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三个火枪手

THE THREE MUSKETEERS

每周读一部英文名著

原著：[法]A. 大仲马 (A. Dumas)
改写：[英]D. K. 斯旺 (D. K. Swan)
翻译：陈海庆

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Introduction

The Three Musketeers

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Introduction

Alexandre Dumas

Alexandre Dumas was born in 1803 at Villers-Cotterets, seventy-seven kilometres north-east of Paris. His father was a **general** in the French army at the time of the Revolution and under Napoleon. His grandfather and grandmother were from the West Indies, the grandfather white and the grandmother black.

Alexandre Dumas wrote a very great deal. Sometimes he wrote with other people. About 260 books—novels, travel books, plays, etc—carry his name. The French literary critics say that his plays for the theatre are true literature; they do not always praise his novels. But the world knows Dumas for his **historical** novels, which are full of movement, life and action.

In modern times these novels have become films, radio and television plays and stories in large numbers. They have given ideas to other writers, who don't always say where the ideas come from. For example, in this story Athos' use of the dead soldiers in the **bastion** is like something in a much later story of the French Foreign Legion, *Beau Geste*.

Dumas died in France in 1870.

简介

亚历山大·仲马

general

n. (美国陆空军的) 上将

亚历山大·仲马于1803年出生于巴黎东北77公里处的卫莱可特雷。他的父亲是大革命时期法国陆军的一名将军，曾在拿破仑麾下任职。他的祖父和祖母来自西印度群岛，祖父是白人，而祖母是黑人。

historical

adj. 有关历史研究的，历史题材的

亚历山大·仲马是个多产作家。他有时同他人合作写书。有他署名的书共约260种，包括长篇小说、旅行札记、剧本等。法国的文艺评论家们认为他写的舞台剧本是真正的文学，而他们对于他的小说并不总是推崇的。但大仲马之所以世界驰名，主要是由于他的历史小说，这些小说情节曲折，生动活泼，打斗激烈。

bastion

n. 棱堡

如今，根据这些小说改编的电影、广播剧、电视剧和故事层出不穷。它们赋予其他作家以灵感，但作家们并不总承认是大仲马给予他们的启示加以承认。比如说，关于阿多斯在棱堡战斗中利用士兵的尸体迷惑敌人这一情节，在其后很久才问世的关于法国军队中外籍军团的一本故事书《大方姿态》中就曾有过类似的叙述。

大仲马1870年在法国逝世。

The background

Dumas wrote *The Three Musketeers* in 1844, but he was writing about a time just over two hundred years earlier. At the time of the story, Louis XIII was the king of France (1610—1643) but he let his chief minister, Cardinal Richelieu, rule the country most of the time. The king was only fourteen when in 1615 he married Anne of Austria, the daughter of King Philip III of Spain. It is true that Louis took very little notice of his wife, and that for a time she was very friendly with the Duke of Buckingham, the friend and **minister** of Charles I, king of England, Scotland and Ireland (1625—1649).

Buckingham had promised to help Louis and Richelieu to put down the French Protestants (the Huguenots), but there was an **outcry** in England over his helping Catholics against non-Catholics. So at the time of our story, Buckingham was planning to help the Huguenots to hold La Rochelle against the French.

The musket

This gun, used by the musketeers, was fired from the shoulder. Compared with the modern rifle, it was very heavy. At the time of the story, it was loaded by pouring a measured amount of gunpowder down the barrel from the **muzzle**. Next came a small wad to hold the powder in place, then a lead musket-ball about forty-two grams in weight, then another wad to keep the ball from rolling out when the gun was not **upright**. When the

故事背景

大仲马在1844年写出了《三个火枪手》，但他所写的却是200多年以前的时代。故事发生时，路易十三世是法国的国王(1610—1643在位)，但他在大多数的时间里把国家交由首相枢机主教黎塞留治理。国王于1615年娶了西班牙国王菲利普三世的女儿安妮(称号为“奥地利”)为王后，当时他才14岁。事实上，国王很少关心他的妻子，而且王后曾有一段时间与白金汉公爵十分友好。白金汉公爵是英格兰、苏格兰及爱尔兰国王查理一世(1625—1649在位)的朋友和廷臣。

minister

n. 部长，大臣

白金汉公爵曾允诺协助路易和黎塞留镇压法国新教徒(胡格诺派教徒)的叛乱，但由于他是在帮助天主教徒镇压非天主教徒，这引起了英国人的强烈抗议。因此在书中的故事开始时，白金汉公爵正在计划支援胡格诺派教徒保卫拉路榭尔，抗御法国人的进攻。

outcry

强烈的抗议

火枪

火枪手使用的这种枪支是抵在肩上射击的。与现代的来复枪相比，它非常笨重。在故事所发生的那个时代，火枪的装弹方法如下：先将定量火药从枪口注入枪膛。然后塞入一枚小小的弹药塞，使火药不致流出，再次塞入一枚约重42克的铅弹丸，接下来再塞入又一枚弹药塞，以防弹丸在枪管歪斜时从枪口滚出。在火枪手开火射击时，用一块打火石(与现代的

muzzle

n. 枪口，炮口

upright

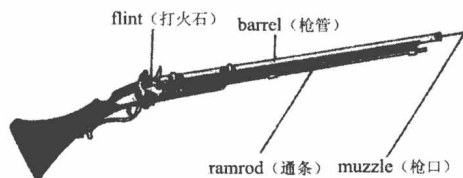
adj. 垂直的

I THE THREE MUSKETEERS

musketeeer fired the gun, a piece of flint (rather like the flint of a modern cigarette lighter) struck a piece of steel. That made **sparks** which fired the powder. The ramrod you see below the barrel in the picture was pulled out and used to push the wads and musket-ball down inside the barrel.

spark
n. 火星

吸烟用打火机中的打火石相似) 敲打一块钢铁。敲出的火星燃发火药。下图中所示的位于枪管下方的通条拉出来之后用来把弹药塞和弹丸通到枪管里去。



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CHAPTER 1

At Meung

在 默 昂

• QUESTIONS BEFORE READING •

- ▶ Who gave d'Artagnan his sword?
- ▶ What did d'Artagnan's mother give him?
- ▶ What did the gentleman call the lady in the carriage?

"Well," said d'Artagnan's father, "if you want to go to Paris, go. You're only eighteen years old, but you aren't a child. I can't give you a lot, but here's fifteen silver **crowns**. You can have my horse. And I'll write a letter to my old friend de Tréville. He's a Gascon like us, and he and I were friends and soldiers together in the old days. Now he's the captain of the king's own guards, the musketeers.

"You'll be brave, of course, because you're a Gascon and because you're my son. I've taught you to use a sword, and you're a good **swordsman**. Fight anyone who makes you angry—except the king and the **cardinal**."

With these words, the older man hung his own sword over his son's shoulder and turned away to hide his tears.

D'Artagnan's mother didn't try to hide her tears, but she gave her son a paper with the secret of a wonderful mixture for **wounds**. And she told him to be very careful.

Between his home at Tarbes and the town of Meung on the road to Paris, nothing happened to cause our hero to draw his

crown

n. 克朗（欧洲
一些国家的货
币单位）

swordman

n. 剑术家，军
人，剑客

cardinal

n. 红衣主教

wound

n. 伤，伤口

“好的，”达塔里盎的父亲说道，“如果你想去巴黎，就去吧。你才18岁，可你已经不是孩子了。我没有能力给你很多东西。这里有15克朗银币。你可以骑我的马。而且我将给我的老友德·特雷利韦尔写信。他和我们一样都是盖斯可尼人，过去我们是朋友，一起当过兵。现在他是国王卫队，也就是火枪队的队长。

“我敢肯定你很勇敢，因为你是盖斯可尼人，你是我的儿子。我教会了你击剑，你是个优秀的剑手。任何人激怒了你，就和他战斗，除了国王或枢机主教之外。”

说完，老人把自己的长剑挂在儿子的肩上，转过头去不让儿子瞧见自己的泪水。

达塔里盎的母亲没有试图藏起自己的眼泪，她给儿子一张纸写着治刀伤的妙药秘方，而且告诫儿子要千万小心。

他从家乡塔埠动身前往巴黎，一直走到半路的城镇默昂，都没有发生需要我们的英雄拔剑而战

sword.

At Meung, d'Artagnan stopped at the door of the biggest inn. While he was waiting for one of the inn servants to come and take his horse, he looked round. One of the inn windows was open, and d'Artagnan saw an important looking gentleman at it. He was talking to two other men, who were looking at d'Artagnan's horse and laughing. Of course d'Artagnan thought they were laughing at him, and he was sure the important-looking gentleman's words were making them laugh.

"You, sir," d'Artagnan called out. "You, hiding behind the curtain. What are you laughing at? When I see people laughing, I like to be told why. Then I can laugh too."

The gentleman looked at the angry young man. "I wasn't talking to you," he said.

The way he said it made d'Artagnan even angrier. Out came his sword, and he started to run into the inn.

But the **innkeeper** had seen what was happening. With three of his men, using big sticks and heavy bars, he **attacked** d'Artagnan. One good swordsman can fight four men with sticks and bars, but the attack came from behind. Several well-placed heavy blows to the head put our hero on the ground before he could turn.

They carried him into the kitchen, and the innkeeper went to speak to the gentleman.

"He's quiet now," he said. "In fact, he's unconscious. We had a look, and he doesn't seem to be anyone important. He has only twelve crowns in his pocket, only one shirt, and a letter