高 老 头 Father Goriot

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提高文化素质的最佳途径是读书,不少成名作家都是在读书中成长起来的。我喜欢文学,幼时特别爱读长篇小说。开始是在父亲单位的图书室借,像《西游记》、《三国演义》、《水浒传》等,我在十一岁时就统统读过。后来图书室的书不够看了,恰好新华书店开展租书业务,我便把不多的零用钱换了书来读。我看过全套的《沫若文集》、《巴金文集》、《茅盾文集》等,虽然是囫囵吞枣,但总觉得兴味无穷。这期间,我读的主要是中国的各种名著。

考上西安外国语学院以后,我更多地接触了外国名著。记得我看的第一部小说是《沉船》,泰戈尔那诗一般的语言,他描述的那田园诗一般的生活,深深地打动

了我,使我受到了心灵的震撼,我初次感到了外国文学的巨大力量。恰好碰上了"文化大革命",学校停了课,我就有更多的时间徜徉在外国图书的海洋中了。曾经给我国一代青年人深刻教育的《牛虻》、《古丽雅的道路》、《卓娅和舒拉的故事》、《钢铁是怎样炼成的》等作品,便是在这时期读过的。此外,我还系统地阅读了狄更斯、巴尔扎克、雨果、莫泊桑、托尔斯泰、德莱赛、大仲马、陀斯妥耶夫斯基、高尔基、果戈里等外国大师的著名作品。从此我与世界名著结下了不解之缘,而这些名著带给我的不仅是一种享受,更多的是一生受用不尽的精神财富。

"文化大革命"摧毁了文化,全国也陷入了书荒之中。记得"文化大革命"刚刚结束,有一天我漫步街头,发现新华书店门口排了上百人的长队,我上前一打听,原来是在卖《十字军骑士》、《基督山恩仇记》、《十日谈》、《老人与海》等世界名著。我排了两个多小时的队,花光了身上所有的钱,买回沉甸甸的几本书,那时的心情真是比得了宝还高兴。我总想,怎么样能让更多的人进入世界名著这座宝库。

1992年,我到陕西人民出版社当了总编,终于有了 实现自己宿愿的可能。我和词书译文编辑部的编辑们一

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同商量,出版了陕西人民出版社的《世界文学名著丛书》。我和大家一同策划选题,找人翻译,一同研究封面设计,甚至一起跑推销。虽然这套丛书选题与其他社有些重复,加之出于版权的考虑,多是些去世已久的作家的老作品,但它们仍然受到了很多读者的关注和厚爱。不少著名作品,如《红与黑》、《嘉莉妹妹》、《安娜·卡列尼娜》、《战争与和平》、《巴黎圣母院》、《简·爱》、《苔丝》、《欧也妮·葛朗台》等均已纳入其中。

中国人读名著首先是通过中译本来实现的,但这些中译本有很多无法解决的问题。如有的译本不是用原著来译的,而是通过其他语种转译过来的,这就影响了我们去更好地理解原著。加之有些译者外语水平不高,有些译者中文根底不深,同样译文也达不到原著同样的效果。记得我在外语学院上翻译课时,老师拿出三个《海燕》的译本让我们比较,通过认真的分析,大家一致认为,还是瞿秋白先生的译文最接近原文,最生动,最贴切。

中国人翻译出的作品往往有汉语的味道,就像有些 陕西人说普通话,往往夹杂着浓重的乡音。怎样才能学 到地地道道的外语呢?我觉得最好的办法还是从读原著 做起。因为一般的外语学习者直接读原著还是有困难 的,所以我们决定搞一些英汉对照的改写本。让有一定 外语基础的青少年读者,既了解了名著,又学习了语 言,两全其美,何乐而不为呢?

本着这个初衷, 我社约请著名学者、两安外国语学 院院长杜瑞清博士和著名翻译家方华文先生主编了这套 丛书。考虑到读者多为青少年,我们洗编了话合于他们 的《金银岛》、《汤姆·索耶历险记》、《少年维特之烦 恼》、《鲁宾逊漂流记》、《三个火枪手》等名著,又为了 使青少年读者多接触一些国际大师的作品, 我们选择了 《巴黎圣母院》、《莎士比亚戏剧故事集》、《简·爱》、《红 与黑》、《高老头》、《茶花女》、《苔丝》等名著。我们从 名著中撷取精华, 用英汉对照的方式, 计读者们从阅读 中领略文学大师的艺术底蕴和精湛的语言功夫。我们希 望,通过这套从书,架起一座语言的桥梁,让读者们通 过这座桥梁、进而进入读原著那座圣洁的殿堂、去吸取 世界优秀文化的营养, 去培养新一代中国人驾驭外语的 能力。

"年年岁岁花相似,岁岁年年人不同"。愿经典名著这丛不败的鲜花,伴随我们年轻的朋友们一起成长。这套丛书我们用 42 开本,主要是为方便读者携带,丛书还有哪些不足之处,亦望读者指出。

值此出版前夕,抚今追昔,不由一笔在手,感慨系之。

但愿书长久,人间日月圆。

周鵬飞 二〇〇二年九月写于西安逍遙斋 Mrs. Vauquer kept a lodging-house in Paris for the past forty years. Her house receives men and women, old and young. But in fact, it must be said that no young woman has been in her house for the past thirty years, and if a young man stays there for a long time, it surely means that he is very poor. In 1819, however, when this story began, there was a poor girl among Mrs. Vauquer's boarders ...

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The house is three stories high. It is built of rough stone, and painted yellow. There are five windows on each story.

The house might have been built for the purpose of serving as the lodging house. The first room on the ground floor is the living room. There is a round table in the middle with some ugly teacups on it. The floor is not smooth. The fireplace is always so clean that it suggests that a fire is seldom made. The wetness of the

① lodging-house:公寓,寄宿房。

② boarders: 房客。

沃尔克太太在巴黎经营着一幢公寓楼,已经有四十年的时间了。不分男女老少,她什么样的客人都收。但事实上,必须指出的是,近三十年来公寓楼里没有住过年轻的女子;假如有哪个小伙子在这儿住长了,肯定意味着他是一个一贫如洗的穷光蛋。话又说回来,一八一九年,当这个故事开始的时候,沃克尔太太的房客中倒是有一个穷苦的女孩。

该公寓楼高三层,用精石建成,外边涂着 黄色的颜料,每一层都有五扇窗户。

这幢房子建造时,其目的可能就是用作公寓楼的。底层的第一个房间是起坐间,中央摆着张圆桌子,桌子上放着几只难看的茶杯。地板凹凸不平,壁炉的炉膛里总是干干净净的,表明很少生火。房间里很潮湿,你一呼吸,就

room sends a cold air through you as you breathe.

At seven o'clock in the morning, Mrs. Vauquer's cat appears. He would jump on the table to smell at the milk in the bowls, each covered by a plate. A moment later, Mrs. Vauquer shows her face. At the age of fifty, she looks already very old, like all women who have seen a lot of troubles. She is fat and wears a skirt made of old clothes. She is ready to do anything as long as it can bring money to her. But still her lodgers would say, "she is a good woman at bottom." They believe that the widow totally depends on the money that they pay her, and can't help pitying her when they hear her cough.

What had Mr. Vauquer been before his death? The lady never wanted to talk about him. He had treated her badly, had left her nothing but the house she lived in.

Sylvie, the fat cook², heard the footsteps of Mrs. Vauquer, hurried to serve the lodgers' breakfasts. Besides those who lived in the house, Mrs. Vauquer also accepted boarders who didn't live here but ate here, and they usually only came to dinner,

① widow: 寡妇。

② cook: 厨师。

会吸进一口冷气。

早晨七点钟,沃克尔太太的猫露面了。它会跳到桌子上用鼻子嗅牛奶碗,可惜每只碗上都盖着个盘子。不一会儿,沃克尔太太露出脸来。她虽只有五十岁上下的年纪,但跟所有历经苦难的女人一样,已显得老态龙钟了。她体态肥胖,穿一件旧布缝制的裙子。她这个人只要有利可图,什么事都肯做。可她的房客仍会称赞她: "这个女人心眼儿好。" 他们认为这个寡妇完全靠他们支付的房租过活,于是听到她的咳嗽声便不由得心生恻隐之情。

沃克尔先生生前是干什么的呢?对于他, 沃克尔太太只字都不想提。他生前对沃克尔太 太不好,死后又无遗留之物,只丢下了她现在 住的这幢房子。

一听到沃克尔太太的脚步声,胖厨师西尔 维便一溜烟跑去给房客们端早餐了。沃克尔太 太不仅接纳在此处留宿的房客,还接待食客。 食客们不留宿,但却在此用膳,通常只来吃晚 for which they paid thirty francs a month.

At the time when this story began, there were seven people in the lodging house. The best rooms were on the first story, and Mrs. Vauquer herself took one. Mrs. Couture, a widow, took the other. She lived together with Victorine Taillefer, a schoolgirl, whom she treated as her daughter. These two ladies paid 1,800 francs a year.

There were two sets of rooms on the second floor. One was taken by an old man, Poiret, and the other, by a man of forty, Vautrin. On the third floor, were four rooms, and in one lived an old lady, Miss Michonneau, who was not married yet, and in another room lived an old man, who allowed others to call him by "Father Goriot."

Other empty rooms were left for those poor students, who, like Father Goriot and Miss Michonneau, could only pay 45 francs a month for their food and lodging. Mrs. Vauquer did not like to take these lodgers at all because they are too much bread.

At that time, one of the rooms was taken by a law student from the countryside, Eugene de Rastignac. He has a big family who even starved themselves to spare 1,200 franc a year for him. He knew from his childhood that he was the hope of the whole family.

餐,每月付三十法郎。

当这个故事开始的时候,公寓楼里住着七个人。最好的房间都在一层,沃克尔太太占了其中的一间,另一间住着一个叫库撒尔太太的寡妇。库撒尔太太跟女学生维托琳·泰莉弗同室而居,她把后者当作自己的女儿一般看待。这两个女士每年付一千八百法郎的房租。

二层楼上有两套房间,一套住着一个叫波莱特的老头,另一套的房客是个四十岁的汉子,名叫佛琴。三层楼上有四个房间——一个叫米考诺小姐的老太太占了一间,此人终身未嫁;还有一个房间里住着个老头,此人宽容地允许别人把他称作"高老头"。

其他的空房间留下来接纳那些穷学生。他 们跟高老头及米考诺小姐一样,每月支付四十 五法郎的食宿费。沃克尔太太一点儿都不愿收 这些房客,因为他们吃面包吃得太多。

此时,一个从农村来的学法律的学生占了 其中的一个房间。他叫尤金·拉斯蒂纳克。他家 人口多,全家人甚至不惜饿肚子也要每年省出 一千二百法郎供他上学。他自小就知道他是全 家人的希望。 Above the third floor there were two attics^①. Christophe, the man servant, slept in one, and Sylvie, the cook, in the other. Besides the seven lodgers, eight law or medical students had dinner in the house, as well as two or three people who lived in the neighborhood. So usually there were eighteen people at dinner, and at breakfast, however, only the seven lodgers appeared. It was almost like a family party.

Miss Victorine Taillefer looked pale and unhappy everyday. Her simple dress made her look young. If she had been happy, she would have been beautiful with her brown hair.

She was a sad girl. Her father was a millionaire. He refused to acknowledge^② her and only gave her 600 francs a year. He said he would leave all of his money to his son. Victorine's mother had died sadly in the house of Mrs. Couture who was a near relative. From then on, Mrs. Couture had been taking care of the little girl.

Poor Victorine! She still loved her father, but he refused to see her. Her brother had not come to see her for four years, and had given her no help. Yet she

① attic: 阁楼。

② acknowledge:承认。

在第三层楼之上还有两间阁楼,男仆克里斯托菲住一间,另一间由厨师西尔维住着。除过住在公寓楼的这七个人,在此用膳的还有八个法学院及医学院的学生,另外还有两三位当地的居民。所以,通常吃晚餐时有十八个人,而吃早餐时却只有七位房客露面。这场面简直就像一个家庭聚会。

维托琳·泰莉弗小姐每天都苍白着面孔,满脸的不高兴。她朴素的衣着让她显得很年轻。 假如她能高兴点儿,就凭着她那一头棕色的头发,就足以使她变得秀色可餐。

她是个郁郁寡欢的女孩。其父是百万富翁,可是却不愿认她,每年只给她六百法郎。他说他要把所有的钱都留给他的儿子。维托琳的母亲和库撒尔太太是近亲,她就是在库撒尔太太的家里不幸故世的。从那以后,库撒尔太太便照料着这位小姑娘。

可怜的维托琳啊!她依然爱着父亲,可父亲却不愿见她。她的哥哥已经有四年没来看她了,没有给过她任何帮助。然而,维托琳仍在

prayed to God to open her father's eyes and soften her brother's heart. Mrs. Couture took Victorine to church every Sunday and hoped that the belief in God would help the poor girl to feel better.

Eugene was a southern fellow. He had white skin, blue eyes and black hair. From his manner it was easy to see that he had either come from a noble family, or that he had been gently brought up from his earliest childhood.

Vautrin was a strong man of forty. He looked very helpful and friendly with other lodgers. Not only so, he knew all about ships, the sea, France, foreign countries, men, business, law, even prisons, - there was nothing that he did not know. If some one was unhappy about something, he was always in time to give his help. Several times he had lent money to Mrs. Vauguer, or to the boarders. But they never failed to return the money to him. The coolness in his eyes seemed to be able to read all feelings and thoughts. His life was very regular. He usually went out after breakfast, returning in time for dinner, and disappeared for the rest of the evening. He only came back at about midnight, with a key that Mrs. Vauguer had given. So he always got on well with the widow. He used to call her "mamma", and put his arm round her