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三位合一阶梯阅读

初 级 篇

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前 言

本套书精选出英美文学名著的精彩片断,并按照词汇难易程度分为三个阶梯,对疑难词汇加上了注释,免去了读者查字典之苦,不同英语能力的读者可根据自身水平选择适当的读本。同时,每个精彩片断都配有作者及原作简介,让读者一窥名著风貌及背景。

读者在阅读本套丛书的过程中会收到一举四得的效果:

- 一、英语阅读能力逐步提高;
- 二、词汇量明显增加;
- 三、窥览英美文坛名人名著;
- 四、强化语言综合能力。

愿每位读者在阅读本书的过程中享受我们为您带来的知识、快乐与便捷!

思马得学校图书编辑部

2002 年 1 月



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Pride and Prejudice

作者与原作简介:

简·奥斯丁(Jane Austen, 1775-1817)是英国小说家,生于英格兰南部一牧师家庭,一生都在小市镇度过。奥斯丁受正规教育很少,但她一家人都喜爱阅读小说,她自然受到影响。她对十八世纪文学特别感兴趣,尤其推崇约翰生博士。她的第一部小说《傲慢与偏见》(Pride and Prejudice)初稿完成于1796年,最初曾遭到出版商拒绝,后由作者改写,于1813年发表。《理智与情感》(Sense and Sensibility)于1797年开始写作,发表于1811年。直到1816年《爱玛》(Emma)出版以后,奥斯丁的创作才受到赏识。她的另外三部小说是:《曼斯菲尔德庄园》(Mansfield Park, 1814)、《劝导》(Persuasion, 1818)和《诺桑觉寺》(Northanger Abbey, 1818)。

奥斯丁的作品题材比较狭窄,主要描写小镇中产阶级人物的家庭生活,但作者通过平凡的事件和普通人物的描述,绘出了一幅资本主义关系渗入小镇后英国乡绅阶层生活的变化及其心理状态的图画。奥斯丁笔下的情节和场面都经过细致推敲。她用细腻的文笔把事件和人物刻划得惟妙惟肖,玲珑剔透。略带尖刻的评论和巧妙的对白更是独具匠心。英国历史小说家司各特对奥斯丁评价很高。

《傲慢与偏见》主要描写贝内特(Bennet)一家的日常琐事。贝内特和他的太太有五个女儿,可是没有儿子。按照法律规定,他们身后遗产应归一个远亲柯林斯(Collins)所有,女儿无权继承,所以夫妇俩都为女儿的婚事操心,希望她们找到有钱的配偶。有个名叫宾利(Bingley)的单身汉,年轻阔绰。他带着他的



朋友达西(Darcy)搬进了贝内特家附近的一所住宅。后来,宾利爱上了贝内特的长女简(Jane),达西看中了二女儿伊丽莎白(Elizabeth)。但是伊丽莎白觉得达西非常傲慢,对他不仅没有好感,而且抱有成见,由于种种误会,成见愈积愈深。达西向她求婚时,她怒气冲冲地断然拒绝。在发生了一系列饶有趣味的事件后,误会终于消除,达西也不像过去那样傲慢了,因此伊丽莎白不再对他存有偏见。达西再次向她求婚时,她欣然接受,两人终成眷属。

片断欣赏

Chapter I

It is a truth *universally acknowledged*, that a single man in *possession* of a good *fortune* must be in want of a wife.

universally: 普遍地
acknowledge: 承认
possession: 占有, 拥有
fortune: 财富

However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his first entering a *neighbourhood*, this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the *surrounding* families, that he is considered as the rightful *property* of some one or other of their daughters.

neighbourhood: 邻近
surrounding: 周围的
property: 财产

"My dear Mr. Bennet," said his lady to him one day, "have you heard that Netherfield Park is *let* at last?"

let: 出租





Mr. Bennet replied that he had not.

"But it is," returned she; "for Mrs. Long has just been here, and she told me all about it."

Mr. Bennet made no answer.

"Do not you want to know who has taken it?" cried his wife *impatiently*.

"You want to tell me, and I have no *objection* to hearing it."

This was invitation enough.

"Why, my dear, you must know, Mrs. Long says that Netherfield is taken by a young man of large fortune from the north of England; that he came down on Monday in a *chaise* and four to see the place, and was so much *delighted* with it that he agreed with Mr. Morris immediately; that he is to take possession before Michaelmas, and some of his *servants* are to be in the house by the end of next week."

"What is his name?"

"Bingley."

"Is he married or single?"

"Oh! single, my dear, to be sure! A single man of large fortune; four or five thousand a year. What a fine thing

impatiently: 不耐烦地

objection: 异议, 反对

chaise: 轻便马车

delighted: 欣喜的

servant: 仆人



for our girls!"

"How so? how can it *affect* them?"

affect: 影响

"My dear Mr. Bennet," replied his wife, "how can you be so *tiresome*! You must know that I am thinking of his marrying one of them."

tiresome: 烦人的

"Is that his design in settling here?"

"Design! Nonsense, how can you talk so! But it is very likely that he may fall in love with one of them, and therefore you must visit him as soon as he comes."

"I see no *occasion* for that. You and the girls may go, or you may send them by themselves, which perhaps will be still better; for, as you are as *handsome* as any of them, Mr. Bingley might like you the best of the party."

occasion: 时机, 场合

handsome: 英俊的, 美观的

"My dear, you *flatter* me. I certainly have had my share of beauty, but I do not pretend to be any thing *extraordinary* now. When a woman has five grown-up daughters, she ought to *give over* thinking of her own beauty."

flatter: 奉承

extraordinary: 非凡的, 特别的

give over: 停止, 放弃

"In such cases, a woman has not often much beauty to think of."

"But, my dear, you must indeed go



and see Mr. Bingley when he comes into the neighbourhood."

"It is more than I *engage for*, I assure you."

"But consider your daughters. Only think what an *establishment* it would be for one of them. Sir William and Lady Lucas are *determined* to go, merely on that account, for in general, you know they visit no new comers. Indeed you must go, for it will be impossible for us to visit him, if you do not."

"You are over-*scrupulous*, surely. I dare say Mr. Bingley will be very glad to see you; and I will send a few lines by you to assure him of my *hearty consent* to his marrying which ever he *chuses* of the girls; though I must throw in a good word for my little Lizzy."

"I *desire* you will do no such thing. Lizzy is not a bit better than the others; and I am sure she is not half so handsome as Jane, nor half so good *humoured* as Lydia. But you are always giving her the *preference*."

"They have none of them much to *recommend* them," replied he; "they are

engage for: 保证

establishment: 确立

determined: 坚决的

scrupulous: 小心谨慎的

hearty: 衷心的
consent: 同意, 赞成
chuse: 选择

desire: 期望

humoured: 性情, 脾气

preference: 偏好

recommend: 推荐





all silly and *ignorant* like other girls; but Lizzy has something more of quickness than her sisters."

"Mr. Bennet, how can you *abuse* your own children in such way? You take delight in *vexing* me. You have no *compassion* on my poor *nerves*."

"You mistake me, my dear. I have a high respect for your nerves. They are my old friends. I have heard you mention them with *consideration* these twenty years at least."

"Ah! you do not know what I suffer."

"But I hope you will get over it, and live to see many young men of four thousand a year come into the neighbourhood."

"It will be no use to us if twenty such should come, since you will not visit them."

"Depend upon it, my dear, that when there are twenty I will visit them all."

Mr. Bennet was so *odd* a mixture of quick parts, *sarcastic* humour, *reserve*, and *caprice*, that the experience of three and twenty years had been *insufficient* to make

ignorant: 无知的

abuse: 辱骂

vex: 使烦恼

compassion: 同情

nerve: 神经

consideration: 考虑, 体谅

odd: 古怪的

sarcastic: 讽刺的

reserve: 保守, 克制

caprice: 反复无常, 任性

insufficient: 不足的



his wife understand his character. Her mind was less difficult to develop. She was a woman of *mean* understanding, little information, and uncertain *temper*. When she was *discontented*, she *fancied* herself nervous. The business of her life was to get her daughters married; its solace was visiting and news.

mean:平庸的

temper:脾气

discontented:不满意的

fancy:设想,以为

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Jane Eyre

作者与原作简介:

夏洛蒂·勃朗特(Charlotte Bronte, 1816-1855)和她的两个妹妹艾米丽·勃朗特(Emily Bronte, 1818-1848), 安·勃朗特(Anne Bronte, 1820-1849)是英国文学史上著名的三姊妹作家。她们生于一个贫穷的乡村牧师家庭。夏洛蒂幼年时就被送到为贫苦儿童设立的寄宿学校去受教育, 这个学校对儿童身心严重摧残。十九岁时, 夏洛蒂做了这个学校的教员。以后, 姊妹三人为生活所迫经常任家庭教师, 遭到冷遇和侮辱。

夏洛蒂姊妹自幼爱好文学。她们三人于1846年以笔名贝尔(Bell)自费出版了一部诗集, 但未引起重视。由于她们坚持不懈的努力, 终于各自在小说创作上取得了成就。夏洛蒂的代表作是《简·爱》(Jane Eyre, 1847), 另外还有描述十九世纪初期英国工人运动的小说《雪丽》(Shirley, 1849)。艾米丽只写了一部小说, 即《呼啸山庄》(Wuthering Heights, 1847)。安的主要作品是《艾格尼斯·格雷》(Agnes Grey, 1847)。

夏洛蒂的作品描写了女主人公对当时冷酷无情与不公道的社会的抗议, 揭示了在资本主义制度下广大下层人民, 特别是妇女和儿童的悲惨遭遇, 提出了妇女在家庭和社会生活中应与男子享有同等地位这样一个重要主题。

《简·爱》写于1847年, 出版后立即轰动于世, 夏洛蒂因而成名。在小说《简·爱》中, 夏洛蒂塑造了一个外表不美, 但有着火热激情、不屈不挠性格的妇女形象, 给英国文学增添了新鲜血液。

小说的女主人公简·爱自幼失去父母, 寄居在舅母家里, 遭到舅母一家大小的百般虐待, 并被打发到罗伍德慈善学校。罗





伍德名义上是慈善学校,实际上是贫苦孤儿的牢狱。简·爱在这里熬了八年,应聘到桑费尔德庄园当家庭教师。由于彼此性情契合,简·爱不久就和庄园主罗切斯特(Rochester)发生爱情。直到在教堂举行婚礼时,简·爱才知道罗切斯特是有妇之夫,他的妻子患了可怕的疯病,被关在庄园楼顶的密室里。在绝望的情况下,简·爱从桑费尔德出走,后来被圣·约翰(St. John)一家所救,并在他们的帮助下当了乡间教师。简·爱仍怀恋着罗切斯特,她费了不少周折回到桑费尔德,但那里已成为一片废墟,因为疯女人放火烧了庄园,也烧死了自己。罗切斯特在这场火灾中破了产,双目失明,一手残废。可是简·爱仍跟他结了婚。

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片断欣赏

Chapter V

Five o'clock had hardly <i>struck</i> on	strike: 敲
the morning of the 19th of January, when	
Bessie brought a candle into my <i>closet</i> and	closet: 壁橱
found me already up and nearly dressed.	
I had risen half an hour before her en-	
trance, and had washed my face, and put	
on my clothes by the light of a half-moon	
just setting, whose <i>rays</i> <i>streamed</i> through	ray: 光线
the narrow window near my <i>crib</i> . I was	stream: 流出
to leave Gateshead that day by a coach	crib: 儿童床
which passed the <i>lodge</i> gates at six A. M.	lodge: 门房
Bessie was the only person yet risen; she	

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had lit a fire in the *nursery*, where she now proceeded to make my breakfast. Few children can eat when excited with the thoughts of a journey; nor could I. Bessie, having pressed me *in vain* to take a few *spoonfuls* of the boiled milk and bread she had prepared for me, *wrapped up* some biscuits in a paper and put them into my bag; then she helped me on with my *pelisse* and *bonnet*, and wrapping herself in a *shawl*, she and I left the nursery. As we passed Mrs. Reed's bedroom, she said, "Will you go in and bid Missis good-bye?"

"No, Bessie: she came to my crib last night when you were gone down to supper, and said I need not disturb her in the morning, or my *cousins* either; and she told me to remember that she had always been my best friend, and to speak of her and be *grateful* to her accordingly."

"What did you say, Miss?"

"Nothing: I covered my face with the bedclothes, and turned from her to the wall."

"That was wrong, Miss Jane."

"It was quite right, Bessie. Your

nursery: 托儿所

in vain: 徒然, 枉然

spoonful: 一匙

wrap up: 包起来

pelisse: 皮上衣

bonnet: 童帽

shawl: 围巾

cousin: 表兄弟姐妹

grateful: 感激的





Missis has not been my friend: she has been my *foe*."

"O Miss Jane! don't say so!"

"Good-bye to Gateshead!" cried I, as we passed through the hall and went out at the front door.

The moon was set, and it was very dark; Bessie carried a *lantern*, whose light glanced on wet steps and *gravel* road *sodden* by a recent *thaw*. *Raw* and *chill* was the winter morning: my teeth *chattered* as I *hastened* down the drive. There was a light in the *porter's* lodge: when we reached it, we found the porter's wife just *kindling* her fire: my *trunk*, which had been carried down the evening before, stood *corded* at the door. It wanted but a few minutes of six, and shortly after that hour had struck, the distant roll of wheels announced the coming coach; I went to the door and watched its lamps approach rapidly through the *gloom*.

"Is she going by herself?" asked the porter's wife.

"Yes."

"And how far is it?"

foe:反对者,敌人

lantern:灯笼

gravel:砂砾

sodden:浸透的

thaw:解冻

raw:湿冷的

chill:阴冷的

chatter:(牙齿)打战

hasten:加速

porter:守门人

kindle:点燃

trunk:箱子

cord:捆

gloom:阴暗



"Fifty miles."

"What a long way! I wonder Mrs. Reed is not afraid to trust her so far alone."

The *coach* drew up; there it was at the gates with its four horses and its top *laden* with passengers; the guard and coachman loudly *urged* haste; my trunk was *hoisted* up; I was taken from Bessie's neck, to which I *clung* with kisses.

"Be sure and take good care of her," cried she to the guard, as he lifted me into the inside.

"Ay, ay!" was the answer: the door was *slapped* to, a voice *exclaimed* "All right," and on we drove. Thus was I *severed* from Bessie and Gateshead; thus whirled away to unknown, and, as I then *deemed*, remote and *mysterious* regions.

I remember but little of the journey; I only know that the day seemed to me of a *preternatural* length, and that we appeared to travel over hundreds of miles of road. We passed through several towns, and in one, a very large one, the coach stopped; the horses were taken out, and the passengers *alighted* to *dine*. I was

coach: 四轮马车

laden: (lade 的过去分词) 装载

urge: 催促

hoist: 升起, 吊起

clung: (cling 的过去式和过去分词) 粘住, 紧握

slap: 拍击, 啪的关上

exclaim: 呼喊

sever: 切断

whirl: 旋转, 急走

deem: 认为, 相信

mysterious: 神秘的

preternatural: 超自然的

alight: 下(车、马), 降落

dine: 吃饭

