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Mark Twain

*The Prince and The Pauper*

王子与贫儿

(简写本)



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THE PRINCE  
AND THE PAUPER

王子与贫儿

(簡 写 本)

[美] Mark Twain 原著

[苏联] G. K. Maghidson-Stepanova 改写

北京外国语学院英语系  
~~課外~~ 閱讀教材小組 选注

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## 本书简介

本书作者馬克·吐溫 (Mark Twain [ˈmɑ:k ˈtweɪn] 1835—1910), 是近代美国杰出的批判现实主义作家。他的真实姓名是 Samuel Clemens [ˈsæmjʊəl ˈklemənz], 生于美国中部密苏里州, 父亲是个律师, 后来因做土地投机买卖而破产。馬克·吐溫十二岁时, 父亲死去, 于是他就开始独立謀生。他曾当过多年的印刷工人, 然后在密西西比河上当領航員, 其后又当过矿工, 最后成为記者, 开始了文艺生涯。

《王子与貧儿》是馬克·吐溫第一部历史小說, 故事发生的时代是在十六世紀中叶。当时英国正处在封建制度逐渐崩溃和资产阶級开始兴起的时期。资本家为了发展工业, 侵占了大量公地, 农民失去生活資料, 大批流入城市, 为资产阶級提供廉价的劳动力。但是許多农民因找不到工作, 流浪街头, 生活极端困苦, 大部分淪为乞丐、小偷或流浪者。当时統治英国的都鐸王朝的暴君企图以极端严酷的刑法来維持社会秩序, 对小窃經常判处死刑。在本书中作者猛烈地抨击了这种残酷的法律, 尖銳地諷刺了封建社会中王室貴族的腐朽、暴虐和荒淫无耻的生活, 并揭露了在封建統治下人民所受到的痛苦和压迫。十九世紀中叶以后, 美国的私营铁路公司也实行过大量圈地, 以致大批失去土地的农民顛沛流离, 受尽失业的痛苦。所以这部作

品不但諷刺了英國封建統治，同時也表示作者對資產階級統治下的美國社會的不滿。

作者在其他作品中也同樣用幽默和辛辣的諷刺，對封建主義和資本主義的腐朽性和殘酷性進行了尖銳的揭露和抨擊。他同情被壓迫的人民，反對帝國主義的侵略政策。他認為政權應該掌握在能夠代表人民利益的人們手中，但他並不主張改變資本主義的社會制度。儘管如此，他在生前死後都受到反动勢力惡毒的攻擊。他的許多著作，在美國曾被列為禁書，成為南部三 K 黨徒焚書暴行的獵物。

這個簡寫本是蘇聯中學校七年級學生學習英語的課外讀物，1959 年在莫斯科再版。我們現在重排出版，並附加漢語注釋和詞匯表，供初學英語者閱讀。

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## CHAPTER I

### THE BIRTH OF THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER

It happened in the sixteenth century, on a cold autumn day. In the old city of London<sup>1</sup> a boy was born to a poor family<sup>2</sup> of the name of Canty.<sup>3</sup> The family did not want this boy.

On the same day another English child was born. He was born to a rich family of the name of Tudor,<sup>4</sup> who wanted him very much. All England wanted him. People talked only about the new baby, Edward Tudor, Prince of Wales,<sup>5</sup> who lay in silk<sup>6</sup> and did not know that all England wanted him so much.

But there was no talk<sup>7</sup> about the other

---

1. In the old city of London ['lændən] — 在这座古老的伦敦城里。

2. a boy was born to a poor family — 一个男孩出生于一个贫苦人家。

3. of the name of Canty ['kænti] — 姓堪提的。

4. Tudor ['tju:ðə] — 都鐸王朝。1485 年到 1603 年统治英国的家族。

5. Edward Tudor ['edwəd 'tju:ðə], Prince of Wales ['prins əv 'weɪlz] — 威尔斯亲王爱德华·都鐸。(威尔斯亲王是英国王子的封号。)

6. ... lay in silk — 錦緞裹身。

7. But there was no talk — 但是沒人談起。



baby, Tom Canty,<sup>1</sup> who lay in his dirty rags and did not know that nobody wanted him.

## CHAPTER II

### TOM'S EARLY LIFE<sup>2</sup>

A few years passed. London was fifteen hundred years old<sup>3</sup> and was a great town.

The street where Tom's family lived was not far from London Bridge<sup>4</sup> and was called Offal Court.<sup>5</sup> It was dirty, and the houses were of wood, with small windows. Canty's family lived in one room on the third floor<sup>6</sup> of one of these houses.

The mother and the father had a bed, but Tom, his grandmother, and his two sisters, Bet and Nan,<sup>7</sup> slept on the floor and covered themselves with rags.<sup>8</sup>

Bet and Nan were fifteen years old. They

---

1. Tom Canty ['tɒm 'kænti] — 汤姆·堪提 (男人名)。

2. Tom's early life — 汤姆早年的生活。

3. London was fifteen hundred years old — 伦敦已经有一千五百年历史。

4. London Bridge — 伦敦桥 (泰晤士河上的大吊桥)。

5. Offal Court ['ɒfəl 'kɔ:t] — 地区名称 (Offal 的原意是垃圾)。

6. on the third floor — 在三层楼上。

7. Bet [bet] and Nan [næn] — 人名 (女) (Elizabeth 和 Nancy 的渾名)。

8. and covered themselves ['kʌvəd ðəm'selvz] with rags — 用破烂的东西盖着。

were twins. They were always dirty and in rags, but they were kind-hearted girls.<sup>1</sup> Their mother was like them.<sup>2</sup> But the father and the grandmother were very bad people. They often got drunk<sup>3</sup> and then they fought each other<sup>4</sup> and beat the children.

Tom's father, John Canty,<sup>5</sup> was a thief, and Tom's grandmother was a beggar, and they made the children beg.

Every day Tom went out to beg in the streets. If nobody gave him any money, his father and grandmother beat him at night and sent him to bed hungry.<sup>6</sup>

But there were some good things in Tom's life. Among the people that lived in the house there was a kind old man who taught Tom a little Latin<sup>7</sup> and how to read and write. He also told him many stories about kings and princes. Tom liked to listen to his stories. He

---

1. they were kind-hearted girls — 她們是好心腸的女孩子。

2. Their mother was like them. — 她們的母亲象她們一樣(也是好心腸的)。

3. They often got drunk — 他們常常喝醉。

4. they fought each other — 他們互相攔打。

5. John Canty ['dʒɒn 'kænti] — 約翰·堪提(男人名)。

6. and sent him to bed hungry — 让他餓着肚子去睡覺。

7. ... taught Tom a little Latin ['lætiŋ] — 教湯姆學一點拉丁文。

also read the books that the old man gave him.

Tom was a clever boy, he knew so much! And he could do and say such interesting things! The children of Offal Court liked to listen to the stories he told them.

When the children played, Tom was always a prince and the boys were lords of his court.<sup>1</sup>

At night when he lay in the dark on his 'dirty' rags, he forgot his hunger and his father's beatings. He thought about kings and princes, who were clean and well dressed and lived in beautiful palaces. Tom wanted to be clean and well dressed too. But in the morning he had to go out<sup>2</sup> in his rags to beg. At night he dreamed that *he* lived in a palace among lords and ladies. Oh, how he wanted to see a real prince with his own eyes!<sup>3</sup> This wish became stronger and stronger day by day,<sup>4</sup> and at last he could think of nothing else.<sup>5</sup>

---

1. and the boys were lords of his court — 那些孩子都是他的朝廷大臣。

2. he had to go out — 他不得不出去。

3. to see a real prince with his own eyes — 亲眼看到一个真的王子。

4. day by day — 一天一天地；逐渐地。

5. he could think of nothing else — 不能想别的事。

## CHAPTER III

### TOM'S MEETING WITH THE PRINCE

One day Tom got up hungry and left home hungry. His head was full of his night's dreams.

He walked along the streets, and he did not know where he was going. He passed many streets and suddenly found himself<sup>1</sup> near the king's palace — Westminster.<sup>2</sup>

Poor little Tom, in his rags, came up to the gates and looked at the guards who were standing at each side of the gates. Then suddenly through the bars of the gates<sup>3</sup> he saw a good-looking boy,<sup>4</sup> who was beautifully dressed.

Oh, that was a prince, a living prince, a real prince!

Tom was so happy to see him that he did not know what he was doing: he had his face against the bars<sup>5</sup> of the gates.

---

1. and suddenly found himself ... — 突然发觉自己....

2. Westminster ['westmɪnstə] — 伦敦市中央的一个区, 威斯敏斯特大教堂和王宫都在这里.

3. through the bars of the gates — 穿过大門的柵柱之間的空隙 (往里面看).

4. a good-looking boy — 一个漂亮的男孩.

5. he had his face against the bars — 他把脸靠在柵柱上.

The next moment<sup>1</sup> one of the soldiers pushed him away<sup>2</sup> and he fell down. The crowd that stood near the palace began to laugh at<sup>3</sup> Tom, but the young prince ran up<sup>4</sup> and cried out:

"Open the gates and let him in!"<sup>5</sup>

The guard opened the gates and little Tom passed in.

"Come with me, lad," said the young prince, Edward Tudor.

He took Tom to a beautiful room in the palace, which he called his cabinet.<sup>6</sup>

"What is your name, lad?" asked the prince.

"Tom Canty, sir."<sup>7</sup>

"And where do you live?"

"In Offal Court, sir."

"Have you parents?"

"Yes, sir, I have parents and a grandmother and also twin sisters named Nan and Bet."

"How old are your sisters?" asked the prince again.

---

1. The next moment — 接着.

2. one of the soldiers pushed him away — 一个士兵把他推开.

3. to laugh at — 嘲笑.

4. ran up — 跑过来.

5. let him in — 让他进来.

6. a cabinet [<sup>1</sup>kæbinit] — 私室.

7. sir — 先生.

“Fifteen years old, sir.”

The prince said: “I too have sisters. One of them, the Lady Elizabeth,<sup>1</sup> is fourteen. And my cousin, the Lady Jane Grey, is of my own age.<sup>2</sup> They both are very kind to me, but the Lady Mary,<sup>3</sup> my other sister, is not kind to anybody. She does not even allow the servants to smile. Do your sisters not allow their servants to smile?”

“Oh, do you think that they have servants?”

“Why not?” asked the prince. “Who helps them to dress in the morning and undress at night?”

“Nobody, sir,” answered Tom. “Do you think that they take off their clothes at night and sleep without them, like beasts?”<sup>4</sup>

“But have they only one dress?” asked the prince.

“Of course,<sup>5</sup> sir,” answered Tom. “They have only one body, so they have only one dress.”

---

1. the Lady Elizabeth [ˈleɪdi iˈlɪzəbɛθ] — 伊丽莎白公主.

2. the Lady Jane Grey [ˈleɪdi ˈdʒeɪn ˈɡreɪ] is of my own age — 琪恩·葛莱公主与我同年.

3. the Lady Mary [ˈleɪdi ˈmeəri] — 瑪利公主.

4. and sleep without them, like beasts? — 象野兽一般不穿衣服睡觉的么?

5. of course — 当然.

The prince thought a little<sup>1</sup> and then said:

"Is your life very hard in Offal Court?"

"No, not very. Only when I am hungry. But we lads of Offal Court have much fun, too.<sup>2</sup> We play together and we fight to see who is the strongest and we run to see who is the fastest. In summer we swim in the canals and in the river, and we push each other under the water ..."

"Oh, I should like to do that too!"<sup>3</sup> cried the prince. "Tell me more<sup>4</sup> about your life."

"We dance and we sing near the river, we play in the water and ..."

"How pleasant it must be to play in the water!"<sup>5</sup> cried the prince. "I should like so much to do it! To be clothed like you,<sup>6</sup> to walk about without shoes and to play in the water! Listen, lād, will you change your clothes for mine<sup>7</sup> just for a few minutes?"<sup>8</sup> Take

---

1. ... thought a little — ...想了一想。

2. ... have much fun, too — 也有許多好玩的事情。

3. I should like to do that too! — 我也很想那樣玩。

4. Tell me more ... — 給我再講一些....

5. How pleasant it must be to play in the water! — 在水里玩一定是很有趣的。

6. To be clothed [klouðd] like you — 像你那樣穿著。

7. will you change your clothes [klouðz] for mine? — 你願意將你的衣服與我交換么?

8. just for a few minutes — 幾分鐘就行。

off your clothes and put on mine, and I shall put on yours. Thus I shall be able to have the fun of your life<sup>1</sup> for a few moments."

Five minutes later<sup>2</sup> the two boys, the pauper and the Prince of Wales, stood side by side<sup>3</sup> before a great mirror. They looked at each other, then at themselves in the mirror, then at each other again. At last the prince said:

"You see that we are very much alike?<sup>4</sup> You have the same hair, the same eyes, the same face that I have."

Suddenly he saw a bruise on Tom's hand.

"Did the guard bruise your hand?"

"Oh, it is nothing,"<sup>5</sup> answered Tom.

"Yes, it is," cried the prince, "I shall punish that soldier! Wait here till I come back."

He took something that was on the table and put it away,<sup>6</sup> and the next moment he was out of the room, running towards the gates of the palace.

He shouted to the guard: "Open the gates!"

---

1. Thus I shall be able to have the fun of your life — 这样我就可以享受到你们生活的乐趣了。

2. Five minutes later — 五分鐘以后。

3. ... stood side by side — 肩并肩地站着。

4. we are very much alike — 我們非常相象。

5. it is nothing — 那不算什么。

6. and put it away — 把它收起来。



The guard opened the gates and threw the prince so that he fell down and the crowd near the palace began to laugh.

The prince got up and ran to the soldier, shouting:

"I am the Prince of Wales, and I shall hang you!"

The crowd only laughed and closed around<sup>1</sup> the little prince. They pushed him, and beat him, and drove him away from the palace, crying:

"Way for his royal highness,<sup>2</sup> way for the Prince of Wales!"

#### CHAPTER IV

### THE PRINCE'S NEW LIFE BEGINS

When the little prince was at last left alone,<sup>3</sup> he looked about him,<sup>4</sup> but he did not know where he was. He rested a few moments, then went on and soon came to a large square with only a few houses in it.

Suddenly he saw a crowd of boys who were running, jumping and playing ball.

---

1. and closed around — 围住。

2. Way for his royal highness — 给王子让路。

3. ... was at last left alone — 最后只剩下他一个人了。

4. he looked about him — 他向周围看看。