own broad domains, with thee, my lovely Amy, for my friend and companion! But, Amy, this cannot yet be; and these dear but stolen interviews are all I can give to the loveliest and the best beloved of her sex."

"But *why* can it not be?" urged the countess, in the softest tones of persuasion. "Why can it not immediately

<sup>1</sup> aught 無論什麼

夫人說道，「但是你肯同我到你的任何一個堡砦去，使我看看你的府第的華麗，同你的鄉下人衣服怎樣相稱嗎？」

伯爵四圍看看說道，「愛梅，難道這好些房子還裝飾得不夠華美麼？我吩咐他們只管花錢裝飾，並不限制他們，據我看來，他們裝飾得很好，無可挑剔的了；只要妳能告訴我，還要什麼裝飾，我立刻就吩咐他們辦去。」

伯爵夫人答道，「不是的，你現在是取笑我了，這所富麗房子的華美，不獨超過我所配享受的，而且超出我的想像之外。這些鋪陳裝飾是工匠們費力造出來的，綢緞珠寶是你的慷慨打扮我的，我的愛人呀，我是你的妻子，在婦女之中有她的地位和她的身份的榮譽，不僅僅是鋪陳與打扮出來的體面，難道你的夫人，英國的最高貴的伯爵的正式夫人，不該在不久的將來的一天，被這樣的榮譽所包圍麼？」

她的丈夫答道，「有一天！是呀，愛梅，我的愛妻，將來有一天必定有這樣的事出現；妳想這一天，我更想這一天，妳要相信我這句話。等到我不須爲國宣勞，不須爲爭權耗費心力：能夠退休的時候，在我自己的廣大土地上過着尊貴的生活，有我的可愛的愛梅同我做朋友、做伴侶，那時候我是多麼快樂呀？愛梅，現在還不是時候；現在我所能給我的最美貌的與我最愛的女人的，只能是這樣寶貴的及偷偷摸摸的私會。」

伯爵夫人用最溫柔的有說服力的腔調問道，「但是

take place—this more perfect, this uninterrupted union, for which you say you wish, and which the laws of God and man alike command? Ah! did you but desire it half as much as you say, mighty and favoured as you are, who or what should bar your attaining your wish?"

The earl's brow was overcast.

"Amy," he said, "you speak of what you understand not. We that toil in courts are like those who climb a mountain of loose sand: we dare make no halt until some projecting rock afford us a secure footing and resting-place; if we pause sooner, we slide down by our own weight, an object of universal derision. I stand high, but I stand not secure enough to follow my own inclination. To declare my marriage were to be the artificer of my own ruin. But, believe me, I will reach a point, and that speedily, when I can do justice to thee and to myself. Meantime, poison not the bliss of the present moment by desiring that which cannot at present be. Let me rather know whether all here is managed to thy liking. How does Foster bear himself to you? in all things respectful, I trust, else the fellow shall dearly rue it."

"He reminds me sometimes of the necessity of this privacy," answered the lady, with a sigh; "but that is reminding me of your wishes, and therefore I am rather bound to him than disposed to blame him for it."

"I have told you the stern necessity which is upon us," replied the earl, "Foster is, I note, somewhat sullen of mood, but Varney warrants to me his fidelity and devotion to my service. If thou hast aught, however, to complain of the mode in which he discharges his duty, he shall abye it?"

1 poison 敗壞      2 abye it 因此受罰

爲什麼不能？爲什麼不能立刻辦到——爲什麼不能使這更完美的、連綿的締結立刻實現，你說你願這樣辦，上帝與人類的法律都要這樣辦。這還有什麼問題？咳！假使你的心願只要有你的口說的一半，像你這樣有勢力與蒙寵任的人，有什麼人或有什麼事會攔阻你，使這事不能如願以償呢？」

伯爵聽了皺眉。

他說道，「愛梅，妳所說的都是妳所不懂的話。我們在宮廷辦事的人就如同爬鬆沙造成的山一般：我們往上爬，要爬到有一塊突出的山石可以使我們立足，才可以使我們歇息，我們才敢站住；我們若沒有爬到這樣的地方就要站住，我們會被我們自己的重量所拖而溜下去，就變作衆人的笑柄。我所站的地位很高；但是我的立足地方還不夠穩，不能想說什麼就做什麼。我若宣佈我已結婚，就是自己害自己。但是我只要到了一定地點，我想不久就可以走到，我就能夠使妳我名正言順，我要妳相信我這句話。現在妳切勿因爲想做現在所不能做到的事，損害了現在的歡樂。我只要曉得這裡的一切佈置是不是合妳的意。福斯德（Foster，是伯爵派在這所宅子照管夫人的一個粗鹵僕人——譯者註。）待妳還好麼？我相信他無事不以禮待妳，不然的話他要後悔的。」

夫人歎氣說道，「他有時使我記得這樣的秘密是必要的；但是這不過是使我記得這是你的意思，是你要他這樣的；所以我不願怪他，我只好受他的約束。」

伯爵答道，「我已經告訴妳，我們不能不嚴守秘密。我看出福斯德的脾氣有點不好，但是瓦爾尼（Varney 是一個聰明敢作敢爲的惡毒小人，是伯爵的心腹及爪牙，——譯者註。）對我担保死心塌地替我出力。雖是這樣說，妳若對於他執行他們職務有什麼不滿意的地方，我就懲罰他。」



"Oh, I have nought to complain of," answered the lady, "so he discharges his task with fidelity to you; and his daughter Janet is the kindest and best companion of my solitude, her little air of precision <sup>1</sup>sits so well upon her!"

"Is she indeed?" said the earl; "she who gives you pleasure must not pass unrewarded. Come hither, damsel."

"Help me to don <sup>2</sup>a plainer riding-suit, Varney," said the earl, as he laid aside his morning-gown, flowered with silk and lined with sables, "and put these chains and fetters there (pointing to the collars of the various orders which lay on the table) into their places of security; my neck last night was wellnigh broke with the weight of them. I am half of the mind <sup>3</sup>that they shall gall me no more. They are bonds which knaves have invented to fetter fools. How think'st thou, Varney?"

"Faith, my good lord," said his attendant, "I think fetters of gold are like no other fetters: they are ever the weightier the welcomer."

"For all that, Varney," replied his master, "I am well-nigh resolved they shall bind me to the court no longer. What can further service and higher favour give me, beyond the rank and large estate which I have already secured? What brought my father to the block, but that he could not bound his wishes within right, and reason? I have, you know, had mine own ventures and mine own escapes; I am wellnigh resolved to tempt the sea no farther, but sit me down in quiet on the shore."

"And gather cockle-shells, with Dan Cupid to aid you," said Varney.

1 precision 嚴謹    2 don 穿    3 half of the mind 有幾分想

夫人答道，「噢，只要他對於你忠心服務，我並沒有不滿意於他的地方，他的女兒琴尼忒（Janet）是我寂寞時最和氣的最好同伴，她的嚴謹態度與她很相稱！」

伯爵道，「是嗎？她既能使妳快樂必要得賞。女孩子，妳過來。」

（琴尼忒自稱是清潔派，不肯受伯爵所賞的戒指及金錢——譯者註。）

（第二天早上瓦爾尼幫伯爵穿衣，因為瓦爾尼不獨是他的太僕，還要照應他穿衣服，——譯者註。）

伯爵一面把繡花鑲貂皮的晨服脫下，一面對他說道，「瓦爾尼，你幫我穿上一件比較樸素的騎裝，把這許多鏈子和束縛的東西，（他指着放在桌上的各種勳位的領子）放在安穩的地方；昨天晚上我的脖子幾乎被這些重東西壓斷了。我有點想再不讓這些東西磨痛我。這許多東西都是枷鎖，是惡棍造出來束縛傻子的。瓦爾尼，你看是不是？」

他的侍從說道，「我的好主人，我想金枷鎖不比別的枷鎖；金枷鎖是越重越好。」

他的主人答道，「雖是這樣說，我幾乎決定要辭職，不使這些東西把我束縛在宮廷裡。我已經得着高官與廣大的土地，再効勞再得寵還能夠給我什麼？我的父親為什麼殺頭的（他的父親試行廢立：事敗被殺。——譯者註。）還不是因為他的欲望太無止境，不能謹守正道與理性的範圍麼？你曉得我會作過冒險的事，也得過倖免；我幾乎決定不再冒風濤的危險了，我只想安安靜靜的坐在海邊罷了。（這個伯爵在一五六四至一五八八年間，當過英國海陸軍統將，抵禦西班牙入犯的艦隊。——譯者註。）

瓦爾尼說道，「坐在海邊拾蛤蜊殼子玩，帶着司戀愛的神幫您忙。」

"How mean you by that, Varney?" said the earl, somewhat hastily.

"Nay, my lord," said Varney, "be not angry with me. If your lordship is happy in a lady so rarely lovely that, in order to enjoy her company with somewhat more freedom, you are willing to part with all you have hitherto lived for, some of your poor servants may be sufferers; but your bounty hath placed me so high, that I shall ever have enough to maintain a poor gentleman in the rank befitting the high office he has held in your lordship's family."

"Yet you seem discontented when I propose throwing up a dangerous game, which may end in the ruin of both of us."

"I, my lord!" said Varney; "surely I have no cause to regret<sup>1</sup> your lordship's retreat. It will not be Richard Varney who will incur the displeasure of majesty, and the ridicule of the court, when the stateliest fabric that ever was founded upon a prince's favour melts away like a morning frost-work. I would only have you yourself be assured, my lord, ere you take a step which cannot be retracted, that you consult your fame and happiness in the course you propose<sup>2</sup>."

"Speak on, then, Varney," said the earl; "I tell thee I have determined nothing, and will weigh all considerations on either side."

"Well, then, my lord," replied Varney, "we will suppose the step taken, the frown frowned, the laugh laughed, and the moan moaned. You have retired, we will say, to some one of your most distant castles, so far from court that you hear neither the sorrow of your friends nor the glee of your

1 regret 捨不得      2 propose 計劃, 打算

伯爵有點着急地問，「瓦爾尼，你這句話是甚麼意思？」

瓦爾尼說道：「我的主人，我並沒甚麼意思，不要同我生氣。爵爺，您有了這樣罕見的美貌女人覺得很快樂，若是因爲您要更自由的享受她的陪伴，就願意拋棄您一生所求得的尊榮，您是好了，可是您的僕從們就許受苦；但是您的恩惠已經把我提拔到很高，我有足夠的錢財維持我這樣一個窮的上等人的地位，保全我在您家裡所執的高等職事的觀瞻。」

「我們所要的是一種很危險的把戲，到後來就許會把你我都毀了，可是我提議不要這把戲的時候，你好像大不滿意。」

瓦爾尼說道，「我的主人，我的確沒有理由捨不得您辭職不幹。將來並不是瓦爾尼招女王的不高興，受廷臣們恥笑，我是說您拿一個君王的寵任作基礎，蓋造頂壯麗的宮殿，一旦冰消瓦解，如朝露一般的時候的話。我的主人，我不過要您先打定主意才好踏步，一失足却是不能挽回的，您在計劃走哪條路的時候，請您既要顧到您的歡樂，也要兼顧您的名譽。」

伯爵說道，「瓦爾尼，既是這樣，你只管往下說。我告訴你我還沒決定怎麼辦，我將權衡兩方面的輕重」

瓦爾尼答道，「我的主人，這樣很好，我們假設您走了這一步，憎惡您的憎惡了，笑您的也笑了，歎氣的也歎氣了。我們譬如說，您到了您的最遠的一座堡砦裡歸隱了，那裡離宮庭極遠，您既聽不見您的朋友的憂

enemies. We will suppose, too, that your successful rival will be satisfied—a thing greatly to be doubted—with abridging and cutting away the branches of the great tree which so long kept the sun from him, and that he does not insist upon tearing you up by the roots. Well, the late prime favourite of England, who wielded her general's staff and controlled her parliaments, is now a rural baron, hunting, hawking, drinking fat ale with country esquires, and mustering his men at the command of the high sheriff——”

“Varney, forbear!” said the earl.

“Nay, my lord, you must give me leave to conclude my picture. Sussex governs England, the Queen's health fails, the succession is to be settled—a road is opened to ambition more splendid than ambition ever dreamed of. You hear all this as you sit by the hob, under the shade of your hall chimney. You then begin to think what hopes you have fallen from, and what insignificance you have embraced, and all that you might look babies in the eyes of your fair wife<sup>1</sup> oftener than once a fortnight.”

“I say, Varney,” said the earl, “no more of this. I said not that the step, which my own ease and comfort would urge me to, was to be taken hastily, or without due consideration to the public safety. Bear witness to me, Varney, I subdue my wishes of retirement, not because I am moved by the call of private ambition, but that I may preserve the position, in which I may best serve my country at the hour of need. Order our horses presently. I will wear, as formerly, one of the livery cloaks, and ride before the portmanteau.<sup>2</sup> Thou shalt be master for the day,

1 look babies in the eyes of your fair wife 看你美貌夫人眼

裏的瞳人 2 portmantle 即 portmanteau 衣包；皮包

愁，也聽不見您的仇人們的歡笑。我們又假設您的得勝的對頭也滿意了——這一層卻還大有問題——您的對頭滿意於把久已遮住他使他不能見太陽的那棵大樹的枝子，該折的折了，該砍去的也砍去了，他並不堅持連根把這棵樹拔去。好呀，從前是英國女王的第一個得寵的大臣，這個大臣曾執掌過她的統領的權杖，曾操縱過她的上下兩議院，現在當了一個鄉居的諸侯，獵獸，臂鷹，同小鄉紳們喝那會令人發胖的麥酒，州長的命令一到，他就得奉令維謹，招集他手下的人們——」

伯爵說道，「瓦爾尼，你不要往下說了！」

他答道，「我的主人，不要攔阻我，您得讓我畫完這幅畫。沙塞克伯爵統治英國，女王多病，要議定繼位人——這就打開一條好路給有大志的人走，這是有野心的人向來所夢想不到的。您在您的大廳的爐牆之下，坐在火爐的鐵檻旁邊，聽人說這些熱鬧事。那時候您就開始想您失掉多少機會，您做了些多麼不相干的事，爲的是您可以多多的看您的美貌夫人，不止兩星期只見一次。」

伯爵說道，「瓦爾尼，不要再說了，我原爲的是舒服與安樂，才想走這一步，我並不會說匆匆忙忙就要這樣辦，我也並不會說不慎重考慮過國家的安寧就走這一步。瓦爾尼，你可以作證；我把我想歸隱的意思壓下去，並不是因爲被個人的野心所動，只因我在朝就可以保全我的地位，我在這個地位，當國家要用我時，我就可以盡我的能力，爲國家効勞。你就去吩咐預備馬匹。」我將同從前一樣穿騎馬的外套，我先走，衣包隨後送

Varney; neglect nothing that can blind suspicion. We will to horse ere men are stirring. I will but take leave of my lady, and be ready. I impose a restraint on my own poor heart, and wound one yet more dear to me: but the patriot must subdue the husband."

Having said this in a melancholy but firm accent, he left the dressing-apartment.

"I am glad thou art gone," thought Varney, "or, practised as I am in the follies of mankind, I had laughed in the very face of thee! Thou mayst tire as thou wilt of thy new bauble, thy pretty piece of painted Eve's flesh there, I will not be thy hindrance. But of thine old bauble, ambition, thou shalt not tire, for as you climb the hill, my lord, you must drag Richard Varney up with you; and if he can urge you to the ascent he means to profit by, believe me he will spare neither whip nor spur. And for you, my pretty lady, that would be countess outright, you were best not thwart my courses, lest you are called to an old reckoning on a new score. 'Thou shalt be master,' did he say? By my faith, he may find that he spoke truer than he is aware of. And thus he, who, in the estimation of so many wise-judging men, can match Burleigh and Walsingham in policy, and Sussex in war, becomes pupil to his own menial; and all for a hazel eye and a little cunning red and white, and so falls ambition. And yet, if the charms of mortal woman could excuse a man's politic pate for becoming bewildered, my lord had the excuse at his right hand on this blessed evening that has last passed over us. Well, let things roll as they may, he shall make me great, or I will make myself happy; and for that softer piece of creation,

來。瓦爾尼，今天你就做主人主持一切吧，凡是能夠遮掩人耳目不會犯疑的事都要做到。我們在人們還未起來時就得上馬出發。我只要同我的夫人辭行，就能上路了。我只好壓下我的可憐的心，還要傷一個我所更寶貴的人的心。這也沒法，愛國的人顧不得做好丈夫。」

他說完這番淒慘而堅決的話，就出了梳妝室。

瓦爾尼想道：「你走了，我很高興；不然的話，我既深知世人所做的種種荒謬的事，我會當着你的面大笑的！你得了一個新的美麗的便宜貨，擦胭脂抹粉的女人，你將來是會厭倦的，我不來攔阻你。但是我却不讓你厭倦你的舊相知。我說的是你的野心；我的主人，因為你向山上爬，你必得拖瓦爾尼上去；他若能夠強迫你上山以便他從中取到，你得相信，他決不吝嗇使用鞭子或用靴刺，當你是隻馬，迫你上山。至於妳，我的美貌貴夫人，你要立刻做伯爵夫人，最好不要擋我的路，不然的話，我要妳在新欠的項下算舊債的。（這是說他新近曉得夫人與特列西林見面，要藉此修舊怨。——譯者註。）他剛才不是說（這個他指伯爵——譯者註。）你做主人麼？他要曉得他是說了一句更真實的話。有許多明智而善斷的人都說，以政術論他能夠同柏爾力，（Barleigh）及窩爾星干（Walsingham）比肩，以戰術論，他能夠同沙塞克匹敵，卻反變作他自己的奴僕的學生；只因他愛上了一雙淡褐色的眼，及一點善能惑人的紅艷與潔白，他的大志就倒地了。雖是這樣說，假使一個女人的迷人的美貌，能夠原諒一個有政治頭腦的人變糊塗了，在我們所過的昨天晚上，我的主人會就近得到原諒。好嗎，讓事體只管進行，他必得使我變作大人物，不然的話，我將使我自己歡樂；（瓦爾尼早已有意要奪伯爵的夫人——譯者註。）至於那個更柔軟的女人，她



if she speak not out her interview with Tressilian, as well I think she dare not, she also must traffic with me for concealment and mutual support in spite of all this scorn. I must to the stables. Well, my lord, I order your retinue new; the time may soon come that *my* master of the horse shall order mine own. What was Thomas Cromwell but a smith's son, and he died 'my lord'—on a scaffold, doubtless, but that, too, was in character.<sup>1</sup> And what was Ralph Sadler but the clerk of Cromwell, and he has gazed eighteen fair lordships,—*via!*<sup>2</sup> I know my steerage as well as they." . . .

*Host.* I will hear you, Master Fenton;  
And I will, at least, keep your counsel.<sup>3</sup>  
*Merry Wives of Windsor.*

"If you have seen Will Badger, mine host," said Tressilian, "you have heard enough of Sir Hugh Robsart; and therefore I will but say, that the hospitality you boast of hath proved somewhat detrimental to the estate of his family, which is perhaps of the less consequence, as he has but one daughter to whom to bequeath it. And here begins my share in the tale. Upon my father's death, now several years since, the good Sir Hugh would willingly have made me his constant companion. There was a time, however, at which I felt the kind knight's excessive love for field-sports detained me from studies by which I might have profited more; but I ceased to regret the leisure which gratitude and hereditary friendship compelled

1 in character. 相稱 2 via 即 away 走吧

3 keep..... counsel 保守.....秘密